



School
Recycling
CLUB

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PAPER RECYCLING IN SCHOOLS

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Americans throw away enough office and writing paper each year to build a 12 foot high wall from New York to California! A typical school's waste stream consists of more than 40% paper! This easily recycled material can be made into computer paper, stationary, envelopes, copier paper, newspaper, magazines, cardboard and much more. After both sides of the paper have been used, it's time to recycle it.

WHY RECYCLE PAPER?

The recycling of one ton of paper is the equivalent of conserving 17 trees and 8 cubic feet of landfill space. Producing "new" paper products from recovered paper rather than trees, not only saves money, but it also . . .

- . . . produces 25% less air pollution;
- . . . produces 65% less water pollution;
- . . . uses 40% less water; and
- . . . uses 50% less energy.

HOW TO RECYCLE PAPER

There are several options available for schools wanting to recycle paper:

- ⊕ Deliver collected paper to the municipal recycling facility (call the Northeast Resource Recovery Association at 603-736-4401 for contact information and a list of acceptable materials);
- ⊕ Deliver collected paper to a paper recycling facility or mill; and
- ⊕ Negotiate with a private recycling firm or nonprofit organization for the collection of the school's paper products.

COLLECTION CONTAINERS

One usually pictures a curbside recycling bin when thinking of collection containers for recycling, but within schools that's not always the case! Examples of school paper collection containers also include cardboard boxes, five gallon buckets, and plastic bags.

The school's recycling market sometimes provides collection containers, but not always. To help fill this void, the School Recycling Club (THE CLUB) has published an informative bulletin called *School Recycling Collection Containers*. This bulletin lists the basic characteristics of a common recycling collection container, companies or organizations that sell recycling collection containers, as well as some creative, low to no-cost alternatives. For a FREE copy of this bulletin please contact THE CLUB at the above number!

CLUB EXCLUSIVE GRANT

THE CLUB has received funding from New Hampshire the Beautiful to promote school recycling by offering New Hampshire members of THE CLUB the opportunity to purchase classroom recycling bins at a drastically reduced rate. These dark green bins (16" wide x 22" long x 13" high) are available for only \$3.00 each! The bins come printed with the New Hampshire the Beautiful logo and the phrase "Our School Recycles."



CLOSING THE LOOP!

An essential part of recycling is buying products made from recycled materials, better known as "closing the loop." Buying materials that contain recycled content creates markets for the recyclables separated from the school's waste stream.

Most office supply stores sell items with recycled content. Some examples of recycled content products that your school can purchase are copy and ruled paper, envelopes, pencils, computer disks, recycling bins, paper napkins, plastic lumber benches, toner cartridges, rulers, and presentation folders. Ask the school's purchasing agent to buy these important recycled content items.

BATTLING A TIGHT BUDGET!

Depending on the school's location, there may be a minimal fee if a private hauler collects the recycled paper. If this is the case, consider one of the following options:

- ⊕ Incorporate aluminum can recycling into the school's program and use the revenue from the sale of these items to help fund the recycling of paper (contact THE CLUB for more information).
- ⊕ Ask a local business or the Parent Teacher Association to sponsor the paper recycling program.

Remember, even if there is a cost for recycling, it's still better than throwing the paper away! Also consider the savings in disposal costs since the schools' dumpsters will no longer contain recycled paper.

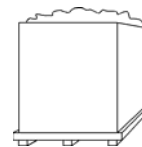
THE CLUB is a project of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), a proactive, non-profit working to make recycling programs strong, efficient and financially successful.

QUESTIONS FOR MARKETS

When seeking a market for paper, here are key questions you may want to ask prospective recycling businesses:

- ⊕ What types of paper will you collect (i.e., white, colored, cardboard, paperboard, magazines, etc.)?
- ⊕ What can be included in the recyclable paper (i.e., fax paper, post-it notes, glossy paper, etc.)
- ⊕ What, if any, is the charge for the pick up service?
- ⊕ How often can you service the school?
- ⊕ Do you provide paper storage containers? If yes, what type?
- ⊕ What is the minimum quantity of paper that you will pick-up?

A *gaylord* is an industrial strength corrugated cardboard box between 3' cube and 4' cube which, when filled with waste paper, weighs between 400 and 600 pounds.



A *toter* is an upright plastic container on wheels. A 96 gallon toter holds approximately 200 to 250 pounds of office paper.



- ⊕ Please give the names of two or three businesses from whom you currently recycle paper.

For more information on where to recycle paper collected from the school, contact THE CLUB at 603-736-4401 (or e-mail theclub@nrna.net).