

Don't forget to register for the Minnesota Road Show Fleet Efficiency Workshop coming up on July 16th at Donaldson Company, Bloomington! Visit www.mnwastewise.org for more information.

"WASTE" PREVENTION

Prevention of waste at the source is the most important first step to any waste management program. Most often, people think of solid waste, or garbage, when talking about waste prevention. However, this idea applies to resource conservation of water and energy just as much as solid waste. Waste prevention, or source reduction, is a mindset that depends to a large extent on habit. Once good habits are established, it is difficult to not see opportunities for waste prevention in all forms.

According to the solid waste hierarchy established by the US EPA, management of waste should be addressed in the following order: Waste Prevention, Reuse, Recycling, Waste-to-Energy (burning), then Disposal to Landfills.

Tips for Preventing Waste

- **Centralize and regulate purchasing.** Be aware of everything that is coming into your building, whether it is for office use, production, or food services.
- **Involve employees.** Require employee participation and encourage employee ideas to reduce the amount of waste generated. Reward achievements.
- **Require reuse whenever possible.** This ties closely with controlled purchasing and employee involvement, both mentioned above.
- **Set waste prevention goals and track progress.** Establishing goals helps to determine what steps need to be taken to see results. Work closely with service providers, such as your solid waste/recycling hauler, electric and water utility, to track progress.
- **Change behaviors.** Remember that habits take approximately three weeks to change, and that modified habits can create a significant amount of positive change.

RESOURCES

CIWMB Waste Prevention World

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/wpw/>

EPA WasteWise

<http://www.epa.gov/waste/partnerships/wastewise/wrr/prevent.htm>

StopWaste.org

<http://www.stopwaste.org>

IN THE NEWS

Waste & Recycling News, July 9, 2009

“EPA Give Group \$35,000 to Promote Reusable Packaging”

<http://www.wasterecyclingnews.com/headlines2.html?id=1247145059&allowcomm=true>

MPR, July 7, 2009

“Buying Green on a Deeper Level”

<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2009/07/07/midmorning2/>

EVENTS

The Minnesota Road Show: Twin Cities Fleet Efficiency Workshop

The 2009 Minnesota Road Show offers a series of four informative half-day conferences in four Minnesota cities - Duluth, Rochester, St. Cloud and the Twin Cities.

Twin Cities Workshop

Thursday, July 16, 2009

7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Donaldson Company – Campus West

2001 94th Street, Bloomington

To register for the Twin Cities workshop, visit www.mnwastewise.org.

2009 LEADER AWARD APPLICATIONS NOW ACCEPTED

The Minnesota Waste Wise Leader Award is given annually to members who have shown leadership in environmental sustainability. Winners will be announced at the MN Waste Wise Annual Meeting in October, and there is no limit to the number of awards given each year.

Visit www.mnwastewise.org to download the Leader Award application and instructions. *The application deadline is Friday, August 21, 2009.* Please contact Kate Worley at kworley@mnychamber.com for more information or questions.

****WANTED****

PACKING MATERIALS. Goodwill / Easter Seals Minnesota is in need of packing peanuts, bubble wrap, and boxes. Pick up of supplies can possibly be arranged, depending on quantity and location. Contact Kate Worley at kworley@mnychamber.com.

RAIN BARREL SALE

The Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) is holding a second rain barrel sale. Barrels must be pre-ordered for pick up on August 14th and 15th and cost \$65.00 each. For more information about the rain barrels, visit www.recycleminnesota.org.

NEW MEMBER UPDATE

Bachman's (Minneapolis)
Donaldson Company (Bloomington)

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Not a member but would like to join? Are you a current member wanting to take full advantage of

your member benefits? Contact Kate Worley at (651) 292-4662 or kworley@mnchamber.com.

Disclosure: Wise Mail is a tool to inform our members of current events or waste issues. The content of Wise Mail is for educational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Minnesota Waste Wise does not endorse any of the following waste services, organizations or events. Any such portrayal is unintentional by Minnesota Waste Wise. If you would like to be taken off the Wise Mail list, contact Waste Wise at (651) 292-4663 or mnwastewise@mnchamber.com.