

The Devens Eco-Efficiency Center has been helping local establishments gain cost-saving efficiencies, reduce demand on natural and material resources, and improve environmental and social conditions in their community since 2007.

2014 Annual Report

Highlights

- **PROVIDED VALUE TO 68 ENTITIES**, including businesses, organizations, schools, and service groups located in Devens and 20 area towns.
- **HELD EIGHT EDUCATIONAL FORUMS** that raised awareness of new efficiency technologies, green building practices, and multiple environmental, health and safety-focused topics.
- **FOUND NEW USE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ~ 75,000 POUNDS OF ITEMS AND MATERIALS** through The Great Exchange and saved purchase and disposal costs for 42 partnered entities.
- **HOSTED FOUR COMMUNITY EVENTS THAT ENGAGED LOCAL EMPLOYEES**, including a collection of toiletries for individuals and families in need, a blood drive, and clearing of a new hiking trail.
- **COMPILED THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN** with growth goals and objectives that will be supported by an investment received from the Devens Enterprise Commission.

Sustainably Smart

THE ECO-EFFICIENCY CENTER HOSTED EIGHT EDUCATIONAL FORUMS DURING THE YEAR; TWENTY-TWO BUSINESSES TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THESE OFFERINGS.

- A workshop on water efficiency technologies raised awareness of cost-effective products that reduce water consumption in manufacturing activities.
- Roundtable forums brought together professionals with environmental, health and safety (EHS) responsibilities to share knowledge and experience related to topics such as “Incidents + Accidents = Lessons Learned” and “Safety Training Strategies for New and Temporary Hires.”
- A tour of New England Studios provided a fun venue to learn about the green building practices incorporated in this new facility and network with local peers. Other meetings explored collaborative education opportunities and shared updates on development projects in Devens.



Casting call for local firms interested in green building practices and networking.

A sincere THANK YOU goes to the members of the DEVENS ENTERPRISE COMMISSION, whose support ensures the Devens Eco-Efficiency Center is able to contribute to the sustainable development of the Devens region.



Above: Local companies responded to the call for personal care products needed by the Red Cross. Below: Local employees celebrated Earth Day by clearing a new hiking trail.



Community Events Bring Businesses Together

- DEVENS COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE** attracted 28 donors from 13 facilities who were thanked with raffle prizes, disc golf demos, emergency vehicle tours, and live music! Partners included the American Red Cross, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Devens Fire Department, Devens Commons Center, and Hawks Nest Disc Golf.
- Bemis, Comrex, Johnson Matthey, Northrop Grumman, Rofin Baasel, SpringHill Suites and other firms supported the **COLLECTION OF PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS NEEDED FOR RED CROSS COMFORT KITS** provided to those displaced by emergencies and disasters. Six large boxes of toiletries were donated by their generous employees.
- The Center, partnered with Friends of the Oxbow, **HOSTED TWO EARTH DAY ACTIVITIES**. An educational hike along the Goddard Trail that attracted 20 employees of 11 local businesses. An additional 15 employees from 5 facilities donated time to clear a new hiking trail for U.S. Fish and Wildlife. A special thanks to the team from Johnson Matthey for their enthusiasm for this project.

EcoStar Helps Members Shine

THE 15 MEMBERS OF ECOSTAR INCLUDED MANUFACTURERS, SCHOOLS, MUNICIPAL ENTITIES.



These institutions received dedicated assistance with initiatives that strengthened the sustainability of their operations, waived registration fees for unlimited participation in educational forums, and priority consideration for free items and materials available through the Great Exchange. Facilities also gained access to a “members only” GoogleGroup forum that enables professionals with responsibility for environmental, health and/or safety issues to easily communicate with local peers to share helpful resources, request information, etc.

The Eco-Efficiency Center thanks these establishments for their commitment to being better stewards for the community and the environment and for their participation and support of the EcoStar program.



Francis W. Parker
Charter Essential
School

JM
Johnson Matthey



Reduced Waste = Reduced Costs

THE ECO-EFFICIENCY CENTER ASSISTED SEVERAL FACILITIES WITH RECYCLING AND REUSE INITIATIVES.

Diversion programs provide significant savings, as the cost to dispose recyclables is significantly less expensive than solid waste. The Center also responded to opportunities to divert materials from the landfill, including:

- Identified outlets where SpringHill Suites and other hotels could donate furniture, mattresses and box springs being replaced as part of facility upgrades. Diversions provided significant savings in avoided disposal costs and made valued items available to individuals and families in need.
- Found new uses for 80 pieces of office furniture rescued by Devens Recycling Center during a cleanout.
- Sorted materials for recycling or composting during Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce's Taste of Nashoba event to reduce the amount of trash generated.

The Center also kept restaurants and food service providers informed of the State's new requirement for entities that generate one ton or more of organic waste per week to separate this material for composting or use in renewable energy generation. The composting program that the Eco-Efficiency Center helped to establish at the Gardner Ale House is featured in an educational video being used by the Department of



Left: Waiteco employees were happy with their new chairs from The Great Exchange.
Right: Parker Charter students put New England Sheets' product to the test!

THE GREAT EXCHANGE Keeps On Giving

NEARLY 75,000 POUNDS OF MATERIALS WERE REPURPOSED THROUGH THE GREAT EXCHANGE. In addition to keeping valuable resources out of the landfill, 42 participating businesses, non-profits and municipal entities saved money with avoided purchase and disposal costs.

**900 LBS ARTS & CRAFTS MATERIALS | 2,100 LBS OFFICE SUPPLIES, FURNITURE | 3,200 LBS PACKING MATERIALS
8,725 LBS WOOD SHEETS, PALLETS | 9,500 LBS HOTEL FURNITURE | 50,000 LBS SODIUM CHLORIDE**

The most creative and fun exchange was a generous donation from New England Sheets, a manufacturer of corrugated cardboard, who provided the necessary materials for Parker Charter Essential School's team building exercise that involved making cardboard boats that had to float in Mirror Lake!

Services Have Broad Appeal

- **HELPED 68 ENTITIES** reduce operating expenses, minimize ecological impacts and contribute to the community.
- **PROGRAMS ENGAGED 43 FIRMS** from a variety of industries, including manufacturers in the bio-pharmaceutical, energy, food processing, giftware, laser, metal fabricating, and technology sectors, along with hotels, restaurants, and other service providers.
- **SERVICES BENEFITED 25 ORGANIZATIONS**, including children's museums, environmental groups and food pantries; municipal entities such as public works and fire departments; and day care facilities and schools.
- **INSTITUTIONS CAME FROM 20 DIFFERENT TOWNS**, primarily in the Devens region.

Programs Deliver Benefits

Economic

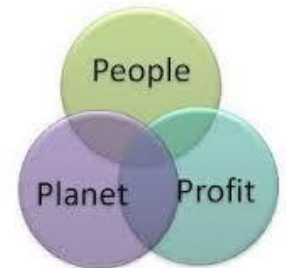
- Facilities learn and pursue new strategies to reduce the waste of resources.
- Sustainable business practices reduce operating expenses, strengthen the bottom line, protect jobs, and provide competitive advantage.

Environmental

- Facilities positioned to take action to eliminate waste, improve environmental performance.
- Natural resources are conserved with more efficient operating processes.

Social

- Local firms collaborate on business initiatives and team up for charity drives and community betterment projects.
- Non-profits preserve funds for mission-focused services with material donations and volunteers.



Future Vision

The Devens Enterprise Commission demonstrated support of the Devens Eco-Efficiency Center's work by providing funds earmarked for the expansion of outreach activities and development of new services to help facilities operate more sustainably. Targeted goals address strengthening current programs, creating new educational forums, expanding the availability of technical assistance, and developing collaborative initiatives that will further facilitate environmental, economic and social benefits.

Sustainability topics being evaluated include waste reduction, energy efficiency, water conservation, toxics reduction, and transportation. New services being considered include facility tours, networking forums, resource sharing, and a monthly e-newsletter. Join us!

Get Involved - Contact Us

ATTEND FORUMS | NETWORK | BECOME A MEMBER
RECEIVE ASSISTANCE | REDUCE OPERATING EXPENSES
IMPROVE RECYCLING | DONATE OR REPURPOSE MATERIALS

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