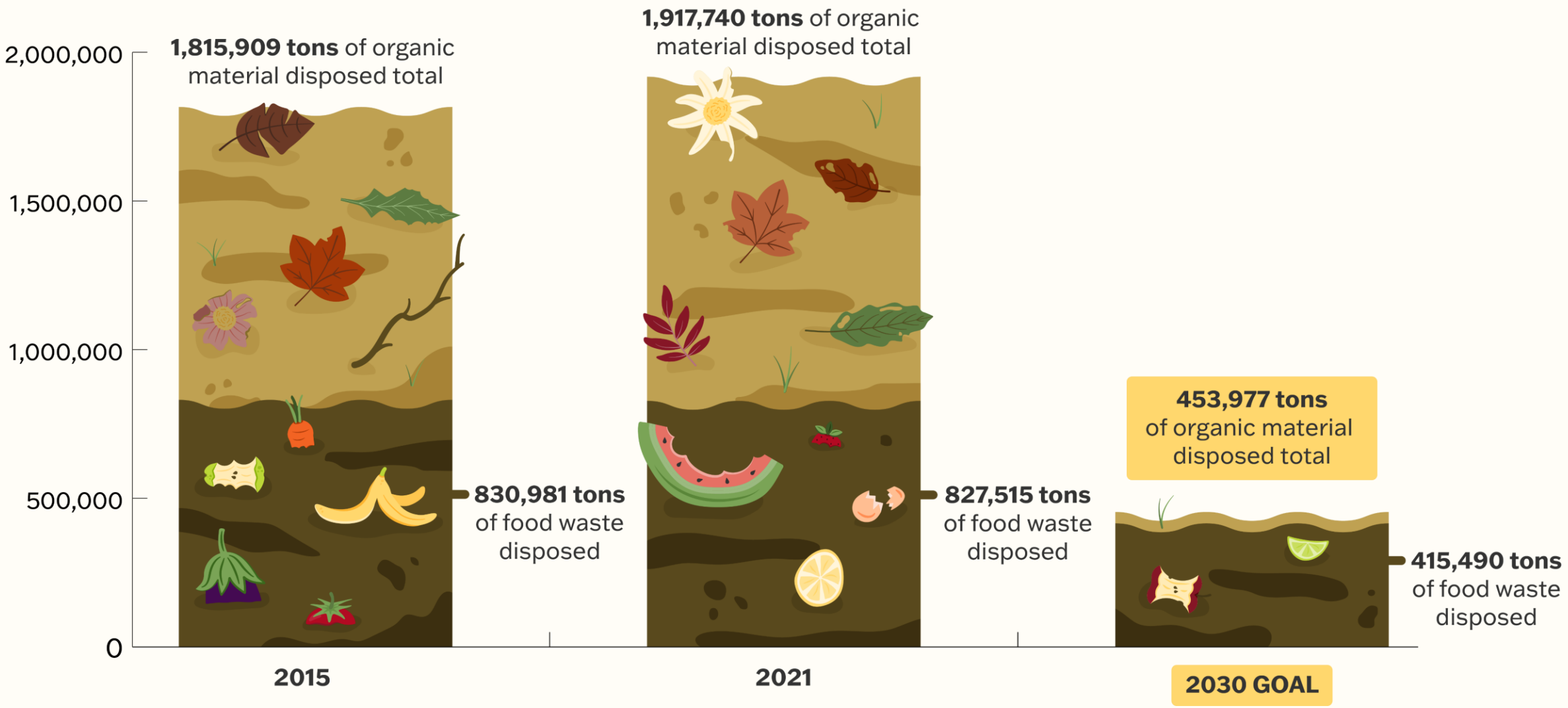
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Organics Management Laws

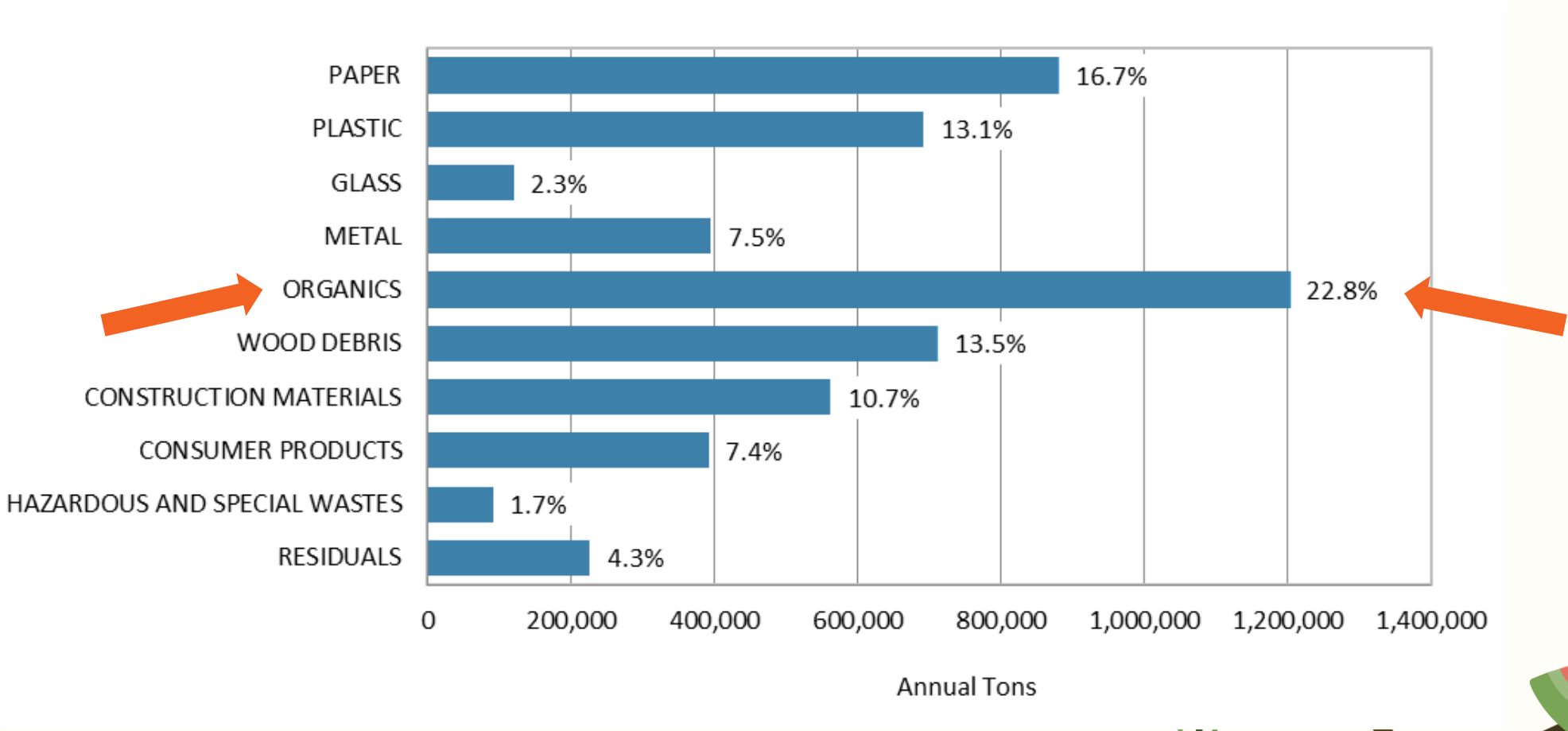
The Local Health Jurisdiction's role

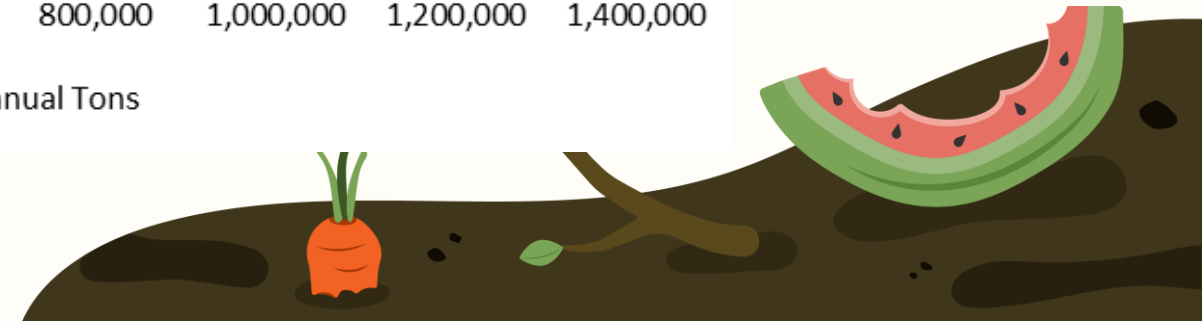


Organic Material Disposed in WA Landfills

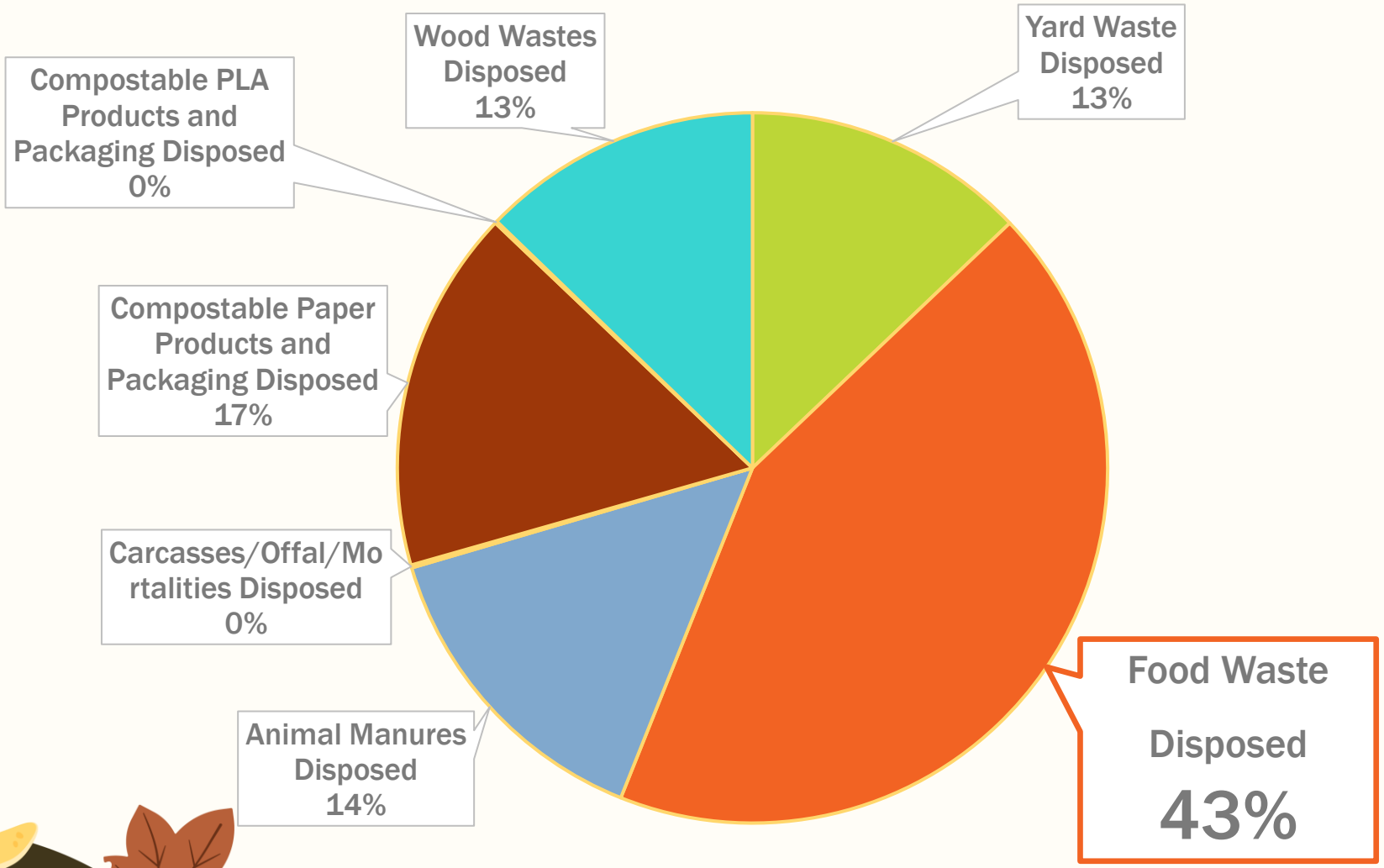


Overall Statewide Disposed Waste Stream Composition by Material Class, 2020-21

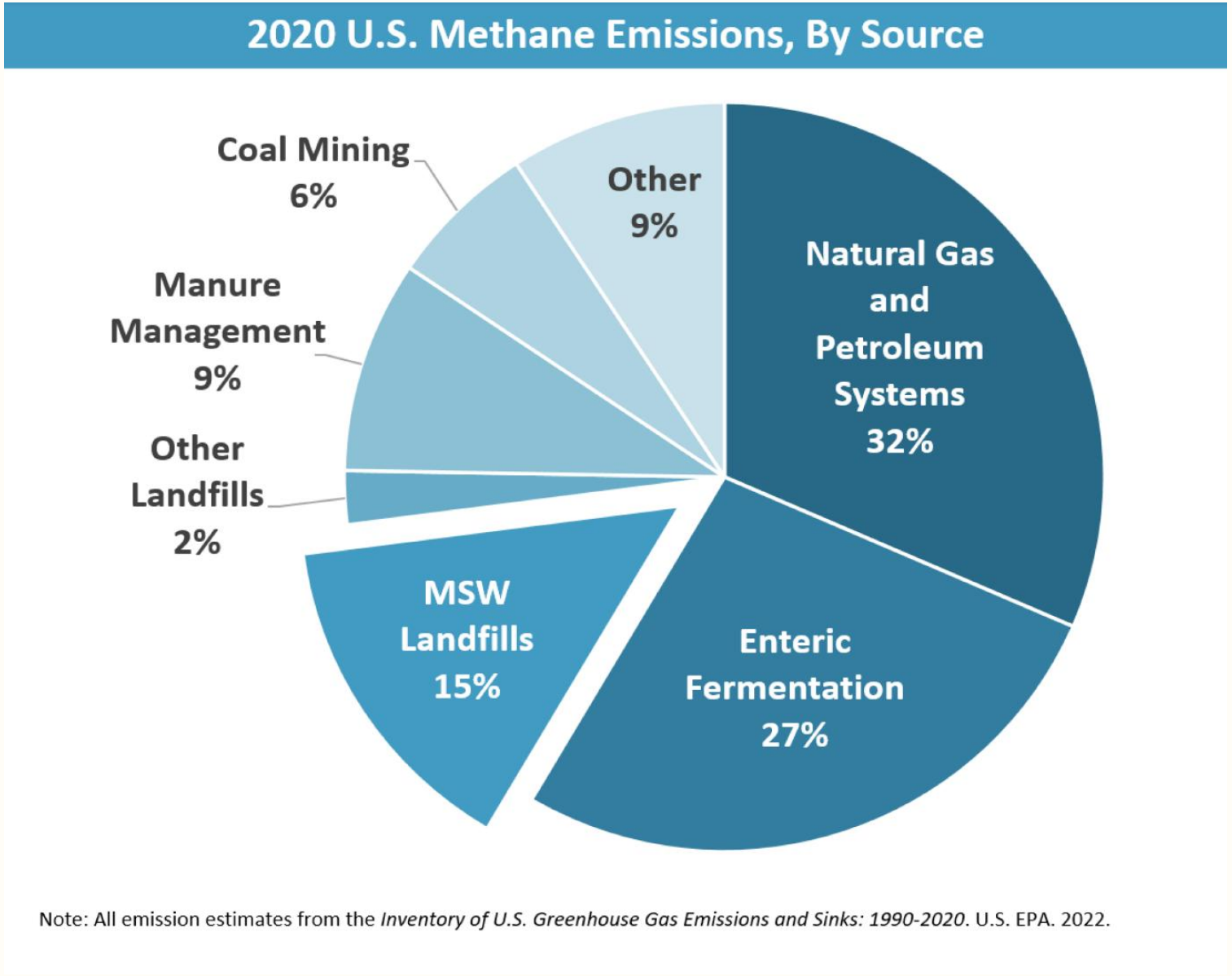




Disposed OML Organic Materials, 2021
1,917,740 tons



Why Organics?



2.3 MMT CO_2e (72% of emissions from waste management) came from uncaptured methane in landfills.

OML "Buckets"



1. **Funding**
   - Five new grant programs
2. **Collection & Management - *Supply***
   - Business Organics Management Areas (BOMA) ★
   - Organics Recycling Collection areas (ORCA) ★
3. **Prevention**
   - WA Center for Sustainable Food Management
   - Good Samaritan Laws
4. **Market Development - *Demand***
   - Compost procurement ordinances
   - Compost reimbursement program
5. **Processing**
   - Organics Processing Facility Siting
   - Compostable Product Labeling
6. **Research**
   - Recommendations on the Compostable Product Usage (HB 1033)
   - Assessment of Product Sticker Technologies
   - Adequacy of funding for local solid waste management
   - Assessment & Opportunities for Edible Food Recovery

SUPPLY

Business Organics Management Area (BOMA)

Based on RCW 70A.205.545, areas of the state that meet both of these requirements trigger a "Business Organics Management Area" (BOMA):

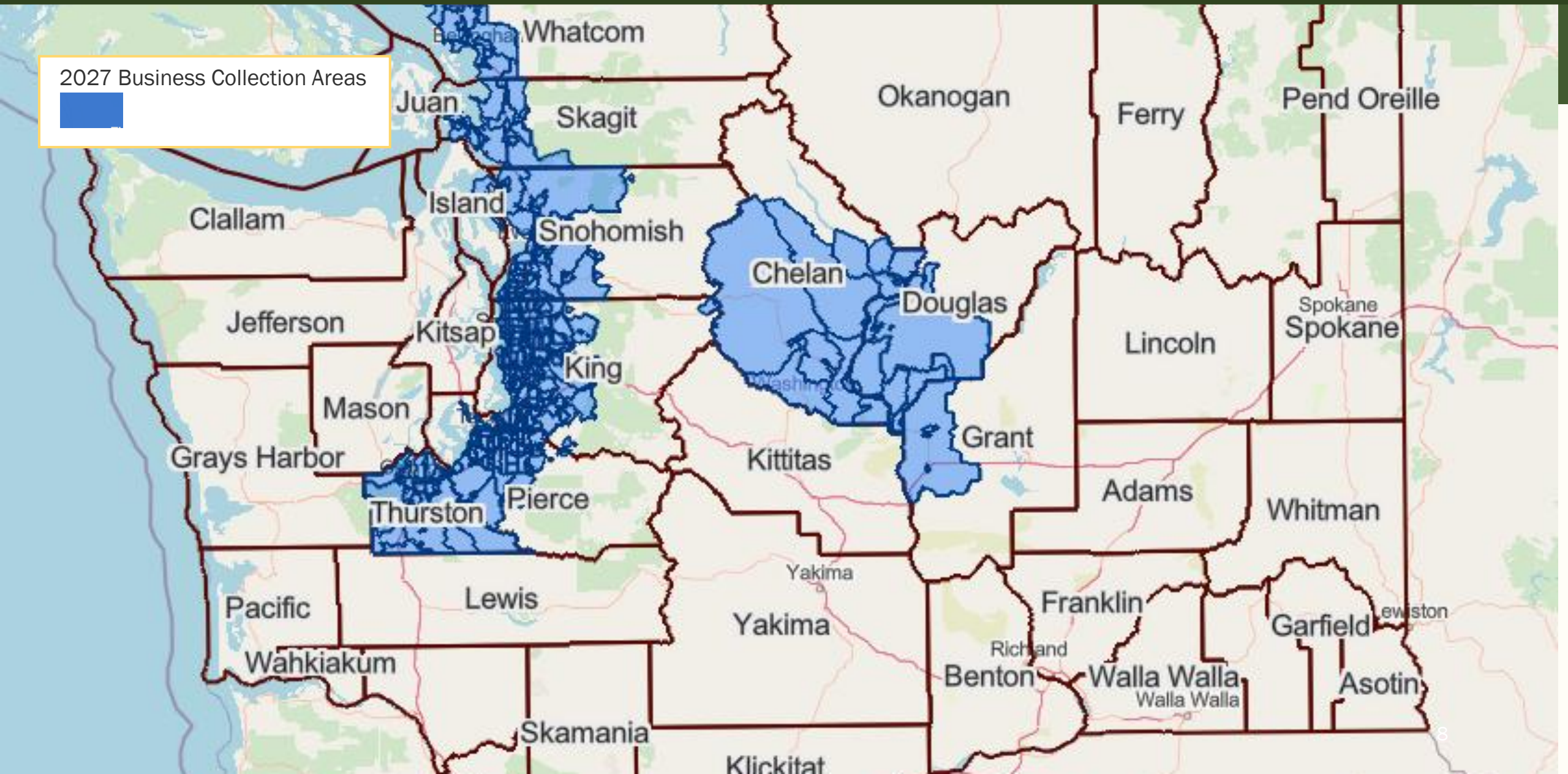
1. Available business or businesses that collect and deliver organic materials to solid waste facilities that provide for the organic materials management of organic material waste and food waste;
2. Available capacity at the solid waste facilities to which businesses that collect and deliver organic materials can feasibly and economically deliver organic materials from the jurisdiction.

Reminder: to meet the requirements of the law, curbside organic material collection services, including food waste, must be offered year-round.





2027 Business Collection Requirements



BOMA Threshold Requirements

2024	2025	2026
8 cubic yards of organic material waste/week	4 cubic yards of organic material waste/week	96 gallons of organic material waste/week



List of Businesses Likely Impacted by BOMA

Developing a methodology to identify businesses impacted using existing research done at Ecology, other states, and contractor efforts

List will be designed to support education, outreach, and enforcement

Methodology and list to be completed and published by **Fall 2026**





Enforcement

Local Health Jurisdiction

and/or

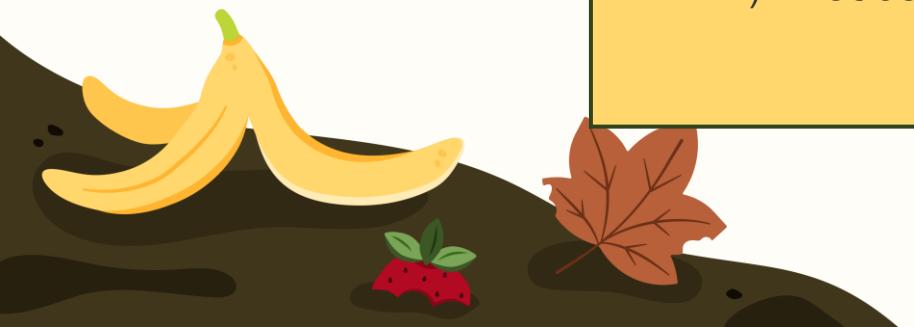
Jurisdictions

Process:

1) Notification Letter
2) Notice of Violation

Penalties:

1) $500 for each day of violation (1st)
2) $750 for each day of violation (2nd)
3) $1,000 for each day of violation (3rd)



In the field…

King County

King County Health:
Providing the enforcement arm

King County Solid Waste:
Providing the technical assistance and identifying enforcement needs

City of Renton

- Utilized Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance Funds (LSWFA) to implement program
- Business organics technical assistance campaign
- Hired a consultant to deliver technical assistance to businesses
- Reached 273 businesses, 43 added services, 46 initiated the process

Use Food Well Business TA Pilot

- Wenatchee Valley
- Skagit Consortium
- Tacoma
- Everett

October 2026-April 2027
Ecology funded



BOMA Community of Practice

All LHJs and Jurisdictions impacted by BOMA are invited.

Join Us!

Mondays at 10:30am
Every other month.



SUPPLY

Organic Recycling Collection Areas (ORCA)

April 2027:

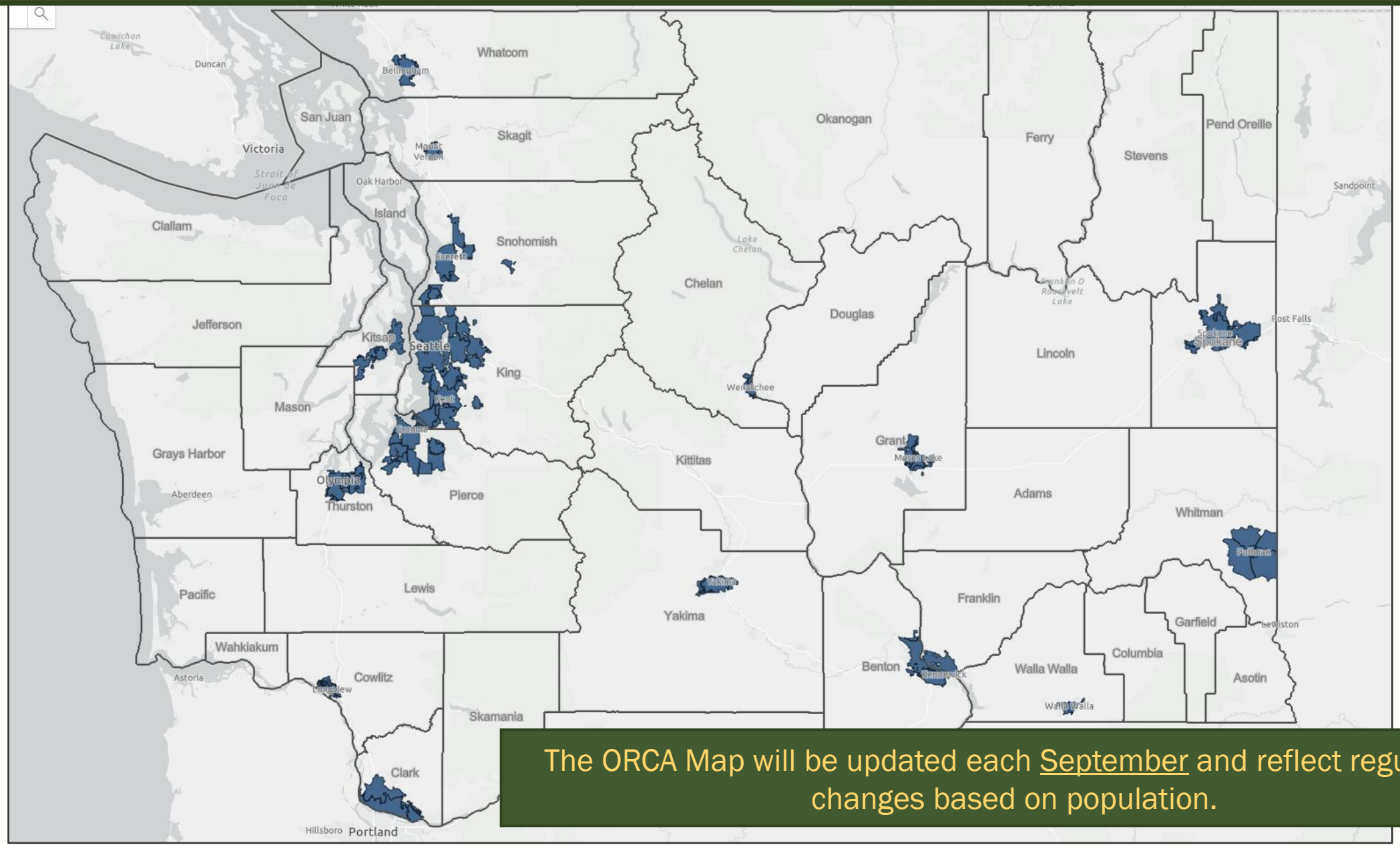
Year-round* collection for source-separated organic solid waste services **is available** to all **business customers** producing .25 cubic yards of organic material waste/week *and* single-family residences

April 2030:

Nonelective collection is provided for both *food* and yard waste

*Year-round is defined as providing service *at least* 26 weeks/year.

2027 Organics Collection Recycling Area (ORCA) Requirements



The ORCA Map will be updated each September and reflect regulatory changes based on population.

Enforcement

Local Ordinance

*may not fine for improper disposal of organic materials

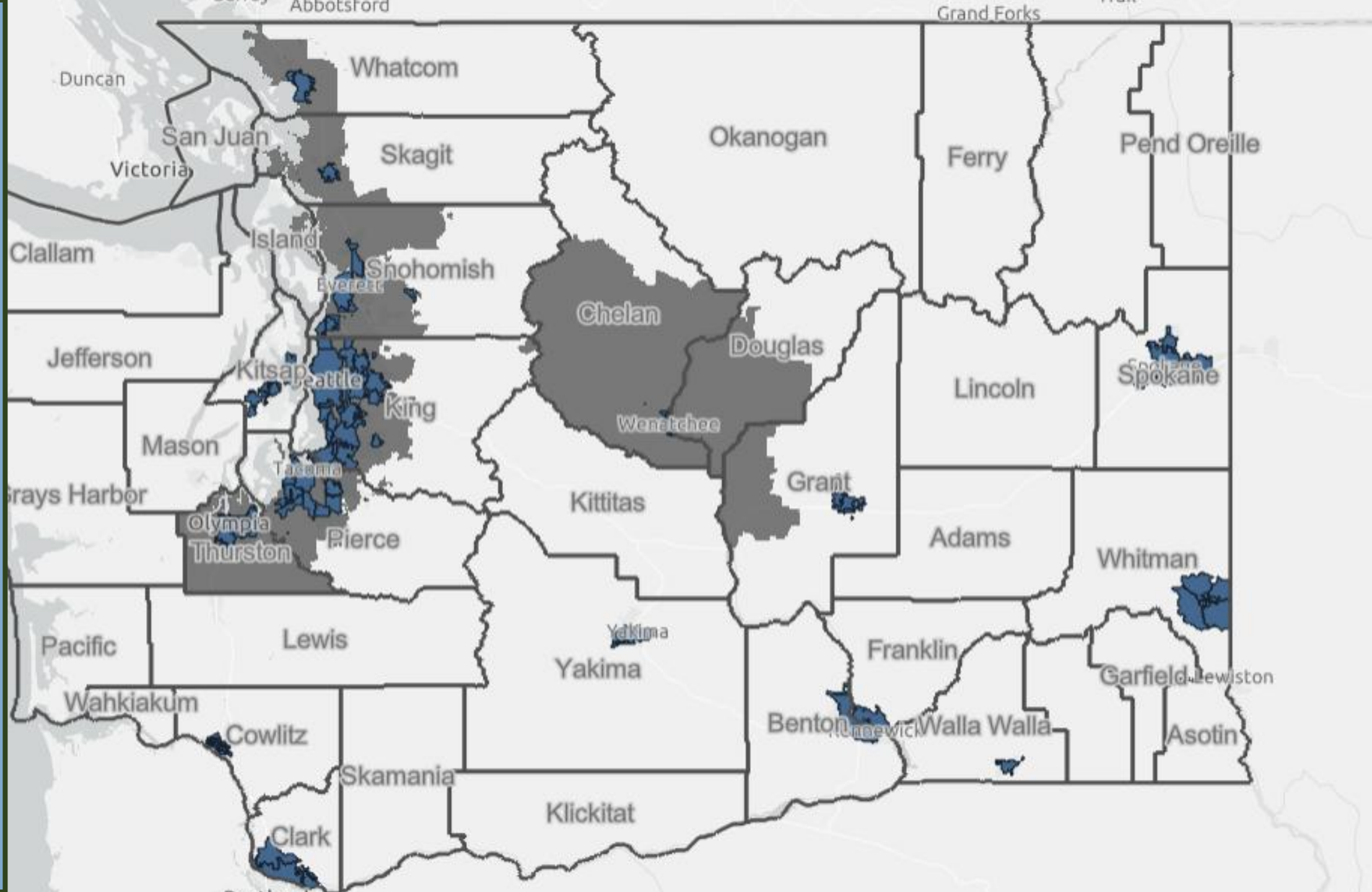


BOMA

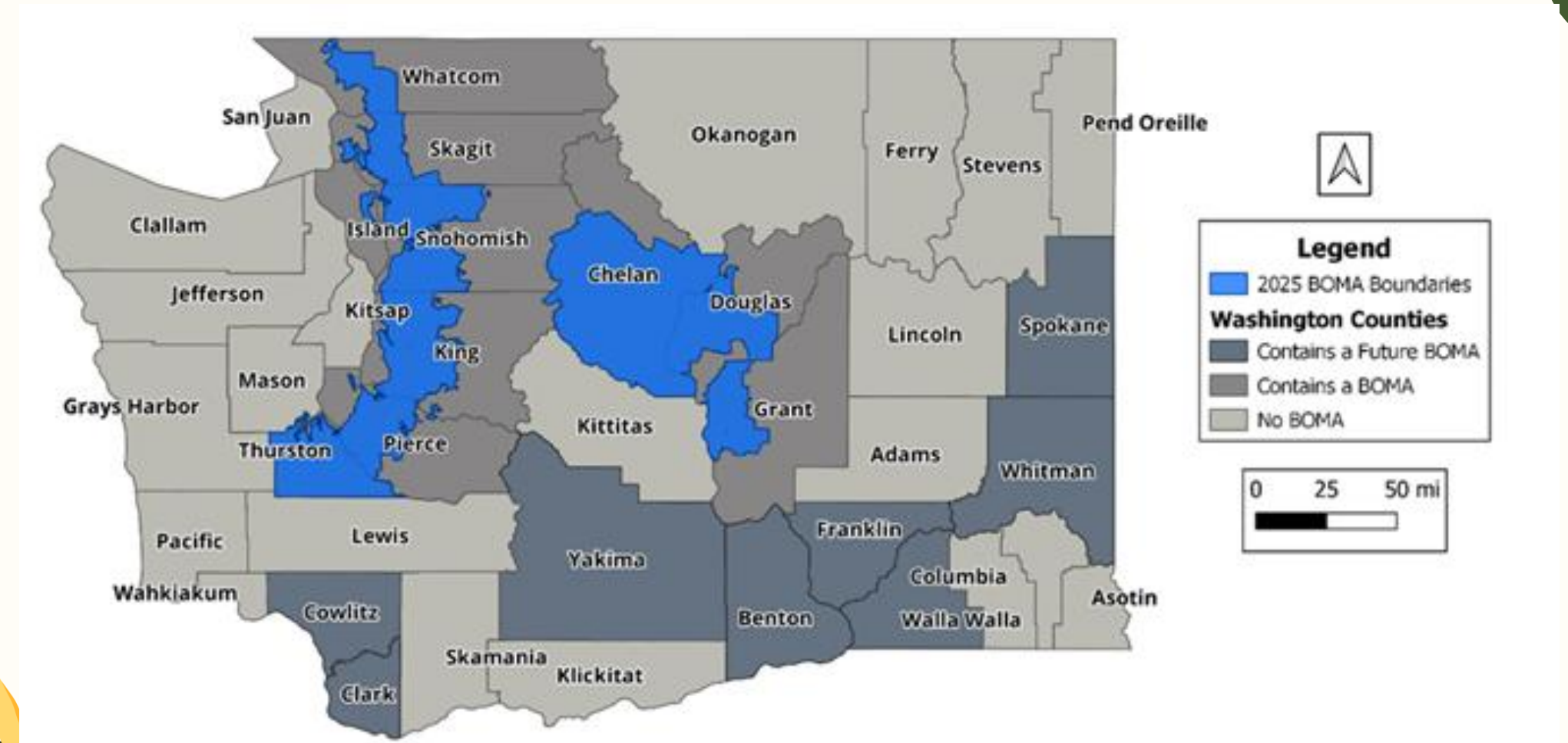
&

ORCA

Maps



Anticipated expansion of BOMA



ECY Organics & Food Center Team



Find us:

Organics@ecy.wa.gov
564.233.1419

Thank you.

Questions?





THE LHJ ROLE IN BOMA AND ORCA – FACILITATED DISCUSSION

Bailey Stanger

PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent • Promote • Protect
BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT

Time for Discussion!

- Connect with your fellow solid waste professionals from other LHJs!
  - Please organize yourselves into 4-6 groups
  - Each group will have an assigned facilitator/notetaker – all notes will be compiled into a single document that will be shared amongst attendees (don't forget to give your email!)
  - We'll get through as many discussion points as possible, but don't feel rushed
  - Facilitators/notetakers will share summaries of each group discussion at the end



Discussion Topic #1 - Introductions

Let's start with getting to know each other! Have each person in the group:

1. **Introduce yourself**
2. **Identify which LHJ you are with**
3. **Describe what is your biggest question or concern regarding the LHJ role in BOMA and ORCA enforcement**



Discussion Topic #2 - Funding

What specific concerns or thoughts do you have around funding for this type of enforcement?

Question Probes:

1. Are there funding streams that may be available to your LHJ that you have yet to explore?
2. Is there a ballpark amount for how much additional funding your LHJ would need to complete this work? (e.g. how many additional FTEs would be needed?)



Discussion Topic #3 - Resources

Outside of money, what resources would your LHJ benefit the most from in implementing a BOMA/ORCA enforcement program?

Question Probes:

1. Would you be interested in forming partnerships with other jurisdictions for developing a joint enforcement strategy?
2. Are there any focused trainings that Ecology could provide you'd be interested in?



Discussion Topic #4 – Program Outlook

If money and staffing weren't an issue, how do you envision a functioning enforcement program would look?

Question Probes:

1. Would the enforcement program exist within the solid waste program, or a different program?
2. Would you like to be able to levy fines for violations, or focus solely on technical assistance for businesses?



Group Share-Out/Discussion

- Assigned note-taker/facilitator to share summaries of each group's discussion



Group Share-Out/Discussion

After hearing everyone else's thoughts, are there any additional questions or comments?



Thank you.

Questions?



