

# Climate Change

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# Don't "Waste" Your Chance To Do Your Share

# How To Reduce Your Climate Footprint





## Climate Change and the Link Between Climate and Waste

#### Greenhouse Gases and the Greenhouse Effect

Understanding the atmospheric phenomenon known as the greenhouse effect is critical to understanding global climate change. The Earth's atmosphere includes various gases—water vapor, carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ), methane ( $CH_4$ ), and nitrous oxide ( $N_2O$ )—that collectively act as a greenhouse by preventing too much heat from escaping from the Earth's atmosphere and are therefore classified as greenhouse gases (GHGs). Other powerful GHGs that result from industrial processes and are not naturally occurring include hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>). GHGs are essential for regulating our climate because they absorb and hold heat from the sun in the atmosphere around the Earth. The climate control process begins with a wave of solar radiation passing through the atmosphere. Most of this radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface, but some of the energy is reflected off the Earth's surface back into space as infrared radiation, which has a longer wavelength than solar radiation. Infrared waves can be trapped by GHGs, helping to keep the planet at a temperature suitable for life. Each GHG differs in its ability to absorb this heat. HFCs and PFCs are the most heatabsorbent.  $CH_4$  traps approximately 23 times more heat per molecule than  $CO_2$ , and  $N_2O$  absorbs 270 times more heat per molecule than  $CO_2$ .

Without the atmospheric insulating effect provided by GHGs, the average temperature on Earth would be minus 2 degrees Fahrenheit, compared to the current average temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The average temperature, however, has increased by 1 degree Fahrenheit during the last century as a result of the recent increase in GHG concentrations in our atmosphere.

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# The Greenhouse Effect

Some solar radiation is reflected by the Earth and the atmosphere. **4** Some of the infrared radiation passes through the atmosphere, and some is absorbed and re-emitted in all directions by greenhouse gas molecules.

The effect of this is to warm the Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere.

Solar radiation passes through the clear atmosphere.

**2.** Most radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface and warms it.

# Infrared radiation is emitted

from the Earth's surface.

# What could happen as a result of climate change?

- Intense, more frequent storms
- Flooding of coastal areas including beaches and bay marshes
- Increased precipitation in some areas, decreased precipitation in other areas
- · Increased distribution of infectious diseases

#### Climate Change—The Basics

At one time, all climate changes occurred naturally. During the Industrial Revolution, however, humans began altering the climate and environment through changing agricultural and industrial practices. These activities have changed the composition of the Earth's atmosphere by increasing the levels of GHGs, primarily  $CO_2$ ,  $CH_4$ , and  $N_2O$ .  $CO_2$  is released to the atmosphere by the burning of fossil fuels, wood and wood products, and solid waste.  $CH_4$ is emitted from the anaerobic decomposition of organic wastes in landfills; the raising of livestock; and the production and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil.  $N_2O$  is emitted during agricultural and industrial activities as well as during combustion of solid waste and fossil fuels.



The increased levels of GHGs in the Earth's atmosphere have the potential to cause global climate change. According to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), the federal government's scientific advisory society, GHGs are accumulating in the Earth's atmosphere as a result of human activities, likely contributing

to an increase in the global mean surface air temperature and subsurface ocean temperature. These temperature increases are problematic because human health, agriculture, water resources, forests, wildlife, and coastal areas are vulnerable to the changes that global warming may bring. Alterations to the regional climate could affect forests, crop yields, and water supplies as well as impact human health, animals, and various types of ecosystems. Currently, scientists are unable to determine which parts of the United States will become wetter or drier, but there is likely to be an overall trend toward increased precipitation and evaporation, more intense rainstorms, and drier soils.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) WasteWise Program recognizes the importance of addressing global climate change and that waste prevention and recycling can play a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Through WasteWise's Climate Campaign, EPA is helping companies reduce their climate footprints.

#### Waste Generation & Climate Change



Every stage of a product's life cycle impacts climate change. In addition, each stage requires the use of natural resources and the consumption of energy—human activities that result in the release of GHGs and impact the Earth's atmospheric balance.

- Energy Consumption—Manufacturing and using products requires energy. An increase in energy demand leads to the extraction, processing, delivery, and combustion of more fossil fuels and, therefore, the release of more GHGs into the atmosphere.
- Raw Material Use—Harvesting, extracting, and transporting raw materials releases GHGs. In addition, harvesting trees and other biomass decreases carbon storage, because plants absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere and store the carbon in their biomass.
- Waste Disposal/Incineration—Disposing of organic materials, such as food, paper, and yard trimmings, increases CH<sub>4</sub> levels during anaerobic waste decomposition (i.e., decomposition that occurs in landfills). Additionally, the collection, transportation, and processing of wastes releases GHG emissions.



# Life Cycle Assessment

#### Cradle-to-Grave GHG Emissions

The term "life cycle" comprises all activities included in the product's lifetime—from manufacturing (including raw material extraction and processing), to use, maintenance, to disposal—also known as "cradle to grave." Companies can analyze a product's life cycle to determine where they can make changes (e.g., preventing waste, reducing quantities of materials used, reusing products,

#### **History of LCAs**

**1969–1970**—The initial life cycle methodology was carried out for The Coca-Cola Company on alternative materials for soft drink containers. It was the first life cycle study done worldwide. Early practitioners referred to the technique as Resource and Environmental Profile Analysis (REPA).

**1970s**—About 15 REPAs were carried out for various companies. These early studies were comprehensive but focused on solid waste generation and energy consumption.

Late 1970s–Early 1980s—REPAs in this time period focused mainly on energy consumption.

**1990**—A worldwide conference in Vermont supported by EPA established the concept of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in its broader context. The term Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) replaced REPA.

**1990s–Present**—LCA activity continues to increase. Focus shifted from competitive studies (e.g., paper versus plastic, reusable versus disposable) to environmental evaluation and improvement analysis. Emphasis now is on energy and GHGs. Both industry and government recognize LCA as a strong environmental analysis technique to reduce environmental burdens. recycling, or using recycled-content materials in a product) to reduce climate impacts. Life cycle assessments (LCAs) evaluate environmental aspects and impacts associated with products, processes, or services.

The following are components of an LCA:

- Goal Setting/Scoping—Define/describe the product system(s) to be analyzed. Identify the boundaries and environmental inputs and outputs to be reviewed.
- Inventory Analysis—Quantify energy and raw material requirements, air emissions, waterborne effluents, solid waste, and other environmental inputs and outputs step-by-step throughout the life cycle.
- Impact Assessment—Analyze the potential impacts on human and environmental health associated with the inputs and outputs identified during the inventory analysis.
- Interpretation/Improvement Analysis—Interpret the results of the analysis and assessment to identify opportunities for reducing environmental burdens and impacts. Improvement analysis can be conducted based on the results of the Inventory Analysis or the Impact Assessment.

Based on the gathered information, LCAs can uncover opportunities for manufacturers to:

- Produce goods using lesser quantities or fewer types of materials
- Decrease the energy use associated with extracting, transporting, and processing raw materials and transporting end products
- Update product designs
- Replace or redesign products
- Alter transportation methods
- Improve product use
- Enhance disposal methods

In addition, GHG reduction activities can have a beneficial effect on a company's bottom line, such as reductions in purchased energy or materials.

#### Life Cycle Resources

**EPA's Life Cycle Assessment Web Site**—This site promotes the use of LCA to make informed decisions based on the human health and environmental impacts of products, processes, and activities.

<www.epa.gov/ORD/NRMRL/lcaccess>

**EPA's Design for the Environment Program's LCA Web Site**—This site discusses the use of LCAs to examine the environmental impacts of products over their entire life cycle, from materials acquisition to manufacturing, use, and disposition.

The following is a sample product life cycle displaying

<www.epa.gov/oppt/dfe/tools/lca.htm>

where GHGs are emitted.

Life Cycle Inventory Database Project—The National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the Athena Sustainable Materials Institute are developing a U.S. LCI database to track the environmental burdens for commonly used materials, products, and processes. This database provides life cycle inventory data to support public, private, and nonprofit sector efforts to develop product life cycle assessments, support systems, and tools.

#### <www.nrel.gov/lci>

The American Center for Life Cycle Assessment Web Site—This organization was formed in 2001 to build capacity and knowledge of LCA.

> Amount of GHGs Emitted [in metric tons of carbon equivalent (MTCE)]

<http://lcacenter.org>



#### Waste Management Impact: 62 MTCE

#### Life Cycle Stages Provide Numerous Opportunities to Reduce GHG Emissions

Because GHGs are released during each stage of a product's life cycle, there are numerous opportunities for a company to decrease a product's contribution to climate change. Companies can reduce emissions associated with resource extraction, manufacturing, distribution, product use, combustion, or landfilling.

### **The Link Between Waste Management and Greenhouse Gases**

Increased GHG Emissions

Greenhouse gases are emitted during the harvesting of trees, and the extraction and transport of raw materials.

#### Extraction

Waste prevention and recycling delay the need to extract some raw materials, reducing greenhouse gases emitted during extraction. Manufacturing products releases greenhouse gases during processing and as energy is expended during product use.

#### Manufacturing



Waste prevention means more efficient resource use, and making products from recycled materials requires less energy. Both lower greenhouse gases emitted during manufacturing.

Recycling reduces the total amount of waste

**Decreased GHG Emissions** 

Burning some kinds of waste in an incinerator increases greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Combustion



Waste prevention and recycling reduce the amount of waste sent to incinerators, lowering the greenhouse gases emitted during combustion. Greenhouse gases are emitted as waste decomposes in landfills.

#### Landfilling



Waste prevention and recycling reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills, lowering the greenhouse gases emitted during decomposition.



## **Mitigating Climate Change**

There are numerous opportunities for companies to mitigate their impact on climate change, regardless of whether they conduct a life cycle assessment. WasteWise was developed to promote reuse, donation, and recycling in addition to the manufacture and purchase of products containing recycled materials. To complement these efforts and further reduce GHG emissions, companies can implement various measures.

#### The Basics



There are countless basic waste reduction activities that companies can implement to reduce their climate impacts. A comprehensive list can be found online in WasteWise document, *Selected Goals of WasteWise Partners* (available to

WasteWise partners only) at <www.ergweb.com/ waste/private/pubs/goals.pdf>. Another useful resource for planning a waste reduction program is EPA's *Business Guide To Reducing Solid Waste* at <www.epa.gov/ epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/pubs/red2.pdf>. These documents can help companies manage endeavors that decrease demands on raw materials, decrease energy consumption, increase energy efficiency, and even save money.

But there are even more benefits of implementing such activities—companies should realize that such undertakings also decrease GHG emissions. By decreasing production waste or using materials with recycled content, companies can decrease their demand on raw materials—therefore, decreasing GHG emissions from curtailing the need for harvesting, transporting, and manufacturing raw materials. Companies can also decrease energy consumption and improve energy efficiency by making processes more efficient and regularly maintaining equipment—therefore, decreasing GHG emissions by lessening the demand on the exploring, extracting, gathering, processing, distributing, and transmitting natural resources required to produce energy.

Below is a listing of a few activities and Internet links for further information.

- Implement waste reduction practices: reuse/donate, compost, recycle, use recycled-content products EPA's WasteWise program, <www.epa.gov/wastewise>
- Reduce raw material usage WasteWise Tip Sheet: Buying or Manufacturing Recycled Products, <www.epa.gov/wastewise/pubs/buy.pdf>
- Improve/optimize manufacturing processes The Pew Center on Global Climate Change, <www.pewclimate.org/what\_s\_being\_done/ in\_the\_business\_community/ processimprovements.cfm>
- Improve material specification standards EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines Web site, <www.epa.gov/cpg>
- Sell byproducts and scraps for reuse The Buy Recycled Business Alliance, <www.nrc-recycle.org/brba>
- Increase energy efficiency EPA's ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> program,
  <www.energystar.gov>
- Improve operation and maintenance programs The Practical Steps: Products and Processes section of the Global Environmental Management Initiative Business and Climate Change Web site, <www.businessandclimate.org>

#### One Step Further



Companies can also think outside the box and implement activities that go beyond the basic waste prevention and recycling efforts. By fostering innovative corporate policy initiatives and collaborating with staff and vendors to discover new opportunities to reduce their GHG emissions, companies can decrease

their climate footprints even more. One way to determine where to focus efforts is by conducting a life cycle assessment of a product or process.

The following is a listing of just a few of the possible activities, along with Internet links for further information.

- Implement environmental design EPA's Design for the Environment Program, <www.epa.gov/dfe>
- Change product lines based on environmental impacts

EPA's Life Cycle Assessment Web site, <www.epa.gov/ORD/NRMRL/lcaccess>

• Decrease transportation of materials or products EPA's SmartWay Transport Partnership, <www.epa.gov/smartway>

#### **Pay-As-You-Throw**

Nearly 6,000 communities in the United States practice a waste collection method that helps them decrease their GHG emissions. Instead of assessing a tax-based or flat waste fee, pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) communities charge residents based on the amount of garbage they actually generate. Community members have an incentive to reduce waste generation, reuse materials, and recycle.

Further information on PAYT is available on EPA's Web site at <www.epa.gov/payt>.

- Use energy substitutes or waste-to-energy processes EPA's Green Power Partnership,
  <www.epa.gov/greenpower>
- Remanufacture/refurbish products WasteWise Update: Remanufactured Products, <www.epa.gov/wastewise/pubs/wwupda6.pdf>



#### Additional Options

Companies can also work with their communities, governments, and various organizations to decrease their impacts on global climate change. Here are some options for companies:

- Work with government and vendors to encourage innovative, environmentally preferable standards
  By forming partnerships, companies can show support for products and processes that have a reduced contribution to climate change. EPA's Green Suppliers
  Network, <www.epa.gov/p2/programs/gsn.htm>
- Implement a zero waste or climate-neutral corporate policy

By establishing policies that decrease impacts on climate change, companies set clear goals to strive for when reducing waste and decreasing GHG emissions. GrassRoots Recycling Network's zero waste initiative, <www.grrn.org/zerowaste> or Climate Neutral, <www.climateneutral.com> • Purchase/preserve forest areas

By planting trees, companies can increase the Earth's carbon storage by sequestering carbon in trees and soil, which is considered to offset carbon dioxide releases from other sources. Rainforest Action Network's Protect-an-Acre initiative, <www.ran.org/give/paa/index.html>

• Participate in emissions trading (internal, pilot, or international programs)

By trading emissions allowances, companies can help decrease overall GHG emissions and increase the demand for emissions control technology development. Chicago Climate Exchange, <www.chicagoclimateexchange.com>

• Sponsor research programs (e.g., studies on life cycle analyses)

By sponsoring research, companies can demonstrate commitment to finding new alternatives to products and processes. Contact universities, trade organizations, or national organizations for further information.





• Encourage pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) municipal waste management programs By encouraging an economic incentive, such as a user fee for every bag or cart of garbage discarded, municipalities and waste management companies can provide motivation for consumers to prevent waste and recycle. EPA's PAYT Web site, <www.epa.gov/payt>.

Not only can waste reduction decrease demand on raw materials and the impact on climate change, but it can also bring financial savings—all of which can go a long way toward garnering management support for a company's efforts. Financial benefits of waste reduction can result from avoided waste removal costs, avoided purchasing costs, and increased operational efficiencies. Further information is available online:

- WasteWise Update: The Measure of Success— Calculating Waste Reduction
  <www.epa.gov/wastewise/pubs/wwupda11.pdf>



## **Discussing Climate Change**

#### Language and Terms To Use

There are numerous ways to share information on climate change mitigation efforts with customers, vendors, shareholders, management, and other stakeholders. It is important for companies to explain the link between climate and waste to promote their own GHG emissions reduction efforts.

Many WasteWise partners are now beginning to share emissions reduction accomplishments with interested parties.

These efforts are typically measured in terms of metric tons of carbon equivalent (MTCE), which weights each GHG by its global warming potential (GWP). (Further information on GHGs and GWPs is available in EPA's Greenhouse Gases and Global Warming Potential Values—Excerpt from the Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2000, at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/ UniqueKeyLookup/SHSU5BUM9T/\$File/ghg\_gwp.pdf>.)

To facilitate further understanding among the general public, EPA has developed real-life equivalents that describe GHG emissions reductions. WasteWise typically refers to GHG emissions reductions in terms of real-life equivalents, such as the number of cars removed from the road for one year, the number of acres of trees storing an equivalent amount of carbon, or the number of households generating equivalent emissions from power consumption.

Here are the equivalents with a few real-life examples.

#### A 1 MTCE reduction is equal to the emissions reductions from...

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Not driving 0.79 passenger cars for one year

Trees

Growing 94 tree seedlings for 10 years



Not using 8.53 barrels of oil



Reducing power consumption by 0.47 households

Many companies are also calculating their emission reductions in terms of metric tons of  $CO_2$  equivalents (MTCO<sub>2</sub>E), because this unit seems easier to understand. Real life equivalents can also easily be used with MTCO<sub>2</sub>E.

1 MTCO<sub>2</sub>E reduction is equal to the emissions reductions from...





Not driving 0.22 passenger cars for one year



Growing 26 tree seedlings for 10 years



Not using 2.33 barrels of oil

Electricity



Reducing power consumption by 0.13 households



#### How To Get the Message Out

From employee newsletters to public service announcements in local papers, companies around the country are educating others on GHG emission reduction successes. The following sample press release, newsletter, and bill insert can be customized to help companies communicate their climate messages.

#### Press Release

#### For Immediate Release

#### [COMPANY X] Commits to Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Waste Reduction

[COMPANY X] has joined efforts with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through expanded waste prevention and recycling. [COMPANY X] has partnered with the WasteWise program and its Climate Campaign, demonstrating that we are a leader in mitigating climate change. We are proud of our partnership and are working with WasteWise to find additional ways to reduce GHG emissions throughout our company.

[INSERT DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S GHG EMISSIONS REDUC-TION ACTIVITIES. EXPRESS RESULTS IN TERMS OF TONS (MTCE) OF GHGS REDUCED AS WELL AS IN REAL-LIFE EQUIVALENTS SUCH AS CARS REMOVED FROM THE ROAD. ALSO INSERT A QUOTE FROM THE CEO OR PRESIDENT ABOUT THE COMPANY'S EFFORTS].

Climate change and waste management are intimately linked. GHGs, which trap the sun's energy in the atmosphere, are produced throughout a product's life cycle. For example, when raw materials for new products are extracted and fuels are used for process or transportation energy, GHGs are emitted. When an item is disposed in a landfill or incinerated, this energy investment is wasted. But when a product is reused or recycled GHG emissions can be reduced as raw materials are conserved. Reuse and recycling also reduces GHG emissions from incinerators and landfills.

Further information on our efforts to mitigate climate change is available on our Web site, <www.COMPANY.com>. Further information on the WasteWise Climate Campaign is available at <www.epa.gov/wastewise/climate>.

#### Company Newsletter or Web Site

#### [COMPANY X]

[COMPANY X] is committed to decreasing its impact on the planet. Among our environmental protection activities, we have participated in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise program for [X] years. We took this partnership to the next level by working with WasteWise's Climate Campaign to further decrease our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As part of this effort, we educate our employees and the public about the important link between waste and climate change.

[INSERT DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S GHG EMISSION REDUCTION ACTIVITIES. EXPRESS RESULTS IN TERMS OF TONS (MTCE) OF GHGS REDUCED AS WELL AS IN REAL-LIFE EQUIVALENTS SUCH AS CARS REMOVED FROM THE ROAD. ALSO INSERT A QUOTE FROM THE CEO OR PRESIDENT ABOUT THE COMPANY'S EFFORTS].

For further information on our efforts, please contact [INSERT NAME OF COMPANY CONTACT].

#### **Bill Insert**

#### [COMPANY X]

[COMPANY X] is a proud member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise program and its Climate Campaign. Throughout the last [X] years, with support from our employees and customers, we have decreased our greenhouse gas emissions by [X] million metric tons of carbon equivalent—equal to removing [X] cars from the road for one year.



## **Climate Change Factoids**

The following quotes are from a recent article titled "Global Warming," which was written by John Carey and Sarah Shapiro and appeared in the August 16, 2004 edition of *BusinessWeek*.

"Some changes in the climate system, plausible beyond the 21st century, would be effectively irreversible."



"There is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities."

"Overall, climate change is projected to increase threats to human health, particularly in lower income populations, predominantly within tropical/subtropical countries."





"Human activities have increased the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and aerosols since the pre-industrial era."

"Projections using the SRES [Special Report on Emissions Scenarios] emissions scenarios in a range of climate models result in an increase in globally averaged surface temperature of 1.4° to 5.8°C over the period 1990 to 2100. This is about two to 10 times larger than the central value of observed warming over the 20th century, and the projected rate of warming is very likely to be without precedent during at least the last 10,000 years, based on paleoclimate data."

"It's increasingly clear that even the modest warming today is having large effects on ecosystems. The most compelling impact is the 10% decreasing yield of corn in the Midwest per degree [of warming]."

-Christopher B. Field, Carnegie Institution ecologist

"The facts are there. We have to educate our fellow citizens about climate change and the danger it poses to the world."

—Senator John McCain (R-AZ)

"Delaying action for a decade, or even just years, is not a serious option."

> —Sir David King, chief science adviser to Prime Minister Tony Blair





# **Climate–Waste Tools**

To help WasteWise partners calculate GHG emissions reductions from their waste reduction efforts, WasteWise developed numerous resources. These state-of-the-art tools allow companies to easily share GHG emissions reduction successes with employees, stakeholders, the general public, and other interested parties.

#### WARM

EPA's WAste Reduction Model (also known as WARM) is a tool that calculates and totals GHG emissions related to



#### **EPA's WARM Spreadsheet**

solid waste management practices (i.e., source reduction, recycling, combustion, composting, and landfilling). WARM can help companies track and voluntarily report GHG emissions reductions. The model calculates GHG emissions in MTCE, MTCO<sub>2</sub>E, and energy units (million BTU) for a wide range of material types commonly found in municipal solid waste.

EPA regularly updates WARM to reflect revised energy and fuel mix inputs associated with waste reduction efforts. EPA is also working to analyze additional materials and add them to the model.

WARM is available online and as a downloadable Microsoft Excel spreadsheet at<http://yosemite.epa.gov/ oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ActionsWasteWARM.html>.

#### WasteWise's Climate Profile

The Climate Profile is a new tool that WasteWise provides its partners to describe GHG emissions reductions resulting from their individual waste prevention and recycling activities. It analyzes waste reduction data, displays trends, and reports emissions reductions in real-life equivalents. The Climate Profile consists of a summary of GHG emissions reductions, a three-year trend for waste prevention and recycling activities, a breakdown of GHG



#### The WasteWise Climate Campaign's Climate Profile

emissions reductions by major commodities, and GHG equivalent factors (i.e., the number of cars removed from the road for one year, the number of acres of trees storing an equal amount of carbon, and the number of households emitting an equal amount of GHGs through power consumption).

The Climate Profile is a benefit that all reporting WasteWise partners receive on an annual basis.

#### Climate Change Toolkit

The latest information on the climate-waste connection is located in WasteWise's Climate Change Toolkit—available



#### WasteWise Campaign's Climate Profile

exclusively to WasteWise partners. The Climate Change Toolkit contains the WasteWise program's best climate tools, including: the "Why Waste A Cool Planet" video the *WasteWise Update: Global Warming Is a Waste*, an issue of the *WasteWise Bulletin* on climate, numerous climate case studies, the Climate Change and Waste resources folder, a sample press release, and two magazine articles.

The Climate Change Toolkit is available to WasteWise partners. To order the toolkit, please contact the WasteWise Helpline at (800) EPA-WISE or <ww@erg.com>.



#### WasteWise Online Toolkit

Quantifying waste prevention results is one of the most challenging aspects of any waste reduction program. To help WasteWise partners assess their achievements EPA developed the Online Toolkit. In addition to helping companies set up a waste reduction program, the toolkit provides resources to help partners locate data sources, calculate waste reduction results, and determine the environmental and economic benefits of their waste reduction programs.

The Online Toolkit is available to WasteWise partners in the Member Services section of the WasteWise Web site at <www.ergweb.com/waste/private/toolkit.htm>.



www.ergweb.com/waste/private/toolkit.htm

# **How To Get Involved**



In recent years, WasteWise has become a leader in highlighting companies that tangibly and

cost-effectively reduce GHG emissions—helping companies gain recognition for ongoing environmental successes. WasteWise encourages companies of all types to support the WasteWise Climate Campaign and take advantage of WasteWise's new Climate Change award and other acknowledgment opportunities.



For more information on WasteWise's Climate Campaign, visit <www.epa.gov/wastewise/climate>.



Do you want to get involved with the WasteWise Climate Campaign? Do you want to share your climate change success stories with EPA?

If you would like more information about the Climate Campaign and recognition opportunities, contact Jan Canterbury at <canterbury.janice@epa.gov> or (703) 308-7264.

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