# **Environmental Resources**

<u>Mission</u>: Enhance the quality of life in Sedgwick County through conservation of water and natural resources, waste minimization, coordination of solid waste management, and provide environmental education, special projects, and services to citizens, businesses, and local governments.

# Susan Erlenwein Director

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# Overview

Environmental Resources manages and enforces the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Plan and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility and provides community assistance and education regarding adherence to waste and stormwater solid regulations. The Department provides permits and inspections for the Sedgwick County Stormwater Management Plan, testing of surface Communication Hazard waters. for County emplovees. training chemical inspections of County departments, environmental assessments for Sedgwick County, and technical consultation for projects environmental affecting Sedgwick County. Staff work with Federal, State, and local agencies and serve on committees pertaining to water quality, air quality, stormwater runoff, conservation, solid waste, and natural resources.

# Highlights

- Reviewed 1,693 outfall locations for stormwater violations to make sure they conform with State law
- Issued 73,562 coupons over eleven years that allowed residents to dispose of 1,000 pounds of bulky waste for no fee at the transfer stations
- HHW Facility handled 1,055,194 pounds of hazardous waste from 15,580 citizens in 2024
  - Provided an electronic waste (e-waste) collection event in 2024 that collected 418,617 pounds of e-waste from 4,075 vehicles



Resources



Waste Code through

enforcement and education

Engage the community in

**Strategic Goals:** 

- Improve the quality and quantity of water resources within Sedgwick County through stormwater permitting, inspections, conservation practices, and education
- Increase environmental compliance and awareness of Sedgwick County through research, environmental assessments and consultations, and employee hazardous communication training





# **Accomplishments and Strategic Results**

# Accomplishments

Environmental Resources worked on Sedgwick County-owned properties with the Kansas Division of Water Resources to expand water appropriations to accommodate future growth. State law requires Sedgwick County to test impaired surface water bodies for specific pollutants. Environmental Resources developed a plan for testing these water bodies and worked with the Conservation District to implement best management practices to reduce surface water runoff and associated chemicals from entering these lakes and rivers. Due to this program, the number of Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) declared impaired surface water bodies in Sedgwick County has decreased by 80.0 percent.

The Department endeavors to offer improved solid waste programs and projects to the citizens every year. In 2024, Environmental Resources continued free drug disposal sites at seven city police stations throughout Sedgwick County and also provided five remote HHW collection events throughout the County to help better serve the citizens. Environmental Resources provided an e-waste collection event and continued to provide Bulky Waste Coupons, Christmas tree recycling, illegal dumping cleanups, nuisance abatements, and collection of household hazardous waste at the facility located at 801 Stillwell.

# **Strategic Results**

Environmental Resources is proud of their services to the community, and the Department tracks several strategic goals related to their services. One strategic goal is to provide one large annual special waste event each year. In 2024, Environmental Resources provided an e-waste collection event that received 418,617 pounds of e-waste from 4,075 vehicles. Another strategic goal is to inspect each solid waste disposal facility randomly on a weekly basis for a minimum number of 156 inspections. In 2024, 160 inspections were completed. A third strategic goal is to inspect 1,693 water outfalls annually for illicit water discharges. In 2024, 1,693 water outfalls were inspected for illicit discharges.



# Significant Budget Adjustments

Significant adjustments to Environmental Resources' 2026 Recommended Budget include an increase in transfers out due to bond payments for the HHW Facility expansion (\$168,000), an increase in licenses and permits revenue to bring in-line with actuals (\$26,286), and a decrease in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with actuals (\$19,000).



# **Departmental Graphical Summary**

# Environmental Resources

Percent of Total County Operating Budget





**Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs** 

All Operating Funds

# Budget Summary by Category

	2023	2024	2025	2025	2026	Amount Chg	% Cha
Expenditures	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Revised	Budget	'25 Rev'26	'25 Rev'26
Personnel	943,448	1,052,918	1,150,743	1,150,743	1,192,366	41,623	3.62%
Contractual Services	1,008,438	771,932	1,602,873	1,596,585	1,592,173	(4,412)	-0.28%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	- -	
Commodities	56,184	92,085	81,496	91,496	84,765	(6,731)	-7.36%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	168,000	168,000	
Total Expenditures	2,008,070	1,916,935	2,835,113	2,838,825	3,037,304	198,479	6.99%
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Licenses and Permits	57,828	90,199	31,796	31,796	58,082	26,286	82.67%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charges for Services	2,193,390	2,177,453	2,271,453	2,271,453	2,252,454	(19,000)	-0.84%
All Other Revenue	-	-	73	73	100	27	36.99%
Total Revenues	2,251,218	2,267,652	2,303,323	2,303,323	2,310,636	7,313	0.32%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	-	0.00%
Non-Property Tax Funded	12.49	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	-	0.00%
Total FTEs	13.29	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	-	0.00%

# Budget Summary by Fund

	2023	2024	2025	2025	2026	Amount Chg	% Chg
Fund	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Revised	Budget	'25 Rev'26	'25 Rev'26
General Fund	129,056	132,535	147,582	147,582	150,628	3,046	2.06%
Solid Waste	1,879,014	1,783,850	2,687,531	2,687,531	2,886,676	199,145	7.41%
Env. Resources Grants	-	550	-	-	-	-	
Miscellaneous Grants	-	-	-	3,712	-	(3,712)	-100.00%
Total Expenditures	2,008,070	1,916,935	2,835,113	2,838,825	3,037,304	198,479	6.99%



# Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

Increase in transfers out due to bond payments for the HHW Facility expansion Increase in licenses and permits revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals Decrease in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals

Revenues	FTEs
26,286	
(19,000)	
	26,286

					Total	168,000	7,286	-
Budget Summary by	Progr	am						
Budget Summary D	y Flogi							
Program	Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	% Chg '25 Rev'26	25'-26' FTEs
Env. Resources Admin.	110	89,056	92,535	107,582	107,582	110,628	2.83%	0.80
Conservation District	110	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	0.00%	-
Project Management	Multi.	184,036	210,218	248,812	252,524	256,376	1.53%	2.30
Solid Waste Enforcement	208	99,813	109,022	117,336	117,336	121,918	3.91%	1.00
Waste Minimization	208	188,195	206,434	243,136	243,136	425,053	74.82%	1.50
Special Projects	208	407,940	358,152	496,000	496,000	496,000	0.00%	-
Household Haz. Waste	208	999,030	900,025	1,332,248	1,332,248	1,337,330	0.38%	7.40
Storm Debris Cont.	208	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	0.00%	_
Kansas Innovation Grant	270	-	550	_	_	_	0.00%	_
Total		2,008,070	1,916,935	2,835,113	2,838,825	3,037,304	6.99%	13.00



	Budgeted Compensation Comparis										
		-	2025	2025	2026	2025	2025	2026			
Position Titles	Fund	Grade	Adopted	Revised	Budget	Adopted	Revised	Budget			
Dir. of Environmental Resources	110	GRADE 70	38,568	39,313	39,313	0.30	0.30	0.30			
Env. Resources Project Mgr.	110	GRADE 60	26,168	27,477	27,477	0.50	0.50	0.50			
Administrative Support III	208	GRADE 54	91,609	96,179	96,179	2.00	2.00	2.00			
Dir. of Environmental Resources	208	GRADE 70	89,992	91,730	91,730	0.70	0.70	0.70			
Env. Resources Project Mgr.	208	GRADE 60	26,168	27,477	27,477	0.50	0.50	0.50			
HHW Operations Supervisor	208	GRADE 61	63,565	66,747	66,747	1.00	1.00	1.00			
HHW Technician	208	GRADE 52	122,246	121,347	121,347	3.00	3.00	3.00			
Senior Environmental Inspector	208	GRADE 59	140,131	144,818	144,818	2.00	2.00	2.00			
Senior Technician - HHW Zoning Inspector	208 208	GRADE 54 GRADE 67	96,947 52,060	101,774 54,662	101,774 54,662	2.00 1.00	2.00 1.00	2.00 1.00			
	Subtof Total F	Add: Budgeted F Compensa	Personnel Savin tion Adjustments Dn Call/Holiday F u <b>dget</b>	6	771,524 - 44,147 1,574 375,121 1,192,366	13.00	13.00	13.00			

### • Environmental Resources Administration

Environmental Resources provides information on environmental issues affecting County government such as the sale of environmentally sensitive County-owned land, the purchase of property, and the safe handling and disposal of hazardous materials formerly used by County departments. The Department conducts research and provides environmental consultation on county and community-wide projects, such as renewable energy, county water appropriations, and on issues dealing with surface and groundwater quality and quantity in Sedgwick County. Environmental Resources is responsible for mapping and inspecting stormwater outfalls, issuing storm water permits, and testing surface water after certain rain events. The Department works with erosion and water issues.

#### Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	80,907	89,344	93,920	93,920	96,966	3,046	3.2%
Contractual Services	6,458	2,808	11,331	11,331	11,331	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	1,691	383	2,331	2,331	2,331	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	89,056	92,535	107,582	107,582	110,628	3,046	2.8%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	435	675	435	435	675	240	55.2%
Total Revenues	435	675	435	435	675	240	55.2%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	-	0.0%

## Conservation District

The Conservation District provides water quality monitoring, increased irrigation efficiency, assistance to urban and rural landowners in best management practices, and improvement of onsite waste water systems. The Conservation District receives State funding to help local landowners implement best management practices on their land to decrease erosion and contamination of water. Sedgwick County's contribution to the Conservation District provides funding for external staff, water quality testing, education, supplies, and equipment.

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%



## Project Management

Environmental Resources is responsible for implementing Sedgwick County's Solid Waste Management Plan. This includes staffing and educating the Solid Waste Management Committee, developing annual updates of the Solid Waste Management Plan, performing research, and designing special projects. Project management includes funding for the operation of environmentally friendly storm debris equipment purchased in 2015.

#### Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste / 279 - Miscellaneous Grants

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	182,149	206,324	214,489	214,489	223,704	9,215	4.3%
Contractual Services	288	1,303	29,208	32,920	26,922	(5,998)	-18.2%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	1,599	2,591	5,115	5,115	5,750	635	12.4%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	184,036	210,218	248,812	252,524	256,376	3,852	1.5%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	73	73	100	27	37.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	73	73	100	27	37.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2.59	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	-	0.0%

# Solid Waste Enforcement

Solid Waste Enforcement is responsible for enforcing various Sedgwick County codes including random weekly inspections of various disposal facilities, investigating illegal dumping, and licensing waste haulers and disposal facilities.

#### Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	99,813	108,053	110,800	110,800	113,418	2,618	2.4%
Contractual Services	-	-	3,552	3,552	3,000	(552)	-15.5%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	969	2,984	2,984	5,500	2,516	84.3%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	99,813	109,022	117,336	117,336	121,918	4,582	3.9%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	122,541	93,313	158,343	158,343	126,293	(32,050)	-20.2%
All Other Revenue	57,393	89,524	31,361	31,361	57,407	26,046	83.1%
Total Revenues	179,934	182,837	189,704	189,704	183,700	(6,004)	-3.2%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	0.0%



## Waste Minimization

Solid Waste Minimization is responsible for working with local governments; including cities, townships, and improvement districts; citizens; and businesses on minimizing waste. This includes onsite waste analysis of businesses, developing advertisements, writing articles for newspapers, developing recycling booklets, an online guide, staffing departmental booths at public events, and presentations to various groups and the public. Waste minimization also includes funding for the Christmas tree recycling program.

#### Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	130,888	139,339	144,469	144,469	151,946	7,477	5.2%
Contractual Services	55,470	57,197	92,785	82,785	99,107	16,322	19.7%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	1,837	9,897	5,882	15,882	6,000	(9,882)	-62.2%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	168,000	168,000	0.0%
Total Expenditures	188,195	206,434	243,136	243,136	425,053	181,917	74.8%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	-	0.0%

## Special Projects

The Special Projects fund center was established within the Solid Waste Fund to provide budget authority for special projects like the Bulky Waste Coupon Program, Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department (MABCD) nuisance abatements, Waste Tire Roundup events, township and improvement district cleanups, storm debris cleanup events and projects, the Electronic Waste Collection Recycling event, and pharmaceutical drop-off boxes that are located at local law enforcement stations.

### Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	407,940	355,376	496,000	496,000	496,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	2,776	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	407,940	358,152	496,000	496,000	496,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%



### Household Hazardous Waste Services

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility accepts common household hazardous wastes from individuals at no charge, keeps convenient hours, and features a swap-n-shop from which citizens may take and reuse selected materials. The swap-n-shop saves the County an average of \$69,000 annually in disposal fees. Small businesses qualifying as conditionally exempt, small quantity generators may use the facility and pay the County's contract disposal rate. In 2024, 247 businesses used the HHW facility. HHW partners with sponsoring communities and businesses to hold five remote collection events annually.

#### Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	449,691	509,858	587,066	587,066	606,333	19,266	3.3%
Contractual Services	498,281	315,248	679,997	679,997	665,813	(14,184)	-2.1%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	51,057	74,919	65,184	65,184	65,184	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	999,030	900,025	1,332,248	1,332,248	1,337,330	5,082	0.4%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	2,070,849	2,083,589	2,113,111	2,113,111	2,126,161	13,050	0.6%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	2,070,849	2,083,589	2,113,111	2,113,111	2,126,161	13,050	0.6%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	-	0.0%

# Storm Debris Contingency

The Storm Debris Contingency was established within the Solid Waste Fund to provide budget authority for unplanned disposal costs of solid waste. Initially established after the 1991 Haysville tornado, the primary focus of this fund center was to assist with the tipping fees and other costs of disposing of the aftermath of storm damage. Originally included in the budget, it was shifted to a separate fund center for improved visibility. A resolution authorizing the original program was rescinded in 2015; however, the program was reestablished in the 2018 budget with an expanded scope for how the Contingency may be used.

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	_	_	0.0%



## Kansas Innovation Grant

In 2024, Environmental Resources was awarded a grant from the Kansas Health Foundation for the purchase of insulated, reuable water bottles for staff at waste collection events. This was used to ensure zero waste at collection events.

#### Fund(s): 270 - Environmental Resources - Grants

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	550	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	-	550	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	550	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	550	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%

