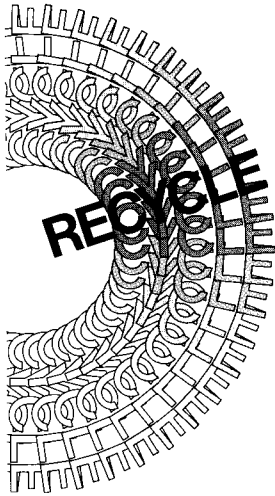




Recycling Update

PL-12J



IN THIS ISSUE

President Strengthens Recycling Effort	1
Coordinators Corner	2
Environmental Product Guide	2
Carol Browner on the Executive Order	3
EPA's Environmental Executive	3
Buy Recycled Display	4
Pollution Prevention Conference	4
The Greening of EPA Facilities	5-7
For Your Information	8
Region 10	9
Recycling Containers	10
"The Challenge"	10
EPA-LV Earth Day Activities	10
MU2000	11
Recycling Contacts	12



Recycled/Recyclable
Printed with Soy/Canola Ink on paper that
contains at least 50% post-consumer recycled fiber

President Strengthens Federal Recycling Effort

On October 20, 1993, President Clinton signed a bold executive order promoting recycling. The order promises to reduce solid waste, build markets for recycled products, encourage new technologies and protect the environment by requiring federal agencies to use recycled paper and other recycled products.

President Clinton, who also has signed executive orders on the federal purchases of energy-efficient computers, reporting of toxic emissions from federal facilities, how federal regulations are reviewed, and creating the President's Council on Sustainable Development, praised the recycling executive order when he signed it.

"Families, businesses and communities all across America know that recycling makes sense, it saves money and it protects the environment. It's time for the government to set an example and provide real leadership that will help create jobs and protect the environment, encouraging new markets for recycled products and new technologies," President Clinton said.

The Executive Order requires that all federal purchases of printing and writing paper contain 20 percent post-consumer material by the end of 1994 and 30 percent post-consumer materials by the end of 1998. In addition, in order to further reduce the burden on landfills, paper made with 50 percent recovered by-products from the production of goods other than paper or textiles may be purchased, provided that this waste would otherwise end up in a landfill.

Paper accounts for 40 percent of all solid waste and 77 percent of government office waste. Local governments spend more than \$11 billion a year to dispose of it and a number of cities and states already purchase paper that contains 20 percent post-consumer material. The U.S. government uses 300,000 tons per year of printing and writing paper, approximately 2 percent of the market.

"This executive order will create a strong market for the paper now being collected by more than 5,500 community recycling programs all across our country, programs that involve more than one-third of all Americans. It will spur investment in recycling technologies and it will create needed jobs, primarily in the recycling sector and in cities," said Vice President Al Gore. "We can gain by harvesting a valuable resource that had been considered waste."

Continued on Page 3

Coordinators Corner

Earth Day is on the horizon and that means Spring is just around the corner! And I'm sure that we all agree — the crocuses can't bloom soon enough!! FY '94 is shaping-up to be a landmark year for Federal waste prevention and recycling efforts. President Clinton's Executive Order #12873 signals a new season for government waste reduction programs. The President's action provides a real boost to all of us who have worked so hard to make EPA's waste prevention and recycling program a model effort.

This Update's focus is the Executive Order (EO) and the Agency's initiatives to implement its requirements. The Agency Paper-Less Office Campaign, to be launched on Earth Day, will aggressively tackle the largest component of our waste stream — paper. In addition, programs like Region 9's "Closed-Loop Project," Region 10's Recycle Week '93 and Region 3's new "green" Public Environmental Education Center, exemplify the scope of the Agency's implementation effort.

The Envipco automated recycling system to be "premiered" at Headquarters shows "green" technology in action. The project also represents a viable public/private sector collaboration in support of community-based recycling efforts.

Another key initiative is the EPA Affirmative Procurement Action Team (APAT) which has been established by the Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM). The team will develop a comprehensive strategy to implement the affirmative procurement mandates of the Order. APAT is a truly collaborative effort, with members from OARM, the Office of Solid Waste and the Office of Pollution Prevention. Kathy Aterno, OARM Deputy Assistant Administrator, sees the team as an opportunity for EPA "to continue to set-the-pace for the Federal waste reduction and buy-recycled programs."

However, the key to our current and future success is the contribution of each and every employee. We share an environmental ethic which compels us to "lead by example" and your personal commitment is a credit to the Agency! With your help, we will surely achieve our 15% paper reduction goal.

'Til next issue, Happy Earth Day and St. Patrick's Day!
This promises to be a very "green" Spring!

Recycling Yours,

Mike O'Reilly

Mike O'Reilly
Agency Waste Prevention
Recycling Coordinator

Recycling Update

A Quarterly Publication of the Agency Recycling Program, Facilities Management and Services Division, Office of Administration and Resources Management.

Michael O'Reilly . . . Agency Recycling Coord
Delorise P. Forrest Editor
Randy Bacon Printing Officer

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suggestions to:*

*Recycling Update
(3204)*

*401 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20460*



Environmental Product Guide

The new GSA Environmental Product Guide is scheduled for distribution in late March, 1994. It will replace the Recycled Products Guide and will carry information on the whole range of environmentally oriented items. In addition to the items in the stock program, the Guide will contain information on items available from the Schedules Program and Customer Supply Centers. If you were not on the distribution list for the Recycled Products Guide, contact the GSA Centralized Mailing List Service on (817) 334-5215 and get your FREE copy of the Environmental Products Guide and any other publication that you may need. Contacts: Tom Daily or Alberta Messier, (703) 305-5812

Carol M. Browner on the Executive Order on Recycling



For the first time ever, the federal government is requiring that a substantial portion of writing paper will be made from previously used, recycled materials. As the largest user of paper in the world, the government's purchasing will unlock needed demands and markets for recycled paper products, and help make economically viable recycling a reality. As the President promised in his Earth Day '93 speech, the federal government will generate less waste, collect more recyclables, and buy more recycled products. The Order will also commit EPA to seek out other kinds of recycled and environmentally-preferable products for the government to purchase. This will bring new, environmentally sound products to the market, as well as help to relieve the amount of wastes now put into landfills or incinerated. I encourage all American businesses, consumers and all levels of government to follow the Administration's lead and buy more recycled paper and other recycled products.

President Strengthens Federal Recycling Effort Continued from Page 1

To stimulate the market immediately, federal agencies are directed to begin seeking bids for recycled paper now, well in advance of the purchasing requirements.

And, the order directs the General Services Administration to revise paper specifications that currently prevent the purchase of paper made through the most environmentally sound processes. According to some studies, harmful by-products from paper production include chlorinated substances that can cause environmental damage including an increased risk of cancer. This order allows agencies to purchase paper that does not pose these problems.

The executive order also requires federal agencies to replace motor oil with re-refined oil and to replace virgin tires with retread tires. It requires every agency to designate a senior official to take responsibility for implementation of the order and to ensure purchasing of recycled and environmentally preferable goods.

The order requires agencies to comply with sections of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act that cover federal procurement of recycled products. The order also streamlines the process by which EPA issues content standards for

recycled products and designated criteria for the purchase of environmentally preferable products. Under the order, all federal agencies must revise their specifications and standards so that recovered materials can be used to produce the products they purchase.

**The White House
Office of the Press Secretary
10/20/93**

Appointment of EPA's Environmental Executive

Jonathan Z. Cannon, Assistant Administrator for Administration and Resources Management, has been appointed to serve as EPA's Environmental Executive in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Order 12873. Administrator Carol Browner stated that "Jon Cannon's distinguished career at EPA and his position as the Agency's senior resource and procurement manager, uniquely qualify him to lead the Agency's implementation of the Order."

Jon Cannon will work closely with the new Federal Environmental Executive and our colleagues in other Federal agencies to channel the resources of the entire Federal government in support of the Federal waste reduction effort.

The Agency Environmental Executive will be responsible for:

(a) coordinating all environmental programs in the areas of procurement and acquisition, standards and specification review, facilities management, waste prevention and recycling and logistics;

(b) participating in the interagency development of a Federal plan to:

(1) create an awareness and outreach program for the private sector to facilitate markets for environmentally preferable and recycled products and services, promote new technologies, improve awareness about federal efforts in this area, and expedite agency efforts to procure new products identified under this order;

(2) establish incentives, provide guidance and coordinate appropriate educational programs for agency employees; and

(3) coordinate the development of standard agency reports required by this order; and

(c) reviewing agency programs and acquisitions to ensure compliance with the order.

Buy Recycled Products Display: On the Road Again

by Cheryl L. Chance

Department of the Army



EPA has crafted three displays for loan to Federal agencies to help promote their programs to recycle and buy recycled products. One of these displays was recently borrowed by the US Postal Service (USPS) and journeyed half way around the world.

From October 9-14, 1993 the Universal Postal Union of the United Nations hosted an international symposium entitled "The Post and the Environment" in Berne, Switzerland. Dr. Kevin Ferguson,

Environmental Program Analyst and Recycling Coordinator with USPS in Washington, DC, was instrumental in getting the exhibit for the Switzerland trip.

The display, entitled Buy Recycled Products, received high visibility with countries all over the world. The Universal Postal Union of the United Nations is a 121-year old organization consisting of 186 countries—from Albania to Zimbabwe. Nearly 200 representatives from 90 countries attended the October session. Six countries, including the USA, gave presentations during the symposium, and the Buy Recycled Products display was a part of the USA exposition. According to Dr. Ferguson, "the display drew a lot of attention and illustrated many of the recycled office products available to Postal Administrations globally.

The display contains samples of Affirmative Procurement Guideline items (paper and paper products, re-refined oil, retread tires, building insulation, and cement and concrete containing fly ash) as well as other products made with recycled content. In addition to these items, the exhibit can be personalized with products containing recycled materials used by the borrowing agency.

The display is an 8'x 10' freestanding wall that travels easily in three cases. It contains shelves and lights and comes with an assembly video.

We have three complete displays to circulate among Federal agencies.

If you are interested in borrowing a display, please contact the EPA Waste Prevention and Recycling Office at 202-260-2541.

DOE Announces Pollution Prevention Conference



The Department of Energy (DOE) announces its Pollution Prevention Conference X. DOE and its contractors involved in waste minimization/pollution prevention programs will exchange information and programs progress. Representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense, and General Services Administration will be invited to participate. In addition, speakers from state agencies and the private sector will present their experiences. The conference will take place May 3-5, 1994, in Denver, Colorado. The conference will focus on the theme of Pollution Prevention Policy, Implementation, and Partnerships. To show an exhibit, please contact Janet Ventola (301-601-5381). To present a paper or participate as an attendee, please contact Linda Jo McDonald (615-435-3415) or Linda Malinauskas (615-435-3507).

**first prevent—
then recycle**

The Greening of EPA Facilities

a continuing series about EPA's internal pollution prevention and waste reduction efforts...

Agency Targets 15% Reduction in Paper Consumption

What is the Paper-less Office Campaign All About?

Did you know that as a nation we throw away more paper than any other type of waste material? Paper makes up about 38 percent of the total amount of municipal solid waste generated in the United States. Office paper is the third largest category of paper waste, after corrugated cardboard and newspapers. Paper used for photocopying and laser printing (often referred to as "copy" paper or "copier" paper), accounts for almost half of the office paper used in the United States, and that use is growing rapidly.

EPA is no different than any other office in terms of the amount of waste we generate. For example, at Headquarters alone, we generate about 17 tons of office paper waste a week! Although we can be very proud of our recycling accomplishments, as an agency we are still consuming too much paper. It would be better to have less paper waste to manage in the first place. Not only would this help the environment, but it would also save money by reducing our purchasing, recycling, and disposal costs. For these reasons, the Paper-Less Office Campaign focuses on reducing EPA's use of office paper. In addition, the campaign will encourage the use of electronic communication systems like E-Mail and LANs.



Paper-Less Office Campaign Goals

The overall goal of the Paper-Less Office Campaign for 1994 is to reduce the amount of paper used Agency-wide. Although it would be impossible to totally eliminate paper use in our offices we can all commit to using less paper. The campaign encourages the wise and selective use of paper by changing habits, working smarter, and adopting policies that will prevent the generation of paper waste.

EPA Administrator, Carol Browner will launch the campaign on Earth Day, April 22, 1994, and it will run through the end of the year. This year's results will serve as a baseline for multi-year paper reduction efforts.

The three major components of the Paper-Less Office Campaign are:

- Obtain pledges from EPA employees to generate less paper. Each Headquarters and Regional office will ask their employees to commit to generating less paper waste. While the overall aim of the campaign is to obtain pledges from at least 80 percent of Agency employees, each individual office is encouraged to use its creativity and enthusiasm to obtain pledges from 100 percent of its employees!
- Promote less photocopying waste. A major target of the campaign is a 15% reduction in the use of copier paper. This is a critical focus of the campaign

since xerographic paper accounts for an estimated 70% of the paper we use at work.

- Implement at least one specific "Paper-less" strategy in each Headquarters and Regional office. Each office will select, implement, and evaluate at least one strategy to significantly reduce paper waste within that office. This aspect of the campaign will give you the chance to demonstrate your creativity, resourcefulness, and leadership. We will publicize your office's accomplishments Agencywide!

The Paper-Less Work Group Is Here to Help You!

While the challenge may sound daunting, fear not. You will have support and assistance from the Paper-Less Work Group and Campaign Co-Chairs. The Campaign Co-Chairs, Mia Zmud, of the Office of Solid Waste, and Mike O'Reilly, of the Office of Administration, will provide you with technical assistance. They can also help you choose your Paper-Less strategy and enlist the help of other Paper-Less Campaign Work Group members for special assistance, as required. Contact the campaign managers and other work group members by telephone or by E-mail.

Paper-Less Campaign Work Group

Campaign Co-Chair-OSW

Mia Zmud 202-260-3512

Campaign Co-Chair-OA

Mike O'Reilly 202-260-2541

Printing, photo-copying, paper purchases

Bob Kelly 202-260-3135

Randy Bacon 202-260-2128

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Agency computer networks, electronics

Christine Bradbury 919-541-2499

General Inquiries

Kym Burke 202-260-0336

Jennifer Barker 202-260-1451

John Hebert 703-305-5419

The Tri-Agency Model Closed Loop Project Leading by Doing in Region 9

By Dave Duncan

EPA Region 9 continues to "lead by doing" as the planning and coordinating agency for Region 9's Model Closed Loop Project. "Closing the Loop" refers to reducing solid waste generation, recycling solid wastes, and increasing purchases of products made from recycled materials. The project reflects EPA's

commitment to developing partnerships when reducing or eliminating pollutants generated from federal operations.

The Closed Loop Project team completed its data gathering phase in Fiscal Year 1993. A formal waste stream analysis generated information on what recyclables were being diverted from the waste stream in the space shared by EPA, the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). The findings allowed Project team members to develop options for changing recycling and waste prevention behaviors of the regional staffs.

EPA team members completed an inventory of the supply center. The process and results allowed EPA to work with SSA and HCFA to address the procurement of environmentally-sound supplies. Data showed that EPA Region 9 procured the following from the General Services Administration in FY 93:

- 14 paper products with 50% waste paper content
- 4 paper products with 50% post consumer content
- 5 paper products with 75% recovered content

As a building-wide effort, the Model Closed Loop Project requires consistent, determined coordination among Region 9's Solid Waste Section, the Facilities and Properties Section, volunteers from across the

region and volunteers from other federal agencies.

Specific FY 93 project accomplishments include the following:

- The project team conducted outreach to the 1600 employees within EPA, SSA, and HCFA from May through October 1993. The outreach addressed how employees could reduce, reuse, recycle, and buy recycled whenever practicable. Data showed a combined recycling recovery rate of 75 percent for office papers.
- The project team coordinated the development of waste prevention programs for EPA, SSA, and HCFA. The team will refine and implement waste prevention efforts during FY 94. The effort includes training employees to use the double-sided printing feature of personal computers.
- The project team expanded the recycling program to include the building cafeteria. The building day care and fitness centers will be considered for inclusion in the program.
- During FY 94 team members continue to address the procurement of recycled office products. A Project procurement ad-hoc committee, coordinated by Rebecca Jamison, is focusing on recycled product procurement.

Throughout the year, the project team will continue to address the management of office garbage. The tools that are developed will be transferrable and available to the federal community. In addition, a workshop is planned for June, 1994 in San Francisco. For promotional materials or information about the Model Closed Loop Project and the workshop, please contact David Duncan, Team Leader at (415) 744-2095.



Recycled Copier Paper Test

Starting February 7th, Printing and Photocopy Management began testing a new brand of copier paper. The test is being conducted at the Headquarters Printing Plant and the S-310 Copy Center. In addition, Region 1, Region 3, Region 5, and Region 9 will perform a limited test. The paper being tested has recently been approved for use by the Joint Committee on Printing (JCP) and contains 100% recovered materials, including a 50% post-consumer content. This paper also exceeds the minimum requirements called for in the Executive Order 12873 and is more economical than the recycled copier paper currently being used.

Region 3 Goes Green Lights

The 8th floor reception area, conference room, and the front office area have been upgraded with several types of energy-efficient lighting products based on recommendations from the Green Lights technical support program.

As a result of the upgrade, the savings are projected at \$2,000, and 11,817 kilowatt-hours a year. Annual pollution prevented is estimated to be 19,270 pounds of carbon dioxide, 193 pounds of sulfur dioxide and 57 pounds of nitrogen oxides.



The Green Lights project has not only produced energy savings and pollution reductions, but it has also resulted in more well-lit areas and higher quality working environments.

The new Public Environmental Education Center (PEEC) has been constructed with many recycled and "green" buildings products. The energy-efficient lighting is also based on the Green Lights technical support program.

If you would like additional information on the Region 3 Green Lights program contact Ellen Jacobs-Fisherman at 215-597-0717.

Region 3 "Designs for the Environment"

by Sherry Rexroad

The newly-constructed Public Environmental Education Center (PEEC), located in the lobby of the 841 Chestnut Building, Philadelphia, PA. officially opened to the public in December 1993. The Center, hosted an open house for EPA employees, containing several exhibits, videos, films, and literary materials describing both the environment and EPA's many activities to protect it.

The project was developed by staff teams from the Facilities Management and Services Branch, the Information Resources Management Branch and the Office of External Affairs. PEEC demonstrates a "Design for the Environment" concept, incorporating an assortment of pollution prevention techniques.

- ☐ The lighting complies with the EPA Greenlights initiative and includes high efficiency

tri-phosphor bulbs and energy saving electronic ballasts controlled (in some cases) by motion detector switches to eliminate unnecessary lighting use.

- ☐ A new type of drywall and acoustical ceiling tile are manufactured with 25% recycled paper products.
- ☐ The particle board contains a non-formaldehyde phenolic resin for low emissions to the indoor air. Also, all adhesives used emit minimal amounts of volatile organic compounds (VOC's).
- ☐ The carpet in the main exhibit area includes an anti-microbial property to reduce long-term development of bacteria, which can lead to indoor air quality (IAQ) problems. The carpet is made of tiles which require minimal use of adhesives.
- ☐ The handicap-accessible toilet is a water-efficient model.

We hope that a variety of users will be drawn to the Center: parents, children, students, business, and community groups. The first floor contains an environmental bulletin board, a number of exhibits, informational pamphlets, and two touch-screen systems that provide additional environmental information and videos. Located on the second floor is an audio-visual theater which can be scheduled for films, slide presentations or computer graphic shows. Several personal computers, which can access information through databases, CD-ROM, or bulletin boards are available.

For more information about the PEEC, contact Therese Fisher, Office of External Affairs (OEA), at 215-597-2176. suggestions.

For Your Information

by: Dr. Rosalie Green — Senior Recycling Specialist

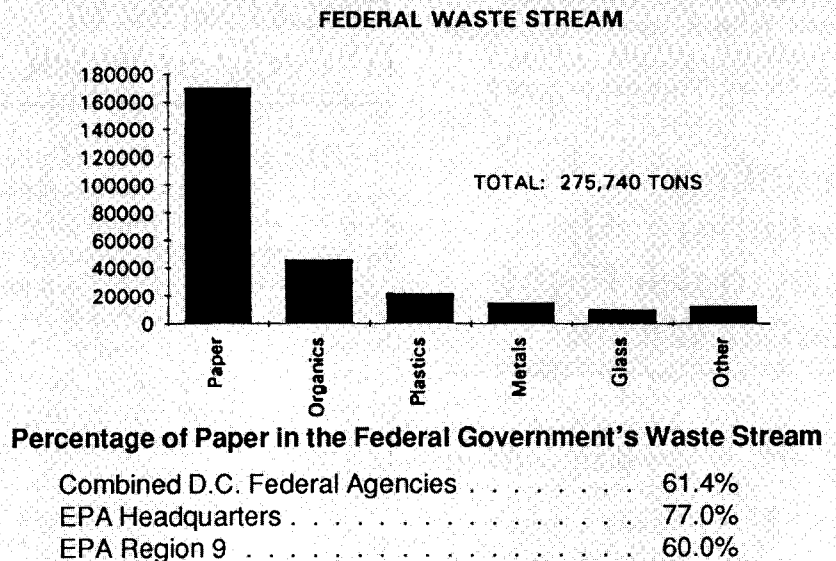
- ☐ **Fort Fairfield, Maine**— Acidic potato waste has a herbicide effect on seedlings. When 3% woodashes alkalinity is added to potato waste windrows, temperatures start rising and composting of the windrows is possible. Also, woolen mill-waste mixed with sawdust and manure resulted in a quality compost at the Robinson Manufacturing Co. in South Davis Maine. Contact: Bill Brinton, 207-293-2457.
- ☐ Environmentally friendly soldering developed by **Sandia National Laboratory** eliminates the need for ozone-depleting solvents. Fluxless soldering cleans metal with heated atomic hydrogen gas which reduces oxide on copper, but avoids melting the plastic on printed circuit boards. The new process can also be used to clean and restore heavily corroded archaeological artifacts. The process is more cost-effective than conventional soldering systems and is harmless to the atmosphere because the reaction chamber contains only 2% hydrogen. For more information contact: Janda Panitz, 505/845-8604.
- ☐ **Environmental Corporation (EC) of Miami, Florida** reports landfill mining that is reputed to reclaim up to 80% of landfill capacity. The system extracts recyclable materials, upgrades the cells and installs front-end recovery equipment. The company says about 1/2 of the reclaimed volume is sent to markets for glass, plastic, paper and metals. For more information contact: Jeffrey Nolan, President, 305/262-7636.
- ☐ In **New York City**, the Partnership for Waste Prevention reported a small step that saved 600 tons of paper in the latest (NYNEX) yellow pages. The directories are switching to 20 pound paper stock from 22.5 pound stock for the White Pages and reducing yellow and white borders by 1/16 of an inch per year. Savings are accompanied by a consumer Waste Disposal Tips Section. For more information contact: Ruban Memishi, SW 301/587-6300.
- ☐ **"The Check Gallery"** prints checks on recycled paper (40% pre-consumer and 10% post-consumer) featuring the recycling "chasing-arrows" and a choice of a endangered eagle, dolphin, Giant panda bear and rain forest fern, and are printed with soy-based inks. Write to: "The Check Gallery" P.O. Box 17400, Baltimore, Md.
- ☐ In 1992, the **Federal Reserve System (FRS)** shredded and trashed \$96.7 billion of paper currency and sent the 15 million pounds of paper bills to landfills. The FRS requested that its paper bill supplier, Crane Co., recommend a solution to their paper waste problem. The Massachusetts paper manufacturer developed a new stationary line made of shredded U.S. currency which includes thank-you notes, boxed stationary and memo pads in a green color. *Washington Home*, July 15, 1993, pg 5.
- ☐ The Association of Foam Packaging Recyclers (AFPR) released a video "Recycling Expanded Polystyrene Foam — Its Your Part of the Package" that shows collection programs that highlight two original equipment manufacturers and community collection programs. The manufacturers, Xerox Corporation and Hewlett-Packard Corporation, share their expanded polystyrene foam recycling experiences. For more information, call 1-800-944-8448.
- ☐ The colored cup-shaped plastic caps from aerosol cans has been used for school sweet-treat cups, cookie dough cutters, seedling cups, on-a-string rattles and in assorted collages. Reuse!!
- ☐ New recycled shoes "Junkyard Dogs," are being marketed by **The Early Winters Company of Portland, Oregon**. Wool and polyester felt uppers are made of post-consumer clothing, blankets and mill broke yarn; molded rubber parts and outsole are made of tire rubber, polystyrene coffee cups and polypropylene diaper scrap. Neoprene cushioning is made from post-consumer wetsuits; foam in the collar and tongue from chairs and seat cushions; and twill lining from recycled cotton canvas. Interfacing is made from plastic soda pop bottles and milk jugs and the lasting and shank boards are made from coffee filters, file folders, grocery bags and cardboard.

NOTE:

Products, processes and viewpoints mentioned in this section are not to be considered endorsements by EPA or the Federal Government. They are provided solely for your information.

Measuring the Federal Waste Stream

In 1993, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) conducted a study of the Federal waste stream. COG performed "waste sorts" in various facilities, including the General Services Regional Office Building, the Pentagon, and Bethesda Naval Hospital. What COG found was that most of what is being discarded from Federal buildings is paper, despite the fact that most buildings studied have paper recycling programs in place. Organics, which are largely yard and food wastes, are the second largest component in the waste stream, followed by plastic and metals. The chart shows the breakdown by category of the annual Federal waste stream in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The study also found that the overall Federal recycling rate is 18%.



*We will publish complete data for all
EPA offices once this campaign gets underway.*

For Federal recyclers, the message is obvious: We must do more. If we are to recycle 50% of our waste stream by 1996, a goal many think is possible, then we must go after those items which are still being sent to the landfills. Colored paper, cardboard, books, and file stock can be recycled on GSA contracts, as long as these items are kept separate from the high grade paper. For more information on how you can minimize your waste stream and maximize your recyclables output, contact the GSA National Capitol Region Recycling Program on 202-708-6948. For more information on the COG study call Joan Rohlfs at 202-962-3358.

Region 10 Recycle Week '93 *by Inge Theisen*

Oregon's "Recycling Awareness Week" in early October was heralded with a Governor's Proclamation. Lobby displays in the Edith Green Federal Building featured recycled content products and the recycling of construction and demolition debris. The exhibit was arranged with the cooperative efforts of Portland Metro, the General Services Administration (Portland) and Region 10 EPA. Portland Metro conducted two brown-bag talks on "closing-the-loop."

A meeting of the Environmental Building Suppliers (distributor/dealer/retailer of building supplies manufactured with recycled content), GSA and Portland Metro established a major link-up of federal, regional and private sector representatives.

Washington State's "Recycle Week '93" was kicked-off with a Governor's Proclamation. EPA and GSA scheduled a presentation of the controversial topic *"Recycling: Does It Make Economic Sense?"* by David Dougherty, Director of the Clean Washington Center, a division of the Washington Department of Trade and Economic Development. Attendance included representatives from local, county, state and federal governments, elected officials, and the private sector.

Federal employees and visitors to the Jackson Federal Building had a "down-to earth", hands-on opportunity to feel and smell yard waste compost and worm bin food scrap compost and to receive "how-to" answers from a staff volunteer from King County Master Composters/ Recyclers. EPA staffed its "Buy Recycled" exhibit during the week of October 18-22. Some perceptive visitors noted examples of new regional recycled products.

The week ended with the presentation of Outstanding Achievement Awards for accomplishments by schools, cities, organizations, non-profits and individuals presented by the King County Solid Waste Division.

Cooperation is alive and well in Region 10! Once again, Recycle Week '93 demonstrated the effectiveness of a collaborative effort between federal, state, and local governments, public education, non-profits and the private sector.

Recycling Containers: Up Front in the Fight Against Waste



There's a new weapon popping up on military bases across the country. But it's used to fight a different kind of enemy: Garbage. Dome-shaped Igloos, made by **Kosmos Recycling**, Lake Mary, Fla., have become part of recycling programs at 54 U.S. military bases. "We chose the Igloo containers for our recycling program because of their obvious visible difference from trash dumpsters," said Theresa Morley, environmental engineer at Naval Station San Diego, Calif. Igloos greet incoming ships on each of the base's 14 piers. The 6-by 6-ft., 4.3-cu.-yd. bins are "fed" materials from 60 home-port ships, Coast Guard cutters, and vessels from Canada, Greece, Japan, Korea, and Russia. Some of the bases have developed incentives to spur participation, including spending the proceeds from collected materials on new recreational programs. The bins have earned nicknames such as "scrubbing bubbles." What are the black containers custom-made for steel cans called? "Stealth Igloos."

Source: Government Product News (GPN) October 1993/pg. 53

[At EPA Headquarters, Igloos are also "on duty" collecting glass and plastics. However, the nick-name at Waterside Mall is "Iggy." So far, EPA Headquarters' employees and our S.W. Community Neighbors have recycled over 1.3 tons of plastic since November '93!]

2.5 Million "Challenge" Participants to Recycle at Work

The National Office Paper Recycling Project's Challenge to the nation to triple the amount of paper recycled in the workplace is catching on; at least 2.5 million workers from California to Maine have collectively taken a stand: "One out of every 27 office workers in America is enrolled in The Challenge program," states Chris Denniston, Director of the Project. "Those numbers speak loudly about the determination that people feel when it comes to keeping 12 million tons of wastepaper out of our nation's landfills. Now we must make sure they have the resources to follow through."

The Challenge program got a major boost last September when EPA Administrator, Carol Browner, wrote to the CEO's of the Fortune 500 asking each to accept The Challenge and reduce waste in the workplace.

Thus far 140 companies have responded to the Administrator's letter by enlisting employees in The Challenge to triple office paper recycling by 1995. The overwhelming response affirms corporate America's commitment to changing the environment at work by reducing waste and saving money.

"We see substantial progress in the number of businesses participating in office recycling programs across the country," notes Joe Kempler, Manager, Environmental Initiatives at Lexmark International, a founding member of the National Office Paper Recycling Project. "The Challenge program helps measure the nation's gains."

Lyle McGlothlin of James River Corporation agrees: "The Challenge program guarantees a supply of paper as well as a demand for

NATIONAL OFFICE PAPER RECYCLING PROJECT

recycled paper products. Both are necessary in order for recycling to be successful."

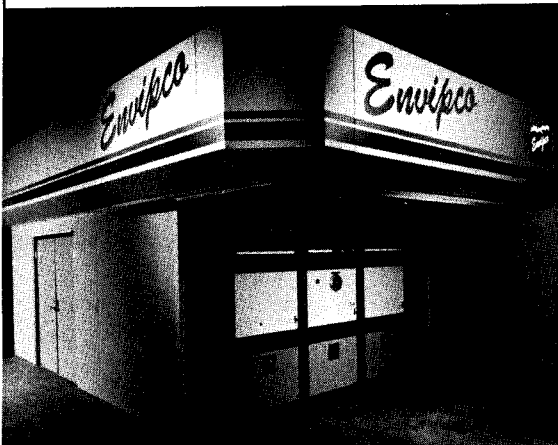
Consider just how sweeping the office paper recycling movement is across the country: 140 of the registered 405 businesses are Fortune 500 companies, including the First Virginia Banks, Prudential Insurance, Dow Jones, Continental Airlines, and Bank America Corporation.

Nevada Association for the Handicapped Participates in Earth Day 1994

by Marianne Carpenter

Dancing over Disabilities, a performing arts troupe of persons with and without disabilities, will perform again at the EPA-LV Earth Day celebration in April. The Dancing over Disabilities troupe includes persons who sing, dance, act and grow together in a therapeutic and caring environment to develop self-esteem, and confidence under the direction of experienced professionals. At the Nevada Association for the Handicapped, persons with severe and profound developmental disabilities are helping the environment while learning valuable work skills. For example, an aluminum can recycling corner is set up where trainees place cans into a wall-mounted can crusher. The trainees are paid according to how many cans they process. Everyone benefits from this cooperative effort.

The MU 2000 Automated Recycling System Premiers at Headquarters'



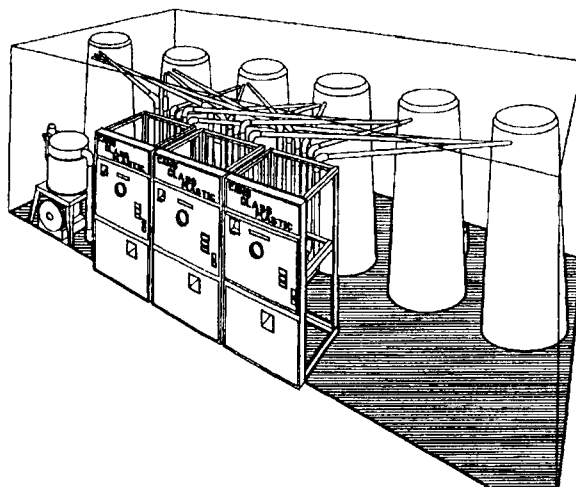
On Earth Day 1994, EPA Headquarters' will begin a demonstration of a new "green technology," the Envipco automated recycling system. The demonstration project is a collaborative effort among the Envipco Corp, Town Center Management, EPA, and the Southwest D.C. community.

The Envipco MU 2000 contains a laser-scanner which automatically sorts cans, glass and plastic. Once sorted, the containers are compacted and stored in internal silos. The equipment's operating mechanism and silos are located inside an enclosure. The system can process more than 40 containers per minute. Customers are also presented with both video messages and coupon receipts.

The MU 2000 electronically notifies a collection vehicle dispatcher when the storage silos at a site approach full. Cost optimizing procedures are used in routing collection vehicles to these sites. Each collection vehicle has a vacuum unit and multiple commodity collection compartments to keep the material types segregated. Materials are moved from their storage silos into the vehicle commodity compartments at a vacuum speed of about 60 miles per hour.

During a route, the vehicle collects from several store sites. When full, the vehicle returns to a processing yard where its compartmented materials are automatically unloaded. Unloading operations take just a few minutes per commodity type. Collection vehicles can complete several routes each day. This system eliminates the need for distributors to be involved in pickup, hauling or processing of collected containers.

Proceeds from the sale of materials collected by the MU 2000 will go to support community programs and the EPA Day Care Center.



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About The Distribution of "Recycling Update"

As a means of source reduction within EPA, the distribution of the "Recycling Update" has been modified. We are now sending copies to Regional Managers and Supervisors and 10 copies to each Headquarters mail stop. Additional copies are also furnished to the regional Recycling Coordinators. (All employee distribution is made to the small field locations without a recycling coordinator.) **After reading this issue of the "Update" we encourage you to pass it along to someone else in your office.**

ROUTE TO:

