

Waste and Materials – Tuesday

Agenda –

- Solid waste
- Product selection
- Recycling and Reuse
- Procurement Policy
- Waste Reduction

Desired End State List – “Dream a Little Dream”

- 1) Everything that is produced or used is composted, recycled, or re-used.
- 2) All materials in are managed out to achieve zero waste.

Current Reality

Heavy Infrastructure for Waste Management
Wasteful product packaging
Educational Void
Lack of sense of urgency
Throwaway Society/Disposables/ Convenience
Little concept of life cycle costs
Markets for recycling – business failure for recycling firms
Don't understand the costs of recycling
Waste generation increasing per capita
Too many products not recyclable/reusable
Communities Cost Restraints
Culture/Style/Fashion
Landfills are too cheap to encourage better waste management
 Landfills are too profitable
Lack of Incentives
Human Inertia
Private versus public ownership of landfills (short-term profit versus preserving capacity)
Price differential between virgin and recycled materials
Full cost of products
Desire to maximize profits discourages change for public good
Illegal Dumping
No Regional Cooperation
Differing Governmental Bodies with infrastructure investments
Don't take advantage of cheap local labor sources
Lack of public trust with recycling
Implications of product choice are unknown
Lack of product choices
Products not made for repairs

Cultural Attitudes Favor Waste Generation

Educational Void

Lack of sense of urgency

Throwaway Society/Disposables/ Convenience

Culture/Style/Fashion

Lack of Incentives

Human Inertia

Price differential between virgin and recycled materials

Illegal Dumping

Don't take advantage of cheap local labor sources

Lack of public trust with recycling

Short-term governmental budgetary constraints limit long-term view.

Heavy Infrastructure for Waste Management

Communities Cost Restraints

Landfills are too cheap to encourage better waste management

Landfills are too profitable

Lack of Incentives

Private versus public ownership of landfills (short-term profit versus preserving capacity)

Price differential between virgin and recycled materials

Differing Governmental Bodies with infrastructure investments

Don't take advantage of cheap local labor sources

C) Few incentives for private markets to make sustainable products.

Wasteful product packaging

Markets for recycling – business failure for recycling firms

Too many products not recyclable/reusable

Landfills are too cheap to encourage better waste management; Landfills are too profitable

Lack of Incentives

Price differential between virgin and recycled materials

Desire to maximize profits discourages change for public good

Lack of product choices

Products not made for repairs

D) Individuals and Businesses not aware of implications of product choice

Educational Void

Don't understand the costs of recycling

Waste generation increasing per capita

Little concept of life cycle costs

Full cost of products

Implications of product choice are unknown

E) Limited (precious little) regional cooperation

Defining Strategies –

- 1) Institute a comprehensive public education and outreach program that incorporates the Sustainable Sandhills concept/logo
- 2) A regional cooperative effort to address cradle to cradle materials management
- 3) Recruit and foster local businesses offering sustainable products and services supported by the region.

Materials Use and Waste – Wednesday

Refined Strategies – By 2008, unless otherwise noted.

Strategy #1 – Implement programs to achieve waste reduction toward the ultimate goal of zero waste.

Objective #1 - Achieve waste reduction goal of 20% by the year 2008 (Baseline Year 2003).

Task #1 Establish a regionally coordinated comprehensive recycling program in which all Sandhills counties participate.

Task #2 – In all counties, implement an organics composting program for food and other organic waste.

Task #3 – The Sandhills business community (e.g. Chambers of Commerce) will survey and document potentially reusable and non-reusable by-products from all manufacturing industries located in the Sandhills region to prompt partnerships between complementary industries.

Strategy #2 - Institute a comprehensive public education and outreach program that incorporates the Sustainable Sandhills Zero Waste concept/logo by 2008.

Objective #1 – The Steering Committee Zero Waste Group will create and implement an outreach and education program, including a unified message, slogan, and logo of Zero Waste, specific to the Sandhills by 2008.

Task #1 – Education

Create and adapt NC-approved curriculum and implement an age-appropriate phased pilot program for grades K-12.

Task #2 – Outreach

50% of Sandhills public and private organizations with more than 25 people will tailor and present the Zero Waste outreach materials within their organizations.

Strategy #3 – Recruit and foster local businesses offering sustainable products and services for the region.

Objective #1– By 2008, all institutions and businesses with 50 or more employees will adopt a sustainable procurement policy.

Task #1 - Will determine appropriate criteria for sustainable products and services.

Task #2 - Will draft the model sustainable procurement policies, incorporating sustainability criteria.

Objective #2– By 2008, the Steering Committee Zero Waste Group will create a list of 100 key sustainable products and services; and will ensure that all are available locally.

Objective #3 – By 2008, the Sandhills business community and solid waste departments, partnering with state agencies and funding organizations, will establish two local businesses that manufacture two different products using local waste.

Objective #4 – By 2008, produce written regionally coordinated green business recruitment plan through the Chambers of Commerce.

Team Members

- DENR Office of Environmental Education
- Local DENR Solid Waste Representative
- City and County Solid Agencies
- Elected local government officials
- Business and Industry Representatives
- Chambers of Commerce
- Local Economic Development Commission
- Fort Bragg Department of Public Works
- Trade Association Representatives
- NC Cooperative Extension
- School Board Representatives
- DENR Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance
- Community Development/Neighborhood Associations
- Faith Communities
- Local Representatives from State Dept. of Commerce and Agriculture
- Colleges and Universities in Sandhills region.
- Local Council of Governments
- Boy Scouts/Girls Scouts
- Applicable Local Environmental NGOs

Materials Use and Waste – Wednesday

Refined Strategies – By 2008

Strategy #1—Create a regional cooperative effort to address cradle-to-cradle materials management.

Objective #1—

To direct waste reduction goal of 20% by the year 2008 (Baseline Year 2003).

Task #1—Fort Bragg and pioneering local leaders will identify key individuals and champions committed to the goal to serve on the RSCC within the next 6 months—1 year.

Task #2—RSCC will call a meeting of government, civic, and business leaders to enroll and challenge them to design and implement objectives and strategies within 1 year of creating RSCC. (Plan B—Seek emerging local leaders to innovators.)

Strategy #1 – Implement programs to achieve waste reduction. and sustainable purchasing progress.

Objective #1 - Achieve waste reduction goal of 20% (40?) by the year 2008 (Baseline Year 2003).

Task #1 Establish regionally-coordinated recycling program in which all Sandhills counties participate. ~~Objective #1—All Sandhills counties participate in a regionally coordinated recycling program by 2008.~~

Task #2 – In all counties, implement an organics composting program for food and other organic waste. ~~Objective #2—All Sandhills counties will have implement an organics composting program for food and other organic waste by 2008.~~

Task #3 - By 2008, Sandhills business community (e.g. Chambers of Commerce) will survey and document potentially reusable and non-reusable by-products from all manufacturing industries located in the Sandhills region. Strategy # 2 - Institute a comprehensive public education and outreach program that incorporates the Sustainable Sandhills Zero Waste concept/logo

Objective #1 – The Steering Committee Zero Waste Group will create and implement an outreach and education program, including a unified message, slogan, and logo of Zero Waste, specific to the Sandhills within 5 years.

Task #1 – Education

Create NC-approved lesson plan curriculum? and implement a pilot program for grades K-2 by 2005, for grades 3-5 by 2006, grades 6-8 by 2007, and grades 9-12 by 2008.

Task #2 – Outreach

At 50% of public and private organizations with more than 25 people, create and conduct a program for achieving zero waste.

Strategy #3 – Recruit and foster local businesses offering sustainable products and services for the region.

Objective #1 - By 2007, the Sustainable Sandhills Steering Committee Zero Waste Group will draft model sustainable product purchasing policies.

Objective #2 – By 2008, all institutions and businesses with 50 or more employees will adopt a sustainable procurement policy. Objective # 3b– By 2008, the Steering Committee Zero Waste Group will create a list of 100 key sustainable products; all of them will be available through local businesses.

Objective #3 – By 2008, the Sandhills business community and solid waste departments, partnering with state agencies and funding organizations, will establish two local businesses that manufacture two different products using local waste.

- a) Approach the DENR Office of environmental education, local school boards, and civic groups as allies for education.

