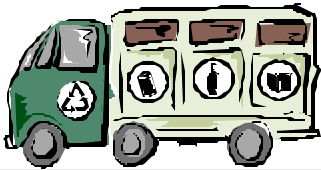


INFR MATION

Volume 5, Issue 12

Fall 2001



LIGHT CYCLE PICK-UP DATES:

OCT: 11 AND 12
22 AND 23
NOV: 5 AND 6
19 AND 20

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WASTECAP TO HOST EMS SEMINAR

On November 8th and 9th, WasteCap of Lincoln will be hosting a one and a half day training seminar regarding the implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) in Nebraska businesses.

The purpose of the training is to familiarize business representatives with the EMS and ISO 14001 standards and to explore the economic and environmental values of developing such programs. With an ever increasingly global economy, many businesses have looked into developing the EMS or may be required by overseas ven-

dors to be ISO 14001 certified. Very little training has been done in the state of Nebraska to keep our

ISO 14001 in our area.

The target audience for the workshop will be environmental health and safety managers, supervisors, engineers, environmental consultants and others that may be responsible for implementing an EMS within their organization. Attendees will use a model of EMS to work through several case studies and walk through the steps of implementation. The

EMS is not only beneficial for businesses with environmental management concerns, but can be helpful to businesses of all sizes and industry sec-



businesses competitive in this aspect of the global economy.

This will be one of the first local training sessions regarding EMS and

INFORM MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 17TH

Many things have changed since WasteCap of Lincoln began nearly seven years ago. The INFORM membership structure has changed, the state of recycling in Lincoln has changed and business have changed.

To meet the demands that these changes pose, WasteCap of Lincoln has gone to

you, our members for guidance in your needs. Please plan to attend the INFORM meeting on Wednesday, October 17th from 8 am until 10 am at the Lancaster County Cooperative Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Road.

We plan to offer an overview of services and the WasteCap and INFORM

history. More importantly, we want our members to have the opportunity to network together and discuss what is new (and old) in business recycling.

Please call our office at 472-0888 to let us know if you will attend so we can have an accurate headcount for the continental breakfast.

RECYCLING RATES FALL SHORT OF GOAL

Taken from Lincoln Journal Star article by Al J. Laukaitis, Monday, October 8, 2001.

Some Nebraska communities will not meet a 50 percent waste reduction goal by July 1, a state official says.

“Depending on the type of community and what resources are available, some are going to get close to meeting them (recycling goals) and some are not,” said Dave Haldeman, administrator of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality’s waste management division.

In 1994, the Legislature established a timeline for communities to reduce the amount of waste. The idea was that if communities would reduce waste volumes, they would then extend the life of their sanitary landfills.

Under the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, communities were supposed to achieve a waste reduction goal of 25 percent by 1996; 40 percent by 1999; and 50 percent by July 1st, 2002.

Although the DEQ does not monitor communities to see if they attained those goals, Haldeman believes that most communities did reach the 25 percent level. But the 40 percent goal proved to be more difficult.

“In 1999, we saw that some communities would not be able to meet that goal,” he said.

While there are no accurate figures available on how much waste is reduced across the state, recycling rates are a good indicator of how well a community or state is doing to reduce the amount of landfill trash.

Nebraska, for example, recycles between 20 percent and 29 percent of its waste, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Nationwide, the United States recycles 28 percent of its waste, a rate that has almost doubled during the past 15 years.

According to 1999 figures from the EPA, Americans recycle:

- 42 percent of all paper products
- 40 percent of all plastic soft drink bottles
- 55 percent of all aluminum beer and soft drink cans
- 57 percent of all steel packaging
- 52 percent of all major appliances.

Haldeman said communities do not face any penalties if they do not reach those goals.

The idea behind the 1994 legislation was to get communities to come up with a plan to manage their waste for the next 20 years.

Reaching the 25 percent goal was easy for a lot of communities because if they diverted some types of waste—such as grass clippings and leaves—it took a big chunk out of their waste stream, he said.

Now that communities are dealing with smaller components of the waste stream, the job is getting more difficult.

Household and commercial recycling as well as yard waste and construction and demolish debris recycling have helped the City of Lincoln achieve the 50 percent reduction goal.

Nationwide, the United States recycles 28 percent of its waste, a rate that has almost doubled in the past 15 years.

AMERICA RECYCLES
DAY IS
NOVEMBER
15TH



MARKETS CORNER

| | JULY | AUGUST | SEPTEMBER |
|------|------|--------|-----------|
| OCC | 35 | 35 | 40 |
| CPO | 40 | 40 | 40 |
| MAG | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NEWS | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| SOP | 10 | 10 | 10 |

FTC HELPS DESIGNERS SELECT PRODUCTS

Taken from green@work Magazine, July/August 2001

Products bearing irresponsible environmental claims, a practice known as “greenwashing” can jeopardize designers’ efforts and, ultimately, their reputations when trying to make environmentally responsible specifications and recommendations—until now

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has established the “Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims”

to bring clear concise definitions and specific certification standards to environmental claims.

Guidelines examine: basis of claim, environmentally friendly claims, recycled content, recyclability, degradable/biodegradable/photodegradable elements, and clarity of claims, qualifiers and disclaimers. To ensure reliability, the FTC requires a reasonable basis for sustaining environmental claims, which will often require analysis, research and studies provided by a credible third

party.

“Any tool such as the FTC Guides that helps to hold manufacturers accountable for their environmental claims is extremely useful. It simplifies the process of specifying products and provides to us and our clients a greater degree of confidence about our product selections.” Jim Gleeson, AIA, director of sustainable design for Little & Associates Architects, one of the country’s largest architectural and design firms.

WASTECAP TO HOST EMS SEMINAR, CONT’D FROM PAGE 1

tors, as well as schools, communities and local governments.

The training will be held at Country Inn and Suites, 5353 N. 27th Street (South on 27th from I-80) in Lincoln.

Training times are:

Nov. 8th, 8 am-4 pm and

Nov. 9th, 8 am-12 Noon. Registration fees are \$159 for local INFORM members and \$199 for non-members. Registration includes lunch on November 8th and a copy of the EMS and ISO 14001 Standard. Registration is limited to 50 attendees so please register early.

Out of town guests can make arrangements with Country Inn and Suites for overnight stays. Reservations must be made no later than October 24th. Mention the EMS training, for the discounted rate of \$69 per night. Make reservations by calling 1-800-456-4000. Trainers for the event include:

Connie Determan, PE, HDR Engineering

Ms. Determan has assisted industrial clients for over 16 years on environmental issues and strategies.

Michael Mostek, JD, McGill, Gotsdiner, Workmand and Lepp, PC, LLO

Mr. Mostek has represented an array of industrial clients across the United States for the past 16 years, he frequently writes and lectures on a variety of environmental topics including environmental management systems for local, regional, and national conferences.

Michael Harris, PE, HDR Engineering

Mr. Harris has over 28 years of experience assisting industrial clients with environmental services including EMS and compliance audits.

For more information or to register for the training, contact:

WasteCap of Lincoln
P.O. Box 83006
Lincoln, NE 68501
(402) 472-0888
Fax (402) 472-2246
wastecap@alltel.net
www.wastecaplnk.org

Sponsors include:

- **HDR Engineering**
- **Lincoln Plating**
- **McGill, Gotsdiner, Workmand and Lepp**
- **Midland Recycling**
- **Minnesota Corn Processors**
- **Chief Industries**

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 6th Computer Collection in North Platte
- 9th Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Business 2 Business Trade Show at the Cornhusker Hotel, 333 South 13th Street.
- 10th Advisory Board Meeting at the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.
- 17th INFORM Meeting at the Lancaster County Extension Office, 444 Cherrycreek Road.
- 17th NSRA 20th Anniversary Celebration at the Embassy Suites
- 20th Computer Collection in Norfolk.

NOVEMBER

- 8th and 9th Environmental Management Systems Training Seminar at the Country Inn and Suites, 5353 N. 27th Street in Lincoln.
- 10th Computer Collection in Scottsbluff.
- 10th Midland Recycling Tailgate pARDy for America Recycles Day
- 14th Advisory Board Meeting at the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.
- 15th America Recycles Day.
- 22nd and 23rd Thanksgiving-staff holiday.

Over 7,000 Pounds of Computer Equipment Diverted from Landfills

The first in a series of community computer collections was held last Saturday, October 6th in North Platte. In just five hours, nearly one hundred (100) cars dropped off 106 monitors and 4,587 pounds of peripheral equipment including hard drives, printers and fax machines. The equipment will be sent to a refurbishing company for testing, refurbishing, redistribution or recycling. The majority of equipment collected was very dated with only a minimal amount of useful equipment being collected. The collection was offered to individuals and businesses for free up to three monitors. After three monitors, a fee of \$5 per monitor was assessed. The actual cost of refurbishing the equipment is over \$5000.

The collections are a cooperative effort between the Nebraska State Recycling Association (NSRA), Keep Nebraska Beautiful (KNB) and WasteCap of Lincoln. Funding

for the events was awarded in a Waste Reduction and Recycling grant from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. In each of the targeted communities, the local KNB affiliate has worked to plan the events. The purpose of the grant is to educate the citizens of Nebraska about the dangers of disposing computer equipment in local

landfills and to educate about the real costs of handling equipment. In addition, these pilot projects will help the State to quantify the amount of

equipment in closets and basements and will give a good idea of the best way to handle equipment in our State. All of the collection participants received information about additional options for future handling of old computer equipment.

Two additional computer collection events are planned in the upcoming weeks. A collection is planned in **Norfolk for October 20th** and one is being planned for

Scottsbluff on November 10th. Please contact WasteCap of Lincoln at (402) 472-0888 for further information.



Full collection truck at the end of the day!