

CALENDAR YEAR 2008
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RECYCLING REPORT

PROCLAMATION

Mayoral Directive No. 96-2, requires city agencies to establish practices of waste prevention and reuse of goods and supplies within their respective operations and to report annually on office waste and prevention reuse measures adopted and implemented.

INTRODUCTION

The New York City Recycling Law and the rules and regulations promulgated there under impose obligations that the New York City Department of Education (“Department”), every individual facility within the Department's jurisdiction, and every school administration operating within the Department's jurisdiction, implement, make known and maintain a recycling plan for each school building, office building, or other facility operating under the Department's jurisdiction. Additionally, the Department shall implement, make known and maintain procedures for waste reduction and reuse of office paper and other supplies, wherever feasible.

As required by Chancellor’s Regulation A-850, the following constitutes the Department of Education’s recycling efforts for the period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008.

Revision of Chancellor’s Regulation A-850

The Department of Education revised and posted Chancellor’s Regulation A-850 regarding Solid Waste Management (Recycling) in August 2008. The Regulation is issued in accordance with Chapter 3 of Title 16 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York and in compliance with Mayoral Directive 96-2, which requires city agencies to establish practices of waste prevention and reuse within their operations.

The Regulation stipulates the following:

- I. Recycling must be implemented in all school buildings, office buildings, and facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education.
- II. All school/building Principals are responsible for designating a Recycling & Waste Reduction Coordinator from the school’s administrative or teaching staff and for the development and implementation of a site-specific School Recycling and Waste Reduction Plan. The School Recycling and Waste Reduction Coordinator and Principal will confer with representatives from all sectors of the school, including food services and custodial staff, and wherever possible, parents and students, in developing and implementing the School Recycling and Waste Reduction Plan. Additionally, they will promote / enforce recycling practices, as indicated in the building recycling plan, with the students and staff. Wherever possible, all DOE employees will promote recycling practices and make every effort to reuse materials and practice waste reduction methods including during the procurement of supplies and materials in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department. As of December 31st, 2008 the Department has a total of **1,203** assigned Coordinators and Recycling Plans in place. This is an increase of 803 coordinators since June 3, 2008 when DOE testified before the City Council that only 400 coordinators were in place but plans were underway to increase the number significantly.
- III. Each Integrated Service Center (ISC) Director will designate at least one Recycling & Waste Reduction Coordinator who will be responsible for supporting the school/building based Recycling & Waste Reduction Coordinator’s and ensuring that the required Recycling plans are in place and being enforced. Additionally, the ISC Coordinators will attend monthly meetings and

participate in supporting the Department of Sanitation's recycling regulations within their jurisdiction. As of December 31st, 2008 the Department has a total of **9** Coordinators assigned to the ISCs.

- IV. The Division of School Facilities will designate a Recycling and Waste Reduction Coordinator responsible for setting recycling policies, guidelines and targets. The Coordinator acts as a liaison with the Department of Sanitation and offers support and guidance to the ISC and school based coordinators. In addition, the Coordinator manages monthly meetings with the recycling team members, reports on citywide recycling and solid waste issues, and promotes waste prevention and conservation methods.

Golden Apple Award Winners

The Department of Sanitation's Golden Apple Awards offers New York City schools prizes and recognition for their recycling programs, waste prevention initiatives and beautification projects and serve as evidence of the schools' dedication to the principles of recycling and reuse. The three contests in which the schools compete are divided into three categories (elementary, intermediate and high school) and are as follows.

- a. "Super Recycler" – Awards cash prizes to schools in each borough for model school recycling programs that comply with Sanitation regulations. In 2008 the following eight (8) public schools were recognized and awarded a total of \$22,500:

John F. Kennedy High School	Roy Campanella OTC P721K
PS 15 Patrick F. Daly	PS 230 Doris Cohen
PS 40 Augustus Saint-Gaudens	PS 8 Shirlee Solomon
IS 52 Inwood	MS 224 Manhattan East School
E.R. Murrow High School	High School for Environmental Studies

- b. "The Reduce and Reuse Challenge" – Awards cash prizes to schools in each borough for the most innovative and successful waste prevention practices. The following fourteen (14) public schools were recognized and awarded a total of \$44,250:

PS 46 E.C. Blum	PS 364 The Earth School
PS 229 Emanuel Kaplan	PS 205 Alexander Graham Bell
PS 94 David Porter	PS 8 Shirlee Solomon
School for Collaborative Studies	PS 184 Shuang Wen
IS 72 P.O. Rocco Laurie	IS 75 Frank D. Paulo
John F. Kennedy HS	Roy Campanella OTC P721K
HS for Environmental Studies	P233Q @ 875

- c. "Team Up to Clean Up" - Awards cash prizes to schools in each borough for the most outstanding community clean-up and neighborhood beautification projects The following ten public schools were recognized and awarded a total of \$29,250:

PS 15 Patrick F. Daly	PS 205 Alexander Graham Bell
P224 @ 26Q Rufus King	East New York Family Academy
PS 47 Chris Galas	John Dewey High School
HS for Environmental Studies	Richmond High School
Thomas Alva Edison High School	Tottenville High School

Project Clean Sweep

During the spring of 2008 the Department launched Project Clean Sweep. The intent of the initiative is to remove from the schools (and recycle when possible) obsolete books and IT equipment, which in addition

to the broader environmental benefits will help free up space in the schools for instructional use.

A total of 773 schools registered for the program. Once registered, a site visit was conducted to assess the books and IT equipment and identify space for temporary storage that would be least disruptive to the school. On the scheduled day the contracted transportation company retrieved the material and took it to its warehouse where it was sorted for sale or recycling.

Through this program all books were either resold or recycled. IT equipment not identified for resale (usually greater than three years old) was retired by Dell and went through a process of certified destruction. This included the destruction of the hard drive and the resale or reuse of all parts and commodities. If a school's books and IT equipment were determined to have value, the first \$500 was given to the school and the remainder was applied to the cost of the transportation contract. Approximately *2.6 million pounds* of books were recycled and *828,000 pounds* of IT equipment were sent to Dell for evaluation. The program generated \$43,000 in revenue for the schools.

Office of School Food

With the cooperation of school kitchen staff, the Office of School Food recycled over **192,000** cardboard boxes and **1.1 million** # 10 cans. Additionally, School Food began a pilot program in **21** schools to recycle styrene food serving trays. The pilot ran for approximately 20 days in Manhattan and the Bronx and resulted in the diversion of 7,000 pounds of trays from the waste stream. The company that recycles the trays into packaging products is based in California and was scheduled to build a recycling plant on the east coast by September 2008. Unfortunately, construction has been delayed due to the current financial instability

Light Bulb Recycling

In accordance with State and federal laws, the Division of School Facilities (DSF) has instituted a citywide light bulb recycling program for all light bulbs containing heavy metals. DSF issued a circular to all custodians and building managers describing the program and partnered with a recycling contractor to process the light bulbs and prepare them for proper disposal. During 2008, DSF has recycled over **162 tons** of light bulbs containing heavy metals Citywide.

New York City Green Schools Guide and Rating System

As a result of Local Law 86 (2007), New York City is among the first school districts in the nation to have sustainable school guidelines enforced by law. The Department plans to exceed the requirements of Local Law 86 by mandating certification under its Green Schools Guideline Rating system for not just 50% of projects but all applicable projects. All designs that begin after January 1, 2007 are in accordance with these Guidelines and will meet stringent energy and water conservation requirements. The Guide also requires recycling during both construction and occupancy, and calls for the use of building materials with specific levels of recycled content.

For new buildings, the School Construction Authority's standard specifications require that recyclable and reusable construction and demolition debris be diverted from disposal in landfills and incinerators. Contractors are required to recycle and/or salvage non-hazardous construction and demolition waste, and develop and implement a construction waste management plan that identifies materials to be diverted from disposal.

SUMMARY

The Department of Education is consistently seeking recycling solutions to better our environment. Through these measures, and in conjunction with recycling awareness and educational / outreach programs, it is our expectation that the solid waste generated by the Department will be significantly reduced and that a greater percentage of building waste will continue to be recycled.