



Sustainable Materials Management Tools and Strategies

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- Sustainable Materials Management Strategies
 - Planning
 - Waste Prevention
 - Reuse
 - Recycling
 - Composting
- Tools and Rules for Sustainable Materials Mgmt
 - Policy
 - Incentives
 - Regulation



- Ongoing process
 - Initial plan
 - Regular reevaluation and update
- Plan for Action
 - Engage stakeholders
 - Take stock
 - Incorporate all key strategies
 - Evaluate tools and rules
 - Collect and evaluate data



Waste Prevention Strategies

- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- Backyard Composting
- Reduce Packaging Volume and Toxicity
 - Voluntary Industry Initiatives
 - Smart Shopper Campaigns
- Education and Outreach
 - Focus on fostering behavioral change



- Materials Exchanges
- Building Deconstruction
- Building Materials Reuse Stores
 - E.g., Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Build it Green, Finger Lakes Reuse, etc.
- Materials Redistribution
 - Consumable food (Food Banks)
 - Clothing & Household Items (Thrift Stores)
- Community Events/Facilities
 - Neighborhood wide yard sales
 - “Drop & Swap” areas

Recycling Strategies

- Capture more materials currently targeted
 - Education, Incentives and Enforcement
 - Away from home recycling (e.g., public space, transit station, commercial and workplace)
- Add new materials
 - 3-7 Plastics
 - Textiles
- Develop markets
 - Problematic materials (e.g., Glass)
 - New materials

Composting Strategies

- Institutional on-site composting
- Residential organics collection
 - Include food scraps, soiled paper, etc.
- Build infrastructure (esp for food scraps)
 - Add food to yard debris composting facilities
 - Develop new infrastructure including composting and anaerobic digestion facilities

Tools & Rules - Policy

- Product stewardship (also known as EPR)
 - Engages the producer (or manufacturer) in end-of-life management of products/packages
 - Shifts cost from taxpayer/government to producer/consumer
 - Relieves “unfunded mandate” on local governments
 - Creates incentives for less wasteful, less toxic, more easily recyclable products and packages



Tools & Rules – Policy (cont)

- Disposal Bans
 - Restrict disposal of items targeted for recycling
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
 - Buy less wasteful products
 - Buy Recycled
 - Incorporate product/package take back
- Mandatory Recycling

Tools & Rules - Incentives

- Pay As You Throw/Save Money and Reduce Trash (PAYT/SMART)
 - Volume-based pricing for waste
 - Yields both waste reduction and increased recycling
- RecycleBank
 - Provides coupons/points for amts recycled
- Price Structures
 - Recycling and composting free, or cheaper than waste disposal
- Tax Incentives (for infrastructure development)

Tools & Rules - Regulation

- Carter/hauler registration or permitting
 - Service standards – all sectors, key materials
 - Reporting
- Permit conditions
 - Infrastructure
 - Square footage set-aside
 - Disposal restrictions

- Beyond Waste: a Sustainable Materials Management Strategy for NY
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/41831.html>
- Reaching for Zero: A Citizen's Plan for NYC
<http://www.consumersunion.org/other/zero-waste/>
- Grassroots Recycling Network
http://www.grrn.org/zerowaste/resource_zw.html



Thank You

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