

“Let’s Talk Trash”



Presented by
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DOWN TO EARTH DESIGN

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Agenda

- **Waste Management & Recycling**
reduce, reuse, recycle
- **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP)**
“closing the loop”

Why Bother?

Businesses generate approximately 45% of all waste in the U.S.

Benefits to Recycling

- reduced supply and material expenses
- reduced waste collection and disposal costs
- improved image within the community
- increased employee pride in their workplace
- a positive impact on the environment

Waste Management

GOAL:
**to reduce landfill
burden**

reduce
reuse
recycle
dispose



reduce
reuse
recycle
dispose

HOW? – Create a Strategy

1. Conduct a waste assessment
2. Identify waste reduction opportunities
3. Establish a baseline and measurement strategy
4. Set reduction goals
5. Make it easy!!!
6. Educate!!!

Reduce & Reuse

- Print on both sides of paper
- Use ink cartridges until they actually run out
- Save packaging materials for reuse
- Turn Tyvek envelopes inside-out and reuse
- Avoid over-packaged items
- Sell or donate usable items (furnishings, office equipment, appliances, etc.)

Make it Easy!



- Identify waste items that can be recycled
- Provide convenient & clearly marked containers for each waste category
- Remove regularly

Paper Products



- Office paper: mixed vs. white only
- Newspaper
- Cardboard
- Pressboard
- Magazines
- Phone books
- Books

Scrap Metal



- Cans – steel and aluminum
- Aluminum scrap
- Steel scrap
- Appliances (with freon removed)

Plastics



#1 – PET(E)

polyethylene terephthalate

#2 – HDPE

high density polyethylene

#3 – V or PVC

vinyl or polyvinyl chloride

#4 – LDPE

low density polyethylene

#5 – PP

Polypropylene

#6 – PS

polystyrene

#7 - other

Glass



- Bottles & jars: color separated vs. mixed
- Light bulbs
- Other glass, including windows, plate glass, etc.

Other



- Yard trimmings
- Hazardous waste
- Batteries
- Tires
- Textiles
- Motor oil
- CD's & floppy disks
- Packaging materials
- Furniture

Resources

Waste Wi\$e

www.epa.gov/wastewise

Grass Roots Recycling Network

www.GRRN.org/zerowaste/

PA Recycling Hotline

800-346-4242

Household Hazardous Waste

800-449-7587

Alameda County

www.stopwaste.org



Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP)

GOAL:

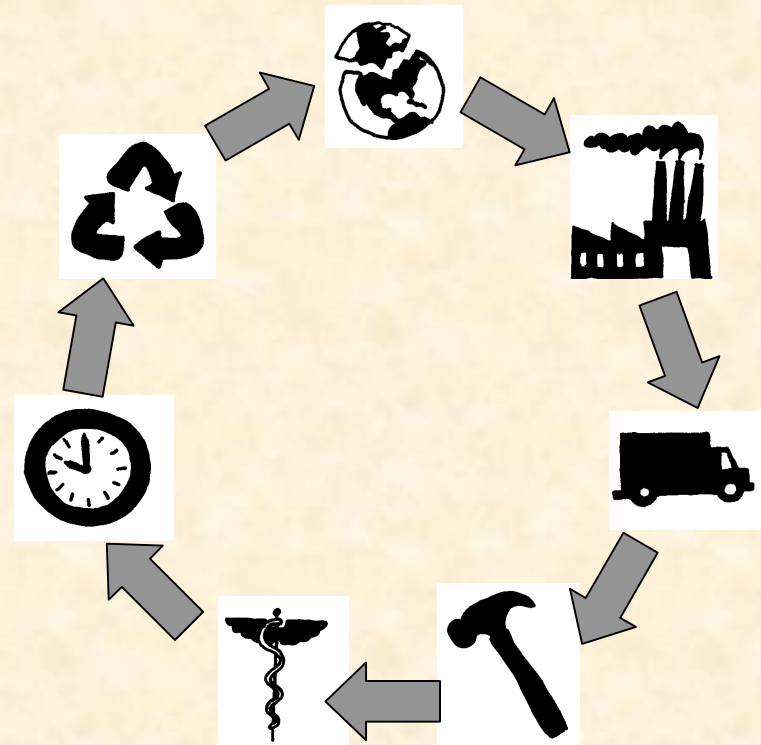
**to reduce burdens on
the environment and
provide a resource
for recycled waste**



Closing the Recycling Loop

Commonly purchased recycled-content products:

- Paper products (office paper, paper towels, paper plates, napkins...)
- Toner cartridges
- Trash bags



Product Attributes to Look For

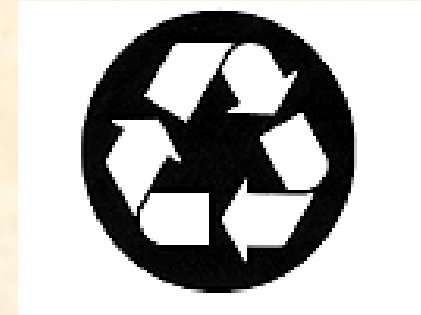
- Energy efficiency
- Recycled content
- Depletion of natural resources
- Recyclability
- Water efficiency
- Resource conservation
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Waste prevention
- Renewable material percentages
- Adverse effects to workers, animals, plants, air, water, soil
- Toxic material content
- Packaging
- Transportation

Understanding Labeling

Third Party Certification:

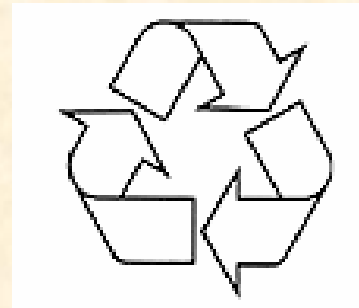
Green Seal

www.greenseal.org



RECYCLED **SYMBOL**

Used to identify products that contain recycled materials.



RECYCLABLE **SYMBOL**

Used to identify materials that are suitable for recycling.

Web Resources

EPA's Environmental
Purchasing

www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/

Pennsylvania DEP

www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/dep/utate/airwaste/wm/Recycle/Recycle.htm

Montgomery County

www.wsaeme.org/recycling

Alameda County

www.stopwaste.org/materials/

California Integrated Waste
Management Board Database

www.ciwmb.ca.gov/rcp/

Lawrence Berkeley National
Laboratory Database

www.lbl.gov/ehs/wastemin/buying/

King County (Washington)

<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/market/map/matlist.htm>