



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Waste Prevention & Recycling Plan

Sustainability Team Leader Rachel Getman, 503-988-6768, B-314

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office provides quality, cost-effective prevention, intervention and detention services to the communities of Multnomah County. We will improve the quality of life in Multnomah County by reducing crime and the fear of crime through innovation, partnerships and teamwork.

One of the major functions of the Multnomah County's Sheriff's Office is to provide daily, 24/7 supervision for approximately 1540 inmates in two facilities; Multnomah County Justice Center (MCDC) and Inverness Jail (MCIJ). To support the two jail facilities and other operations, the Sheriff's office employs 29 Administrative staff, 549 Law Enforcement and Corrections Deputies as well as 214 support staff working in 5 locations, MCDC, MCIJ, Hassalo Warehouse, Multnomah County Court House and the Hansen Building.

MCDC/MCIJ food services, mattress replacement and laundry facilities are key Sheriff's waste generating activities, where the greatest recyclable opportunities exist. The Sheriff's Office Waste Prevention and Recycling Team has identified six activities that will significantly divert current solid waste and potential recyclables from the waste stream, helping to contribute to the county's 2010 goal that 65% of waste be recycled. These activities include:

- 1) Divert approximately 500 inmate mattresses annually away from the waste stream to a mattress recycler.
- 2) Reduce the use of approximately 210,000 Styrofoam cups annually and reduce/recycle an untold number of plastic containers at all Sheriff's Office facilities.
- 3) Routinely review all Sheriff's Office facilities for proper recycling collection receptacles and signage. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the right containers with signage are in place. Our plastic recycling program should also include placing #4 and #5 collection containers in areas where these plastics exist.
- 4) Coordinate with the Sheriff's Office Criminal Justice Information System Unit to ensure that used electronic equipment is diverted to recyclers, thus eliminating hazardous waste from landfills.
- 5) Expand current correctional facility kitchen compost collection programs, diverting a greater percentage of food prep and post consumer waste to compost collection.
- 6) Embark on an education program thereby empowering all staff, individually and collectively to assist in our sustainability movement.