

Managing Recycling and Reuse

2 of the 3 R's

Residential Recycling

1. Enhance education effort
2. School system participation
3. Require aggressive programs from licensees
4. Place user friendly receptacles in prominent places
5. Work with towns to place receptacles on sidewalks
6. Conduct a large containers trial program in an Eldersburg neighborhood
7. Promote residential composting and grass-cycling

Non-residential Recycling

1. Do business calls
2. Follow up with haulers
3. Assure accuracy of reports
4. Set policy for County government
5. Study options for a construction and demolition debris contractor on site and Northern Landfill
6. Stay abreast of markets and trends

Reuse

1. Routinely sample the Swap Shop for activity and volume
2. Identify and catalogue sources for acceptance of reusable goods

The Partnership Between Recycling and Waste to Energy

- Based on a survey report by Jonathan V. L. Kiser on data collected from 19 communities with 18 WTE facilities.
- 2 on West Coast 1 in Hawaii
- 2 in Midwest 3 in Southeast
- 4 in Mid-Atlantic 6 in Northeast

What we learned....

- 1.6M tons of material was recovered that would have otherwise been buried. 16% on the floor and 84% post combustion
- 61% of ash is put to beneficial use as cover or paving material
- Recycling rates are to be higher in WTE communities
- Put or pay contracts in 67% of cases

What we learned....

- Community off-site recycling programs play a major role
- Community recycling diversion rates averaged 41%, the highest being Harford County Maryland at 64% (ash is a beneficial use)
- 15 of the 19 responded that recycling programs are expanding

What we learned...

- WTE impact on investment in recycling is Zero in 95% of cases
- 37% of the communities use a variation on Pay-as-you-throw
- There was no clear correlation between PAYT and recycling rates
- 42% of communities surveyed said WTE was cheaper, 37% more

What we learned...

- The theory that recycling rates will only be high if the WTE cost is high and there is no PAYT did not hold true 76% of the time
- 74% reported that recycling and WTE are very compatible, 11% compatible and 15% somewhat compatible (=100%)

Conclusions.....

- WTE and Recycling are compatible because:
 - 89% say self sufficiency
 - 89% say reduces reliance on landfills
 - 79% say after recycling, there is plenty of MSW
 - 79% say diversion of non-combustible recyclables make a better fuel
 - 74% say WTE is a form of recycling
 - 32% say WTE promotes recycling by means of incentives and subsidies