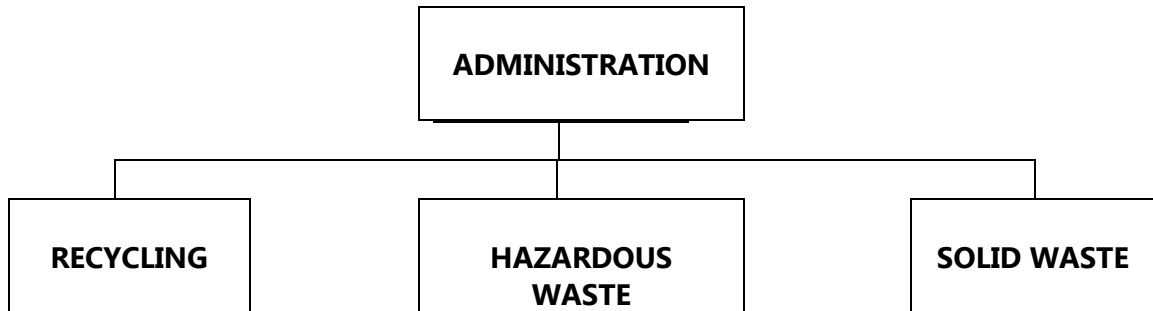


**GLOW REGION SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
PROGRAM BUDGET FOR GENESEE COUNTY  
2026**

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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**DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION**

The GLOW Region Solid Waste Management Committee (GLOW) was created in 1987 to allow the Counties of Genesee, Livingston, Orleans, and Wyoming to work cooperatively to develop solid waste management strategies. In 2003, Orleans County no longer wanted to participate in GLOW. Since then, GLOW has been funded by Genesee, Livingston, and Wyoming Counties. The services provided by GLOW include planning, education, technical assistance, and regional program implementation for solid waste and recycling. The benefits of GLOW are shared by municipal, commercial, and residential sectors within the counties.

**DEPARTMENT: GLOW**

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

Mission

GLOW is an Inter-County agency that provides leadership in solid waste issues for residents, businesses, and municipalities.

GLOW's leadership includes education, resources, and direct services.

## **Key 2025 Accomplishments**

### **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program**

A household hazardous waste collection occurred on August 23, 2025 in Genesee County. GLOW will submit a grant application to the DEC in January 2025. Payment for 2024 is expected be received to the amount of \$16,412.80 and is pending agency review to distribute funds.

A separate electronics collection will be held on September 20, 2025. The collections provide opportunities for residents to dispose of various household items. GLOW will accept home computers, TVs, and electronic components at the September 20 collection. NYS requires manufacturers to offer free electronics recycling, and GLOW will use its fund balance to pay for items not covered by the state.

### **MAT-EX: Western/Central New York Materials Exchange Program**

MAT-EX continues to provide an alternative to landfilling and incineration of non-hazardous materials, and has been moved to the Genesee County website for streamlined organization. Exchanges continue to be made due to the program's availability on the Internet. With the addition of Ontario County, the program now encompasses 12 counties (including the three GLOW counties). The program is available to residents in many western and central New York counties, with exchanges extending beyond the region.

This program continues to provide GLOW businesses, institutions, and residents with an alternative to disposal by landfill or incineration. It also provides schools, non-profit organizations, and others with a means of obtaining needed materials at little or no cost.

### **Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant**

Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling (MWR&R) grants, which are funded by the NYSDEC's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), help pay for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs and activities, as well as the recycling administrator positions salary and fringe benefits. These grants have enabled GLOW to conduct not only its traditional waste reduction programs, such as MAT-EX, composting promotion, and waste reduction advertising campaign but also to expand and add to these programs. Receipt of these grants is essential to GLOW's ability to educate the public, provide technical assistance to businesses, institutions, and government agencies, and offer waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting programs. GLOW has received approximately \$664,082 through these grants for expenses incurred from April 1, 2006, to December 31, 2024. The grants are vital to GLOW's mission and continuance of programming. Except for a reduction in the length of these grants from three (3) calendar years to one (1) proposed changes to this grant program that could have impacted GLOW negatively were dropped. The organization can continue at the current level of funding in 2026.

## **Waste Reduction Ad Campaign**

In 2002, GLOW modified its ad campaign to distribute reusable and recycled content products to residents who responded to the advertisements. In 2022, GLOW found it necessary to purchase four composters so that one could be given away between 2022 and 2025. The composting ad was run in the last week of April and the first week of May to promote GLOW's Compost Demonstration Sites. A postcard containing four questions related to the site was sent with the composting packets. Residents visiting the site, answering the questions, and returning the card to GLOW would be eligible to win a food scrap container and compost machine. The GLOW/NY Recycles Day advertisement will run in November 2025. The committee also relies on social media, press releases, mailings, and word of mouth.

## **Backyard Composting**

GLOW sponsors two Backyard Composting Demonstration Sites at Genesee County Park and Letchworth State Park. The sites feature homemade and manufactured composters along with informational signage. Printed information is available in a "take one" box, and the sites are self-serve. They are an important part of GLOW's efforts to promote waste reduction through backyard composting.

In the spring of 2019, the Genesee County Park and Forest site was upgraded with new signage, a "take-one" box, and new implements. The Letchworth Composting Demonstration Site was relocated to the Trailside Lodge area in the spring of 2021 after being at the High Banks Camping Area for five years. The site's maintenance is handled by Letchworth Staff and is experiencing increased use.

For some time, GLOW had Earth Machine composters for sale to residents for \$43.20 each. However, GLOW is no longer able to obtain these composters but can refer residents to compost sales in Erie County. Composting continues to be promoted at public events, fairs, school, and community presentations.

## **Key 2026 Goals**

Please be advised that these programs are tentative. In light of State budget constraints, anticipated grant funding may not be available. Because of this, some of these programs may be scaled back or eliminated.

## **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program (HHW)**

GLOW plans to hold a single household hazardous waste collection in Livingston County in 2026. In January 2026, GLOW will submit a grant application and reimbursement request to the DEC for funding for the 2025 program. These collections provide convenient and environmentally sound opportunities for residents to dispose of household chemicals, cleaning products, pesticides and insecticides, and vehicle fluids. Over the years, GLOW has expanded its list of acceptable materials

to include batteries, tires, and propane tanks. There is no longer state funding for electronics, as manufacturers are required to provide free recycling. As a result, GLOW has been covering the entire cost of a separate electronics collection, held shortly after the household hazardous waste collection.

### **Municipal Recycling Program**

GLOW will continue to work with municipalities to identify areas of opportunity to enhance existing recycling efforts, offer technical assistance to resolve problems associated with non-traditional waste streams, and provide other services as needed (i.e. educational materials). GLOW will also investigate the possibility of serving municipalities through cooperative marketing agreements with area haulers and recyclers.

### **Backyard Composting**

The GLOW Committee will continue to promote and encourage backyard composting cost-effectively. Composting is one of the most efficient, low-cost, and environmentally friendly waste disposal. Educational material and information are available to residents in brochures at fairs and events. GLOW continues to maintain its (2) Backyard Composting Education Sites.

The overall goal of the GLOW Committee is to keep costs to a minimum, while at the same time maximizing the effectiveness of programs and services throughout the region.

### **BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

Genesee County's annual contribution to GLOW will be \$26,152 and it is tied its population percentage between the three Counties. The contribution amount has not changed since 2024 after an adjustment following the 2020 Census. Over the years, the GLOW Committee has worked aggressively to keep member counties contributions steady by streamlining the organization including reducing the size of its staff to one full time employee back in 2004. GLOW had a paid part time secretary until 2015. Since then, the Genesee County's Information Technology (IT) Department has processed payroll and invoices at no charge. This arrangement will continue through 2026. The Genesee County Treasurer's Office will continue to provide accounting services to GLOW at a cost of \$1,600 and will complete the State required Annual Update Document (AUD) on GLOW's behalf at a cost of \$500. GLOW expects to contract for an outside audit in 2026.

The adopted 2026 Budget includes a total of \$51,000 for household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronics collections programs. This annual HHW collection will be rotated through each of the three participating counties and is to be held in Livingston County in September of 2026.

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY</b>					
<b>Appropriation by Object</b>	<b>Amended 2024</b>	<b>Actual 2024</b>	<b>Amended 2025</b>	<b>Estimated 2025</b>	<b>Adopted 2026</b>
Salary/Fringe	65,596	63,331	82,496	80,825	87,564
Contractual	84,314	53,664	83,589	65,000	87,851
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>149,910</b>	<b>116,995</b>	<b>166,085</b>	<b>145,825</b>	<b>175,415</b>
Revenue	149,910	116,995	166,085	145,825	175,415
<b>Net County Support</b>	<b>26,152</b>	<b>26,152</b>	<b>26,152</b>	<b>26,152</b>	<b>26,152</b>
FTE's	1	1	1	1	1