

NEWSLETTER

Perryton: Stronger Than The Storm

When Perryton began clearing debris from the EF-3 tornado that struck the city on June 15, 2023, the community committed to rebuilding with purpose. Local leaders have emphasized resilience and steady progress, noting that “a lot of progress has been made... we’ve demolished a lot of buildings, a lot of buildings have been rebuilt, and a lot of new homes have been built.”

The crushed concrete was used to construct three new parking lots in Murphy Park, giving families and visitors safer, more accessible places to gather. It will also serve as the base for the upcoming concrete trail project in Murphy Park, a feature that will expand recreation opportunities and improve walkability throughout the park. Beyond park improvements, the remaining material was used to build a large training pad for Frank Phillips College’s CDL program, providing students with a durable, stable surface to learn essential commercial-driving skills.



Did You Know?



Park Improvements

Crushed concrete can be used to build or expand parking lots, stabilize trail bases, and improve walkways in public parks. Perryton used tornado debris to build three parking lots and will use more as the base for a new concrete trail in Murphy Park.

Training & Education

Reused concrete makes an excellent foundation for large training pads, like the one Perryton built for Frank Phillips College’s CDL program, giving students a durable surface for hands-on learning.

Community Infrastructure

Cities often use crushed concrete for road base, alley repairs, drainage improvements, and utility access areas, reducing costs while keeping material out of landfills.

Environmental Benefits

Reusing concrete reduces landfill volume, lowers hauling costs, and supports sustainable rebuilding after storms or demolition projects.



Use. Recycle. Reuse. Paving the Future

Texas communities are discovering new ways to implement recycled materials in everyday infrastructure. One way Texans are paving the road for a greener future is by using recycled plastics to rebuild roads and parking lots; an innovation led by a Dallas-based engineer whose work is reshaping how the state thinks about pavement.

That innovation is now reaching the Texas Panhandle. Amarillo has begun testing recycled-plastic asphalt through pilot paving sections and parking lot projects, joining other Texas cities exploring this forward-looking material. While specific streets have not yet been publicly listed, the city has confirmed its participation in evaluating plastic-modified asphalt for future roadway applications, which is a promising step toward greener infrastructure.

Research shows that plastics like HDPE, LDPE, and mixed film materials that often struggle to find stable recycling markets can be shredded, blended, and incorporated into asphalt to create stronger, more flexible pavement. This plastic-modified asphalt resists cracking, performs better in extreme heat, and diverts hard-to-recycle plastics away from landfills.

Did You Know?

Traditional Asphalt



Traditional asphalt can slowly leach petroleum-based compounds into soil and stormwater as it breaks down.



Sheds micro-particles under heavy traffic and heat.



Plastic-Modified Asphalt

Plastic-modified asphalt locks recycled plastics inside the pavement, reducing leaching and surface wear.



Longer-lasting pavement means fewer repaving cycles, lowering the overall environment footprint.

NEWSLETTER

August brought steady gains across the paper sector and mixed but encouraging movement in metals and plastics. Here's a quick look at how commodities performed this month.

- White Ledger

August: \$210/ton

July: \$205/ton

- OCC

August: \$95/ton

July: \$90/ton

- Mixed Paper

August: \$30/ton

July: \$25/ton

- Deink (38 Newspaper)

August: \$30/ton

July: \$25/ton

- SOP

August: \$140/ton

July: \$135/ton



If your recycling center is ready to schedule a pickup or you want to make sure you're getting the best price for your baled materials, contact:
Katrena Volden - 806-372-3381

Let's keep those materials moving and make the most of strong market conditions!

Direct mill runs remain available for full loads of a single baled commodity, shipped at no cost to participating members.

Community Update - FY27 Solid Waste Grant Funding Now Available

Communities across the Texas Panhandle continue to face real challenges in recycling access, illegal dumping, rural waste collection, and safe disposal of household chemicals. To help address these needs, the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission has opened the FY 2027 Notice of Funding Availability (NFA) for local solid waste management projects.

This year, the region will receive \$79,886.71 from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to support projects that strengthen environmental health, improve waste reduction, and expand public access to responsible disposal options.

Projects will be reviewed and prioritized by the Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (RSWMAC), with final approval by the PRPC Board of Directors.



Applications must be submitted to PRPC no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 25, 2026.

Early notifications of intent to apply are appreciated.

Eligible Applicants Include:

- Counties
- Cities
- School Districts
- Special Districts (with authority for water quality protection or municipal solid waste)

Project Categories

- Recycling & Waste Reduction
- Composting & Yard Waste
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Local Enforcement
- Litter & Illegal Dumping Cleanup
- Rural Waste Management
- Technical studies & Local Plans

About the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC)

The Panhandle Regional Planning Commission supports communities across the 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle through regional programs in solid waste, recycling, public safety, economic development, and local government assistance. PRPC works closely with cities, counties, and partner organizations to strengthen services, expand resources, and promote long-term sustainability throughout the region. From coordinating recycling initiatives to supporting community planning efforts, PRPC is committed to helping Panhandle communities thrive.