

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's

***Programs and Tools to
Promote Waste
Prevention***

Kim Bartels & Anne-Marie Patrie

EPA Region 8

Recycling Coordinators

Overview

- ❖ Waste Prevention
- ❖ WasteWise
- ❖ Federal Electronics Challenge



Benefits of Waste Prevention

- ❖ Saves natural resources
- ❖ Reduces toxicity of waste
- ❖ Reduces cost



What Is WasteWise?

- ❖ WasteWise is a free, voluntary partnership program.
- ❖ WasteWise helps organizations eliminate costly waste through waste reduction practices—benefiting the organization's bottom line *and* the environment.
- ❖ WasteWise is flexible.

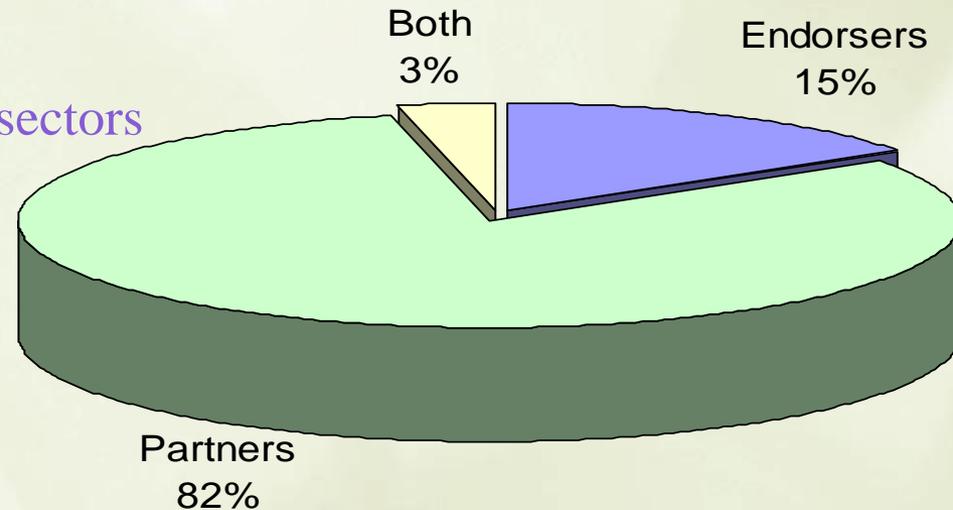


WasteWise Members

❖ More than 1,900 members —both partners and endorsers

❖ Members represent:

- 54 government and business sectors
- Fortune 500 companies
- Private businesses
- Independent, locally owned businesses



WasteWise—The Three Pronged Approach

Targets or Promotes Waste Reduction

- ❖ Waste prevention
- ❖ Recycling
- ❖ Purchasing and manufacturing recycled-content products



WasteWise Partner Accomplishments

Since the inception of the WasteWise program, partners have:

- ❖ Reduced more than 124 million tons of waste.
- ❖ Prevented the emission of more than 73 million metric tons of carbon equivalent (MTCE)—thereby reducing the impact on global climate change.



Sample Waste Prevention Goals

Reduce

- ❖ Establish a waste reduction policy
- ❖ Distribute corporate telephone directories and manuals electronically
- ❖ Purchase food items/office supplies in bulk
- ❖ Require vendors to eliminate unnecessary packaging
- ❖ Use electronic invoices



Sample Waste Prevention Goals

Reuse

- ❖ Reuse office supplies through internal waste exchange
- ❖ Repair old furniture and office equipment or donate it to charitable organizations
- ❖ Return laser printer and copier toner cartridges for remanufacturing
- ❖ Rent reusable boxes for office moves
- ❖ Develop an electronic bulletin board to facilitate reuse of materials and equipment

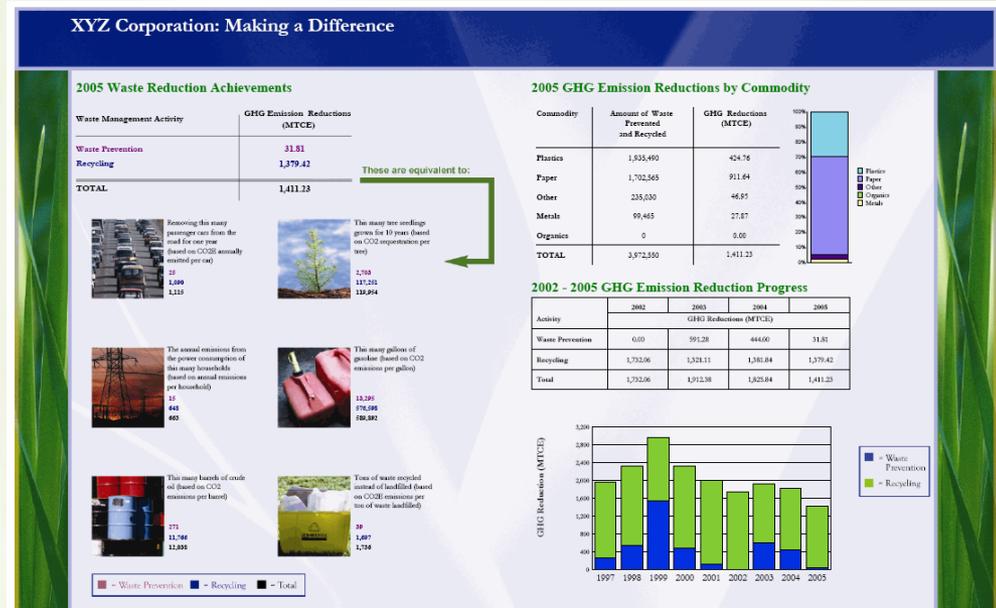


Individualized Climate Profile

- ❖ Calculates greenhouse gas emissions reductions resulting from partners' waste prevention and recycling activities.

- ❖ Translates these into real-life equivalents.

- ❖ Valuable tool for communicating environmental benefits to management, employees, customers, and other stakeholders.



Waste Reduction Model (WARM)

WARM...

Online Summary Report

The screenshot shows the EPA's WARM Online interface. At the top, the browser title is "EPA : Global Warming : Actions : Waste : Waste Reduction Model (WARM) : WARM Online - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by I". The page header includes the EPA logo and the text "U.S. Environmental Protection Agency". The main navigation bar is "Global Warming - Waste" with a search area and a "GO" button. Below the navigation bar, there are links for "Recent Additions", "Contact Us", and "Print Version". The main content area is titled "WARM Online" and contains the following text:

EPA created WARM to help solid waste planners and organizations track and voluntarily report greenhouse gas emissions reductions and energy savings from several different waste management practices.

Use this worksheet to describe the baseline and alternative MSW management scenarios that you want to compare. Please follow the steps below to enter your material tonnage information in the input boxes in the tables, and select appropriate landfill and waste transport characteristics.

Tips:

- If the listed material is not generated in your community/organization or you do not want to analyze it, leave it blank or enter 0.
- Make sure that the total quantity generated equals the total quantity managed.
- If you have any questions, consult the [WARM User's Guide](#).

Step 1. Baseline Scenario

Please describe your current (or baseline) waste management scenario by entering the tons of each material type that is generated and disposed.

Material	Tons Generated	Tons Recycled	Tons Landfilled	Tons Combusted	Tons Composted
Aluminum Cans	200	100	50	50	N/A
Steel Cans	100	0	100	0	N/A
Glass					N/A
HDPE					N/A
LDPE					N/A

EPA Region 8 WasteWise Activities

- ❖ Utilized reusable moving totes during building move.
- ❖ Donated reusable office supplies to local schools and nonprofit.
- ❖ Established a reusable office supply depot on each floor.
- ❖ Collected used athletic shoes for Nike Reuse-A-Shoe program.



For More Information

Anne-Marie Patrie

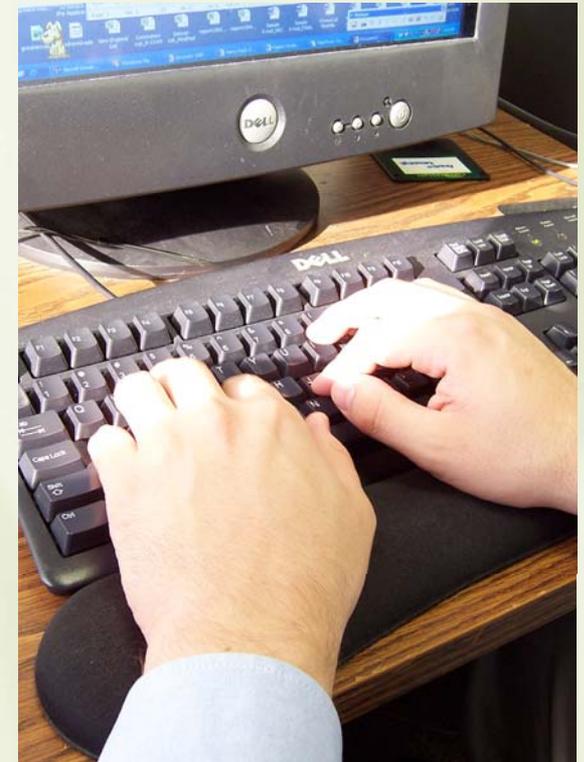
EPA R8 Recycling Coordinator

(303) 312-6524

Patrie.anne-marie@epa.gov

WasteWise Web Site

www.epa.gov/wastewise



Federal Electronics Challenge

- ❖ The FEC is a purchasing, use, and end-of-life management challenge issued for Federal facilities or agencies to:
 - Purchase greener electronic products
 - Manage electronic assets in an environmentally sound manner
 - Receive assistance and network with other agencies to improve current practices



Overview of FEC Program

- ❖ FEC helps federal facilities implement comprehensive, environmentally sound electronics stewardship procedures
- ❖ Core focus of FEC = best management practices
- ❖ Flexible: Individual facility determines its:
 - Level of commitment
 - Annual goals
 - Life cycle phase(s) on which to focus



The Federal Electronics Challenge

- ❖ Supported by an MOU on electronics, signed 11/15/04 by Chief Information Officers and above
- ❖ Provides partners recognition for their work and achievements
- ❖ Can be joined at the facility level, and up
- ❖ For more information, visit www.federalelectronicchallenge.net

Signatories of the 2004 Electronics Memorandum of Understanding	
The Executive Office of the President	Department of Interior
Department of Agriculture	Department of Justice*
Department of Defense*	Department of Transportation*
Department of Energy*	Department of Veterans Affairs*
Department of Health and Human Services*	Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Homeland Security	General Services Administration

* These Departments have distributed memos regarding the MOU and FEC to their facilities.

The Federal Government & Electronics



From This

- ❖ Average life cycle of federally owned computers is 3 years
- ❖ Approximately 10,000 federally owned computers could be deemed excess or surplus each week
- ❖ Significant quantities are ending up in storage closets, warehouses, or landfills



To This

The Federal Government & Electronics

- ❖ The federal government is the largest buyer of consumer electronics
- ❖ Electronics have serious environmental costs and opportunities



FEC Best Practices: Purchasing, Use, and End-Of-Life

- ❖ Decide if purchase is REALLY necessary
- ❖ Extend the life of electronic equipment
- ❖ Try to reuse first!
- ❖ Donate through GSA's Computers for Learning
- ❖ Think about environmental attributes of electronic equipment purchased – www.EPEAT.net
- ❖ If equipment can't be reused, ensure that it is recycled in an environmentally sound manner
 - Use READ or other available programs; or
 - Perform due diligence and select a responsible recycler

Sample Waste Prevention Goals

- ❖ Reduce the number of new electronics purchased.
- ❖ Reduce printer and copier paper consumption.
- ❖ Develop/Purchase and utilize a system to automatically enable duplex printing and/or copying.
- ❖ Implement Managed Print Services.
- ❖ Establish and promote a duplex printing and copying policy or guidance.
- ❖ Establish and promote a policy or guidance addressing electronic equipment replacement cycles.
- ❖ Reuse X% of electronic equipment.



R8 Electronics Stewardship Accomplishments

- ❖ Extending the life of our computers to 5 years
- ❖ Buying less electronics – converted to multifunction machines
- ❖ Following GSA schedule for disposition
- ❖ Implementing employee cell phone collection for reuse/recycling
- ❖ Recycling 100% of obsolete electronics



For More Information

Kim Bartels

EPA R8 Recycling Coordinator

(303) 312-6346

Bartels.kim@epa.gov

FEC Web Site

www.federalelectronicschallenge.net

