

IMPORTANT EPA REGION 10 CONTACTS

Questions on EMS ? Call the EMS Coordinator: Claire Schary (206) 553-8514
Duplex printing? Call the Computer Center: (206) 553-1201
Recycling? Call the Recycling Coordinator: Vaughn Blethen (206) 553-x0483 or
Michele Tucker (206) 553-1414
Green office supplies? Call the Supply Room: (206) 553-4049
Bankcard holders use Corporate Express BPA www.cexp.com



We will work to:

- (1) Improve our environmental performance.
- (2) Lessen our impact on the environment.
- (3) Lead by example.

What the Heck is EMS?

EMS = Environmental Management System; a way to evaluate the activities of an organization, identify its environmental impacts associated with those activities and finding ways to reduce those impacts. EMS also helps organizations stay in compliance with environmental requirements.

Region 10's goal is for each person to become an environmental leader, practice pollution prevention and environmental stewardship. The Region 10 EMS Policy elements are pollution prevention, compliance with regulations, and continual improvement

WHAT CAN THE EMS ACCOMPLISH?

We are concentrating in 6 areas for 2005: Paper, Purchasing, Energy, Travel, Electronics, and Recycling (P-PETER is the acronym)

Reduce Paper Use

Paper is one of our biggest waste streams. Standard virgin paper manufacturing uses many natural resources and **creates toxic wastes.**

- Region 10, on average, has consumed 1,251 cartons (5,000 sheets/carton) per year (annual cost: \$44,220) over the past three years. Region 10 has the lowest per capita use of office paper of any Region in the EPA at 10,500 sheets of paper/person/year.
- Region 10 uses 100% post-consumer, process chlorine-free paper. That increases the market demand for recycled content market and reduces the reliance on virgin paper.
- **About 20% of all the wood harvested in the world is used to make paper. One tree produces about 8,333 sheets of copier paper. Every ton of paper recycled saves 17 trees**

Practice Green Purchasing

What we buy is what we eventually throw away. Green products use recycled content or have more environmentally benign content or greener manufacturing processes.

- Region 10 participated in the pilot program using a nationwide blanket purchase agreement (BPA) with Corporate Express to purchase office supplies that have environmentally friendly attributes. Use of the BPA became mandatory on May 1, 2005.

Use Less Energy

Electricity generation is a major use of natural resources.

- In 2004 EPA purchased green power certificates to shift use of renewable energy generation such as wind and solar..
- Our building owner, Benaroya received an Energy Star award for 2004.

- All of our computers are Energy Star enabled to sleep automatically after a period of inactivity. An ENERGY STAR qualified computer uses 70% less electricity than computers without enabled power management features
- We have installed solar cells at the Manchester Laboratory that generate 2.1 Kilowatts of power
- Saving electricity saves money. Each KWH costs 5.8 cents.

Use Green Travel

Travel and transit are heavy uses of natural resources (fuel and lodging). Cars and Airplanes are some of the largest producers of air pollution.

- Most of us use mass transit. A survey conducted in 2005 shows that 500 of an eligible base of 572 people used mass transit this past year. The typical car today gets 20 miles per gallon. It emits about 6 tons of carbon dioxide and 600 pounds of other pollutants annually.
- Bicycling commuters: The most pollution free travel available. We're always trying to recruit more. Give it a try. Call Brenda Mirasol X1385 for the combination to the bike storerooms on floors -1 and -2.
- Alternative Fuel Vehicles: We have 6 hybrid vehicles that have higher gas mileage and lower emissions.
- Replacing existing cars with hybrids cut CO2 emissions by 40% and NOx and VOC by 25%.

Manage Electronics

Electronics (computers, printers, and copiers) are one of our largest uses of electricity. When we get rid of electronics, they are a disposal problem because they contain lead, cadmium, and other hazardous substances.

- Buying environmentally friendlier computers and components. The IT unit has installed over 300 LCD monitors. LCD Monitors use less energy, have NO lead content, are easier on the eye and are lighter - which makes it easier for the IT staff to move.
- Use of Thin Client - Increases the life of the computers. Instead of buying a new computer, they are converted to terminals. Less software to buy and faster access to programs.
- Recycling and/or disposing old equipment in an environmentally sound manner.

Increase Recycling

Recycling cuts down on waste that might go to the landfill. Recycled materials reduce the use of virgin materials, which usually cost more natural resources to extract, process, and manufacture.

- We have recycling containers for aluminum, glass, plastic, and paper, in all kitchen areas, the lunch room, and all conference rooms.
- We also recycle video tapes, batteries, inkjet toner cartridges, CDs, diskettes, cell phones, and tyvek packages. Contact our recycling coordinator, Vaughn Blethen x0483, for additional information or take a look at the Recycling Page on the Intranet.
- From January to April 2005, the occupants of the Regional Office collected and recycled 100, 64 and 97 lbs of aluminum, glass and plastic respectively.

Learn how what you can do: Visit the Region 10 EMS webpage by going to the "E" in the "index" and looking for EMS.