

# ASTSWMO Four Year Strategic Plan

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*2020 – 2024*



## **ASTSWMO MISSION, VISION AND GOALS**

**VISION: One Voice For 56 States and Territories**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** To enhance and promote effective State and Territorial programs and to affect relevant national policies for waste and materials management, environmentally sustainable practices, and environmental restoration.

### **2020 – 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

**GOAL 1:** Provide Assistance To The Membership

**GOAL 2:** Strengthen And Develop Strategic Partnerships In Our Advocacy Of Member Interest At The Federal Level

**GOAL 3:** Ensure A Sustainable Organization



**ASTSWMO IS COMPRISED OF A  
DIVERSE AND EXPERIENCED  
MEMBERSHIP THAT DEVELOPS AND  
IMPLEMENTS PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS  
TO THE NATIONS' MOST  
CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTAL  
ISSUES.**

## INTRODUCTION

Since our inception in 1974, the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) has strived to serve the needs of our members in environmental agencies in the 50 States, 5 Territories and the District of Columbia (States) by being a resource for States seeking guidance and unbiased communication regarding national policy and environmental concerns.

ASTSWMO is a member-driven organization that focuses on connecting our members with one another to share information, learn from one another, and encourage cross-program interaction and learning.

This document, the 2020 - 2024 Strategic Plan, provides the vision, strategic directions, and near-term actions by which ASTSWMO's strategic goals will be carried out. It represents the culmination of a series of efforts undertaken by a small Strategic Planning Work Group, the Board of Directors, and the broader membership aimed at identifying future key themes and emerging issues and priority opportunities for the next four years.

The Board of Directors welcomes each of our members to identify a role you can take to help ensure our success. We welcome you as partners in this important work, and pledge to work tirelessly to continue to serve each of our members for many years to come.

## PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESS

To prepare for implementation of our strategic plan, ASTSWMO developed three goals to guide our future actions. These define ASTSWMO's values, plot a path forward, and create a touchstone against which the Association can gauge its efforts.

To achieve our goals, ASTSWMO will continue to expand our role as a convener of dialogue, strengthen our national policy voice, and support initiatives and innovations relative to our mission. In the process, ASTSWMO will actively explore strategic partnerships, where appropriate, and will communicate effectively on complex issues in a manner that contributes to public understanding and facilitates transferability of program practices among States.

"ASTSWMO is always there to provide information on what is going on with federal policies and potential federal regulations. The Association is also a great way to benchmark with other States on issues. It also is a fantastic network with both federal agencies and other States."  
Strategic Plan Survey Response

### **GOAL 1: Provide Assistance to the Membership**

- Provide opportunities for cross-programmatic collaboration, information exchange and training for our members.

The Association exists to serve our membership, champion their programs and share their expertise. In order to best serve the membership, ASTSWMO provides proactive leadership in the analysis and development of federal and State waste and remediation policy. The Association convenes subject matter experts from State programs to identify emerging issues, produce position papers, review and comment on federal rule proposals, provide legislative input and educate and inform its members.

### **GOAL 2: Strengthen and develop strategic partnerships in our advocacy of member interests at the Federal level**

States have many partners in ensuring public and environmental health and promoting sustainable practices. Historically, ASTSWMO has focused on our relationship with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) to influence national policy, and these relationships remain critical to the Association. However, as States collectively identify issues and develop policy, ASTSWMO is enhancing its relationships and seeking opportunities to collaborate with other State media associations while encouraging them to rely on ASTSWMO's programmatic expertise and perspective. Additionally, new partnerships with other federal agencies, local governments, and with the private and non-profit sectors are being explored.

ASTSWMO has become an even stronger advocate and voice for States to communicate common issues, needs, and concerns to EPA, the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), Congress, and others, and will continue to encourage and employ cooperative problem-solving to facilitate adoption of new priorities and policies.

### **GOAL 3: Ensure a Sustainable Organization**

- Continue to implement a sustainable fiscal strategy.
- Maintain an efficient, work product-based organizational structure that addresses our members' needs.
- Continuously integrate technologies in order to maintain presence, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- Recruit, develop, and foster an engaged membership.

The Board of Directors has developed and implemented a sustainable fiscal strategy. The Board is committed to honoring its financial roadmap that will allow ASTSWMO to continue to meet member needs while securing the Association's financial future to maintain and enrich a knowledgeable, engaged membership for years to come. ASTSWMO will work with Voting Members to encourage their staff to attend meetings and participate on the various Task Forces and Focus Groups.

## **CARRYING OUT THE 2020 – 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN**

ASTSWMO is committed to carrying out the mission, vision, strategic directions, and actions identified in the 2020 - 2024 strategic plan. As in previous strategic plans, ASTSWMO will track our progress by reporting on the key focus areas at quarterly Board meetings and through periodic updates to the membership. ASTSWMO will review all current and planned work products and activities to ensure that the vision in this plan is achieved through our collective work.

ASTSWMO will use this plan to make decisions about priority national policy issues and the activities we undertake to support the needs of our members and to protect public health and the environment.



**“ASTSWMO continues to be the resource for States seeking guidance and unbiased communication regarding national policy and environmental concerns.”**

*Strategic Plan Survey Response*