

First-Year Progress Report

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 Signet Banking Corp.
 Sligo Adventist School
 Society Bank/Keycorp
 The Southern Co.
 Southern Mills Springs Industries • Standard Register Equipment Plant • State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co. • State Street Bank & Trust • Steel Recycling Institute • Sterling Chemicals • Stewart Connector Systems • St. Louis Refrigerator Car Co. • St. Mary's Hospital • Stone Container Corp. • Stonyfield Farm Yogurt • Sunbelt Sportswear • Sonoco Products Co. • Target Stores • Tesoro Petroleum Corp. • Texaco • Texas Instruments • Textile Rental Services Association • The Apparel Group • The Baldpate Inn • The Body Shop • The Coeur d'Alenes Co. • The Duriron Co. • The Great A&P Tea Co. • The Lubrizol Corp.- Painesville Manuf'g Fac. • The Marquette Hotel • The Muralo Co. Inc. • The Sear-Brown Group • The West Bend Co. • Thomson Consumer Electronics • Tidyman's • Total Petroleum, Inc. • Tunheim Santrizos Co. • Union Carbide Corp. • UNISYS Corp. • United Technologies Corp. • United Technologies Carrier • United Scrap Metal, Inc. • University of Colorado • University of Missouri • University of MO Coop. Ext./4H Platte County • UNUM Life Insurance Co. of America • U.S. CoExcell USF&G Corp. • U.S. Steel Clairton Works • U.S. Steel Gary Works • UTC Carrier Corporation • VANEX, Inc. • Veryfine Products • Virco Manufacturing • Virginia Power • Wal-Mart Stores • Walt Disney World • The Walt Disney Co. • Warner-Lambert • Washington Retail Association • WMX Technologies • Weirton Steel Corp. • Wellington Sears Co. • Western Resources • Weyerhaeuser • Wilmot & Associates • Wilson Sporting Goods • Wisconsin Tissue • Xerox • Zurn Industries



Contents

Executive Summary	2
WasteWiSe — Protecting the Environment Through Solid Waste Reduction	4
WasteWi\$e Participants — A Reflection of Corporate America	6
Measuring Success — WasteWi\$e: The First Year	10
WasteWi\$e Services	20
What Does It Take To Be WasteWi\$e?	24
Looking Ahead — 1995 and Beyond	25

Executive Summary

n January 1994, EPA launched WasteWiSe—a voluntary partnership program designed to help businesses find practical methods for reducing municipal solid waste. This report describes the WasteWiSe program's eventful first year and shares the impressive results achieved by WasteWiSe partners in 1994.

Who Participates in WasteWi\$e?

WasteWi\$e offers companies the flexibility to design waste reduction programs that best meet their needs, so the program can successfully accommodate a wide range of participants. Nearly 370 companies joined WasteWi\$e in its first year. Partners are located nationwide and span 35 different industry sectors, from aerospace to utilities. Approximately one-third of WasteWi\$e partners are Fortune 500 manufacturing or service firms.

To help spread the WasteWi\u00a8e message to more businesses, EPA launched the WasteWi\u00a8e Endorser Program in December 1994. Endorsers are trade associations and other membership-based organizations that champion the WasteWi\u00a8e program to their members. WasteWi\u00a8e has 26 Charter Endorsers, which are demonstrating their industries' commitment to reducing waste.

1994 Waste Reduction Achievements

In 1994, WasteWi\$e partners conserved more than 240,000 tons of material through waste prevention activities and collected nearly 1 million tons of material for recycling—enough material to fill the Houston Astrodome five times! In addition, WasteWi\$e partners helped strengthen the markets for collected recyclables by purchasing products with recycled content.

Waste Prevention

Waste prevention (also called source reduction) is a main focus of the WasteWiSe program. Waste prevention offers the greatest environmental benefits and provides substantial cost savings to businesses. Essentially, waste prevention means using less material to do the same job—reducing waste before recycling. The waste prevention actions that conserved the greatest amount of materials were:

- reducing and reusing transport packaging, such as wood pallets and corrugated boxes;
- reducing primary product packaging;
- reducing or reusing materials in the manufacture of products;
- · reducing the use of supplies, mainly paper; and
- · donating or exchanging products and materials.

The materials conserved in greatest amounts by WasteWi\$e partners were corrugated, wood, and ferrous metal.

Recyclables Collection

Nearly all WasteWi\$e partners reported expanding or improving ongoing recycling programs by educating employees, performing community outreach, or collecting new materials. Corrugated containers, ferrous metal, and aluminum and other nonferrous metals were recycled in the greatest amounts.

Purchase or Manufacture of Recycled Products

Collectively, WasteWiSe partners purchased over 20 different kinds of recycled products: new products made with recycled content and products with an increased amount of recycled content. Paper products with recycled content were most commonly purchased. To support their buy-recycled efforts, WasteWiSe companies established corporate policies to purchase recycled products wherever feasible, set goals to increase the total amount spent on recycled products, and worked with their suppliers to identify recycled products that met their specifications.

Cost Savings

For companies, participating in WasteWiSe makes good business sense. Solid waste reduction can provide significant cost savings through reduced purchasing, operating, and waste management costs. For example, **Target Stores**, a retail chain of more than 600 stores, saved \$4.5 million in operating costs in 1994 by switching to packaging for clothing that requires much less time to unpack and prepare for display. **BankAmerica** saved more than \$1 million through its WasteWiSe initiatives to reduce paper use, including printing customer statements on both sides of a page. Many cost-saving examples are noted in this report.

Getting Involved

As WasteWi\$e moves beyond its inaugural year, EPA invites all leading companies to join in this exciting effort. Working in partnership, EPA and the business community are demonstrating that voluntary approaches to environmental protection yield tangible results. For participating businesses, those results can include real cost savings.

The WasteWi\$e program helps participating companies uncover waste reduction opportunities and set waste reduction goals through a toll-free helpline, WasteWi\$e representatives who provide assistance to partner companies, and a wide range of waste reduction publications, as well as other services. EPA also provides recognition for individual companies and program successes. For more information, call 800 EPA-WISE (800 372-9473).

"EPA designed this program with business in mind. It's flexible. EPA gives you the freedom to make environmental improvements that make sense for your business."

Bob Langert, Director of Environmental Affairs, McDonald's Corporation, EPA's First WasteWi\$e Partner

WasteWi\$e— Protecting the Environment Through Solid Waste Reduction

n recent years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has taken many innovative approaches to environmental protection that have provided a more creative and flexible structure for achieving environmental goals. The Agency's Common Sense Initiative, pollution prevention demon-

stration projects, and an array of voluntary programs for businesses [see box on page 5] demonstrate EPA's commitment to working in partnership with American businesses and others to prevent pollution.

The WasteWiSe program exemplifies these new approaches to achieving environmental goals. Designed with extensive input from businesses and other stakeholders, WasteWiSe was enthusiastically received by the business community at its launch in January 1994. The goal of the WasteWiSe program is to assist businesses in implementing cost-effective actions to reduce municipal solid waste. Solid waste reduction includes waste prevention, recyclables collection, and the purchase or manufacture of recycled products. (The WasteWiSe program does not involve hazardous wastes or most industrial process wastes.) Research by EPA and others has shown that conserving materials through waste prevention and recycling saves energy and reduces pollution, including emissions of gases that contribute to global warming. Often, these benefits are achieved early or "upstream" in a material's life cycle. For example, each ream of office paper conserved through double-sided copying conserves resources and energy and reduces pollution (including greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming).

For companies, participating in WasteWi\$e also makes good business sense. While other waste reduction programs for businesses emphasize recycling and strengthening "buy-recycled" programs, the WasteWi\$e program offers the first opportunity for many companies to share, learn about, or implement waste prevention efforts. Waste prevention, also called source reduction, means using less material to get a job done. Waste prevention methods help create less waste in the first place, before recycling. Examples of waste prevention include reducing paper use and switching to reusable packaging.

Solid waste prevention can help businesses realize significant savings by reducing purchasing and waste management costs and increasing operating efficiency. For example, **Target Stores**, a retail chain of more than 600 stores, saved \$4.5 million in operating costs in 1994 by switching to packaging for clothing that requires much less time to unpack and prepare for display. **BankAmerica** saved more than \$1 million in 1994 through several WasteWiSe initiatives to reduce paper consumption, including printing customer statements on both sides of a page. Using the same technique with customer invoices, **NYNEX** cut paper and postage costs by more than \$2.5 million in 1994.

This report describes the WasteWiSe program's eventful first year and highlights some of the leading companies and trade associations that are working with EPA to reduce solid waste and improve the environment. The report also highlights WasteWiSe partners' successes in preventing waste, collecting recyclables, and purchasing or manufacturing recycled products. The report presents EPA's best estimate of waste prevented and recyclables collected as a direct result of company WasteWiSe goals. Most importantly, the report provides many examples of cost-saving waste reduction actions that are being successfully implemented by companies. We hope readers who are new to business waste reduction will find many ideas in this report to spark their interest in starting a waste reduction program in their own organization.

Selected EPA Voluntary Initiatives:

- 33/50
- Green Lights
- Energy Star computers and other equipment
- Climate Wise
- Water Alliances for Voluntary Efficiency (WAVE)
- Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program
- Design for the Environment

"WasteWi\$e-type
initiatives serve us,
our shareholders, and
the environment."

William Blackburn Vice President of Corporate Environmental Affairs and Chief Environmental Counsel, Baxter International Inc.



WasteWi\$e Participants— A Reflection of Corporate America

he WasteWi\$e program has a broad and varied membership that reflects the makeup of corporate America. Nearly 370 companies became WasteWi\$e partners in 1994, demonstrating

their leadership in solid waste reduction. WasteWi\$e partners are located nationwide and span 35 different industry sectors. Collectively, WasteWi\$e partners employ more than 4.5 million people.

WasteWi\$e offers companies the flexibility to design waste reduction programs that best meet their needs. While the program is designed for large businesses, all U.S. companies are eligible to join. Large businesses in particular are in an excellent position to reduce solid waste because of the vast quantity of materials they use and their ability to influence both suppliers and customers.

Industry Sectors Represented by WasteWi\$e Partners

Aerospace

Airlines

Banking, financial, and savings

Beverages

Building materials

Chemicals and pharmaceuticals

Communications

Computers and office equipment

Consulting and research services

Education

Electronics and electronics equipment

Entertainment

Food and grocery stores

Forest products

Furniture

Hotels and restaurants

Industrial and farm equipment

Insurance

Medical services

Metals and metal products

Mining and crude oil

production

Motor vehicles and parts

Petroleum refining

Printing and publishing

Religious organizations

Retail

Rubber and plastics products

Scientific and photographic

equipment

Soaps and cosmetics

Textiles

Toys and sporting goods

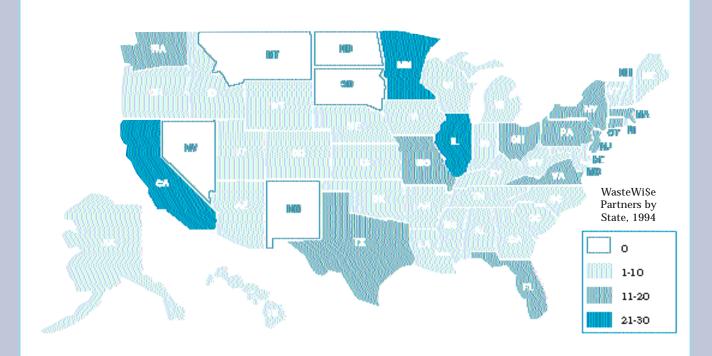
Transportation

Transportation equipment

Utilities

Waste management services

WasteWi\$e Participants



Partners

WasteWi\$e was launched in early 1994. At the close of the charter period (May 20, 1994), the program had 281 Charter Partners. A total of 368 companies had joined by the end of 1994. WasteWi\$e partners include many of the country's leading manufacturers and service firms, such as the **Inland Steel Company**, **The Boeing Company**, and **American Airlines**. About one-third of companies participating in WasteWi\$e are Fortune 500 manufacturing or service firms.

Many WasteWiSe partners participate in other voluntary initiatives, demonstrating that their environmental leadership goes beyond solid waste reduction. These programs include EPA's Green Lights and Energy Star programs, 33/50, and Climate Wise, as well as private programs such as the National Recycling Coalition's Buy Recycled Business Alliance, the Coalition of Northeastern Governors' packaging challenge, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors' National Office Paper Recycling Project.

WasteWiSe allows companies to decide which of their operations participate in the program. Some companies begin by enrolling selected departments, manufacturing facilities, or the headquarters office in the program, adding segments of the company as the others realize results. The **Battelle Memorial Institute**, for example, enrolled its headquarters facility in the program the first year. According to Eddie Swindall, Environmental Support Manager at Battelle, "During the course of the next year, Battelle anticipates incorporating other Battelle laboratories and

facilities into the WasteWiSe program. Battelle started participating in WasteWiSe on a small scale, but we have been so pleased with the results that we are planning to expand our efforts." Because of the diversity of its businesses, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., opted for all of its major subsidiary companies to sign on as separate partners. The company's headquarters and breweries, as well as its subsidiaries Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Metal Container Corporation, St. Louis Refrigerator Car Company, Busch Entertainment Corp., and Campbell Taggart, Inc., are all WasteWiSe partners; each sets goals and reports its achievements separately. Other companies have opted for their entire organizations to sign on to WasteWiSe. For example, American Standard, Inc., joined the WasteWiSe program as a whole, with nearly all of its U.S. facilities participating in the first year.

Endorsers

To help spread the WasteWi\$e message to more businesses, EPA launched the WasteWi\$e Endorser Program in December 1994. Endorsers are trade associations and other membership-based organizations that champion the WasteWi\$e program to their members. WasteWi\$e endorsers commit to recruiting their member companies to join WasteWi\$e and providing their members with ongoing information about waste reduction strategies. Endorsers have complete flexibility in designing these activities to best meet their industries' needs. EPA provides assistance as needed to help endorsers plan and implement their efforts.

In early 1995, 26 Charter Endorsers signed on to demonstrate their strong commitment to reducing waste and helping their members save money. Together, these organizations represent thousands of companies and a diverse mix of industry sectors.

Many WasteWi\$e endorsers have stimulated extensive participation in WasteWi\$e among their memberships. The **American Textile Manufacturers Institute**, for example, has 140 members, 22 of which are WasteWi\$e partners. The **Edison Electric Institute** also has encouraged its members to participate; 21 utilities are currently WasteWi\$e partners. The metals and metal products industry is represented by three WasteWi\$e endorsers—the **American Iron and Steel Institute**, the **Steel Manufacturers Association**, and the **Steel Recycling Institute**—as well as 21 individual WasteWi\$e partners. Together, EPA and WasteWi\$e endorsers will help many more businesses find cost-effective ways to reduce solid waste.

Initial endorser efforts have focused on spreading the WasteWi\$e message to businesses. For example, endorsers have shared the waste reduction message with their members by:

- c featuring waste reduction success stories in trade association newsletters;
- c sponsoring WasteWi\$e workshops at annual meetings;
- c featuring "how-to" information from current WasteWi\$e partners;
- c recommending that companies join WasteWi\$e as part of an association's environmental excellence program; and
- c mailing information to companies encouraging them to undertake new waste prevention efforts in their products or manufacturing processes.

Future endorser efforts may emphasize sharing "hands-on" technical information that can help businesses maximize the effectiveness of their waste reduction program and learn from the experience of other companies.

Charter Endorsers

American Iron and Steel Institute • American Plastics Council • American **Textile Manufacturers Institute • Association** of Ohio Recyclers • Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association • Direct Marketing Association, Inc. • Edison Electric Institute Electronic Industries Association • Food Marketing Institute • Foodservice & Packaging Institute • Glass Packaging Institute Green Hotels Association • Grocery Manufacturers of America • Institute of Packaging Professionals • National Association for **Environmental Management • National Association of** Photographic Manufacturers, Inc. • National Automobile Dealers Association • National Retail Federation National Soft Drink Association
 National Wooden Pallet and Container Association • Newspaper Association of America • Polystyrene Packaging Council • Steel Manufacturers Association • Steel Recycling **Institute • Virginia Recycling Association** The Vinyl Institute

"What started out as a nice thing to do for the environment ended up saving an impressive amount of money."

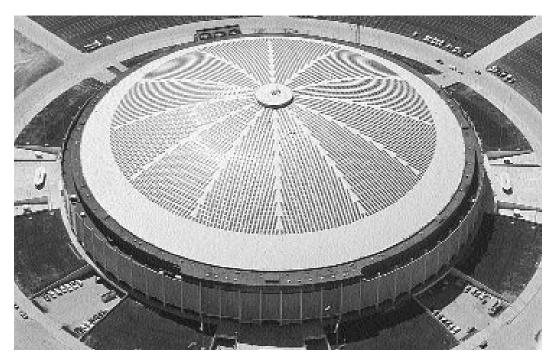
Jim Oberndorfer, Manager, Facilities Operations, Perkin-Elmer Corporation

Measuring Success— WasteWi\$e:

The First Year

hanks to the ambitious efforts of WasteWi\$e partners in 1994, more than 240,000 tons of materials were conserved through waste prevention, and nearly 1 million tons of materials were

collected for recycling. In addition, WasteWiSe partners helped create stronger markets for collected recyclables by purchasing 23 different kinds of products made from recycled materials. EPA congratulates all of the WasteWiSe partners on these impressive achievements.



The materials conserved through WasteWi\$e partners' waste prevention efforts could fill the Houston Astrodome, while recyclables collected could fill the Astrodome nearly four times.

The 1994 figures indicate businesses' enormous potential to divert materials from the waste stream. This potential is most evident when the individual contributions of some of the larger WasteWi\$e partners are examined. Through waste prevention actions, the **Pepsi-Cola Company**, **Chrysler**, **Stone Container**, and **Xerox** each eliminated from 45 million to more than 100 million pounds of waste in 1994. If all Fortune 500 manufacturing firms joined WasteWi\$e and achieved waste reduction results in this range, the total materials conserved would exceed 19 million tons per year, or 9 percent of all municipal solid waste generated in the United States! This level of waste reduction could save U.S. businesses billions of dollars each year.

Taking a closer look at the aggregate figures reported by WasteWiSe companies for 1994 reveals several interesting aspects of business solid waste reduction. First, the amount of material collected for recycling is considerably greater than the amount of material conserved through waste prevention. Waste prevention, also called source reduction, means using less material to get a job done. Waste prevention methods help create less waste in the first place, before recycling. Reported waste prevention amounts may be lower because waste prevention efforts are just getting under way in many companies, and systems for tracking and measuring the amount of waste prevented are less developed than those for recycling. Recycling programs, on the other hand, are well established and easily measurable. Furthermore, in most cases recycling figures reflect total company recycling efforts, while waste prevention figures reflect only a company's three WasteWiSe waste prevention goals.

Many of the materials that WasteWi\$e partners recycle in large amounts could be significantly reduced through waste prevention efforts. Waste prevention usually offers cost savings and environmental benefits even greater than those achieved through recycling. For example:

- c **NYNEX** saved \$2.5 million in 1994 through its waste prevention activities, which included printing customer telephone bills on both sides of the page.
- Quaker State changed the shape of its motor oil bottle from round to rectangular. This alteration enabled the company to reduce the use of corrugated material in its casing by 15 percent, which will save approximately \$600,000 annually.
- c **LSI Logic Corporation** saved \$500,000 in 1994 by decreasing paper usage (by using electronic mail and smaller data sheets) and implementing other WasteWiSe activities.

EPA asked the 290 partners that joined WasteWi\$e before August 1, 1994, to report their progress for the year. A total of 170 WasteWi\$e partners submitted annual reports. WasteWi\$e partners that did not report 1994 activities were unable to do so

El Paso Natural Gas reduced the use of white office paper by 100,000 pounds by promoting double-sided copies, electronic mail, electronic bulletin boards, and company newsletters for interoffice communication. either because they were still in the early stages of assessing waste reduction opportunities and identifying company goals or because they had begun implementing their waste reduction programs but did not yet have measurable results. Further, of those companies submitting reports, some were unable to measure results for each activity. In the discussion that follows, the number of companies noted is the number that reported making progress in the particular waste prevention activity; the number of companies reporting actual measurements for that activity is slightly smaller in most cases. EPA expects that, as companies progress further in their waste reduction and measurement efforts, a greater portion of WasteWiSe companies will be able to report results for 1995 and subsequent years.

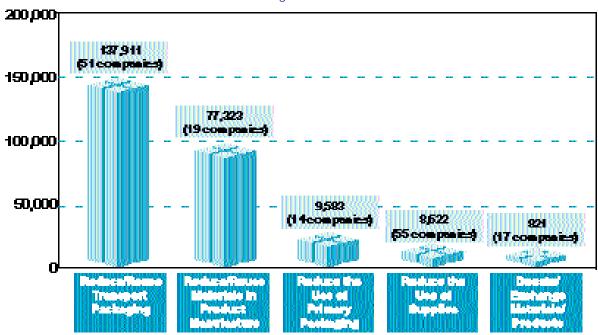
Waste Prevention

Of the companies that reported on their WasteWi\$e results, 140 companies reported specifically on waste prevention activities. In total, these activities eliminated more than 240,000 tons of waste. Figure 1 depicts the reported waste prevention activities that conserved the greatest amount of materials.

Figure 1

Major Waste Prevention Activities by WasteWi\$e Partners in 1994

All Figures in Tons



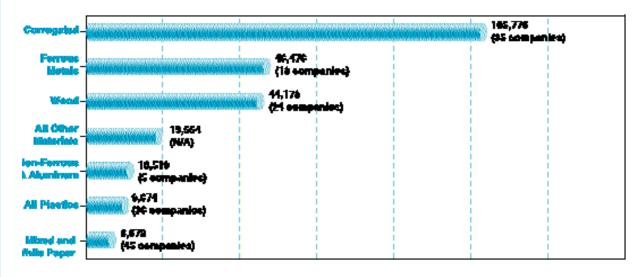
Number of companies reflects those reporting waste prevention progress for that activity.

Figure 2 shows the top materials conserved through waste prevention activities. Corrugated is the single largest component of commercial solid waste and was also the material conserved in greatest amounts through company waste prevention activities. To achieve these reductions, WasteWiSe partners reduced the weight of the packaging, reused it, or replaced corrugated with more durable containers. Judging by the amount of corrugated that WasteWiSe partners collected for recycling and by the clear potential for reducing use of this material in the first place through waste prevention efforts, corrugated containers represent a waste prevention and cost-saving opportunity for many companies. Ferrous metals were reduced by WasteWiSe partners through changes in product design, container lightweighting, and improved production efficiencies. Wood pallets are generated in large numbers by businesses and these were reduced through repair and reuse or replacement with more durable pallets.

Figure 2

Materials Conserved Through Waste Prevention by WasteWi\$e Partners in 1994

All Figures in Tons



Number of companies in parentheses are those reporting waste prevention figures for that material.

Top Waste Prevention Activities

The following waste prevention activities implemented by WasteWi\$e partners in 1994 resulted in substantial reductions in waste.

Reduce or reuse transport packaging

In 1994, 51 WasteWi\$e companies focused on reducing or reusing transport packaging, such as wood pallets and corrugated boxes. Together, WasteWi\$e partners conserved more than 137,900 tons (275 million pounds) of materials through more efficient transport systems, packaging redesign, and packaging reuse.

- c At **Navistar International Transportation Corporation**, used corrugated boxes are collected and sold to selected vendors. The company also uses returnable containers and works with its vendors to reduce packaging materials and reuse corrugated boxes whenever possible. These practices conserved 3.2 million pounds of corrugated. In addition, Navistar conserved 2.9 million pounds of wood by collecting wood pallets and returning them to vendors, reusing them, selling them, or repairing them at off-site locations.
- c By replacing one-way corrugated shippers with reusable plastic cases, the **Pepsi-Cola Company** reduced corrugated use by 101 million pounds.
- A project to reduce the dimensions of lumber used to make two types of standard pallets conserved 5.6 million pounds of wood for Eastman Kodak Company. Kodak also changed product stacking patterns and packaging to ship the same amount of product on fewer standard pallets. This project eliminated 1.8 million pounds of wood that otherwise would have been used to make pallets. Kodak saved more than \$380,000 implementing these projects.
- Perkin-Elmer, a manufacturer of analytical, environmental, and life science systems, instituted a return program to reduce and reuse corrugated boxes. The company found that it could reuse returned boxes and packaging up to five times before recycling them, so they offered to pay for shipping if customers returned the packaging. Although the program is new, customers are returning 28 percent of the packaging, and the company has saved \$95,000 thus far.

Reduce or reuse materials associated with manufacturing products

Nineteen WasteWi\$e partners reported that they reduced waste in their manufacturing processes. By reducing packaging weight (lightweighting), switching to more efficient processes, and reusing materials, WasteWi\$e partners reduced the waste associated with product manufacturing by 77,300 tons (155 million pounds) in 1994.

- Stone Container Corporation decreased corrugated container manufacturing waste by more than 40 million pounds by redesigning products to eliminate waste during manufacturing, lightweighting, and reusing fibers recovered from waste water.
- c **Ingersoll Rand**, a heavy-equipment manufacturer, reduced the volume of ferrous metal shavings being landfilled by 520,000 pounds through improvements in its manufacturing process.
- C Xerox Corporation accepts used copiers from its customers, disassembles them, and reuses or remanufactures as many parts as possible in making new products. Xerox has reused 50 million pounds of metals and 2.5 million pounds of plastic materials from its U.S. facilities.

Reduce the use of primary packaging

In 1994, 14 WasteWi\$e partners reduced primary packaging by more than 9,500 tons (19 million pounds) by lightweighting the materials used or eliminating product packaging altogether.

- c **S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.**, reduced primary packaging by more than 12 million pounds by reducing both ferrous and plastic packaging of products by 25 percent. For example, the company lightweighted by 10 percent the 12-ounce and 2-liter plastic containers for a liquid cleaning product.
- c **Land O' Lakes** reduced primary packaging by nearly 500,000 pounds. The company achieved this reduction by eliminating paperboard sleeves on 16-ounce margarine-spread tubs, converting foodservice and deli cheese overwrap to a lighter weight material, and reducing the package length for a processed cheese product.
- Procter & Gamble designed new packaging for cooking oil that will eliminate 2.5 million pounds per year of plastic and 1.3 million pounds per year of corrugated material.
- c **Crown Cork & Seal Company,** a packaging manufacturer, eliminated 48 million pounds of steel and aluminum by lightweighting the cans it produces.

Reduce the use of supplies

Thirty-eight companies reported taking steps to reduce their use of high-grade paper, conserving a total of 3.4 million pounds of white paper. Seventeen partners initiated actions to reduce their use of mixed paper (e.g., direct mail and interoffice envelopes), conserving an additional 9.9 million pounds of paper. Companies estimated reducing the use of paper or other supplies by a total of 8,600 tons (17.2 million pounds).

- c **McDonald's** reduced low density polyethylene (LDPE) usage by 2.1 million pounds by switching to a redesigned trash bag that is both stronger and thinner.
- Chrysler's Information Systems Print Reduction Team reduced the number of pages the company printed by 10 percent from the previous year. This eliminated approximately 15 million pages of print—the equivalent of 150,000 pounds of paper.
- c **BankAmerica** conserved 1.4 million pounds of paper through a comprehensive waste reduction program. The bank instituted a duplexing policy and reinforced it through employee education; began printing account reconciliation information on the back of checking account statements, rather than on a separate page; and replaced procedure manuals in bank branches with a combination of a condensed reference library in the branches and a telephone support center. These paper reduction measures saved BankAmerica more than \$1 million.

Donate products/materials

Donating not only helps reduce solid waste but also benefits the community. Seventeen WasteWi\$e partners reported donating products and materials, conserv-

Savings Measure Up

Measuring the success of waste reduction efforts enables companies to identify which actions are most cost-effective and to share successes with employees, management, and shareholders. For example, **Dow Corning Corporation** used a simple calculation to estimate that it conserved more than 1.7 million pounds of material through repair and reuse of wood pallets, thus saving \$530,000. "Measuring your efforts allows you to continuously improve your waste reduction program. You discover further opportunities to cut costs and are able to share your successes with others," explained Dow Corning's Senior Recycling Coordinator, Kim Hohisel.

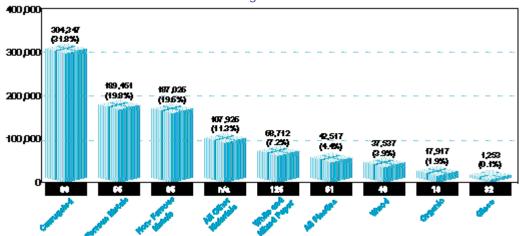
When aggregated, as in this report, these company estimates demonstrate the magnitude of the environmental results that voluntary efforts can achieve and suggest the enormous potential for other businesses to prevent waste, recycle, and increase the use of recycled products.

While estimating the amount of materials collected for recycling is straightforward, waste prevention measurement is a new and evolving area. Ease of measurement varies based on each company's waste prevention activities and existing tracking systems. To assist WasteWi\$e partners and other companies in measuring their waste prevention efforts, EPA is developing case studies and practical methods that can be readily adapted to an individual company's circumstances. EPA will be sharing this information through 1995 and beyond.

Figure 3

Materials Recycled by WasteWi\$e Partners in 1994 (WasteWi\$e & Non-WasteWi\$e Activities)

All Figures in Tons



Number below the bar is the number of companies reporting figures for that material. Percentages are based on a total of 956,684 tons of material collected for recycling. (Due to rounding, the sum of individual material values may vary from the total.) Non-ferrous includes aluminum; "other" materials include batteries, tires, and telephone directories.

ing 800 tons (1.6 million pounds) of materials. Donations included furniture, building materials, surplus supplies, and excess food.

- c **Tidyman's** grocery stores donated 208,000 pounds of leftover food to local churches and food banks.
- c State Street Bank & Trust Company salvaged two truckloads of carpeting, lights, ceiling tiles, and cabinets from a demolition project and donated the materials to a United Way agency for reuse in a housing project. The reuse of these materials diverted 70,000 pounds of waste from disposal; the materials were valued at approximately \$20,000.
- Baxter International Inc. donated 950,000 pounds of surplus or short-dated medical supplies and equipment, worth more than \$11 million, to nonprofit organizations.

Recyclables Collection

Of the companies reporting, 159 reported on efforts to collect recyclables. WasteWiSe partners recycled more than 956,000 tons (1.9 billion pounds) of material in 1994. Much of this amount is attributable to ongoing company recycling programs, which were expanded or improved as part of company WasteWiSe goals. For example, partners expanded programs through employee education and community outreach and by adding new materials where markets for them existed. Because WasteWiSe recycling goals took many forms and were often integrated into overall recycling efforts, the amount of materials collected specifically as a result of WasteWiSe activity was difficult to extract from overall 1994 recycling figures. Many companies did not attempt to differentiate recyclables collected for WasteWiSe goals from total recyclables collected in 1994. Based on

Unusual Materials Collected for Recycling by WasteWi\$e Partners

- c Burlap animal beedbags (Dow Corning)
- c Utility poles and wood cable reels (Baltimore Gas & Electric)
- c Porcelain insulators (Florida Power Corporation)

those that were able to make this distinction, a minimum estimate is that more than 61,700 tons of materials were collected as a direct result of WasteWi\$e goals.

As illustrated in Figure 3, the materials recycled in the highest amounts were corrugated containers/boxes (304,347 tons), ferrous metals (189,451 tons), and aluminum/other nonferrous metals (187,026 tons).

In 1994, several WasteWi\$e partners expanded recycling efforts by building partnerships within their communities:

- Opp and Micolas Mills helped a local elementary school start a recycling program and began hauling the school's white paper to a recycling facility. The company is working toward reaching an agreement with the local newspaper office to transport its discarded newspapers, along with the company's own paper, to a recycling facility in a nearby town.
- virco Manufacturing helped a local school's recycling program raise money for a trip to Space camp. Virco also allows vendors to deposit their corrugated material at Virco for recycling.
- c **Bell Atlantic** shared responsibility for recycling old telephone directories with numerous local governments throughout the mid-Atlantic states.

Purchase or Manufacture of Recycled Products

WasteWi\$e partners helped stimulate the market for recovered materials by expanding their purchases of recycled-content products. Eighty-five partners purchased new products made with recycled content, and 54 partners purchased products with an increased amount of recycled content. (Some companies did both.) Collectively, WasteWi\$e partners purchased 23 different kinds of recycled products. It was difficult for many companies to estimate the additional amount spent in 1994 on recycled products. Many companies did report on their activities, however.

To kick off their buy-recycled efforts, many companies established corporate policies to purchase recycled products wherever feasible. **Safety-Kleen Corporation** set a goal to increase the amount of money spent on

"The WasteWi\$e program increased our awareness of avenues for buying recycled products and showed us new ways to minimize solid waste."

recycled products by 10 percent annually. Several companies worked with their suppliers to identify recycled products that meet their specifications. The **Coca-Cola Company** works with its suppliers to ensure that specific levels of recycled content are used in the manufacture of its packaging. **U.S. Steel's Gary Works** facility is working with suppliers to increase the postconsumer content in several products it purchases, such as janitorial and office supplies. **The Walt Disney Company** encourages its vendors to carry more recycled products, and the company's paper buyers investigate new or alternative recycled papers for print jobs, including annual reports, advertising materials, internal newsletters, corporate forms, business cards, and tickets.

WasteWi\$e partners most frequently purchased recycled-content paper products [see box]. Several companies found more unusual recycled products to meet their needs, however, such as:

- c Plastic picnic tables (Monsanto)
- c Rubber ground cover for playgrounds (Amgen)
- c Concrete speed bumps (Amgen)
- c Paper straws (Perry Restaurant Group)

Several WasteWi\$e partners that also participate in the National Recycling Coalition's Buy Recycled Business Alliance made exceptional contributions by devoting substantial resources to purchasing a variety of recycled products. These companies and the total amount each spent in 1994 on recycled products are: **American Airlines** (\$79 million), **Bell Atlantic Corporation** (\$41 million), **DuPont** (\$80 million), **McDonald's Corporation** (\$309 million), and **The Walt Disney Company** (\$30 million).

Six WasteWi\u00e9e partners chose the optional goal of increasing the amount of postconsumer material in the products they manufacture. A few highlights:

- c **Stone Container Corporation** increased the amount of postconsumer material in its paper and paperboard production from 36 to 38 percent. This increased its total use of postconsumer material to over 2 million tons in 1994.
- c **Xerox Corporation** used 25 percent postconsumer polyethylene terephthalate (PET) in the manufacture of transparencies.
- c Coors Brewing Company used 85 million pounds of postconsumer aluminum to manufacture cans in 1994.

Recycled Products Most Frequently Purchased by WasteWi\$e Partners

- c Copier paper
- c Printer/computer paper
- c Stationery (letterhead, business cards, envelopes)
- c Paper towels
- c Toilet paper
- c Toner cartridges
- c Folders
- c Corrugated containers/boxes
- c Packaging material/filler
- envelopes (e.g., interoffice envelopes)

WasteWi\$e Services

The WasteWi\$e program offers several forms of assistance for participating companies to help them discover waste reduction opportunities and set waste reduction goals.

WasteWi\$e Helpline (800-EPA-WISE)

EPA established a toll-free helpline to communicate with WasteWi\$e partners and others interested in the program. Staffed by WasteWi\$e information specialists, the helpline can answer both general program questions and specific technical questions on waste reduction. Helpline staff have access to an extensive library as well as a compendium containing current information about waste reduction resources nationwide. In the program's first year, the WasteWi\$e Helpline responded to more than 1,700 calls.

WasteWi\$e Representatives

Upon joining the program, a new WasteWi\$e partner is assigned a WasteWi\$e representative. WasteWi\$e representatives are available to provide individual assistance to partner companies. WasteWi\$e representatives can help companies establish their goals and complete their Annual Reporting Forms, and they are on call to provide technical assistance.

WasteWi\$e Workshops

Through early 1995, EPA sponsored 14 WasteWi\$e workshops nationwide that were attended by more than 500 participants. EPA plans to conduct additional workshops through 1996 to share waste reduction experiences and advice among WasteWi\$e partners and other organizations interested in the program. The workshops typically feature presentations by partners on topics such as starting a waste reduction team, getting employees involved, measuring results, and conducting waste assessments. Workshops also have an interactive component in which small groups brainstorm waste reduction ideas based on actual company case studies. Several WasteWi\$e partners have generously shared their time and experiences by making a presentation at a WasteWi\$e workshop.

Presenters at Recent WasteWi\$e Workshops: Advanced Micro Devices, Allergan, Anheuser-Busch, Hallmark, Hewlett-Packard, NYNEX, Pepsi-Cola General Bottlers, Perkin-Elmer, Polaroid Corporation, Target Stores, Tidyman's, Xerox.



Waste Reduction Publications

In 1994, the WasteWi\$e program distributed more than 10,000 publications to its partners and other interested parties. In addition to an introductory booklet that describes the program, WasteWi\$e partners receive the following:

- c Waste Prevention Pays Off: Companies Cut Waste in the Workplace. This booklet highlights the successful waste prevention strategies of companies that have realized substantial cost savings.
- c *Business Guide for Reducing Solid Waste.* This comprehensive handbook offers "how-to" suggestions for conducting a waste assessment and designing a waste reduction program.
- c *Tip Sheets.* These provide succinct, practical information on the following topics: facility waste assessments, waste prevention, recyclables collection, and the purchase or manufacture of products with recycled content. EPA develops additional tip sheets as needed.
- c **Recycled Products Guide (RPG).** To help its partners locate products made with recycled content, WasteWi\u00e8e distributes a condensed version of the Recycled Products Guide to all participating companies. This privately published guide lists hundreds of U.S. manufacturers and distributors of recycled products. On-line information from this guide is also available via the WasteWi\u00e8e Helpline. (WasteWi\u00e8e also distributes a separate listing of other recycled-product directories.)
- WasteWiSe Update Newsletter and WasteWiSe Bulletin. EPA publishes the WasteWiSe Update three times a year to showcase partner successes in preventing waste and tracking progress. The Update is distributed to all WasteWiSe partners and endorsers and to thousands of interested parties outside the program. The WasteWiSe Bulletin, a single page of news published bimonthly, is designed to inform partners and endorsers about current program news. Both publications also provide referrals to other resources as well as technical information.

WasteWi\$e Peer Exchange Network

The WasteWiSe Peer Exchange Network is a new service in which WasteWiSe partners can directly share information and experiences in implementing waste reduction activities. To participate, partners complete a simple form indicating the type of information they need or have to share. EPA then facilitates a match between two or more companies. Thus far, more than 30 companies have expressed interest in either receiving or sharing waste reduction information.

Public Recognition

Generating public awareness of the benefits of partners' waste reduction activities is a major function of the WasteWi\$e program. EPA draws attention to the WasteWi\$e program through a variety of activities. These activities highlight the program as a whole, as well as the successes of individual partners.

Highlighting the WasteWi\$e Program

EPA publicizes the WasteWi\$e program so that the public understands the significance of companies' participation in WasteWi\$e. EPA's goal is that the WasteWi\$e logo will be recognized as a symbol of environmental leadership. EPA conducts publicity activities for major program events, such as the release of this report, the initial program invitation, the launching of the endorser program, the Endorser Roundtable, and the program's inaugural event held at the National Press Club in July 1994. Furthermore, the WasteWi\$e program receives coverage in a wide range of business and trade publications, as well as in EPA publications such as *Reusable News*, *Pollution Prevention News*, and the *EPA Journal*. In the future, EPA plans to encourage further public recognition of the program by placing public service announcements in key business and trade journals.







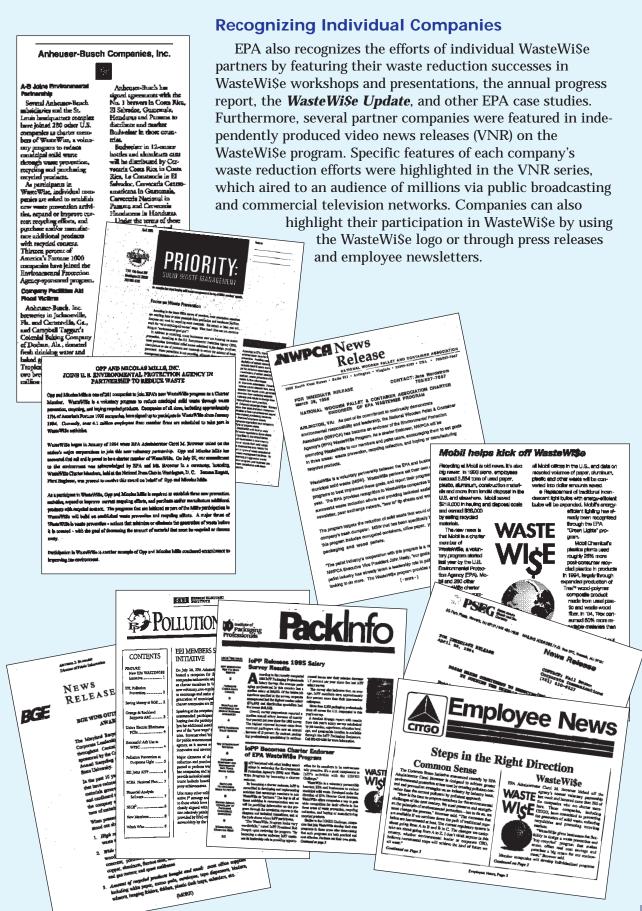












What Does It Take To Be WasteWi\$e?

n joining WasteWi\$e, partners commit to implementing or expanding a solid waste reduction program. There are three complementary components to the program: waste prevention, recyclables collection, and the purchase or manufacture of recycled products. As a first step, EPA encourages partner companies to examine their operating and purchasing practices and to identify cost-effective opportunities for waste reduction. Partners then establish practical and measurable goals, which have been tailored to their individual circumstances, in each of the three program areas. Partners monitor their progress and report annually to EPA on their accomplishments. Each year, companies reexamine their efforts and set new goals, as appropriate, to expand and enhance their waste reduction activities. EPA is available to provide technical assistance and information to help companies establish goals, implement programs, and monitor progress.

Waste Prevention

Waste prevention (also called source reduction) is a critical element of the WasteWi\$e program. Waste prevention offers the greatest environmental benefits and provides substantial cost savings to businesses. Waste prevention means using less material to do the same job, cutting waste before recycling. WasteWi\$e partners commit to implementing three significant waste prevention activities of their choice and report annually on the amount of waste they avoided.

Recyclables Collection

WasteWise partners commit to initiating, expanding, or improving company programs to collect recyclables. In some cases, companies add new materials to an existing program, or they increase program efficiency through activities such as employee education or community outreach. WasteWise partners currently recycle an impressive array of materials,

including corrugated, aluminum, steel, paper, plastic, wood, organics, and glass.

Purchase or Manufacture of Recycled Products

Many products in the marketplace contain materials recovered from the solid waste stream. These products are often priced competitively with products made from virgin materials.

Nonmanufacturing WasteWi\$e partners commit to increasing the overall recycled content in the products they purchase, either by purchasing recycled products in lieu of virgin products or by increasing the recycled content in those recycled products that they already buy. Manufacturers may either increase the percentage of postconsumer content in the products they make or increase the recycled content in the products they purchase.

Tracking Progress and Reporting Results

By March 1 of each year, WasteWi\$e partners submit to EPA a brief report on their waste reduction accom**plishments** for the preceding calendar year. Partners are asked to quantify waste prevented, materials recycled, and the additional amount spent (from the preceding year) on products with increased recycled content. Manufacturers also report the increased amount of postconsumer content used in the products they manufactured. WasteWiSe partners are encouraged to share cost savings that resulted from their waste reduction programs.

For more information call the WasteWi\$e helpline at 1-800-EPA-WISE

Looking Ahead— 1995 and Beyond

asteWi\$e began with a strong first year, thanks to the commitment and initiative of its Charter Partners and the other companies that joined the program in 1994. This inaugural year was also a time for EPA to learn more from WasteWi\$e companies—what technical assistance they need and what program services EPA can develop to meet those needs.

In subsequent years, EPA will build on this foundation to share the waste reduction message with many more companies. EPA will enhance the technical assistance and information available to WasteWi\$e partners and endorsers. Our first-year results give an indication of the impressive amounts of material that can be conserved—by a single large cor-

poration or a cluster of companies—through waste reduction efforts.

The WasteWi\$e program will continue to work with its endorser organizations to help spread the news of the benefits of waste reduction and to provide practical EPA wants to work with more leading corporations to demonstrate the enormous power of American businesses to prevent waste, recycle, and strengthen markets for recycled products through voluntary action.

information on starting or expanding solid waste reduction programs. Over the next year, EPA plans to work with one or two endorsers to demonstrate in greater depth the waste reduction achievements in their industry sector(s). This in-depth look might focus on a specific practice that could be adopted on a wide scale within a business sector (e.g., two-sided billing by utilities or telecommunications companies), or it might highlight an array of cost-effective practices that a particular sector could implement. EPA invites any interested trade association to sign on as a WasteWiSe endorser and work in partnership with EPA to increase waste reduction practices among its membership. It's easy to do, helps businesses cut costs, and demonstrates an industry's commitment to improving the environment. EPA will also continue to publicize the WasteWiSe program and the accomplishments of individual partners and endorsers.

WasteWi\$e will expand its focus on identifying the superior money-saving and environmental benefits of waste prevention. We will do this by emphasizing waste prevention tips and "how-to" information in workshops, case studies, and other technical assistance, as well as by highlighting partner successes and cost savings. Through the WasteWi\$e Peer Exchange, we will expand the opportunities for WasteWi\$e partners to learn directly from each other about cost-effective waste prevention and recycling practices. To help partners monitor their waste prevention progress more effectively, EPA will share practical methods for measuring the results of waste prevention activities that have worked for other companies.

The second and third years for WasteWi\$e promise to be just as eventful and productive as the 1994 inaugural year, thanks to the devoted efforts of existing WasteWi\$e partners and endorsers, the leadership of new companies that will step forward to join the program, and an EPA team that is committed to working with businesses to expand cost-saving waste reduction practices. If you are a WasteWi\$e participant, EPA thanks you for the leadership and hard work that are making business waste reduction a success in this country. If you are not currently participating in WasteWi\$e, EPA invites you to join in this exciting effort to reap the full environmental and cost-saving benefits of solid waste reduction and resource conservation.





Registration Form

	☐ My company is ready to become a WasteWi\$e Partner. (Please complete sections A and B)
	☐ I would like more information about the program. (Please complete section A.)
How did you hear	about the WasteWi\$e program?
Periodical/Publication	(Name)
☐ Workshop/Conference	(Sponsor)
Trade Association (Na	me)
Other EPA Program (Na	nme)
PSA/Advertisement (L	ocation)
Another Company (Na	ame)
Other (Specify)	
Section A Company Name: Company SIC Code: Check if a Principal Contact: Address: City: Phone Number:	□ subsidiary or □ division. Name of parent company (if applicable):
Section B	My company is ready to become a Waste Wise Partner! Please send a membership packet. Facilities to be included in initial waste reduction efforts: (e.g., corporate headquarters only, regional facilities, all plants) Approximate total number of employees in these facilities:
a	
Signature of Senior Official:	
Print Name:	
Date:	

Please cut and mail to the WasteWi\$e program at the address indicated. Or, fax to WasteWi\$e at 703-308-8686 For more information call the WasteWi\$e helpline at 1-800-EPA-WISE.



PLEASE PUT STAMP HERE

WasteWi\$e (5306W)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, SW.
Washington, DC 20460



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Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300