

INFOSHEET

Green Business is Good Business

GREENERFUTURES

Getting Employees to Support Eco-efficiency

To get the most out of your eco-efficiency plan, you need to have employees and management all working together as a team. Here are some helpful hints as provided by the Eco-Efficiency Center at Dalhousie University.

The program must have clearly defined intentions:

- Explain the reasons for adopting an environmental program to the employees.
- Announce top management commitments to reduce waste and your intent to take action.
- Have the owner or another member of senior management take the time to speak to employees directly about the benefits of the program.
- Keep it simple.
- Remind employees that recycling does not take a large amount of extra effort, as well as being environmentally sound.

Make the Program Convenient

- Place appropriate signage in work areas and around equipment. Clearly label recycling and organic containers.
- Waste, recyclable, and organic material containers should be strategically placed throughout the business.

Communicate Clearly

- Give employees the opportunity to prepare for a waste reduction program.
- Regular, clear communication of both motivational and operational information to employees is vital to the success of any green office effort.
- Train employees so they know which materials should be recycled, composted, and the importance of keeping materials segregated and clean.
- Offer informal information and training Encourage feedback from all employees
- Don't stop communicating after the program is launched.
- Participate in special events for Earth Day, Environment Week, and Waste Reduction Week.
- Monitor your progress regularly.
- Promote your successes
- Thank Employees
- Remind employees of their role in the success of the program

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