

## Rhode Island

### Solid Waste Management Plan Survey

The Division of Planning is in the process of assisting the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation in updating the Rhode Island Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, an element of the State Guide Plan. An advisory committee of professionals involved with solid waste management was formed. The backgrounds of the committee included representatives from private companies, environmental groups, state agencies and municipal representatives. As part of the outreach process, 4 regional stakeholder forums were held around the state. The forums were open to the public. The dates and locations of the forums were:

#### **November 6**

Northern Rhode Island  
Woonsocket Library  
303 Clinton Street, Woonsocket

#### **November 12**

Newport County  
Best Western Mainstay Inn  
151 Admiral Kalbfus Rd, Newport

#### **November 7**

Southern Rhode Island  
URI Bay Campus  
Coastal Institute Bldg - Hazard Rm  
215 South Ferry Rd, Narragansett

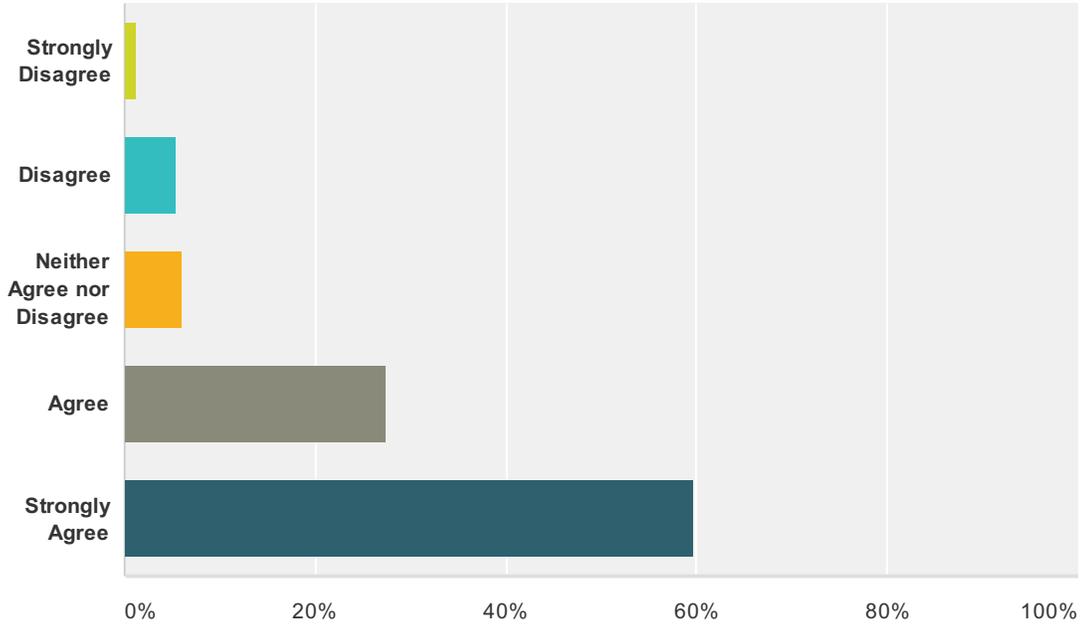
#### **November 14**

Central Rhode Island  
Rhode Island College  
Alger 110, School of Management  
Providence

Upon completion of each forum, the participants were invited to take part in a brief survey on solid waste management. The survey was hosted online and was open for approximately 3 months. Participants and members of the advisory committee were asked to spread the word about the survey to their contacts. The survey was also featured in the Statewide Planning monthly newsletters.

**Q1 Recycling and trash services aren't free. We should recycle as much as possible even if it adds to the cost of managing solid waste.**

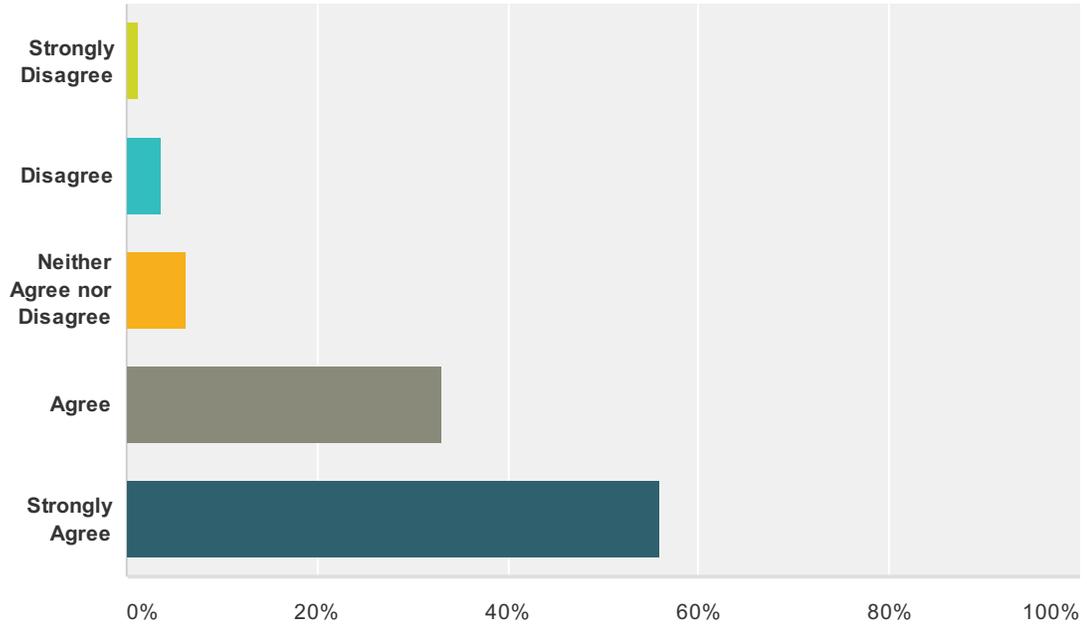
Answered: 164 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Disagree	1.22%	2
Disagree	5.49%	9
Neither Agree nor Disagree	6.10%	10
Agree	27.44%	45
Strongly Agree	59.76%	98
<b>Total</b>		<b>164</b>

**Q2 We each have a personal responsibility to be less wasteful, even if after recycling everything we can and composting, it still costs us something to manage the left over household waste.**

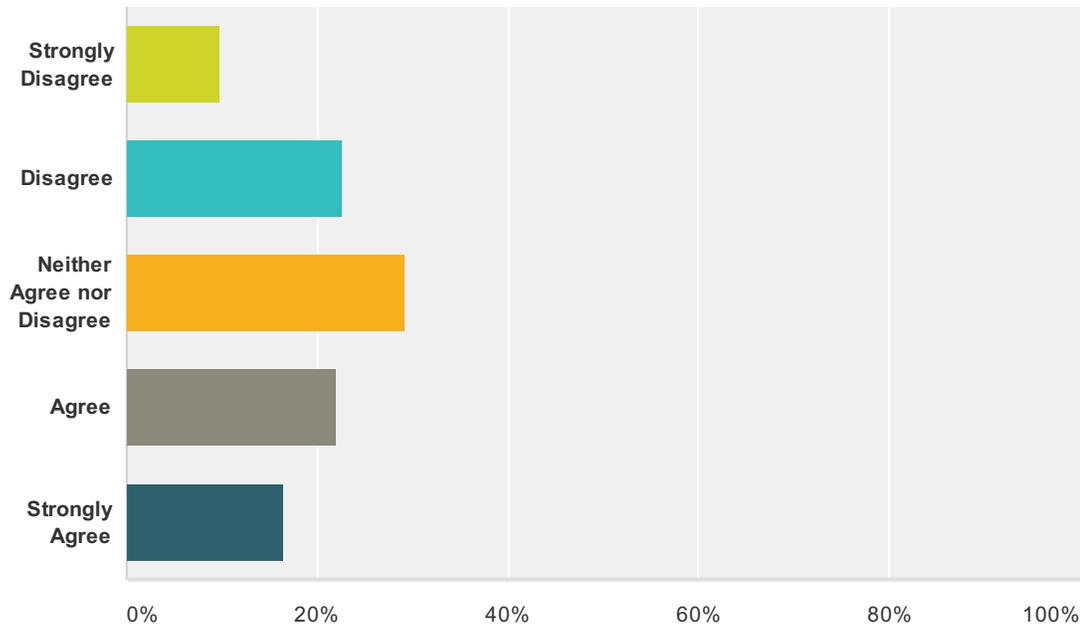
Answered: 163 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly Disagree	1.23% 2
Disagree	3.68% 6
Neither Agree nor Disagree	6.13% 10
Agree	33.13% 54
Strongly Agree	55.83% 91
<b>Total</b>	<b>163</b>

**Q3 Rhode Island should not export its waste to other states even if it costs less than managing waste locally.**

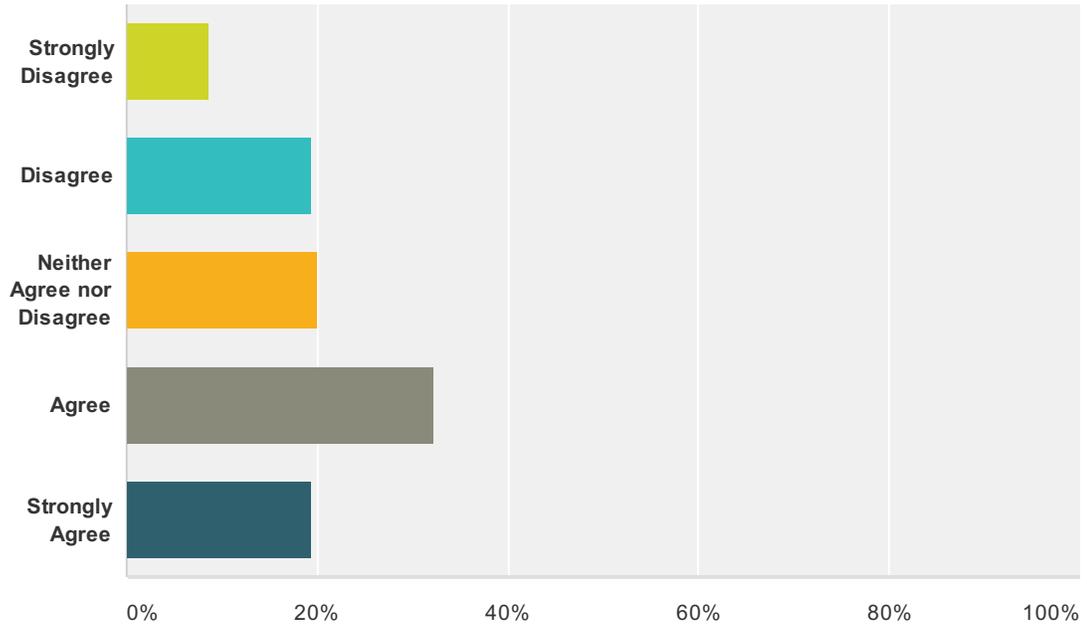
Answered: 164 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly Disagree	9.76% 16
Disagree	22.56% 37
Neither Agree nor Disagree	29.27% 48
Agree	21.95% 36
Strongly Agree	16.46% 27
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>

**Q4 Waste disposal costs should be high to encourage recycling and composting.**

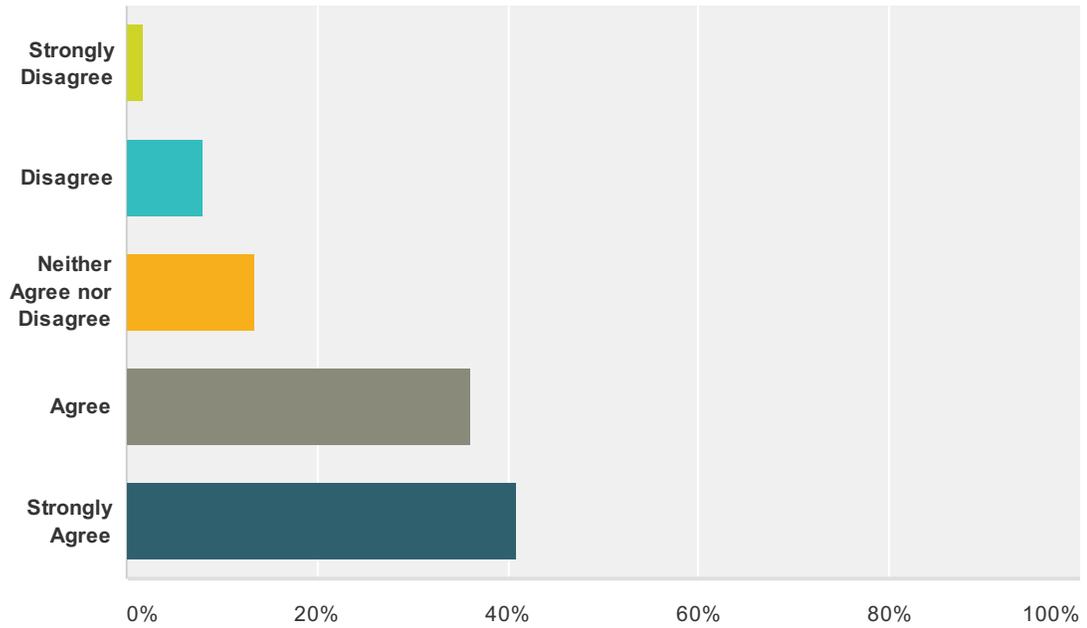
Answered: 164 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Disagree	8.54%	14
Disagree	19.51%	32
Neither Agree nor Disagree	20.12%	33
Agree	32.32%	53
Strongly Agree	19.51%	32
<b>Total</b>		<b>164</b>

**Q5 Rhode Island should implement programs to divert food waste from landfilling even if it will add to collection costs and require more effort by households.**

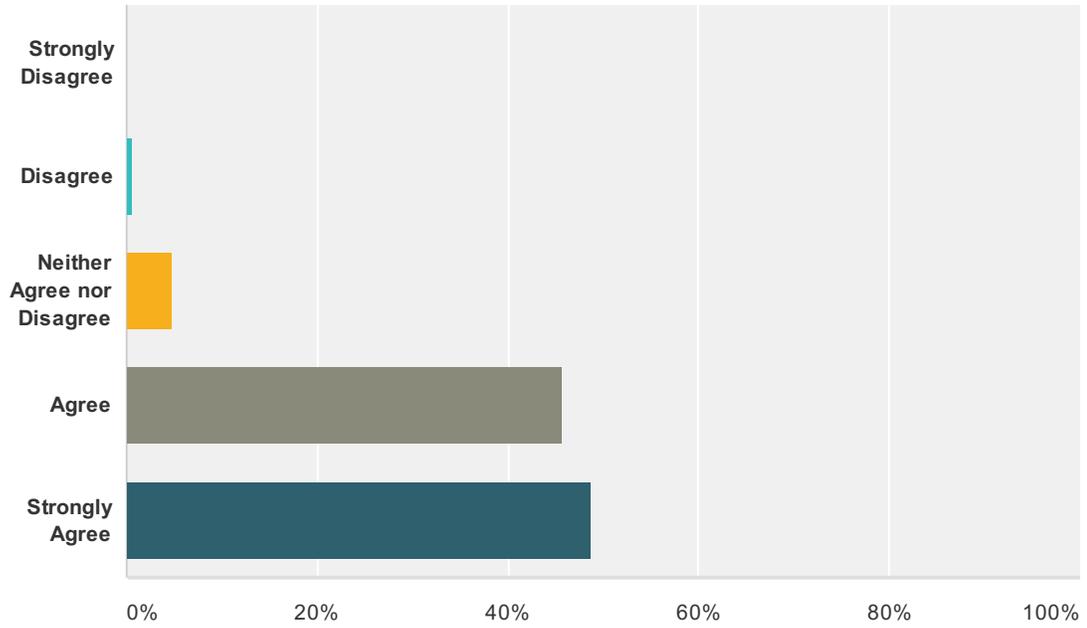
Answered: 164 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly Disagree	1.83% 3
Disagree	7.93% 13
Neither Agree nor Disagree	13.41% 22
Agree	35.98% 59
Strongly Agree	40.85% 67
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>

**Q6 New waste management technologies should be used, as long as they are not bad for the environment.**

Answered: 164 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly Disagree	0% 0
Disagree	0.61% 1
Neither Agree nor Disagree	4.88% 8
Agree	45.73% 75
Strongly Agree	48.78% 80
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>

**Q7 Is there anything in particular  
feel is an important consideration  
planning for Rhode Island's solid  
management over the next 25+**

Answered: 94 Skipped: 71

Summary of Responses:

There were a wide range of answers for this question. Out of 94 responses, 58 of them believed that composting is an important consideration going forward. Food Waste diversion in general was mentioned by 26 of the respondents. 21 people believed that education on waste issues was a key factor. Other issues eliciting significant responses included product packaging and plastic bags with 16 and 13 mentions respectively.

**Q8 Please review the presentation, handouts and display boards posted on the RI Solid Waste Management Plan link at [www.planning.ri.gov](http://www.planning.ri.gov). Did you find the information to be informative? Thoughts or comments?**

Answered: 58 Skipped: 107

Summary of Responses:

The majority of survey respondents did not answer this question. Only 58 out of 195 answered it. Overall, 18 people (31%) who did respond had a generally neutral response when describing the information. 30 people (52%) had a general positive reply to the information, while 10 respondents (17% had a general critical or negative comment about the information presented)

**Q9 Do you have questions regarding solid waste or this planning process, and would like to be contacted? If so, please describe your question below, and provide your Name, Organization and/or City/Town of Residence, and the best way to contact you (Phone # or E-mail).**

Answered: 38 Skipped: 127