

Travis County Waste Diversion Program

FY2015

This report presents solid waste management activities including but not limited to operational waste diversion programs, household hazardous waste and community outreach. The report breaks down how each material is managed sustainably followed with highlights of department recycling contributions in Fiscal Year 2015.

**A Collaborative
Effort of Waste
Diversion by Travis
County and its
Citizens**

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Executive Summary

What is Waste Diversion?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines waste diversion as the prevention and reduction of generated waste through source reduction, recycling, reuse, or composting. Waste diversion generates a host of financial, social, and environmental benefits including conserving energy, reducing disposal costs, and reducing the burden on landfills and other waste disposal methods.

In the past fifteen years, Travis County's population has grown by thirty five percent (35 %) along with the cities within it. There are strong initiatives focused on conservation and resource management being implemented in the county seat, Austin. Waste management is now only one piece of a holistic outlook on examining how a government can save resources and be fiscally responsible. Travis County is a jewel that has great potential for growth in green initiatives. There is opportunity for improvement through recycling participation, energy conservation initiatives and other conservation practices.

Highlights

Travis County has made significant strides in the past year; some highlights include:

- Recycling Participation Order which created the Green Team Program
- Partnership with CARE Healthy Planet Healthy People Event
- Execution of the Household Hazardous Waste Inter-local Agreement with the City of Austin.
- Recycling programs generated revenue of \$56,186.01 including electronics recycling revenue of \$23,681.70 (which was not previously tracked in the annual reports)
- Increased recycling at the Lake Travis Clean-up

The waste management program is an essential tool for managing these materials in ways that satisfy the policy directives of the Commissioners Court. These efforts produce public and environmental benefits that far exceed the monetary value of recycling revenues and avoided disposal costs.

Purchasing Goals

The County's purchasing goal (see Section 111.005 of the Travis County Waste Management Policy) is to spend at least eight percent (8%) of its annual consumables budget (such as office supplies) on materials with recycled content or that provide some other specific conservation benefit. To be considered, these materials must also meet the program feasibility criteria for cost and operational efficiency.

Travis County's purchasing policy is constrained in its ability to evaluate cost savings and environmental benefits. Development of a comprehensive tracking methodology to verify compliance with the recycling goal has not been developed by the Travis County Purchasing Office. However, it is possible to gauge recycled content based upon external information provided by one significant vendor: Office Depot (OD). In FY 2015, 24% of purchases from OD included recycled content of significance¹. The figure below shows the OD expenditures by "greenness" rating and by percent of recyclable content. Numerical values are cumulative.

Additionally, the County is actively pursuing opportunities to purchase recycled products from vendors beyond Office Depot, as described in this annual report and including:

- Re-manufactured toner cartridges
- Re-refined Oil
- Re-refined antifreeze
- Resource Recovery Materials



¹ This information is provided by Office Depot's Green Business Review report for FY 2015. To be considered significant, a commodity has 10% or greater recyclable content. The report includes expenditures including ink/toner, and copy paper.

* Most paper in the United States is SFI/PEFC certified. SFI- Sustainable Forestry Initiative; PEFC- Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 361.425 establishes county requirements for recycling. Under this law, counties must establish and operate programs to separate and collect recyclable materials generated. Several common classes of materials (e.g. aluminum, steel containers, packaging, cartons, office paper, and cardboard) are specifically targeted for recovery. In addition, Section 361.426 specifies a county government shall give preference to purchasing products made of recycled material and that may be recycled when materials have served their intended use.

County Resource Recovery

To address these requirements, the Travis County Commissioners' Court adopted the Travis County Waste Management Policy (WMP) on December 17, 1996. The primary goals of the policy are to:

- Reduce material and waste disposal costs;
- Reduce the volume of material sent to landfills;
- Reduce the use of limited natural resources;
- Prevent environmental pollution associated with waste disposal; and
- Promote the purchase and use of recycled materials.

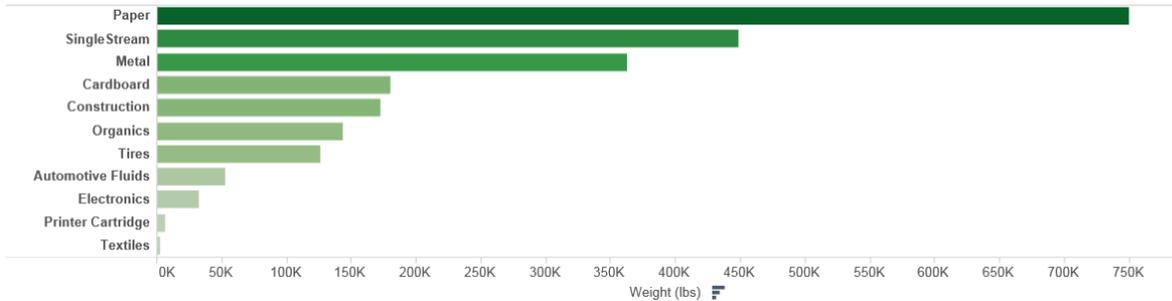
The policy directs County departments to minimize the amount of waste materials they generate through the implementation of waste reduction strategies and procedures and provides implementation guidelines. Unless otherwise directed by law, the means for achieving the County's goals must meet feasibility criteria related to clearly demonstrable conservation benefits, as well as cost and operational efficiency.

Travis County's waste streams are very diverse. Many of these items are captured and managed as commodities and recycled. The policy provides guidance for the treatment of several specific County Waste Streams. The program has evolved and expanded in the past eighteen years. This report examines the waste streams by individual media.

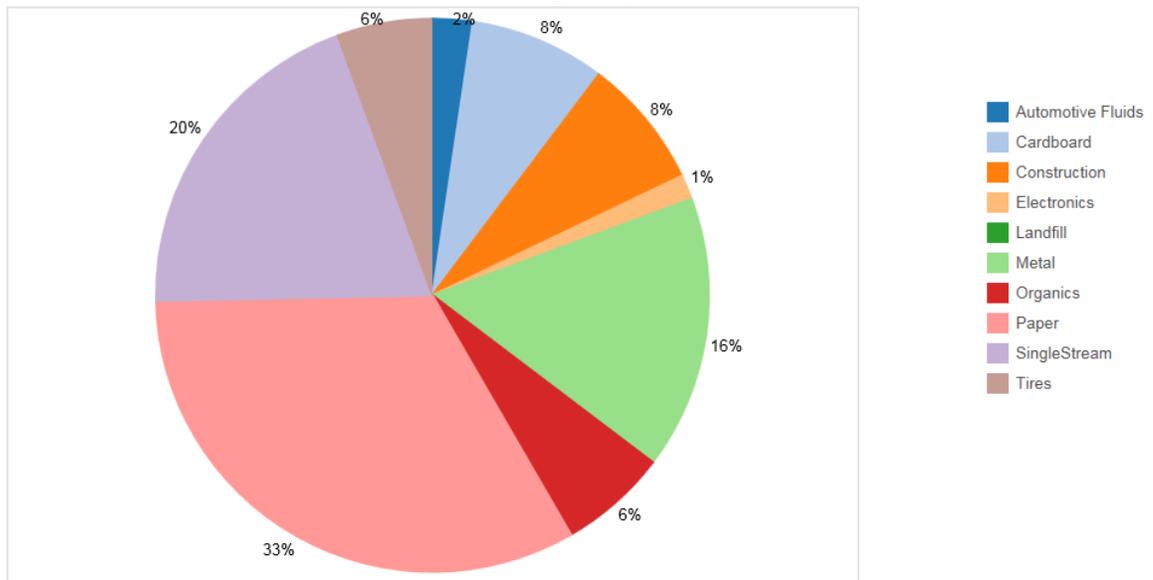
Commodity	FY2015	FY2014	Change FY14 – FY15
Landfill Services	\$171,059.47	\$176,955.18	-\$5,895.71
Single Stream Recycling Services	\$72,947.73	\$70,701.12	\$2,246.61

The following graphs show FY2015 major commodity classes revenue and weight generated. Bear in mind not all recyclables generate revenue such as single stream material.

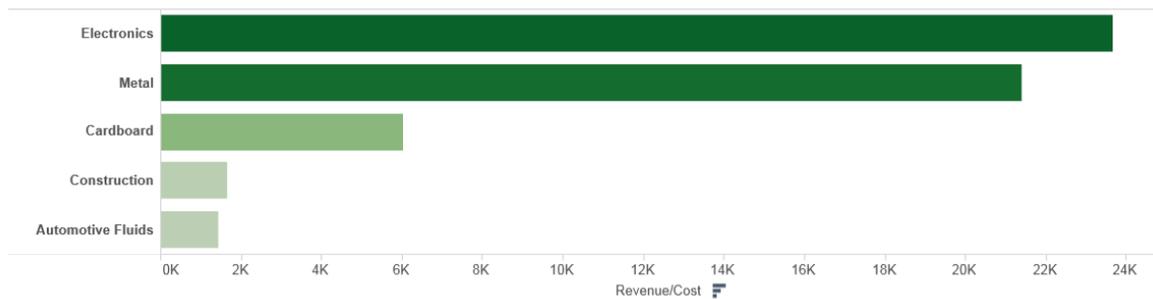
FY2015 Recycled Materials by Weight Class



FY2015 Recycled Materials Percentage by Class



FY2015 Recycling Revenue by Commodity Class



Single Stream Recycling

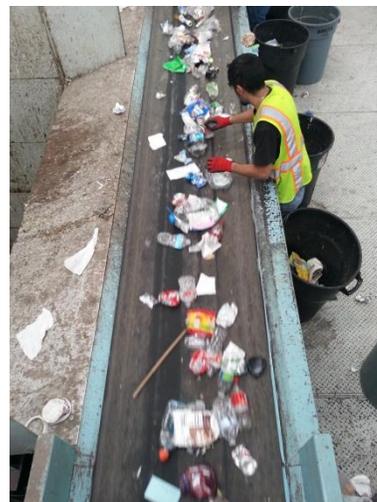
Recycling from 1996 to 2012 focused on specific departments/divisions that volunteered to participate in a recycling program, missing some large quantity generators of recyclable waste. Facilities/buildings throughout our organization were not comprehensively examined for the potential of implementing a holistic recycling program. On January 8, 2013, the Commissioners Court approved funds establishing a single-stream recycling program for all Travis County locations. Since April 1, 2013, Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) and Texas Facilities Commission (TFC) are the providers for single-stream pickup services for Travis County locations except for the administrative building serviced by Balcones Recycling. These recycling services offer the opportunity for all employees to access consistent recycling services.

Single-stream is where all clean & rinsed recyclable material (plastics 1-7, mixed paper, aluminium, glass and flattened cardboard) can be placed in one cart. Attached in the appendix is a detailed recycling flyer staff can post in the office that shows what is recyclable in a work location.

- Travis County recycled *224 tons of single stream material* in FY 2015. The 16% decrease can be attributed to the changing materials in the solid waste stream. Manufactures are using less material for packaging to conserve resources and sustainability.
- Travis County spent an estimated \$171,059.47 in FY 2015 on waste that was destined for landfill disposal.
- Records Management Division purchased an estimated 64.5 tons of paper for business use which is a 40% reduction since 2012.
- Through confidential management the county has recycled 149 Tons of paper.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14 – FY15
Single Stream (Mixed)	427,858 lbs	511,440 lbs	-16.34
Confidential Management Shred	247,100 lbs	258,000 lbs	-4 %

*"I really feel that since we started most people have just begun to see the recycling as just a regular part of the day."
Kelly Overdorff*



Corrugated Cardboard

The County recycles cardboard to implement goals from the Texas Health and Safety Code and Waste Management Policy. Cardboard in the industry is known as Old Corrugated Cardboard (OCC). This past year the price for OCC has fallen from an average \$119 a ton to a low of \$64.50.

- Travis County recycled 90.22 tons of corrugated material in FY 2015².
- The Travis County Del Valle Correctional Facility currently is the only revenue-generating location for cardboard.
- The Health and Human Services (HHSVS) Community Centers generate a substantial amount of cardboard each week. To capture this cardboard for revenue, HHSVS would need to collaborate with other departments to transport the material.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14-FY15	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
Cardboard	180,440	154,500	17%	\$6,034.06	\$6,479.25



² The total recycled cardboard includes material picked up by vendor (Texas Disposal Systems). The County receives 86% of the revenue (based on tonnage) using the Official Board Market, SW Region Index.

Metals

Chapter 111 of the Travis County Policies, Procedures, and Regulations Manual states “scrap metals shall be recycled, not landfilled.” This program has been very successful throughout the County and especially at the Transportation and Natural Resources satellite offices, Purchasing Assets Warehouse and the Correctional Complex. Vendor roll-offs are placed at the Assets Warehouse, Eastside Service Center, Westside Service Center, and Del Valle Correctional Facility, and Weatherization. Metal recycling had a 23% reduction in generation of metal. The fluctuation has been indicated by changes in Road and Bridge projects.

- FY 2015, an estimated total of 362,306 pounds of metal were recycled for estimated revenue of \$21,408.95.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
All Metals	362,306 lbs	446,721lbs	\$27,641.69	\$21,408.95



“You’re only paid for what you do not throw away in regards to metal recycling”
 Shaun Auckland,
 Transportation and Natural Resources

Automotive

Texas law prohibits dumping used oil on land or into sewers or waterways. This includes the use of used oil as a dust suppressant. Texas has also banned used oil filters from being placed in or accepted for disposal in a landfill. The Waste Management Policy states all fleet maintenance wastes including waste tires used motor oil, used oil filters, antifreeze/coolant, lead-acid batteries, and Freon should be recycled or properly disposed.

The following quote from a TCEQ used oil brochure sums up the value of this program: "Only one gallon of used oil is needed to produce 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil, whereas 42 gallons of crude oil would be needed for the same 2.5 quarts of oil. Refining used oil takes 70% less energy than refining crude oil."

- Travis County also purchases and uses re-refined oil and antifreeze in all County vehicles.
- Used oil filters are banned from Texas landfills.
- Travis County's vendor is Reliable Tire. Reliable removes fleet tires and those collected from illegal disposal along county right-of-way and charges \$0.11 per pound.
- Recycling prevents lead and acid waste in these batteries from adversely affecting the county's groundwater, surface water, and the public's health.
- In FY2015 departments generating lead acid batteries began recycling which generated \$203.93 and diverted 2,810 lbs.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14-FY15	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
Motor Oil In gallons	4856	4302	+4%	\$3,984.75	\$4,023.67
Antifreeze In gallons	287	220	+8%	-	-
Tires	400 units	273	47.5%	\$414	\$429
Shredded Tires	126,340 lbs.	125,570	.61 %	-\$13,842.40	-\$13,897.40
Fleet Lead Acid Batteries³	413	387	6%	\$0	\$0
Used Oil Filters	12 drums	10 drums	20%	-	-

³ These numbers represent batteries recycled through a takeback program with interstate battery at our fleet locations.



Inventory Specialist, Darryl Bonhomm, goes above and beyond his position description to make sure all automotive fluids, batteries and filters are recycled.

Electronics

In the operations of an agency, electronics are an element of staff's everyday job function. Electronics include, computers or other devices and associated peripherals, keyboards, monitors, cell phones, telephones, deskside printers, scanners, televisions and batteries.

These items eventually have an end to their lifecycle, when the systems become obsolete. Travis County manages obsolete electronics two ways. One is through an agreement with Dell, Inc. to take-back all Dell manufactured equipment for recycling or reuse. Travis County receives a portion of the revenue from the electronics Dell recycles. For a full list of items Dell accepts view the Appendix. The items Dell does not accept are inventoried and managed through auction. The electronics managed through auction are not weight or separated from other auction items.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14-FY15	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
Dell Components	32,773.15	43,320.85	-24%	\$35,608.39	\$23,681.70
Other Electronics	0	0	-	\$0	\$0



“Much of what we call “e-waste” is not waste at all but rather whole electronic equipment or parts that can gain new life through reuse or recycling. By recycling products safely, we protect the health of people and the planet.” - Dell

Organic Materials

Organic materials, for instance yard trimmings, food scraps, and wood waste typically make up about one-third (by weight) of the municipal solid waste stream. These items are considered Source Separated Organics (SSO) in which the material is separated from other waste streams at the source.

Travis County Waste Management Policy in Chapter 111 addresses management of food waste, brush or yard trimmings, dead animal waste stating all of the above materials should not be landfilled. For example, “cafeteria food wastes shall be considered for composting.”

The animal composting program was implemented by Transportation and Natural Resources to save costs on transportation of dead animals collected from the “right of way”. Road and Bridge operations staff uses compostable bags for collection.

This year there is only one location managing food waste. The composting program at Travis County Correctional Complex was managed on an as-needed basis. The compost is utilized in the on-site, 3.5 acre non certified organic garden.

In Travis County, TNR Parks, FMD Grounds keeping staff, and TNR Road & Bridge maintain lawns, trees, shrubs, rights of way, and other landscaping in their day-to-day activities. The Facility Grounds keeping staff collects clippings and woody debris by truckload and delivers it to the contracted landfill to be utilized in the landfill’s compost program. Trimmings from Road & Bridge right of way work contributes to mulch used for the animal composting program. The TNR Parks arborist cuts dead trees and then chips them into mulch. The mulch is utilized on-site for spreading around trees, conserving water needed for irrigation.

Commodity	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Compost for Gardening	3000 lbs.	N/A	N/A
Animal Composting	143,760 lbs.	84,000 lbs.	+42%



*“Composting is the aerobic, biological decomposition of organic materials. Living microbes combine with oxygen to cause decomposition. The end result is a nutrient-rich, soil-additive called “compost”.
Keep America Beautiful*”

Construction, Shipping and Demolition Debris

In 2009 Commissioners Court approved a Green Building Policy to address that commercial and residential buildings nationally contribute 136 million tons of construction and demolition waste annually. Facilities Management Department was authorized to use the principles of LEED to the greatest extent practical and reasonable for renovation and rehabilitation projects budgeted below one million dollars; and each project will be assessed for the appropriate certification level with the goal of maximizing long-term benefits, such as operating and maintenance savings, while minimizing up-front costs. The types of material generated are packaging such as pallets, construction and demolition debris. In FY2015 there were no projects requiring the recycling of construction and demolition debris.

The Del Valle Correctional Facility, Eastside and Westside Service Centers are the current locations for recycling of pallets. The Del Valle Correctional Facility collects unneeded pallets from all Sheriff's Offices facilities. Facilities Management works with a vendor to separate and process construction and demolition debris to be reused or processed by a recycling company.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14-FY15	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
Pallets	6,914 units	2,634 units	62%	\$1,370.25	\$1,364.50
Construction Debris	0	199,990 lbs.	-	\$0	\$0



Plastic Film

Currently Travis County facilities that receive the single-stream recycling service can recycle a wide range of plastics, but not plastic film. The WMP states to recycle all plastic “whenever feasible”. Plastic film includes soft clear bags like the ones used for packing of vegetables, bread and shipping wrap, which is made of Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE). In 2013, the Del Valle Correctional facility began collecting all plastic film generated at their site. They are baling the plastic using a grant funded baler.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled
LDPE Plastic	2 bales	2 bales



“Data released by the United States Environmental Protection Agency shows that somewhere between 500 billion and a trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide each year.”
- National Geographic



Employee Programs

In 2013, the Travis County Commissioners' Court approved two policies to encourage diversion within county operations. Travis County and the City of Austin executed the Zero Waste Interlocal Agreement to establish common goals, provide for coordinated efforts, and cooperate to implement zero waste strategies. The Commissioners also approved an implementation plan for expansion of recycling throughout all County facilities and operations consistent with the City of Austin Universal Recycling Ordinance, where practical. Within the Interlocal Travis County, stated it will implement employee and public education campaigns.

Green Team Program

In May 2015, the Travis County Commissioners Court approved an Order regarding recycling participation by all departments and offices of Travis County. The Commissioners Court finds that implementation of a recycling participation agreement by all departments and offices of Travis County organization is necessary to achieve policies of optimizing material recovery, conservation and reuse. The order created the Green Team Program with full participation encouraged by all offices of Travis County to implement. Since then:

- A twenty minute online training was developed.
- The Green Team website and SharePoint was created as a resource.
- Overall departmental participation rate is at 74%.
- 56% of the overall County office spaces have a member.
- 30% of the members have completed the Green Team training
- The program demonstrates institutional practices that promote the use of renewable resources while decreasing waste produced through County operations and by County suppliers.



“A green team can have a dramatic benefit on a company's environmental and financial performance.”
Corporate Social Responsibility

Healthy Planet Healthy People

Each year, Earth Day is celebrated nationally to mark the anniversary of the beginning of the modern environmental movement when over 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to express their support for a healthy, sustainable environment. With that same spirit of living in a healthy, sustainable environment in mind and in celebration, Travis County TNR, Travis County Sheriff's Office, Facilities Management and CARE Program partnered to host Healthy Planet, Healthy People. At the event there were partner organizations and county vendors hosting booths with helpful information to encourage staff to be better stewards of our workplaces and planet.

Event	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Participants	450	250	-44%
Vendors	20	48	+140%



"I just wanted to commend you and your group for the hugely successful Earth Day event. It was such a fun event and the turnout was wonderful. We had a great time presenting fire safety tips."
- Debbie Ties, Emergency Services



Recycling Infrastructure Support

There are a few infrastructure needs for a productive employee recycling program. Staff will need to understand their container requirements through a recycling assessment also known as a waste audit. A recycling assessment is a meeting to discuss what services the department/division provides current Travis County conservation programs, and a tour of their office space. Once staff understands their requirements they can request more recycling containers. Presentations were given throughout the year at division and departmental meetings to understand what is recyclable and landfilled.

- Internal container request form created.
- An estimated 271 employees were engaged through presentations.
- Two new locations were added to the recycling services contract.

Commodity	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Recycling Assessments	13	13	No change
Containers Distributed	115	31	+73%
Presentations	7	14	-50%



“Employees who feel they can make an impact on social and environmental issues while on the job are twice as satisfied with work as those who don’t.”
 - Net Impact Study: “What Workers Want in 2012”

Conserve Lunch and Learns

At its simplest, it is an informal training event scheduled during the lunch hour. Employees who attend bring their lunches and eat them during the training session. The presentations have a focus on the environment with a variety of topics relating to conservation.

- A Houston Tillotson Professor, Jeff Wilson, Professor Dumpster presented on affordable housing and our relationship with stuff.
- In the Spring TreeFolks presented on “Pruning Right”
- City of Austin Water Utility presented on Rainwater Harvesting.
- Texas Disposal Systems presented on “Why Compost”

Lunch & Learns	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Presentations	4	4	-
Average Attendees	25	15	+40%



CONSERVE
TRAVIS COUNTY

Lunch&Learn

TODAY, November 12, 2014
Noon - 700 Lavaca, MFR B

Composting
with an Expert!

Learn the difference between commercial and backyard composting, learn what is compostable!

Join TDS Recycling and Composting Coordinator *Jen Sembera* for an very informative Lunch&Learn about composting!
Bring your lunch and get tips on how to make your compost truly *black gold!*




Spring have you feeling **creative?**

Bring your lunch and please join us & Laura Krause and learn about *Recycled Reads*, a zero waste facility who uses unsealable used books and recycles them into art pieces.

Recycled Reads Lunch & Learn
Wednesday, April 1st, Noon
700 Lavaca 1st Floor MFR C




Greetings from the **DUMPSTER**
Wish you were here!

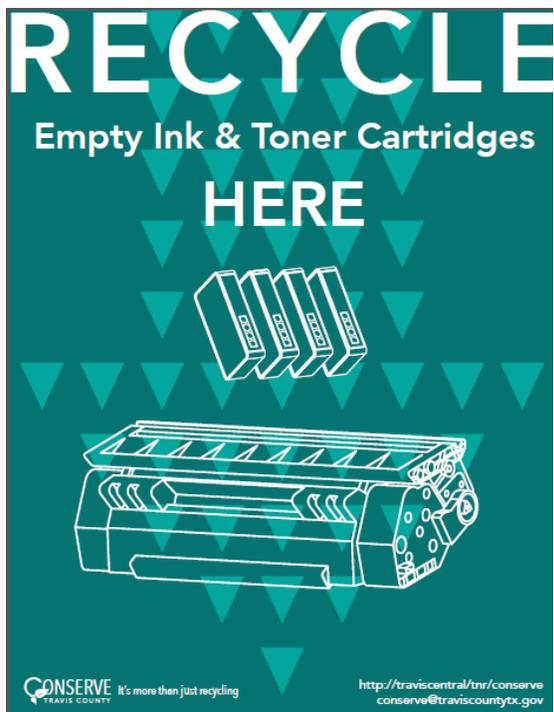
@ProfDumpster /// pd@dumpsterproject.org

Toner Ambassador Program

Chapter 111, Section 111.006.A.4, states "Spent toner cartridges shall be recycled and remanufactured toner cartridges purchased". Travis County uses over 3,600 inkjet and toner cartridges each fiscal year, which creates a significant amount of waste. When Travis County utilizes this toner recycling program it helps save disposal costs for up to 12,240 pounds of material.

The Toner Ambassador Program puts toner recycling into the generator's hands. A volunteer from each department or office space registers with the toner recycling program as a collection site. They are recognized with a certificate and appreciation letter. The Toner Ambassador collects the cartridges then ships them with a prepaid shipping label.

Commodity	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15	Revenue FY2015
Toner Cartridges Recycled	2148	513	+318%	\$1,150.75
Toner Ambassadors	51	0	+100%	N/A



"The boxes did not take up any space I put them in our copier rooms and it's working great." Celia Satterwhite, Court Clerk I, Constable Pct. 1

Universal Waste

Universal waste is a category of waste materials designated as “hazardous waste”, but containing materials that are very common which include batteries, pesticides, and mercury-containing equipment and lamp bulbs. Travis County operations generate these types of wastes which are addressed in the WMP. The policy states collection bins shall be established for batteries in accordance with 40 CFR 261.24 and 30 TAC Chapter 335, Subchapter R. Another material addressed for proper disposal in WMP policy is used florescent light bulbs should be recycled instead of landfilling them.

In 2014, TNR began to address the need for proper disposal of universal wastes by purchasing pre-paid containers for disposal of the above mentioned items. The departments currently participating to properly dispose of fluorescent light bulbs, ballasts, and batteries are Facilities Management, Sheriff's Office, and County Clerk

- This program initiative represents progress in diverting mercury-containing waste from a landfill.
- Facilities Management Department participated in first Universal Waste training.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14-FY15
Fluorescent Lamps	4,306	4,840	-12%
Lamp Ballasts	3,387	228	93%
Dry Cell Batteries	527 lbs	48 lbs	91%



“Streamlined universal waste regulations promote environmentally sound collection practices and increase the proper recycling or treatment of such wastes.”
 Texas Commission for Environmental Quality

Travis County Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office has been a leader in composting and recycling since 1991. The most active section of the Sheriff's Office in sustainability is the Correctional Complex. The staff at the facility is encouraged to be innovative and fiscally responsible through implementing green initiatives. The Del Valle recycling program began by collecting loose cardboard by the trailer load.

- In 2002 they began bailing the cardboard which increased the revenue price.
- Marketable Skills Section was directed by the Sheriff to set up a Greenhouse to accommodate an Aquaponics Program
- Strong waste diversion program, reduced landfill cost by 58%. This number is based on down-sizing containers from 10yrd to 6yrd.

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14-FY15	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
Cardboard	180,440	154,500	+17%	\$6,034.06	\$6,479.25



*"I was planning on growing my own garden, I didn't know how to do it at first, like to pick the vegetables and stuff. But now that I've learned, yeah, it's very useful, you know what I'm saying? I learned a lot."
Inmate Dante Beard*

Facilities Management Dept.

Travis County Facilities Management Department (FMD) is an essential cooperator in the County's recycling program. The custodial staff manages all the material staff generated in their day to day activities. Partnership with FMD occurs to place recycle containers where they are needed. TNR purchases the recycle containers and FMD delivers recycling containers to various departments.

- FMD has been promoting green building initiatives as well as supporting recycling by distributing recycling containers.
- Moving department delivered 93 office side containers and 21 Slim Jims to 10 of departments.
- Custodial staff attended a "Recycle Right" presentation given by Balcones Recycling.



*"With the help and commitment of facility managers to the recycling process, you can have a successful and cost-effective recycling program."
- Keep America Beautiful*



Office Side



Slim Jim

Purchasing Department

The Purchasing Office supports many different activities including management of the thousands of items classified as fixed assets. These assets range from electronics, vehicles, equipment, and office products. When these items are obsolete or no longer useful for a department the items are transported and managed by the Fixed Assets division of the Purchasing Office. Fixed assets are classified as either capital assets (assets with a useful life greater than one year and a value greater than \$5,000) or low value assets (assets with a value less than \$5,000 that must be secured and tracked because of liability issues).

Commodity	FY2015 Recycled	FY2014 Recycled	% Change FY14- FY15	Revenue FY2014	Revenue FY2015
Dell Components	32,773.15 lbs.	43,320.85 lbs.	-24%	\$35,608.39	\$23,681.70



“Every single purchase has hidden human health, environmental, and social impacts.”
National Association of Counties

Auditors Office

The Auditors office recognized they could improve their office recycling. Specifically, the office had an advocate (Jennifer Ballard) who requested an assessment to better understand their needs. During the assessment it was evaluated most staff utilized their single stream blue recycle container for confidential paper. The office agreed to pilot a two bin system with Jennifer's coordination. Each staff person was supplied a recycle bin if needed and a gray bin designated for confidential information. The confidential papers were separated from non-confidential to enable staff to place other recyclable items in their blue bin. The Auditors office manages their confidential paper following Records Management requirements.

- In April they began a battery recycling program.
- Provided gray containers for confidential information management
- Educated staff on what is recyclable and provided signage.



"People did say that they tend to recycle more often and like the two-bin recycling system. I have definitely received a lot of positive feedback regarding the two-bin system."

- Jennifer Ballard, Auditor Office Specialist Sr.



Transportation and Natural Resources

Transportation and Natural Resources Road and Bridge and Parks have several recycling initiatives that have been established since 1998. Road and Bridge manages the automotive recycling program, tires, metal, and dead animal composting. Parks has been very active in implementing new waste reduction and environmental practices into their parks.

- Reimers Ranch participates in the Night Sky program.
- Road and Bridge has supported the Christmas Tree Recycling program for twenty years.
- Five of Travis County Parks currently have recycling provided to the visitors.



*"Truthfully, I feel good about supporting our efforts preserving our environment and to encourage sustainability." Dan Chapman
Park Ranger Chief*



Citizen Programs

The Zero Waste Inter-local encourages public education campaigns to promote the initiative. Travis County does this through outreach and citizen programs. There are two citizen programs promoting zero waste and environmental stewardship. The volunteer based programs are T-Shirts for Hunger and Pharmaceutical Take-back event.

Outreach

Travis County reaches the public through use of social media, Conserve website, and the cable channel to promote programs.

Outreach	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Presentations	4	3	+25%
Website Hits	4,193	N/A	+100
Outreach Events	7	N/A	+100%



*“Much of recycling program success lies in how well-informed the community is, since they are the key participants.”
Carton Council*

T-Shirts for Hunger

T-Shirts for Hunger is a program created in partnership with the Travis County Sheriff's Correctional Department and Travis County Community Food Banks. They collect used, unwanted t-shirts from the community and work with the Correctional facility inmates to learn skills in sewing by transforming t-shirts into reusable bags that are then given to Travis County area food banks.

- Partners with the departments: Health and Human Services (HHSVS), Sheriff's Office, and Transportation and Natural Resources.
- T-shirt bags are stronger than plastic and paper.
- The program has the potential to saves HHSVS from spending \$5,811 on plastic bags each year.

T-Shirts for Hunger Program	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
T-Shirts Collected	2,998 lbs.	911 lbs.	+69 %
Reusable Shopping Bags Created	1,499	456	+328%



“Although, Travis County is exempt from the city ordinance, we want to be as green as possible.”
 - Joy Stollings, Social Services Program Administrator, Health and Human Services and Veterans Services

Pharmaceutical Take-back

On September 26, 2015, Travis County Constable Precinct 5 and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) partnered to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Residents brought their medications for disposal to Travis County Constable- Pct. 5 1003 Guadalupe St Austin, TX 78701. The service was free and anonymous, no questions asked.

- Prevents the usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.
- In its eight previous Take Back events throughout the U.S., DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.8 million pounds—more than 2,400 tons—of pills.

Pharmaceutical Take-back	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Participation	29	N/A	+100%
Weight	90 lbs.	N/A	+100%

DRUGS | MEDICINES PHARMACEUTICALS

Is your medicine cabinet filled with drugs or medications you no longer use? Do you have excess, inherited, or expired prescription or over-the-counter drugs?

Proper disposal of medicines protects you and the earth by preventing:

- Poisoning of children or pets
- Misuse of medication can lead to serious health concerns
- Medicines from entering streams and rivers

How to Dispose of Medicines Properly?

Do not give medications to anyone else other than the person prescribed. Doctors prescribe drugs based on a person's specific symptoms and medical history. A drug that works for you could be dangerous for someone else. When in doubt about proper disposal, talk to your pharmacist.

**September 26, 2015, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day**

Festival	Collection Site	Address	Zip
Travis County Constable - Pct 5	Travis County Constable Pct 5	1003 Guadalupe St	78701
University of Texas Police Dept.	University of Texas Student Services Building	800 West Dean Keeton	78712
Austin Police Dept.	Cornerstone Church	1105 Eand	78723
Austin Police Dept.	Austin Household Hazardous Waste Facility	2524 Center Dr	78744
DEA & UT College of Pharmacy	Barton Creek Square Mall Parking Lot	2903 South Highway	78746
Bea Cave Police Dept	Bea Cave Police Dept Best Buy Parking Lot	12909 Shipe Parkway	78738

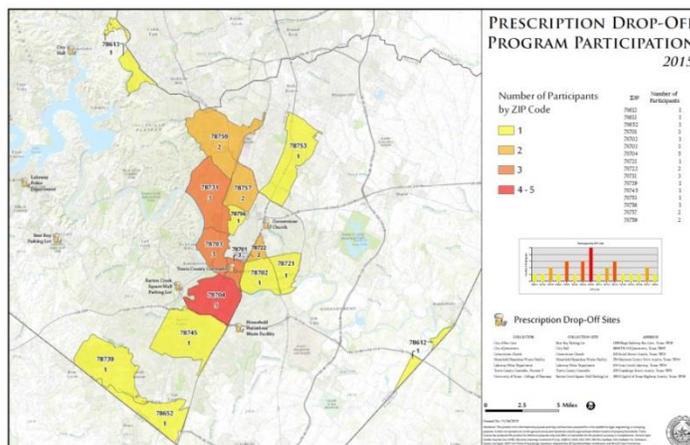


Home Disposal (if drop-off or mail-back is not practical)

1. Follow directions on the label or ask your pharmacist.
2. Observe: empty drug containers into a sealable bag or a disposable container with a lid.
3. Mix the drugs with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or cat litter.
4. Consider to remove any personal information, including Rx number, on the empty containers.
5. Place empty drug containers in the blue recycling cart.
6. Place the sealed container with the drug mixture in the trash can.

For more information, visit: www.AustinTexas.gov/Drugs

“Prescription drug abuse is a huge problem and this is a great opportunity for folks around the country to help reduce the threat.”
- Chuck Rosenberg, Drug Enforcement Agency Acting Administrator

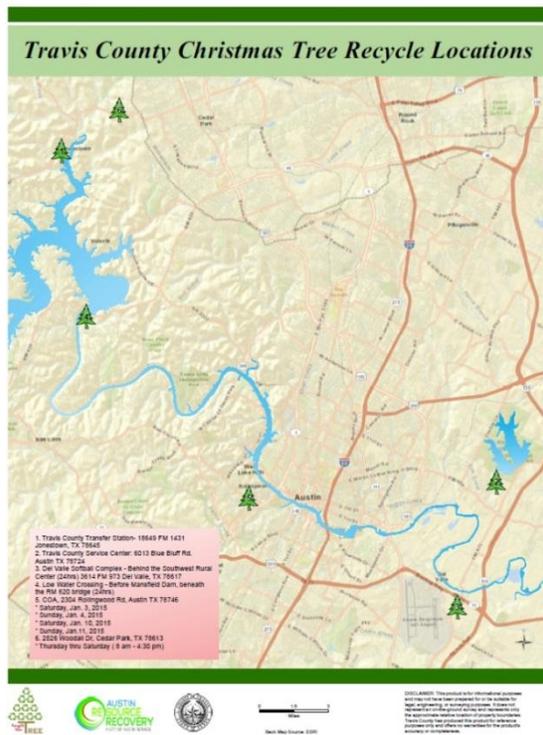


Christmas Tree Program

The Travis County Christmas Tree recycling program has been established for twenty years to provide the county residents a way to properly dispose of their trees.

- The program is set-up for rural residents.
- This program gives a tree another life; all of the trees are mulched.

Event	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Number of Trees Collected	1195	503	+58%
Collection Sites	2	3	+33%



Lake Travis Underwater Cleanup

The Lake Travis Underwater Cleanup is the BIGGEST scuba diving and shoreline cleanup in Texas. The event is hosted by the Colorado River Alliance, Keep Austin Beautiful, and Travis County Parks. Each year, local dive shops, residents, and other volunteers gathered to collect trash from the bottom of Lake Travis and shoreline, while also raising public awareness of the importance of Lake Travis and the Highland Lakes.

- First time to perform a litter characterization study on collected debris from divers.
- 21 cleanup locations along and in Lake Travis: 10 shoreline and 11 dive cleanups which equals to 26 miles of shoreline cleaned.
- 1,768 volunteer hours contributed to clean in and along the lake
- The most unique item collected on the shoreline was a Styrofoam block with a plant growing through it.

Event	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15
Number of Volunteers	884	750	+11.7%
Litter Removed	5.17 tons	3.3 Tons	+63%



“Thank you for all you are doing for our community!”
 - LTUCU Volunteer

Partnerships

Travis County has several partnerships with current service providers, local non-profits and incorporated cities to move our mission and zero waste goals forward. These partnerships are created through inter-locals, service agreements and mutual interests in the environment.



City of Austin

In 2014 an agreement was formally executed between Travis County and City of Austin to share the goal of developing, promoting, and applying zero waste and sustainability strategies for the benefit of current and future generations.

City of Austin (COA) Resource Recovery Department continues to be an active collaborator on several waste diversion programs with Travis County. Travis County has partnered with COA to have household battery collection locations at several County facilities.

Household Hazardous Waste Program

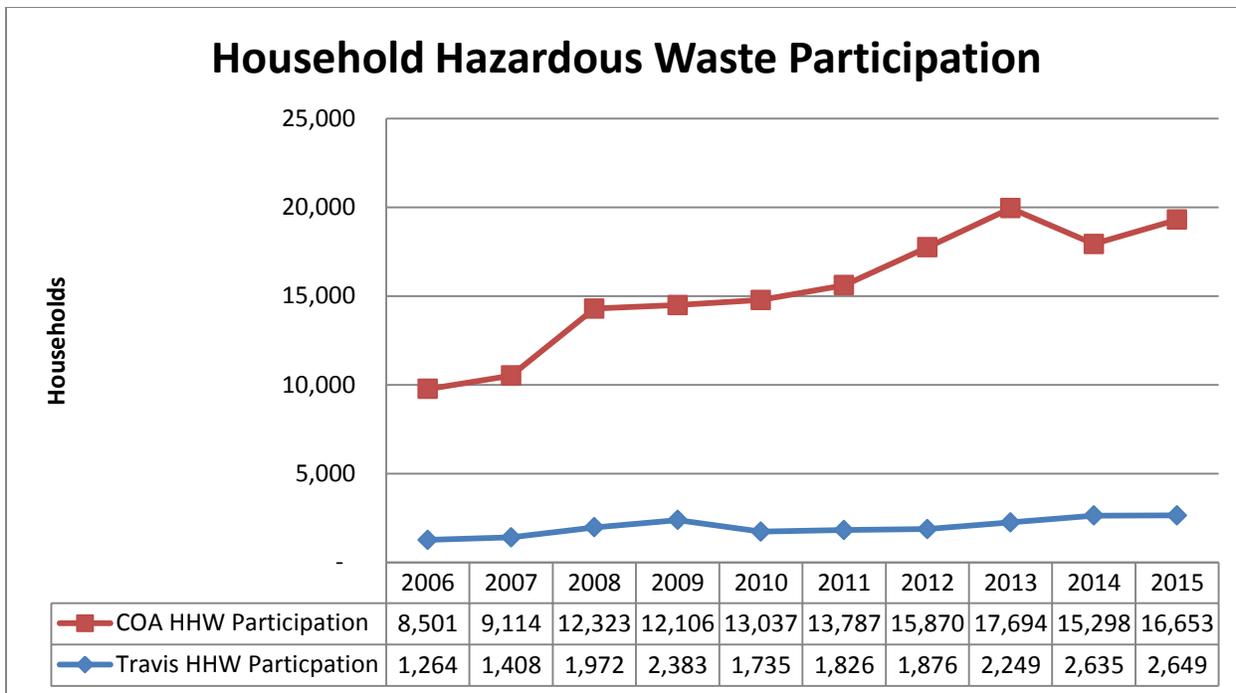
Travis County continues to maintain an inter-local agreement with the City of Austin under which County constituents can use the City's hazardous waste collection facility. The County pays for a full time employee and a percentage of the disposal costs.

- The facility has been mandated by the City of Austin Resource Recovery Director to increase diversion as much as possible.
- Items dropped off at the facility are evaluated for reuse.
- This agreement/partnership is in its 19th year.

Commodity	FY2015	FY2014	% Change FY14-FY15	Cost FY2014	Cost FY2015
County Households Served	2,649	2635	+.5 %	\$105,427.16	\$114,615.35
Diversion	43%	41%	+.04%	-	-



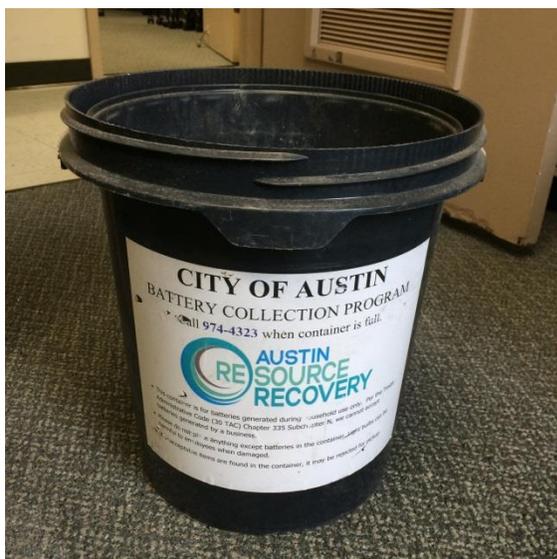
*"Excellent use of our tax dollars". Drove up, two friendly guys were quick to unload several rusted, disgusting looking cans of what I think was once paint (left by a previous homeowner) unloaded my car and I was on my way within minutes."
- Jennie K., Customer*



Household Battery Recycling

Recycling batteries helps sustain the environment, because batteries contain metals that can be harmful to the environment if not disposed of properly. Travis County staff has stepped forward with their concerns on battery disposal from home and work. These staff members made the commitment to monitor a battery collection site at their buildings. They contact COA when there needs to be a collection.

Battery Disposal	FY2015	FY2014
Number of Locations	6	4
Amount Recycled	928 lbs.	N/A



“As the proliferation of mobile devices and other battery-powered gadgets continue to grow rapidly, it’s more important than ever for consumers to know where to responsibly recycle their used batteries.”
 - Tim Warren, Call2Recycle



Keep Austin Beautiful & Anti-litter Education Program Partnership

Keep Austin Beautiful is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide resources and education to engage citizens in building more beautiful communities. Travis County and Keep Austin Beautiful have been in a partnership since 1993.

- Lake Travis Clean-up
- Adopt a Creek program
- Support cleanups in Travis County's parks
- Supported Travis County Executives in a cleanup for United Way

2015 Program Impact	
 26,000 volunteers	 9,200 youth educated
 113 tons trash collected	 30 student service projects
 65,000 services hours	 70 planting projects



"I keep Austin beautiful by picking up certain trash I see, when I am walking in the public parks with my wife and two sons" - Yeriel

Ecology Action

Ecology Action's mission is to create a healthier environment through resource recovery operations, brownfield remediation, and zero waste initiatives in central Texas. In 2015 Travis County Parks also partnered with Ecology Action and AmeriCorps program to beautify Southeast Metro Park and Balcones Canyonlands Preserve by removing illegally dumped material.

- A tremendous amount of material was removed from one tract on a Balcones Canyonlands priority project.
- The project value was immense for Parks it enabled parks to utilize staff time for other efforts.
- An outreach opportunity to engage with AmeriCorps participants from all over the United States.

Debris Removal from Natural Spaces	FY2015
Total Litter Removed	2,370 lbs.
Hours Donated	427



“We did indeed remove an enormous amount of fencing that needed to be taken off the preserve. There is no way the BCP staff would ever have time or energy to undertake that type of project. Only volunteers were going to make that *happen*.”
 - Sally Wolfe, Natural Resources Balcones Canyon Lands Preserve



Leave No Trace

The member-driven Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics is a non-profit with the mission to teach people of all ages how to enjoy the outdoors responsibly and is the most widely accepted outdoor ethics program used on public lands. Leave No Trace Selected Travis County Parks as an Endangered 'Hot Spot' and have hosted events to help raise awareness about natural areas around the country facing the threat of irreversible environmental damage. The Hot Spot Program, a key component of the Leave No Trace in Every Park initiative, raises community awareness and brings solutions to popular natural areas facing heavy recreational use and consequently, the threat of harm to trails, parks and open space areas. The Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers travel throughout the country providing public education about how to reduce impacts in the outdoors.

- 7 Days, 7 Programs, 365 Attendees.
- Over 15 Trails Camouflaged, 65 Staff trained, and 2 REI Presentations.
- Travis County created a Public Service Announcement to promote Leave No Trace ethics.



*"We were excited to work with the Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers to help educate our community and raise awareness for the future enjoyment and preservation of our beautiful landscape," - Dan Perry
Parks District Manager,
Travis County Parks.*

Appendix

Dell Take-back Program Summary

Product Type	Billable	Product Type	Billable	
AC Adapter	NO	Television	YES	
Battery	NO	Terminal	YES	
Cathode Ray Tube	YES	Toner	NO	
Computer Bag	NO	Uninterruptible Power Supply	YES	
Copier	YES	Workstation	YES	
Flat Panel	YES	Internal	External	Non Computer
Flat Panel Monitor	YES	CD Drive	Array	DVD Player
Hard Drive	NO	CDRW	Cables	Floppy disk
Hard drive	NO	Disk Controller	External Drive	Handheld Computer
Internal Computer Components	NO	Floppy Drive	Keyboard	Juke Box
LCD Monitor	YES	Motherboard	KVM	Laser Disc Player
Memory	NO	RAID Controller	Modem	Manuals
Misc.	NO	Sound Card	Mouse	MP3 Player
Monitor	YES	Video Card	Multiplexor	Paper Shredder
Networking Equipment	YES	Memory	Router	PDA
Non Computer Related Part	NO	Media Drive	Speakers	Plotter
Notebook	YES		Tape Drive	Pointing Device
PC	YES		Zip Drive	Power strip
Port Replicator	NO			Printer Tray
POS	YES			Radio
Printer	YES			Scanner
Processors	NO			Surge Protector
Projector	YES			TV Stand
Rack/Cabinet	YES			Typewriter
Scanner	YES			VHS Player
Server	YES			
SPAM	NO			
Storage	YES			
Switch	YES			
Telephone	NO			

Iron Mountain Environmental Report

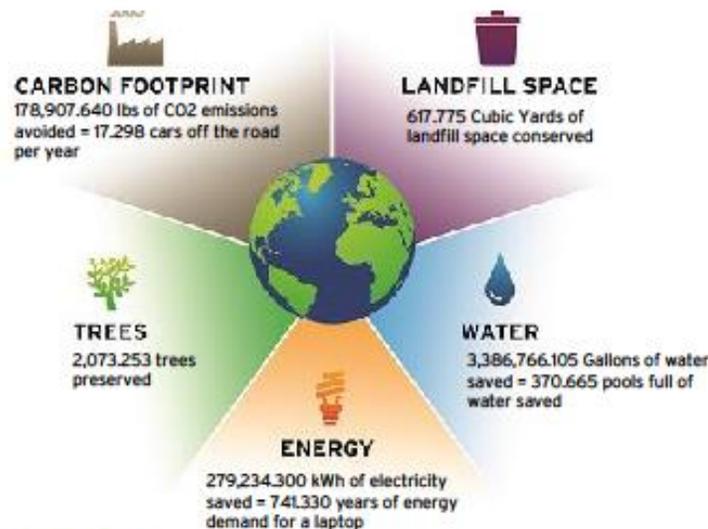


REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

AF249 TRAVIS COUNTY

, ALL DEPARTMENTS

Your organization's eco-friendly decision to securely shred and recycle 123.555 short (US) ton(s) [247,109.450 Pounds] paper with Iron Mountain resulted in the following environmental benefits between October 2014 and September 2015:



UNDERSTANDING YOUR RESULTS

Once Iron Mountain securely shreds information, the processed materials are transported to paper mills for pulping. This destruction process provides benefits to both the security of your business and to the global environment by reducing pollution, preserving landfill space and likewise saving trees, water and energy resources.

The above results are calculated based on the shredding orders serviced on your account(s) during the time period referenced, using average container weight calculations. For additional information regarding the environmental benefits of Iron Mountain® Secure Shredding solutions, visit our website at www.ironmountain.com/services/secure-shredding.

REFERENCES

All calculations for metrics in this report were calculated by an independent third party named Quantis, a leading lifecycle assessment consulting firm specializing in supporting companies to measure, understand and manage the environmental impacts of their products, services and operations.

-  Assumes that, for each short ton of paper recycled, 17 trees are preserved (USEPA 2013a. Communicating the Benefits of Recycling. <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservation/localgov/benefits/>).
-  Assumes the density of dry office paper entering landfill is 5 cubic yards per short ton (Iron Mountain's measurement).
-  Assumes a notebook laptop computer is rated 120 watts, used eight hours a day, 365 days per year (estimation).
-  Assumes a household in-ground pool volume of 12' x 24' x 5' (estimation)
-  Assumes each short ton of CO2-eq emissions saved is the equivalent to 0.189 cars taken off road annually (USEPA 2013b. Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html>).

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Q4 2014 - Q3 2015: Top 20 products purchased

- Combined spend on top 5 products accounted for 7% of total spend
- Combined spend on top 20 products accounted for 14% of total spend

TRAVIS CNTY
Q4 2014 - Q3 2015

greeneroffice
OfficeMax

Top 20 Product Purchases

Rank	SKU	Description	Department	Spend\$	Spend%	Primary Attribute	PCR%	TRC%	Primary Ecolabels	GreenerOffice™ Rating
1	943183	BOOK,RECORD,14.25X9.5,300-PG	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 16,558	3%		0%	0%	N/A	Meets Norms
2	967244	LABEL,FILE FOLDER,1UP,2BX,WHIT	LABELS & FORMS	\$ 10,943	2%					Non-Green / Unknown
3	307942	FOLDER,2.5 RIGHT OF CTR,1 DIV	FILING & BINDING	\$ 5,166	1%	Recycled	30%	60%	N/A	Mid Green
4	636885	SHREDDER,26SHT,XCUT,C-480C	TECHNOLOGY	\$ 4,980	1%					Non-Green / Unknown
5	209136	DVD-R,SPINDLE,100PK	TECHNOLOGY	\$ 4,852	1%					Non-Green / Unknown
6	810838	FOLDER,LTR,1/3CUT,100BX,MANILA	FILING & BINDING	\$ 4,299	1%	Recycled	30%	30%	N/A	Mid Green
7	488684	FOLDER,CLASS,LTR,2.5-2-DIV,GRN	FILING & BINDING	\$ 4,005	1%	Recycled	30%	50%	N/A	Mid Green
8	532268	ENVELOPE,REDISEAL,6X9,28KFT	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 3,703	1%					Non-Green / Unknown
9	768300	FOLDER, CLASS, 2DIV, LTR, R	FILING & BINDING	\$ 3,131	1%	Recycled	30%	100%	N/A	Mid Green
10	214589	PLANNER,WKLY,APPT,AAG,8X11,BLK	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 2,896	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
11	297726	LABEL,SR,RET,WHIT,8000CT	LABELS & FORMS	\$ 2,721	0%	Responsible Forestry	0%	0%	FSC Mix	Light Green
12	914573	CALENDAR,MLY,WALL,AAG,16X23,WH	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 2,663	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
13	473576	TAPE,INVISIBLE,3/4"X1296',PK16	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 2,539	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
14	914609	CALENDAR,MLY,WALL,AAG,8X11,WH	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 2,390	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
15	493926	TONER,F302T,HY,UMR,BLACK	INK & TONER	\$ 2,374	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
16	914582	CALENDAR,MLY,WALL,AAG,20X30,WH	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 2,296	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
17	620650	CD-R,SPINDLE,80 MIN,100PK	TECHNOLOGY	\$ 2,177	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
18	992701	POCKET,FILE,LTR,3 1/2" CAP	FILING & BINDING	\$ 2,152	0%	Recycled	30%	30%	N/A	Mid Green
19	213572	PLANNER,WKLY,DM,8X11,BLK	OFFICE ESSENTIALS	\$ 2,126	0%					Non-Green / Unknown
20	473256	DIVIDERS,8TAB,25SETS,W/WHIT LBL	FILING & BINDING	\$ 2,112	0%	Recycled	20%	20%	N/A	Light Green