

Lead Agency: Non-Departmental - All
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Program Contact: Kat West

Executive Summary

Waste prevention and recycling is County policy. A commitment to achieve 65% recycled diversion from the waste stream by 2010 was stated in Resolution 05-102. In 2007 Facilities & Property Management partnered with the Sustainability Program and developed the Waste Prevention & Recycling Plan. In October of 2009, the county adopted the Climate Action Plan that joins with the City of Portland in alignment on a region wide 75% recycling rate goal to be achieved by 2012. This position is charged with providing county-wide leadership on the issue of waste management. It is intended to work collaboratively with Departments and will be positioned to leverage the efforts of the Natural Step Green Team and the Department appointed Sustainability Liaisons, as well as the Facilities Property Managers in support of the goal of 75% diversion of the waste stream to recycling.

Program Description

Responsibilities include:

1. Provide stewardship of the information and communication on accomplishment of desired goals with departments.
2. Ensure that the services and systems in all occupied buildings meet all existing regulatory requirements to ensure statutory compliance.
3. Provide leadership in sustainability and support County adopted Green Building, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design - Existing Buildings (LEED-EB) goals.
4. Create an environment for meeting the compliance requirements of the Climate Action Plan and the City of Portland & Metro recycling rate targets.
5. Maintain accurate data related to this program's performance and report results and improvement plans annually.
6. Coordinate and administer training and regulatory requirement knowledge, as needed, to keep the county current at the highest possible level.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY08-09)	Current Year Purchased (FY09-10)	Current Year Estimate (FY09-10)	Next Year Offer (FY10-11)
Output	Training course hours delivered	132	0	100	250
Outcome	Documented recycle rate	41.0%	0.0%	45.0%	55.0%

Performance Measure - Description

 **Measure Changed**

Number of education & training class hours of instruction given to county staff and community partners & groups on the increasing need to purchase, handle & dispose of goods & materials so that all possible waste is diverted from trash and becomes part of the recycling process.

Recycle diversion rate from total county waste stream. There are various methods of measurement applied to different waste products, so a total of each type is accumulated for reporting purposes.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Several legal mandates are included in this Program. ORS 279.570 requires that all public agencies shall assure purchase of materials, goods, and supplies that may be recycled or reused when discarded. City of Portland Code 17.102.180 requires that commercial facilities [in Portland] must currently separate recyclable materials and recycle a minimum of 50% of their waste.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2010	2010	2011	2011
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$88,577	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$88,877	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$88,877	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The recycling rate of 41% was accomplished in FY '09 and that resulted in cost avoidance of over \$72,000. Currently the county pays \$81/ton to dispose of waste as garbage. Disposing of waste as recycling avoids the \$81/ton disposal fee. Given our current rate of waste generation, if we will be able to reach a 65% recycling rate, next year, we will need to divert an additional 500 tons of waste to recycling. Simply accounting for this avoided cost we can realize an additional \$40,500 annually. This is in addition to the FY '09 annual savings of \$72,000.

In addition, recyclable materials have a market value that is not included these estimates that the County currently receives as a rebate from its hauler. It is difficult to predict the year to year value of recyclable materials given material market fluctuation, but it is safe to assume that the value of the materials in the future will offset a significant portion of any future program costs.

County-wide recycling savings and the recycling rebates which were originally used to offset departmental utility charges (approx \$60K annually), may be used in the future to fund this countywide responsibility.

Significant Program Changes

✔ Significantly Changed

Last year this program was:

Currently, this program is being staffed with an AmeriCorp intern that expires in August, 2010 as the AmeriCorp program allows for only 2 years of tasking with the same focus. The Waste Prevention and Recycling effort has greatly benefited from their initiation and stewardship efforts, but the program needs an ongoing commitment with funding and operationalization. The position within Facilities is intended to leverage a large, committed population within the County that are vested in creating and sustaining a high performing, sustainable County. The Facilities Property Managers, Multnomah County Natural Step Green Team and the Sustainability Liaisons represent a potent group, well positioned within the County to achieve the represented goals.