

RECYCLING REVIEW

City of Milpitas/BFI Commercial Recycling Program
April 2004



Every Business Day is Earth Day!

Reaffirm your company's commitment to preserve the environment and build a better future with the City of Milpitas/BFI Commercial Recycling Program.

Increase the types and amounts you recycle at work. It's one of the easiest and most effective ways your business can save money and contribute to a sustained future. In the short term, recycling conserves natural resources. In the long term, it offsets higher transportation costs by reducing business wastes sent to the landfill.

Recycling Progress Report

Since 1991, the amount of waste Milpitas businesses and residents have reduced annually has had its ups and downs – we're now down to 47% in 2002 from 52% in 2001. And, we're still throwing away a lot of things that can be recycled – especially mixed paper and plastics. In fact, recent studies show that businesses recycle less than a quarter of the waste materials that could be recycled. Milpitas businesses and residents are doing a good job so far, and we can do even better.

So, get with the program – recycling that is! See below for accepted materials AND Milpitas' Top 50 Recyclers.

Congratulations Milpitas Businesses!

Cleanest Recycling in Santa Clara County

BFI's The Recyclery reports that Milpitas businesses recycle with the least amount of contamination and unacceptable debris in your recycling bins. KUDOS to all the facility managers, custodians, small business owners, and employees that recycle right!

Here's a few of our UQs (unusual questions!):

- Q:** Can I place beverage containers in my office paper recycling?
- A:** Yes, provided the bottle or can is empty. Please, bag large amounts (from cafeterias, meetings) into clear plastic bags. Then, place bags into the outside recycling bin.
- Q:** Are sticky notes recyclable?
- A:** Yes!
- Q:** Are fluorescent light tubes recyclable?
- A:** Not in the recycle bin! Call the County's Hazardous Waste Program at 299-7300.
- Q:** Are the white, Tyvek express mail envelopes recyclable?
- A:** No. Remember, when it comes to paper, if it tears – we take it!

Recycling Program Updates

Free Desk-side Recycling Boxes

This easy-to-use box lists accepted recyclables and notes materials not accepted in the City of Milpitas/BFI Commercial Recycling Program. Businesses recycling with us may also receive fact sheets and posters for general work areas and giveaway items for employees. Call BFI's Commercial Recycling Coordinator at 432-1234, x264.

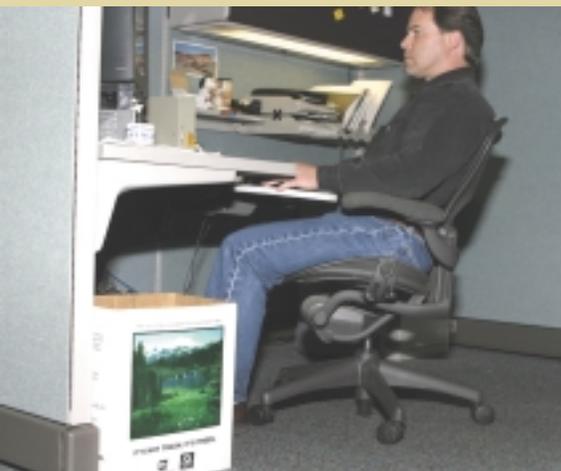
Recycle and Save!

Get a free walk-through audit for a review of everything recyclable! Check out what the white bin accepts:

- Flattened cardboard
- Mixed paper, newspaper & magazines
- Plastic containers stamped



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Recycling Program Updates

- Aluminum & bi-metal cans, glass bottles & jars (place large amounts of glass containers in opaque plastic bags.
- Plastic packaging materials (shrink & soft wrap, molded Styrofoam)
- Plastic bags, bread bags and clean frozen bags

Sorry, the white bin can't accept:

- Food & food waste left in containers
- "Peanuts" packaging material & loose bubble wrap
- Restroom waste paper
- Glass panels & fluorescent light bulbs

Graffiti?! On my bins?



Yes, but not for long! Graffiti is best removed immediately because it affects property value and your business image. Left unchecked, graffiti encourages additional vandalism. *And, your business could be*

fined for unattended graffiti.

Remove graffiti by carefully using solvents or BFI-provided spray paint. You may also receive one free bin exchange per year. More than one exchange costs \$85.71 for each service conducted in 365-day period. Call **BFI Customer Service** at 432-1234.

Access is Everything

Especially when BFI drivers come to collect your recycling and trash. Gates, parked cars, delivery trucks and merchandise block BFI's access to service bins. BFI will call you if a driver cannot collect a bin. You are given one chance to remove the obstacle so the driver may return free of charge.

Avoid the \$65 return trip charge – know your collection schedule.

If you set out...

Take your bins back right away! The Solid Waste Management Ordinance (MMC 200-V-3.31) requires that recycling and garbage containers be stored in a side or back yard, out of public view at all times except for 12 hours before to 12 hours after a scheduled collection day. *Fines apply for bins left in public view.*

What a Difference Recycling Makes!

Seven Stories that Save Money & Reduce Waste



Restaurant City – A New Start

This outlet store for restaurant merchandise generates cardboard, Styrofoam and paper packaging. Manager Edmund Wu scheduled a free walk-through audit and found that most of these waste materials are recyclable. One two-yard recycling bin collected once a week now effectively reduces weekly trash volume.

Embassy Suites Hotel – Most Improved Participation

One solid waste service review found solutions to collection and recycling problems. And, a simple audit found more recyclable materials, which increased recycling levels right away. Free desk-side recycling boxes in offices and improved communication with staff at all levels reduced service issues and increased recycling efficiency. Christine Banky, Human Resources Manager, knows that people make recycling work!



LifeScan, Inc. – Enthusiastic Recycling

Sudhakar Kuchibhotla and Luke Cook go the extra mile to fulfill LifeScan's commitment to waste reduction. Their goal is to recycle 75% of the business waste. It takes time to achieve – and maintain – such a commendable goal. Their secret? Ask lots of questions! Find reuse opportunities for equipment and manufacturing materials. And, use the Commercial Recycling Program to the greatest extent possible.



Bottomley Distribution – Cleanest Recycling

Aluminum cans, cardboard, broken pallets – generating recyclables is a byproduct of warehouse manager Ron Rooker's business. His problem wasn't too much trash, but too much recycling. For which BFI has a simple solution – another recycling bin at no extra cost! Bottomley

Distribution now recycles two eight-yard recycling bins five times a week, all of it without contamination.



Honda of Milpitas – Highest Trash-to-Recycling Ratio

Dave Cung, controller, called BFI about the cost of trash service. One meeting with BFI's Recycling Coordinator found that most of the materials in the trash bin were recyclable. The result? Replace a 20 cubic yard trash bin with two eight cubic yard recycling bins collected three times a week for a savings of approximately \$400 per month.



Catered, Too – Long-term Recycler

Consistency equals recycling success for general manager Ross Berggren and Abby Medina. Recycling since 1988, Catered, Too doubled recycling volume in 2000 and continues its participation without contamination and overflow problems.

Credence – Large Volume Recycler

Coordinating several sites with separate recycling bins creates a challenge for Rodrigo Medlano and facilities manager Junior Johnson. Communication with all employees at each site is key to recycling success. BFI's Commercial Recycling Coordinator assisted with posters, fact sheets and desk-side recycling boxes so everyone gets the same message from office to warehouse. That way, Credence recycles larger volumes of paper to packaging materials. BFI then provides a collection schedule for each work site.



Recycle Mercury!

Illegal disposal of products with mercury contaminate our water supply. Batteries, fluorescent lights, and thermostats are some items that contain dangerous levels of mercury and *DO NOT* belong in recycling and trash bins.

The Small Business Generator program accepts hazardous materials. Contact the **Hazardous Waste Recycling Hotline** at 299-7300 for more information.



City of Milpitas
Utility Engineering
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Milpitas, CA 95035

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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Utility Engineering
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Milpitas, CA 95035

Contact Us! We're here to help you with recycling and garbage services:

BFI Commercial Recycling Coordinator **432-1234, x264**

City of Milpitas, Recycling Hotline **586-2680**

www.ci.Milpitas.ca.gov, click on: Recycle at Work!

Center for Development of Recycling **800-533-8414**
www.recyclestuff.org, click on: Recycling Search

Hazardous Materials Recycling **299-7300**
Ask for Small Business Generator Recycling

Top 50 Recyclers

These Milpitas businesses contribute valuable time to successful recycling. As a special thanks, each business contact will **receive a sticky note cube. Get one by completing and mailing this questionnaire.**

These categories reflect the ways recycling can save you money!

Best New Start

ABC Printing
Emotional Garage
Kowloon Palace
Restaurant City
Rorze Automation
Sipix Imaging

Symprotek
Window Depot

Most Improved Participation

Builders Drapery Service
Embassy Suites Hotel
Force 10 Network
Lightwave 2020, Inc.
Pfeiffer Vacuum
Tesoro #67085
United Logistic Solutions, Inc.

Enthusiastic Recycling

4PL2
Imperial Auto & Truck Center
Jacklin Professional Center
LSI Logic
LifeScan, Inc.

Cleanest Recycling

Bottomley Distribution
California Butcher
Cal Skate
Crain Cutter
Crown Plaza
Eclipse System
Hermes Microvision
Homestead Studio Suites

Highest Trash-to-Recycling Ratio

Deep Emporium
G D M
Hemo Sense
Honda of Milpitas
Petsmart #70
SJS Products
Southbay Cycle

Value Outsourcing

Long-term Recyclers

Catered Too
Courtesy Auto Service
Custom Micro Machining
Gold Ribbon Bakery
Wayne Dalton
Worldwide Auto

Large Volume Recyclers

California Overnight
Credence
Culinary Inspirations
Home Depot
McCabe's Quality Food
Seagate Technology, Inc.
Silicon Valley Shelving
Varian Associates

Please compete and mail this questionnaire to receive a free sticky note paper cube!

Name: _____

Company: _____

Number of Employees: _____

Address: _____

Milpitas, CA 95035

Phone Number: _____

Do you share and industrial complex/office building/retail center with other businesses? Yes No

Tell us your recycling success story! What works for your business? _____

Tell us your recycling challenges! What isn't working for your business? _____

Are you recycling with the City of Milpitas/BFI Commercial Recycling Program? Yes No

If no, what company picks up your recycling? _____

May we call you to set up or improve your recycling program? Yes No

