

Be GREENER It's Elementary

Waste Reduction Solutions for Schools



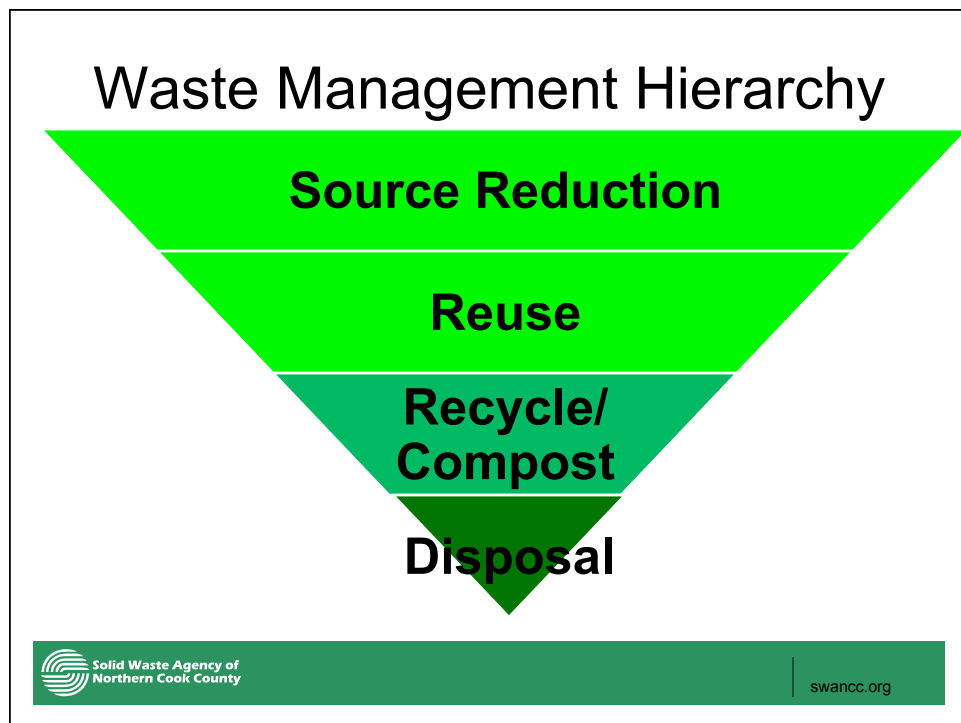
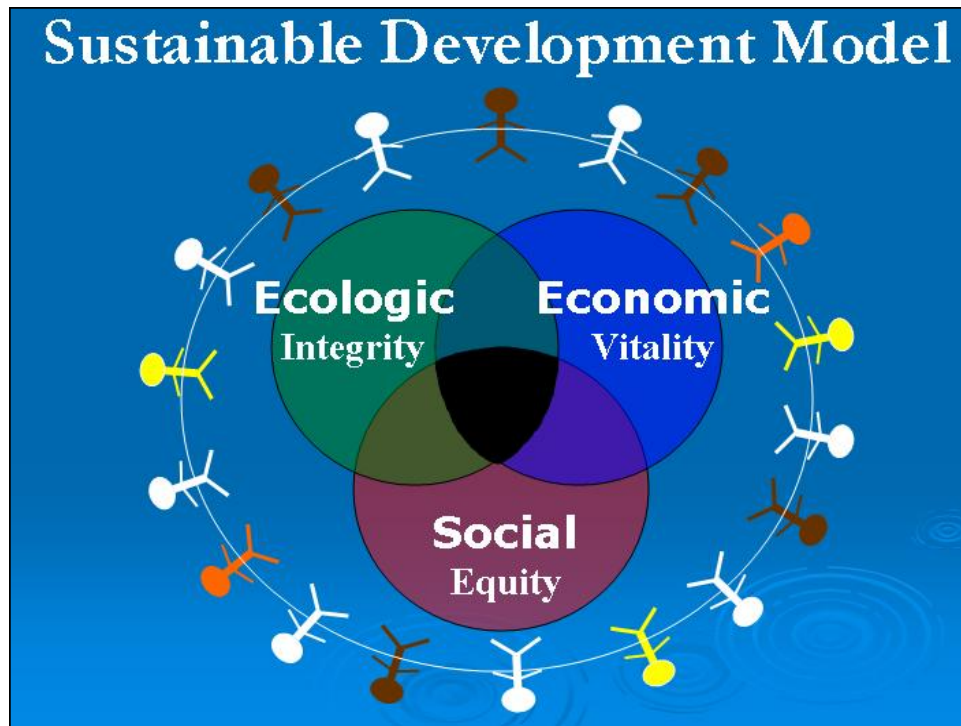
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Sustainability



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Benefits of Reducing Waste

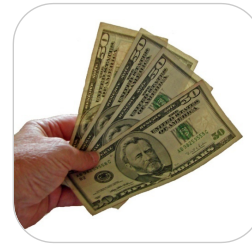
Environmental Reasons:

- Preserves landfill capacity
- Conserves natural resources
- Conserves energy/water and reduces emissions
- Prevents Pollution and reduces litter
- Helps to sustain the environment for future generations



Business Reasons:

- Reduces costs
- Streamlines business operations and increases operating efficiencies
- Demonstrates environmental stewardship
- Reduces liabilities



• Start Small

• Create Momentum

• Measure Success

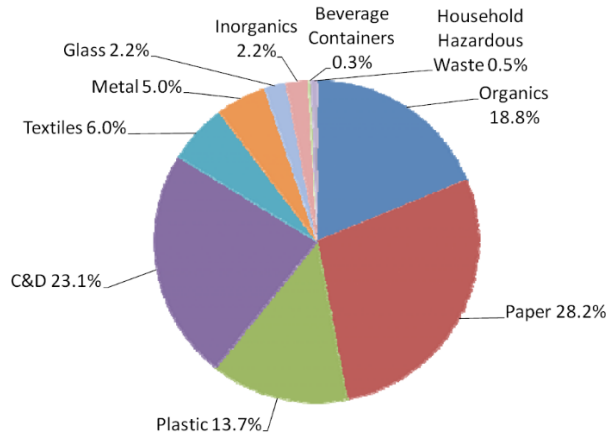
• Build on Momentum

• Effect Lasting Change!

Key Steps to Reducing Waste

- 1 - Attain support from upper level administration
- 2 - Appoint a committee – “green team”
- 3 - Evaluate waste stream
- 4 - Consider waste reduction measures
- 5 – Develop a plan
- 6 - Conduct an economic analysis
- 7 - Promote – Educate - Implement
- 8 - Monitor and Measure Success

3 - Determine what materials can be reduced, reused, repaired, recycled



4 - Waste Reduction Measures

Options considered based on findings from research:

- Source reduction
- Reuse
- Recycling
- Composting
- Special and hazardous wastes





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Reduce Lunchroom Waste



- Institute waste-free lunches
 - Equip cafeteria with reusable trays, plates, silverware - or **tap and stack** trays to reduce volume
 - Equip cafeteria with bulk salt/pepper/condiments
 - Be a straw-free school
 - Promote reusable water bottles/coffee mugs
- Invest in water filling stations/pitchers and reusable glasses




Mixed Office
Paper Only

Reduce Paper Waste


Paper Only

- Set printer on double-sided default setting
- Distribute electronic newsletters/memos
- *Drop Box* is a great way to share files
- “Be Nice Use it Twice” box - for drafts/faxes
- Make note pads using food boxes
- Use a dry erase board or projector for meeting agendas
- Paper towels – “why use two when one will do?”
- Reuse folders, packaging materials




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Recycling



Requires separation from the waste stream:

- Glass
- Metal
- Plastics
- Paper
- Milk and Juice Cartons
- Empty content of materials





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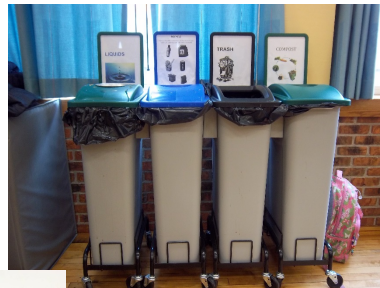
Please Recycle...WHAT?



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Education and Training is Key



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14
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West School, Glencoe



Food Scraps = Compost



Programs for Special Materials

- **TerraCycle** – juice pouches/wrappers
- **Trex Lumber** – plastic bags and film
- **Ink Jet and Toner Cartridges**
- **Cell Phones**
- **Rechargeable Batteries**
- **Pop Tabs**
- **USAgain** – textiles and shoes



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Windsor School, Arlington Heights



“Special” Waste Materials

- US EPA universal waste regulations govern management of:
 - Dry-cell and wet-cell batteries
 - Pesticides
 - Mercury-containing equipment and bulbs
- Electronics
 - Computers, monitors, printers and televisions banned from Illinois landfills as of January 1, 2012



5 - Develop a Plan

6 - Economic Analysis

- Identify activities to reduce wastes
- Seek bids/proposals from service providers
- Identify responsibilities of staff and contractors
- Identify program costs and implementation schedule
- Purchase and place necessary containers
- Develop sustainable practices guidelines to support waste reduction plan
- Establish District-wide policies:
 - Green Procurement
 - Green Meetings
 - No Idling Zone

Sears School, Kenilworth



Energy-Efficiency Measures

- Install motion sensors for lights
- Install programmable thermostats
- Buy **Energy Star** electronics, printers, appliances
- Set computers/printers for sleep mode
- Use power strips & unplug electronics
 - at night
 - on weekends
 - during Holidays and breaks
- Purchase energy-saving light bulbs
- Use natural light as much as possible

Energy-Efficiency Measures

- Install hand dryers
- Replace air filters for heating and cooling systems every 3 months
- Switch to T8s – CFLs – LED Lights
- Install solar panels
- Purchase rechargeable batteries



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Water Conservation Measures

- Fix leaky faucets and toilets
- Install low-flow fixtures and toilets
- Use rain barrels to collect water
- Institute natural lawn care:
 - landscape with native drought-resistant plants & grasses
 - learn more about soil biology and the dangers of conventional chemicals
- Install a rain garden or bio swale



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Related Sustainable Initiatives

- Plant a vegetable garden
- Provide real plants indoors – they are nature's air filter
- Stock school store with recycled products
- Buy eco-Friendly t-shirts for clubs/teams
- Donate left-over food to a pantry
- Maintain vehicles – fuel-efficient fleets
- Encourage carpooling – public transportation



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7- Promote and Implement

- Green team to make presentation
- Have a bulletin board in common area for on-going projects, activities and successes
- Promote recycling program
 - PSA Campaign
 - Workshops – training
- Contact City Officials – keep them in the loop
- Use Social Media outlets



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Educate

- Build ecology club membership and collaborate with other clubs and schools
- Contribute to the newsletter and morning announcements
- Make an informational DVD
- Make a poster of actual materials
- Provide a section in the library for “green - sustainability” books and media
- Be a peer ambassador to assist others
- Environmental commitments banner

Keep Everyone in the Loop



8 - Monitor and Measure Success

- Evaluate performance in first month to identify challenges, problems
- Routinely track diversion quantities and waste quantities to measure and report performance
- Identify opportunities for program modification, enhancement and expansion
- Report successes to employees to encourage continued participation
- Programs can take 6 months to 1 year to become established and show measurable impacts – be patient and persistent



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Let SWANCC Be a Resource

The screenshot displays the SWANCC website with the following sections:

- Header:** Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County logo and navigation links (Home, Programs, Recycling, Education, Resources, Transfer Station, Chemicals).
- Main Content Area:**
 - Left Column:** Search bar, Most Popular (SWANCC East, Green Pages, Reuse and Recycling Directory, Residential Chemical Disposal, Document Destruction Events), Most Recent (Holiday Lights, Open Tanks, Packaging Products, Municipality Hours, Yard Waste, Wood, Video Games).
 - Center Column:**
 - SWANCC provides programs, resources, presentations and workshops to educate about solid waste technologies and the benefits of waste reduction practices such as reduce, reuse, recycle and buy recycled.**
 - Trashy Fashion Show:** In recognition of America Recycles Day, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) will present its 8th Trashy Fashion Show on Thursday, November 17, 2011, at 7 pm. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Chicago North Shore Hotel, 5300 W. Touhy Avenue, in Skokie. This fun and inspirational program showcases outfits and accessories made from materials or items otherwise destined for the trash can. [Read more: Trashy Fashion Show](#)
 - Electronics Recycling:** Since 1999, SWANCC has provided environmentally-responsible recycling for end-of-life computers and electronics. [Read more: Electronics Recycling](#)
 - Right Column:**
 - Join SWANCC Online:** Facebook, Twitter, YouTube icons.
 - Eco-Friendly Marketplace:** Image of a recycling bin.
- Right Sidebar:**
 - SWANCC Programs:**
 - [Adidas Shoe Recycling](#)
 - [Eco-Friendly Fashion Show](#)
 - [Waste Reduction Grant](#)
 - [Presentation/Workshops](#)
 - Resources:**
 - [April Environmental Awareness](#)
 - [Change the Logo](#)
 - [Cups From Trash](#)
 - [Eco-Friendly Marketplace](#)
 - [Recycle Facts Game](#)
 - [Resource Materials](#)
 - [Teaching Tools for Lean](#)
 - [Waste Reduction Solutions](#)
 - SWANCC Communities:**
 - [Aurora Heights](#)
 - [Barrington](#)
 - [Berwyn](#)
 - [Brookfield](#)
 - [Evanston](#)
 - [Evanston Village](#)
 - [Glenview](#)
 - [Glenview](#)
 - [Northbrook](#)
 - [Northbrook Estates](#)
- Footer:** Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County logo and swancc.org link.

Crayola even says **GREEN** is *no* longer a color
.....it's a **LIFESTYLE.**



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