

**Avfall Sverige**  
in two minutes

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## Avfall Sverige

Avfall Sverige (the Swedish Waste Management Association) is the municipalities' branch organisation in waste management and recycling. Avfall Sverige's members ensure that waste is collected and recycled in all Swedish municipalities. We perform our work on behalf of society in an environmentally sound, sustainable and long-term manner. Our vision is "Zero Waste". We are taking action for waste prevention, promote reuse, and ensure that the waste that is produced is recycled, recovered and managed in the optimal manner. The municipalities and their enterprises are the ambassadors, catalysts and guarantors of this change.



Our logo – in its entirety – is an "impossible object", where the inside of the cylinder gives the impression of being larger than the outside. This reflects the truth that waste is so much more than rubbish.

## Members

Avfall Sverige represents its members, which are made up of municipalities, local government associations, municipal enterprises and municipally-owned regional waste and recycling enterprises. Our members represent the entire population of Sweden. The Association also includes about a hundred associate members: manufacturers, consultants and contractors active in waste management.

## Board of directors

The Avfall Sverige board of directors is composed of eighteen directors, ten of whom are elected representatives and eight of whom are administrative officials. The directors are active in municipalities, local government associations, or municipal enterprises. The nominating committee's brief is to "strive to ensure that the structure of the board reflects the association's membership in terms of organisational structure, size and geographical distribution, and to strive towards the most equal gender distribution possible." The board meets at least four times each financial year. Meetings are convened by the chairman.



## Administrative office

Avfall Sverige's administrative office has a staff of 19 permanent employees. The office is located in Malmö, but two members of staff are located in Stockholm. The board determines the direction of the administrative office, whose work is led by the managing director.



## Advisory services

The members of Avfall Sverige have access to – and become part of – the highest collective expertise in waste management in the country. Members can benefit from specialist expertise through reports or direct contact with the administrative office, where they can also get information and advice on legal matters.

## Financing

Income consists, in basically equal proportions, of membership fees and income from commercial activities such as courses, conferences, consulting assignments, and publications. All members pay membership and service fees. Municipal members also pay a development fee.

## Working groups

Working groups are an important link between the membership and the administrative office, as well as member-to-member. The result of working group activities include courses and theme days, development projects and knowledge management. The working groups are an important internal base for establishing support for Avfall Sverige's position on various legislative and lobbying issues. The working groups are divided into nine areas.

## Development committee

The development committee consists of the Association's working group chairmen and one other representative of Avfall Sverige's members. The committee decides which projects should be given the go-ahead and allocates the funds for their completion. The results of development initiatives are communicated in reports and in courses and theme days.



- Prevention
- Communication
- Non-toxic eco-cycle
- Municipal responsibility
- Collection
- Waste treatment plants
- Biological treatment
- Energy recovery
- Recycling centres

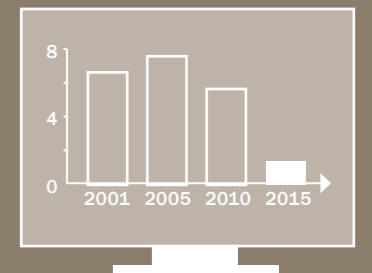
## Training

Avfall Sverige arranges some 40 courses, theme days and conferences every year to enhance skills and give members the opportunity to exchange experiences in the industry. About 2,000 participants take advantage of the training programme every year. Avfall Sverige also offers several online courses. The training programme enjoys broad support among the working groups and thus meets the needs of members.



## Avfall Web

Avfall Sverige's statistical tool, Avfall Web, gives municipalities opportunities for comparisons, benchmarking and follow-up. The system is also the basis for the national waste statistics on household waste that Avfall Sverige compiles every year and publishes in the report "Swedish Waste Management" and in an annual statistical report at county and municipal levels. Avfall Sverige delivers statistical data to government agencies including the Swedish Energy Agency, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Statistics Sweden (SCB).



## Lobbying

Avfall Sverige has extensive interaction with decision-makers, government agencies, ministries and ongoing investigations. This applies primarily to the EPA and the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, but also applies to other ministries, government agencies and organisations. Avfall Sverige actively contributes opinions ahead of political decisions through its official consultative responses and correspondence. Avfall Sverige is also engaged in lobbying within the EU. This occurs in part through the Ministry of the Environment and Energy and the EPA, which represent Sweden. The Association is also engaged in direct lobbying via Brussels-based organisations, including Municipal Waste Europe (MWE) and the Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants (CEWEP).



# Administrative office

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