

# Recycling Makes Sen\$e

Northeast Recycling Council, Inc.

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# Disclaimer

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# Recycling Awareness Project

- Increase business, town office, and schools' knowledge and understanding of why recycling is still important.
- Focus on how recycling contributes to disposal cost savings.
- Provide direct technical assistance with starting up or expanding a workplace recycling program.

# Participant Connecticut Towns

- Sherman
- Sharon/Salisbury

# Trash = Wasted Resources

- Adds to disposal costs.
- Wastes valuable resources & increases dependency on virgin materials.
- Contributes to higher levels of greenhouse gases and other forms of pollution.

# Recycling...

- Decreases disposal costs.
- Recognizes the value of resources.
- Economizes raw materials for manufacturing new products.
- Helps to reduce greenhouse gases & pollution.
- Shows a commitment to environmental stewardship.

# Creates Jobs & Revenues

	Northeast
Recycling and Reuse Establishments	13,000
People Employed	206,000
Annual Payroll	\$6.8 billion
Annual Revenues	\$44 billion

Source: Recycling Economic Information Study, June 2000, NERC

# CT's Recycling Saved Valuable Resources

**830,263 tons of materials recycled:**

- Saved 7,564,383 million BTUs of energy  
(= 6% energy used in CT in one year  
= 60,886,181 gallons of gasoline).
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 333,446 metric tons of carbon equivalents (MTCE).

# Resources Saved Continued

- Conserved natural resources —
  - 11,359 tons of limestone.
  - 109,257 tons of iron ore.
  - 61,184 tons of coal.
  - 20,918 tons of sand.
  - 25,230,758 tree seedlings to grow for ten years.

# Other Recycling Benefits

- Enriches employee, customer, and community relations by fostering a positive public image.
- Helps local governments, schools, and businesses comply with CT recycling laws and waste reduction goals.

# STRATEGIC MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- Begin with upper-management support.
- Set-up a recycling team.
- Know what is in the waste.
- Know what materials or products are purchased.

# STRATEGIC MATERIALS MANAGEMENT, cont.

- Set achievable goals.
- Select a recycler.
- Design an efficient recycling collection & storage system.

# TIPS FOR EFFICIENCY

- Strategically place collection containers.
  - Close to points of material generation.
- Build the system to minimize multiple handling and to reduce labor costs.
  - Containers for optimal storage.
  - Minimize need for emptying.
  - Avoid worker-safety issues.
  - Consider larger collection containers in central areas—copier room, lounge area, hallways.

# TIPS, cont.

- Place trash cans next to recycling containers.
- Clearly label all containers.
- Use reusable bags, toters, or carts to make the material transfer from one location to another easier.
- Remain flexible.

# KEEP IT SIMPLE

A successful recycling program is:

- Simple.
- Employee-friendly.
- Only requires a slight change in work or student habits.

# Resources Provided

- CD given to all workshop attendees.
- CD Content:
  - Recycling Makes Sen\$e PowerPoint Presentation.
  - Town & State Recycling Resources Facts.
  - Recycling Makes Sen\$e Guide.
  - Templates.
  - Other Resources.

# WEB Site

[www.nerc.org/recycling\\_makes\\_sen\\$e.html](http://www.nerc.org/recycling_makes_sen$e.html)

# Technical Assistance

- Sherman Elementary.
- Town of Sherman Municipal Offices.
- Noble Horizons.
- Sharon Hospital.

# Contact Information

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