

Eastern Bag & Paper Company Sustainability Initiative Highlights

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Website: <http://www.easternbag.com>

Primary business: Distributor of paper, janitorial and foodservice disposables primarily servicing the education, healthcare and business & industry markets

Environmental objectives or summary of sustainability mission statement:

- Operational: To reduce our carbon footprint by a specific amount on an annual basis. Currently that amount is undetermined.
- Customer Objective: To provide our customers the most comprehensive green/sustainability program which includes products, procedures, quality assurance tools to help them meet their sustainability goals.

Major Accomplishments:

- **Reduce our electricity usage in each warehouse, approximately 450,000 square feet**
 - Replacement of all light fixtures with new, more efficient fluorescent lights that consume less energy
 - Installed motion sensors throughout entire building that automatically shuts off lights when not needed
 - Invited by UI to partner with them on Business Sustainability Challenge, we receive free consultant work from energy experts to reduce our power demands.
 - Results: 22% reduction of electricity usage, amounts to 121 Metric Tons of CO2 removed from the atmosphere, equivalent to saving 20,000 gallons of gasoline or planting 147 acres of pine trees.
- **Develop Materials Recycling Program**
 - Stretch Wrap – purchased a baling machine that bales all wrap into tight bundles and then is sent to a recycler.
 - Cardboard – purchased a second baling machine to recycle all cardboard, with similar procedure as Stretch Wrap.
 - Pallets – developed a policy of only using recycled wood pallets, any broken pallets are sent to our vendor who re-uses the wood. We are a user of thousands of pallets per year.
 - Recycle fluorescent light bulbs, Nickel-Cadmium batteries and CRT's
- **Reduce Fuel Consumption**
 - Use software that routes our delivery trucks in the most efficient manor
 - Acquired 15 new trucks utilizing new diesel technology resulting in a 16% reduction in fuel consumption and a 90% reduction in exhaust emissions
- **"Trees for the Future"** - based upon the number of annual deliveries we make with our truck fleet , a new tree is planted, approximately 14,500 trees per year.
- **Customer Objectives:**

- Developed a “Building a Sustainable Future Program” that we offer to our customers; schools, colleges, hospitals, nursing homes, and independent businesses that helps them achieve their sustainability goals including LEED Certification. Program includes Green Certified and EPP products such as chemicals, paper, liners, disposables, and equipment. We continually train cleaning staffs on correct product usage and procedures along with quality assurance programs to evaluate cleaning effectiveness, to reduce waste and uncover areas that need improvement. The goal is to protect the health of building occupants and reduce the environmental impact of cleaning products and disposables.