

Environmental Resources

Mission: 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.

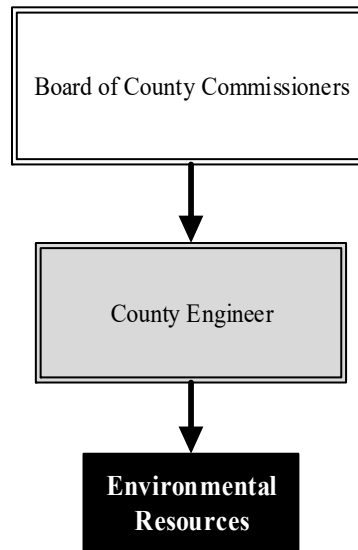
Susan Erlenwein
Director

1144 S. Seneca St.
Wichita, KS 67213
316.660.7200

susan.erlenwein@sedgwick.gov

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 solid waste and stormwater regulations. The Department provides permits and inspections for the Sedgwick County Stormwater Management Plan, testing of surface waters, Hazard Communication training for County employees, chemical inspections of County departments, environmental assessments for Sedgwick County, and technical consultation for environmental projects 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.



Strategic Goals:

- Engage the community in proper recycling by offering special waste minimization projects and multiple HHW disposal options, and increase compliance with the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Code through enforcement and education
- 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

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 935,858 pounds of hazardous waste from 15,209 citizens in 2023
- Provided a waste tire collection event in 2023 that collected 137,187 passenger tire equivalents from 2,028 vehicles



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 2023, Environmental Resources continued free drug disposal sites at five City police stations throughout Sedgwick County. The Department also provided five remote HHW collection events throughout the County to help better serve the citizens. Environmental Resources provided a waste tire 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 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 2023, Environmental Resources provided a waste tire collection event that received 137,187 passenger tire equivalents from 2,028 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 2023, 160 inspections were completed. A third strategic goal is to inspect 1,693 water outfalls annually for illicit water discharges. In 2023, 1,693 water outfalls were inspected for illicit discharges.

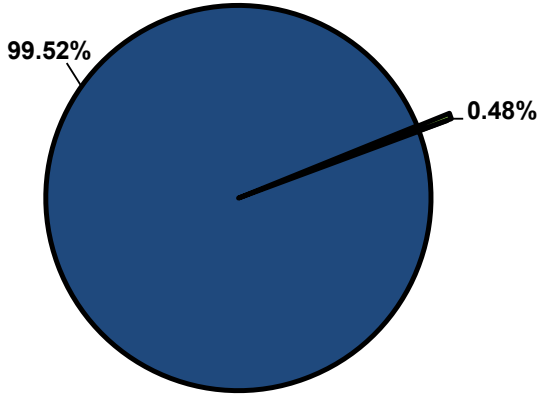


Significant Budget Adjustments

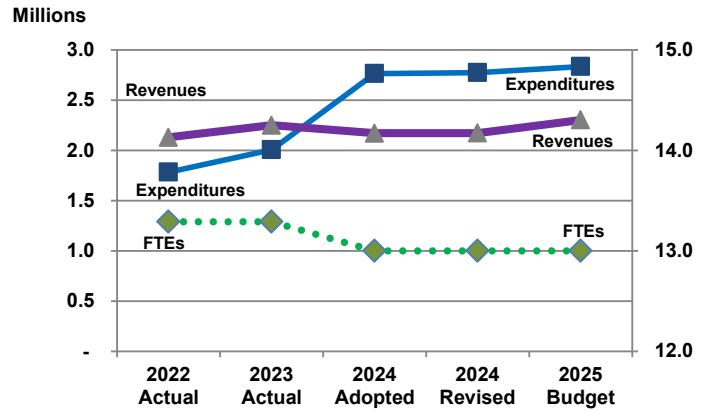
Significant adjustments to Environmental Resources' 2025 budget include an increase in charges for services revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals (\$120,792).

Departmental Graphical Summary

Environmental Resources
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amount Chg '24 Rev.-'25	% Chg '24 Rev.-'25
Expenditures							
Personnel	977,481	943,448	1,099,148	1,099,148	1,150,743	51,595	4.69%
Contractual Services	741,993	1,008,438	1,584,972	1,567,956	1,602,873	34,917	2.23%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	63,906	56,184	81,496	108,342	81,496	(26,846)	-24.78%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	1,783,380	2,008,070	2,765,616	2,775,446	2,835,113	59,666	2.15%
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Permits	21,260	57,828	21,283	21,283	31,796	10,513	49.40%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for Services	2,107,687	2,193,390	2,150,111	2,150,661	2,271,453	120,792	5.62%
All Other Revenue	70	-	73	73	73	-	0.23%
Total Revenues	2,129,017	2,251,218	2,171,467	2,172,017	2,303,323	131,305	6.05%
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	12.49	12.20	12.20	12.20	-	0.00%
Total FTEs	13.29	13.29	13.00	13.00	13.00	-	0.00%

Budget Summary by Fund

Fund	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amount Chg '24 Rev.-'25	% Chg '24 Rev.-'25
General Fund	128,232	129,056	147,246	147,246	147,582	336	0.23%
Solid Waste	1,562,348	1,879,014	2,618,370	2,618,370	2,687,531	69,161	2.64%
Env. Resources Grants	-	-	-	550	-	(550)	-100.00%
Miscellaneous Grants	92,800	-	-	9,280	-	(9,280)	-100.00%
Total Expenditures	1,783,380	2,008,070	2,765,616	2,775,446	2,835,113	59,666	2.15%

Personnel Summary by Fund

Position Titles	Fund	Grade	Budgeted Compensation Comparison			FTE Comparison		
			2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget
Dir. of Environmental Resources	110	GRADE 70	37,252	38,568	38,568	0.30	0.30	0.30
Env. Resources Project Mgr.	110	GRADE 60	29,302	26,168	26,168	0.50	0.50	0.50
Administrative Support III	208	GRADE 54	88,031	91,609	91,609	2.00	2.00	2.00
Dir. of Environmental Resources	208	GRADE 70	86,922	89,992	89,992	0.70	0.70	0.70
Env. Resources Project Mgr.	208	GRADE 60	29,302	26,168	26,168	0.50	0.50	0.50
HHW Operations Supervisor	208	GRADE 61	61,723	63,565	63,565	1.00	1.00	1.00
HHW Technician	208	GRADE 52	119,037	122,246	122,246	3.00	3.00	3.00
Senior Environmental Inspector	208	GRADE 59	135,416	140,131	140,131	2.00	2.00	2.00
Senior Technician - HHW	208	GRADE 54	93,494	96,947	96,947	2.00	2.00	2.00
Zoning Inspector	208	GRADE 67	50,558	52,060	52,060	1.00	1.00	1.00
Subtotal					747,454			
Add:								
Budgeted Personnel Savings					-			
Compensation Adjustments					42,793			
Overtime/On Call/Holiday Pay					1,574			
Benefits					358,923			
Total Personnel Budget					1,150,743	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	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
Personnel	82,534	80,907	93,584	93,584	93,920	336	0.4%
Contractual Services	4,213	6,458	11,331	11,331	11,331	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	1,484	1,691	2,331	2,331	2,331	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	88,232	89,056	107,246	107,246	107,582	336	0.3%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	690	435	690	690	435	(255)	-37.0%
Total Revenues	690	435	690	690	435	(255)	-37.0%
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 practice's 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.

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
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	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25	
Personnel	175,239	182,149	203,389	203,389	214,489	11,100	5.5%	
Contractual Services	92,800	288	29,208	38,488	29,208	(9,280)	-24.1%	
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Commodities	7,660	1,599	5,115	5,115	5,115	-	0.0%	
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Total Expenditures	275,700	184,036	237,712	246,992	248,812	1,820	0.7%	
Revenues								
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
All Other Revenue	70	-	73	73	73	-	0.2%	
Total Revenues	70	-	73	73	73	-	0.2%	
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2.59	2.59	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.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste								
Expenditures	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25	
Personnel	99,453	99,813	104,307	104,307	110,800	6,492	6.2%	
Contractual Services	-	-	3,552	3,552	3,552	-	0.0%	
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Commodities	150	-	2,984	2,984	2,984	-	0.0%	
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Total Expenditures	99,603	99,813	110,843	110,843	117,336	6,492	5.9%	
Revenues								
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Charges For Service	164,276	122,541	166,834	166,834	158,343	(8,492)	-5.1%	
All Other Revenue	20,570	57,393	20,593	20,593	31,361	10,768	52.3%	
Total Revenues	184,846	179,934	187,427	187,427	189,704	2,277	1.2%	
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	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
Personnel	133,068	130,888	141,971	141,971	144,469	2,498	1.8%
Contractual Services	52,542	55,470	86,658	86,658	92,785	6,127	7.1%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	3,144	1,837	5,882	5,882	5,882	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	188,754	188,195	234,511	234,511	243,136	8,625	3.7%
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	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	331,044	407,940	496,000	493,000	496,000	3,000	0.6%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	3,000	-	(3,000)	-100.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	331,044	407,940	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. In 2023, the swap-n-shop saved the County \$80,806 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 2023, 265 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	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
Personnel	487,187	449,691	555,898	555,898	587,066	31,169	5.6%
Contractual Services	221,393	498,281	668,223	644,927	679,997	35,070	5.4%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	51,467	51,057	65,184	88,480	65,184	(23,296)	-26.3%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	760,047	999,030	1,289,305	1,289,305	1,332,248	42,943	3.3%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	1,943,411	2,070,849	1,983,277	1,983,277	2,113,111	129,834	6.5%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	1,943,411	2,070,849	1,983,277	1,983,277	2,113,111	129,834	6.5%
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.

Fund(s): 208 - Solid Waste

Expenditures	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
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, reusable water bottles for staff at waste collection events. This will ensure zero waste at collection events.

Fund(s): 270 - Environmental Resources - Grants

Expenditures	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Adopted	2024 Revised	2025 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '24 - '25	% Chg. '24 - '25
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Contractual Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	-	-	-	550	-	(550)	-100.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	550	-	(550)	-100.0%
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	550	-	(550)	-100.0%
All Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	-	-	-	550	-	(550)	-100.0%
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%