

RECYCLING WORKS

It's Good Business



instead of individual packets, and that all restroom paper products are made with 100 percent recycled paper. The team plans to sell more Mariners retail items containing recycled materials, and are now working with King County's Packaging Reduction Project to reduce, reuse, or recycle packaging for the products they currently sell through team retail outlets and the mail order catalog.

The Mariners' program will also tackle a challenge shared by any site with concession stands: disposing of food waste and food-contaminated paper products.

The volume of food waste will

be reduced by 85 percent by using a pulper-extractor system that has been installed at each of three main restaurant areas. This system uses a two-step process to grind food waste and contaminated paper products and mix them with water to form a pulp. Ninety percent of the water is then extracted from the pulp to leave only 15 percent of the original waste volume for disposal. The water that is extracted is then collected and reused.

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The Seattle Mariners have begun a new era with the opening of Safeco Field. With the new stadium comes the wind-up for a waste prevention and recycling program that will include everything from how ketchup is served to how t-shirts are shipped.

The Mariners hope to establish Safeco Field as a national example of what other sports and entertainment facilities can do to prevent and recycle waste. A full-time project coordinator, Monique Nivan from the Business and Industry Recycling Venture (BIRV) of the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, is being funded through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to help the team develop its program. Monique is working with the Mariners, other local government agencies, and event vendors to set up the program and train the club's staff, concession and vendor employees.

The stakes are high. With each fan generating about three pounds of waste per game, Safeco

Field's 47,000 fans could fill the stadium with trash up to its retractable roof over the course of 81 home games. Waste prevention and recycling can cut that amount—and the costs of hauling trash to the landfill.

Visitors to the stadium will soon see signage, promotions, and educational materials encouraging them to join the team's "green" efforts. Fans

Seattle Mariners hope to establish Safeco Field as a national example

will be shown where and how they can pitch in by recycling PETE (#1) plastic beverage bottles, game programs, aluminum cans, tin, glass and cardboard. Meanwhile, waste-wise purchasing decisions mean that condiments slathered on hot dogs come from bulk containers

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Mariners

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Safeco Field is giving many Mariners fans their first chance to see baseball played on grass. For groundskeepers, tending a grass field is also a chance to demonstrate resource conservation. Surface water run-off is being collected and used for irrigation of the field and exterior landscaping, and all grass clippings are collected and hauled to Cedar Grove Composting.

If you would like to learn more about the Mariners' waste prevention and recycling program, contact Monique Niven of the BIRV at 206-389-7242. ●

BIG BLUE Goes Green with Recycled Plastic Computers

IBM's 6893 IntelliStation E Pro workstation is the first PC to use recycled plastic in all the CPU's major plastic parts. The company found that converting eight parts once made of prime resin to a recycled plastic resin carried no additional costs—in fact, IBM now saves 20 percent on the manufacture of one specific component.

The IBM Engineering Center for Environmentally Conscious Products developed the recycled plastic. Each computer uses 3.5 pounds of the recycled plastic and the industry is taking notice. IBM's development program was awarded the 1998 Recycler of the Year Award by the Society of Plastics Engineers Recycling Division.

The 6893 IntelliStation E Pro offers consumers the best of both worlds: an environmentally conscious product with muscular PC performance. The computer contains Intel's new Pentium III microprocessor and vivid 2D/3D graphics in a compact 5-slot/4-bay desktop design. For more information, visit www.ibm.com or call 1-888-411-1WEB. ●

Looking Ahead to Earth Day 2000!

Earth Day 2000, scheduled for April 22, 2000, will be here before you know it. Businesses are playing a larger role than ever in celebrating our remarkable planet and our responsibility to it. A worldwide network of organizations, corporations, national leaders, and grassroots groups is working to encourage environmental action.

It's not too early to plan your business' participation! You can:

1 Get Earth Day 2000 in a box.

Earth Day Network will send you information about money saving programs, business resource lists, and suggested Earth Day 2000 activities at your workplace—you can even get eco-friendly Earth Day t-shirts for your employees. The boxes are tailored to meet the needs of your business, so whether you have one employee or one thousand, they can get you started. For more information, e-mail Earth Day Network at earthday@earthday.net.



2 Become a Green Works member.

Our staff will help you develop ways to reduce and recycle waste — good for your planet, your customers and staff, and also your bottom line. If you're already a member, think about upgrading your status with even more waste-prevention activities. Give us a call at 206-296-8800, 1-800-833-6388 (TTY Relay) or e-mail us at greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov. And check out our web site at www.metrokc.gov/greenworks

3 Check out the Earth Day Network web site, www.earthday.net for more ideas and inspiration.

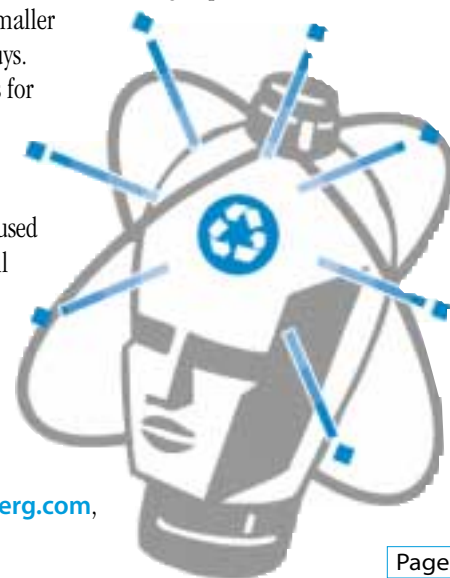
If your company has a web site, you can add your support by promoting Earth Day 2000 and adding a link to the Earth Day Network's site. ●

Beaming Up to Buying Recycled

Want the low-down from experts on buying recycled-content products? The answers are over your head—or they will be, this November 9, from 8 to 10 a.m., during a national satellite forum sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Buy Recycled Business Alliance, a partnership of the National Recycling Coalition. The free, interactive forum, entitled "Buying Recycled: The Real Story about Cost, Availability, and Quality" will beam down to the University of Washington, with insights on how you can buy high-quality, competitively priced recycled products—whatever your company's size.

The forum will feature Richard Keller, a nationally recognized trainer on buying recycled products, who has conducted more than 125 seminars on this topic. King County's own Eric Nelson, Environmental Purchasing Coordinator, has particular insights on the challenges buyers face when trying to change long-standing purchasing methods. Small businesses will get special attention as Susan McCloskey, President of Office Plan, will address how smaller companies without purchasing staff can get the best buys. Bob Langert, Director of Public and Community Affairs for McDonald's Corporation, has broad expertise in how buyers can benefit by working with suppliers of recycled-content products. Panelists will cover a full range of cost and quality topics relating to commonly used and more unusual products—and you'll be able to call in your own questions.

So how do you beam aboard? You can verify the site and reserve your seat by calling Michael Pilat at the University of Washington's Department of Civil Engineering, 206-543-4789, or fax at 206-685-3836. For more information, visit the WasteWise web site at www.epa.gov/wastewise/wwsf, e-mail wwsf@erg.com, or fax your request to 703-841-1440. ●



In Action: Distinguished Businesses in the Green



This year, Molbak's will recycle 145,000 square feet of plastic from old greenhouse coverings.

Molbak's Greenhouse, Inc.

This garden center's main store, distribution center, and farm are always sprouting new ideas for recycling and preventing waste. All new



employees start out with a full orientation on recycling, reusing

planting pots, pallets, and packing materials. This year, Molbak's will put new plastic coverings on two-thirds of their greenhouses and they have plans to recycle all 145,000 square feet of the old plastic. By ordering directly from the wholesaler, Molbak's has eliminated an unnecessary foil sleeve that used to be placed on plants by the distributor. For those harder-to-recycle items, Molbak's also makes extensive use of the Industrial Materials Exchange (IMEX) to search out takers for the usable materials. For more information, contact Virginia Petrie at 425-398-5288. ●

Moore & Associates, Inc.

When you reach the Moore & Associates voice mail system, you're automatically part of a recycling effort. Enterprising employees found they could use an old computer monitor, the bane of many an office storeroom, to access their voice mail system menu. In the old days, they used to call a service person to make changes to the sys-

tem — now they do it themselves. This organizational consulting firm succeeds at preventing waste by organizing an office-wide effort. Whether



staff use the copiers or the kitchen, there are waste-prevention

tips posted nearby. The building's property managers handle the paper recycling program, but Moore & Associates go a step further. A recycling team takes glass, plastic, and metals off the premises for recycling. It adds up to an impressive 73 percent recycling rate, and the results are posted in the kitchen for all to see. For more information, contact Mark Guidry at 425-453-1700. ●

WESTHILL Inc. Building Contractors

Foremen at WESTHILL Inc. Building Contractors make sure that all crew members and subcontractors are on the same page about the

WESTHILL, inc. building contractors

company's recycling standards.

WESTHILL recycles drywall and clean wood, and there is very little waste on the job sites because material orders are very precise. Any items that are left over are stored at WESTHILL's shop to be used on other jobs. WESTHILL makes extra efforts to keep

building supplies out of landfills by bringing salvaged materials to companies like Second Use Building Materials for resale and reuse. Best of all, disposal savings are passed on to customers. For more information, contact Charles Russell III at 425-483-0999. ●

Steven J. Albright, Lake Union Dentistry

Patients at Lake Union Dentistry come away with more than clean teeth and a bright smile - they also take with them a greater awareness of how to prevent waste. Signs, pictures, certificates, and articles throughout the reception area high-



light the clinic's environmental activities. Staff

recycle all types of paper, glass bottles, tin and aluminum cans—and even take home food scraps for composting. The clinic has standing orders for recycled-content office products, and is always on the lookout for new ones. But Lake Union Dentistry doesn't keep a good idea to themselves. They spread the word about recycling and waste prevention to neighboring businesses, and to other dentists and dental students.

For more information, contact Paula Cipolla at 206-328-3002. ●

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New Members

- Moore's Body Shop, *Seattle*
- Hampton Inn Seattle Airport, *Tukwila*
- Julia F. Tybor Moore, MD, *Federal Way*
- Roger S. Chin, DDS, *Bellevue*
- Tom Smith's Automotive Inc., *Seattle*
- Envirotest Research, Inc., *Seattle*

Renewals

- Center for Oral Surgery, *Bellevue*
- Scott C. Schwalm Dental Office, *Bellevue*
- Group Health Cooperative, Inc. —
· Northshore Medical Center, *Bothell*
· Federal Way
- AdCorp, *Redmond*
- Waste Management, Inc.—
Sno-King, Kirkland
- Shasta Beverages, Inc., *Tukwila*
- Brandrud Furniture, Inc., *Auburn*
- In Harmony, *Redmond*

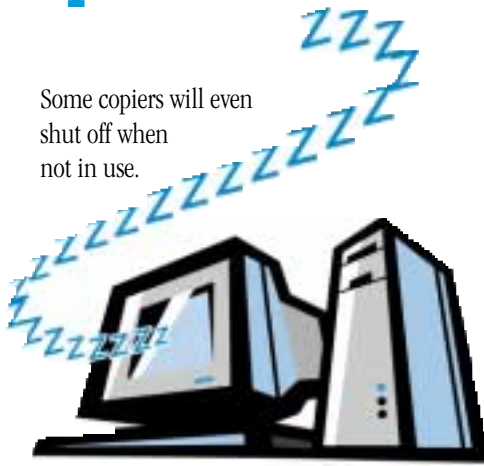
The Sleeping Beauty of Energy Star®

An employee who sleeps during the workday isn't much help to your business—but a napping copy machine is. In fact, fax machines, computer monitors, copiers, scanners, and printers that cat nap during downtime can save you up to 50 percent on energy used to run that equipment. And since saving energy also means reduced reliance on dams and power plants, along with reduced air and water pollution, the right office machines give our environment a break, too.

Finding these power-slingy units is simple—just look for the Energy Star® label. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy created the Energy Star® program to make it easy for consumers to identify and purchase products that save both energy and money. Only those products that meet energy-efficiency standards set by the program qualify for the label. You'll find hundreds of Energy Star®-qualifying products for the home and office, made by practically every leading manufacturer. The products have all the performance features of standard equipment, plus an ability to reduce energy waste—and save consumers money.

Most office machines stay on all day, even though their total working time usually amounts to an hour or two. Energy Star®-labeled office equipment saves energy by powering down and “going to sleep” when not pressed into service.

Some copiers will even shut off when not in use.



Copiers can also make double-sided copies, which saves paper and energy. Plus, since Energy Star® equipment creates less heat when it sleeps, the equipment lasts longer, and offices need less air conditioning to stay cool and comfortable.

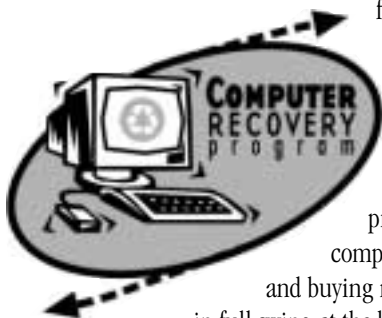
The total effect of these energy savings is stellar. If everyone were to purchase only office equipment with the Energy Star® label this year, our nation would save almost \$1.5 billion a year in energy bills and cut the air pollution equal to the amount produced by more than 3 million cars! So look for the Energy Star® label. If you are writing purchasing specifications, make sure they include the following language: “shall meet the Energy Star specifications for energy efficiency.” For more information about Energy Star® products, visit www.epa.gov/appdstar/esoe/ or call 1-888-STAR-YES. •

Computer Recovery Project

King County Solid Waste and Seattle Public Utilities have set about to address a growing concern – computer equipment waste. The average family in King County disposes of one computer every five years. Businesses go through electronic equipment even faster. Computers are becoming obsolete at an ever-quicken pace due to the advent of cheaper (even free) personal computers, better hardware and more complex software that requires increasingly sophisticated equipment. The result: an estimated 100,000 computers will be discarded each year in King County.

Computers are problem waste because of the volume of lead—a heavy metal—that is present in the computer monitor glass. The same lead that protects computer users from radiation from the monitors can be dangerous to humans, fish and wildlife. King County's Computer Recovery Project aims to help businesses and residents to reduce computer waste. Foremost on the agenda is educating the business community and the public about ways to reuse and recycle the used equipment. The program will also provide information on alternatives to purchasing new computers including leasing, upgrading existing equipment, and buying refurbished computers. The project is scheduled to start in full swing at the beginning of next year – right after clocks strike 2000!

Call Green Works at 206/296-8800 for more information. •



The Business of Recycling

A Quarterly Profile of Your Local Recycling Service Providers



Paper is sorted by employees to ensure a high-quality recyclable product.

Sea-Dru-Nar Recycling

Seattle Drug and Narcotic Treatment Center, Inc., known around town as “Sea-Dru-Nar,” is a long-term drug and alcohol treatment facility. Founded in 1968 as the Northwest's first such treatment center, Sea-Dru-Nar currently has three facilities in the Seattle area and one after-care apartment complex.

Sea-Dru-Nar Recycling was established in 1979 to give their clients a work environment in which they could learn the supervisory and general job skills that would ease their re-entry into the broader community. Revenue from the recycling program, which is a private non-profit company, helps to support the residential treatment of Sea-Dru-Nar and subsidize the many clients who otherwise couldn't afford treatment.

Sea-Dru-Nar Recycling boasts state-of-the-art equipment and a trained, knowledgeable team. The company specializes in office paper recycling, and currently serves more than 800 greater King County businesses with programs tailored to meet their needs. Sea-Dru-Nar accepts all office-grade paper, newspaper, magazines, cardboard and aluminum cans, and provides an assortment of recycling containers for both inside and outside collection. Businesses who recycle with Sea-Dru-Nar benefit by saving money on disposal, helping the environment, and supporting a proven treatment program that gets clients back on their feet and back to work.

To find out more about Sea-Dru-Nar, call 206-467-7550. •

In Action, continued



Dr. Jessica Saepoff takes pride in offering her patients a toxic-free environment. X-rays are viewed on a computer and there is no need for film and developing chemicals.

Natural Dental Health Associates

Just one sniff and you can tell there is something different about this dental office. Natural Dental Health Associates specializes in providing clients with fresh air and a toxic-free environment. Their state-of-the-art digital x-ray machine eliminates the need for x-ray film and developing chemicals. A natural steam sterilization process replaces toxic chemical sterilants and eliminates chemical odors. They've also replaced plastic and paper bibs and towels with cloth items. Cloth is not only softer against patients' skin, but can be laundered and reused.



And you won't find outdated golf magazines in this waiting room—Natural Dental Health Associates offers a selection of environmental publications and catalogs that feature products made from recycled materials. For more information, contact Kathy Epstein at 425-427-8899.

McKinstry Co.

This mechanical and sheetmetal contractor works waste management into their entire operation—even into their social events. They have switched from paper documentation and shop drawings to a CAD system and project management software, saving volumes of paper. They cut metal waste through their coil sheet metal fabrication process. Another computerized system

using “nesting software” selects the smallest metal sizes for fitting fabrication. Incoming shipments are leaner, thanks to meetings with suppliers in which McKinstry requested minimized or reusable packaging. On job sites they recycle metal, pallets and scrap wood, cardboard, and aluminum cans. It adds up to a good time for employees, because in addition to regular cost savings, recycling proceeds support an occasional catered lunch and an annual Christmas party for employees' kids. For more information, contact Gary Fadden, Sr. at 206-762-3311. •

Re-marks, Inc.

In one year, Re-marks has turned a new page in waste prevention. The small manufacturer now makes its flagship product, plastic bookmarks, from 100 percent recycled materials. General Manager Ben P. Oleson was willing to spend more on



materials and manufacturing, but found the only additional expense was some time on his part. Now, all of their new products will have environmentally wise design and content. Re-marks has gone cover-to-cover in waste prevention by redesigning their packaging to reduce waste and use recycled materials, by buying recycled-content office supplies, and by upgrading their recycling activities. Committed management, and a designated employee who focuses on environmental issues and works with vendors and customers, help Re-marks make its mark in your favorite books—not at the landfill. For more information contact Ben Oleson at 206-548-1008, ext. 13. •

Save the Date!

Natural Connections

Mark your calendars to watch Natural Connections, a one-hour television program sponsored by King County airing October 15 at 8:00 p.m. on KOMO-TV (Channel 4). The show focuses on the interconnectedness among different species and their ecosystems, and how our everyday actions affect the environment. The program also examines our need to accept responsibility for our actions — and how each individual can, in fact, make a difference. Several Northwest scientists explain aspects of the natural world including biodiversity, the role of salmon in the web of life, keystone species, healthy forests, and the effects of human beings on the environment.



So What is Green Works?

Green Works is a waste prevention and recycling assistance program for businesses. It is sponsored by the King County Solid Waste Division, the Business and Industry Recycling Venture of The Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and King County suburban cities. If your business needs help reducing waste or finding a company to recycle your office paper, aluminum cans or even used office equipment, give us a call.

Businesses can become Green Works Members by recycling at least 40 percent of their waste, using three waste reduction practices, and using three recycled products in the work place. Each Green Works Member receives free, positive publicity in this newsletter, on the radio, and in local newspapers and publications. For assistance or to become a Green Works member, you may call us at 206-296-8800 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY Relay); email us at greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov; fax us at 206-296-0197; or visit our web site at www.metrokc.gov/greenworks.

Recycling Works

Recycling Works is a quarterly newsletter written and produced by the King County Solid Waste Division. Inclusion of a business, product or service in this newsletter does not constitute an official endorsement or sponsorship by King County or its Solid Waste Division. Send us your questions, story ideas or suggestions!

Receive Recycling Works by Email

Cut down on waste and receive *Recycling Works* via email. We'll send it to you in Portable Document Format (PDF) that's read with the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Email your name, company name and your email address to: greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov. You may also fax your request to 206-296-0197, or call us at 206-296-8800; 1-800-833-6388 (TTY Relay).

This material will be provided in alternate formats upon request for individuals with disabilities.



How Do Salmon Spell 'Relief'?

How do you spell relief on a hot summer's day? A nice cool glass of lemonade? For local wildlife, beating the heat means Sammamish Relief. This October, Sammamish Relief's volunteers will plant 15,000 native trees and shrubs at four sites along the Sammamish River. As these native plants grow, they'll shade the river and keep it cool for salmon as they migrate back to their upriver spawning grounds next summer. The plants will provide habitat for all kinds of wildlife, and will protect water quality.

Your employees are invited to join the effort—why not pick one of the four Saturdays and have a team from your business dig in? For more information, call the following project coordinators:

- **October 2, 1999** – Wilmot Gateway Park in Woodinville
John Markeson 425-489-2700
- **October 9, 1999** – Sammamish River at 145th St. NE (next to Redhook Ale Brewery)
Jo Goeldner 206-296-8361
- **October 16, 1999** – Confluence of Horse Creek and the Sammamish River in Bothell
Jeralyn Roetemeyer . . . 425-486-2768
- **October 23, 1999** – Marymoor Park in Redmond
Tor Bell 206-296-2990

Sammamish Relief is a collaborative project of King County, the cities of Bothell, Woodinville and Redmond, Eddie Bauer, American Forests, Bellevue Breakfast Rotary and numerous other community organizations. For more information, contact Jo Goeldner at 206-296-8361.

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