

# **Avfall Sverige** in two minutes

**2026**

## **Avfall Sverige is the municipalities' trade association in the field of waste management and recycling**

It is our members who ensure that waste is collected and recycled in all Swedish municipalities. We enable sustainable and innovative waste management, where we collaborate with others based on our social responsibility.

Our vision is a future without waste. That is why we influence, develop and collaborate for a future where waste is prevented, recycled and seen as a resource.

[www.avfallsverige.se](http://www.avfallsverige.se)

We promote  
sustainable and  
innovative waste  
management

Our vision  
is a future  
without waste

In the space of  
two minutes, we  
summarise what we  
do, how we do it, and  
share some results.

## Members

Avfall Sverige represents its members – municipalities, local government associations, municipal enterprises and municipally-owned regional enterprises in waste and recycling.

Our members represent the entire population of Sweden. Our membership also includes manufacturers, consultants and contractors and the like who are active in waste management, categorised as associate members.

Avfall Sverige has 213 municipal members and 156 associate members.

## Working groups

Working groups are an important link between the membership and the Administrative Office, as well as member-to-member. They contribute their knowledge and experience, and make suggestions for new courses, theme days and new development projects. The working groups are an important internal base for establishing support for Avfall Sverige's positions on various legislative and lobbying issues.

The working groups are divided into eight areas. The working groups contain several operational groups and networks for development and exchange of experience.

## Advisory services

The members of Avfall Sverige have access to – and become part of – the country's foremost collective expertise in the field of waste management. Members can make use of Avfall Sverige's specialist expertise via reports, templates and guides, or by contacting the office directly. This also applies to legal questions and questions about communication.

# 213

municipal members  
156 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



## Lobbying

Avfall Sverige's mission includes regular and extensive interaction with the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag), the Government Offices of Sweden, government agencies, organisations, opinion makers and the media. 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 is done through both the Government Offices of Sweden and through European organisations such as MWE, CEWEP, etc.

Avfall Sverige is part of the global organisation ISWA.

- CEWEP – Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants
- MWE – Municipal Waste Europe
- ISWA – International Solid Waste Association
- ECN – European Compost Network

26 consultative responses, 2 correspondence submissions, and 11 opinion pieces and replies were written in 2025.

## Communication

The overall objectives of Avfall Sverige's joint communication are to increase awareness of how we prevent waste and then deal with the waste that does occur, as well as the role of the municipalities. Joint communication with the members takes the form of, among other things, campaigns on the various stages of the waste hierarchy as well as the role and responsibilities of municipalities. Avfall Sverige publishes the industry journal Avfall och Miljö [Waste and Environment] and a newsletter. On its website, Avfall Sverige presents news and makes materials available for download. Those interested can also register for Avfall Sverige's courses, conferences and theme days on the website. Avfall Sverige is behind the Nordic-Baltic waste sorting symbol system and the waste portal [sopor.nu](http://sopor.nu).

## Development projects

The Development Committee contributes to development within the waste industry and consists of the chairs of the working groups, one other representative from the municipalities, and the Managing Director of Avfall Sverige.

The Committee decides which projects should be given the go-ahead and how the funds to implement them should be allocated. The working groups for energy recovery, biological treatment and waste treatment plants also have their own development initiatives, which they finance and have decision-making authority over.

The results of the various development initiatives are communicated in reports and in courses.

19 reports were published in 2025.

## Training

Avfall Sverige organises a large number of digital and in-person courses, theme days and conferences every year to enhance skills and give members the opportunity to exchange experiences.

The training programme enjoys broad support among the working groups, with activities based on the needs of members. Courses were organised on 27 occasions with a total of 2,104 participants in 2025.

## Avfall Web

Avfall Sverige's statistical tool, Avfall Web, gives municipalities the ability to perform comparison, benchmarking and follow-up.

The reporting also serves as the basis for the national municipal waste statistics that Avfall Sverige publishes in the report "Swedish Waste Management" and in an annual statistical report at the county and municipal levels.



Avfall Sverige delivers statistics to government agencies, including the Swedish Energy Agency, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and Statistics Sweden.



## Administrative Office

Avfall Sverige's Administrative Office has a staff of 25 employees and one consultant in 2026. The Administrative Office is located in Malmö. There is also a satellite office with four employees in Stockholm.

The Board determines the focus of the Administrative Office, whose work is led by the Managing Director.

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Avfall Sverige is composed of eighteen directors, ten of whom are elected representatives and eight of whom are civil servants. The directors are active in municipalities, local government associations, or municipal enterprises. The aim is for the composition of the Board to reflect the association's membership in terms of its organisational structure, size and geographical distribution. The Board shall also achieve the most equal gender distribution possible.

The Board meets at least four times each financial year, with its meetings convened by the Chair.

## Funding

The organisation is funded through revenues consisting of approximately equal proportions of membership dues and fees and income from commercial activities such as courses, conferences, consulting assignments, publications, etc.

All members pay dues and a service fee. In addition, municipal members pay a development fee.

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