

# Waste Reduction: Make It Your First Priority

## WHY?

•Reduce Raw Material Costs

•Reduce Waste Disposal Costs

•Conserve Valuable Resources

- •Reduce Purchasing Costs
- •Enhance Your Image With The Public And Your Employees

## HOW?

#### For Office Areas:

- •Make double-sided copies.
- •Reuse single-sided pages for drafts and note paper.
- •Establish a draft paper tray for laser printers so that single-sided sheets can be reused internally.
- Consolidate and reduce the size of office forms.
- Encourage employees to communicate via electronic mail.
- •Reduce the number of copies needed by circulating or posting memos.
- •Share reports and publications.
- •Use centralized files for hard copies.
- •Use outdated letterhead and forms for in-house memos.
- •Proofread documents on computer screen before printing.
- •Avoid disposables. Instead, recharge laser printers, fax machines, and copiers; reink dot matrix ribbons; use refillable pens and pencils.
- •Reuse supplies, such as file folders, envelopes, boxes and containers.
- •Use window-less envelopes.
- •When billing customers, use envelopes that can be folded inside-out and returned to you with payment.
- •Keep mailing lists current.
- Reduce junk mail: remove your company name from mailings lists by writing to Direct
  Marketing Associates, Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 9008, Farmingdale, New
  York, NY 11735-9008. Contact the Business Recycling Program (895-3931) for more
  ways to reduce junk mail.
- Avoid cover sheets for faxes.
- •Use a rubber stamp especially made for fax transmittal.

#### For Shipping/Receiving Areas:

- •Order merchandise with minimal packaging, in a concentrated form and/or bulk.
- •Ask suppliers to use less packaging in filling your orders.
- •Request that deliveries be shipped in returnable containers.
- •Return, reuse, and repair wooden pallets and crates.
- •Replace cardboard boxes with durable boxes for shipping to branch offices, stores and warehouses.
- •Set up a system for returning cardboard boxes and polystyrene "peanuts" to distributors for reuse. Reuse boxes that cannot be returned.
- •Use shredded newspapers, tissue, and foam pads from incoming shipments as alternatives to purchasing polystyrene peanut packaging.