

**Mini bin & Multi-port  
Waste Management Prevention  
Program**

**The John A. Wilson  
Building Pilot Program**  
December 7, 2006

# Background

1988

DC Law 7-226 <sup>(1)</sup>, the “DC Solid Waste Management and Multi-Materials Recycling Act of 1988”.



District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), Title 21 Water and Sanitation and Chapter 20, “DC Solid Waste Management and Multi-Materials Recycling”.

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(1) DC Code, 2001 Ed., Title 8, Subtitle B – Chapter 10

## Background cont'.

**April 2002**

District government settled a ten-year long lawsuit with the Sierra Club of Washington, DC concerning the implementation of the city's recycling law<sup>(1)</sup>.

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(1) DC Law 7-226, the "DC Solid Waste Management and Multi-Materials Recycling Act of 1998".

# Mini bin & Multi-port Program

**The Mini bin & Multi-port Program is a waste management program to be followed in conjunction with your office recycling program.**

Each employee is made responsible for their own waste and is given the tools to manage the recyclable materials at their workstation --a desktop recycling bin for paper and a Mini bin (*mini trash can*) to be emptied into central multi-sorting station or Multi-port.

# Sample Programs

- John A. Wilson Building
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- City buildings in San Jose, Oakland, Austin, Seattle and Valparaiso, Indiana
- Southern California Edison Company
- BWI Airport
- Province of Ontario government buildings

# Program Components

- **Multi-Materials Sorting Center or Multi-port:**

A 3-slot base unit with backboard for three program posters and picture frame with Plexi-glass to hold a quick reference guide or program poster.



Multi-port sections:

1. Trash;
2. Mixed bottles & cans  
(*plastics, glass, aluminum and steel*), and
3. Office paper.

# Program Components cont'.

- **Mini bin**

5-1/2" x 5-1/2" – 3 Lbs capacity  
recycled plastic trash can.



## Too small to hold your trash?

Not really. You already recycle, so the Mini bin is large enough to handle your paper cups, napkins, food and candy wrappings, fruit peels, etc. – Larger items like padded envelopes, carryout containers and pizza boxes should be placed directly in the trash section of the Multi-port.

# Program Components cont'.

- **Recycling containers**

- Personal desktop
- Mid-size paper box
- Central recycling box

Employee collects paper and other recyclables at their desk. At least once a week, employee is to empty collected materials into a central collection box or the office paper section of a Multi-port.



# The John A. Wilson Building Pilot Program



- Started November 2004
- Targeted 550 employees
- Included 26 sorting centers or Multi-port units
- Reduced trash weight by 23 tons in FY 2005
- Right-sized number of trash hauling containers - the cost per pull cut in 1/2 half.
- Custodial employees are reassigned to added duties

## Wilson Building: Program Start-up

- Met with upper management to secure cooperation and support.
- Identified an agency point-of-contact in every office/division, and met to coordinate program implementation.
- Conducted employee orientations and Q&As forums.
- Posted program posters throughout the building and emailed employee updates about the program rollout.
- Collected all trash can and distributed Mini bins, as well as program information.

# Communication

- Make program clear
- Educate senior management
- Train all those involved
- Keep employees informed
- Be available to answer questions
- Make communication easy (e.g. email, brochures, poster, etc.)
- Assess program periodically
- Conduct follow-up audit and publicize results

# Wilson Building's Brochure

**CONGRATULATIONS! HERE IS  
YOUR NEW TRASH CAN.  
NO, THIS IS NOT A JOKE!**

Please use it to dispose of facial tissues, paper towels, food items, muffin wrappers, wax paper, fruit peelings, etc.

We know that some of you are “emotionally-attached” to your trash cans, however to ensure a smooth and painless transition we request your full cooperation.



# Together We Make a Difference!



Advertising art by The AdAgency  
Washington DC

**WHEN YOU** *Recycle*  
**YOU'RE IN**  **COMPANY.**

# Diversion Rates Results



	FY 2004			FY 2005		
	Recycling (Tons)	Trash (Tons)	Diversion Rate	Recycling (Tons)	Trash (Tons)	Diversion Rate
John A. Wilson Building	18	84	18%	43	61	41%
Frank D. Reeves Center	58	440	12%	68	339	17%
One Judiciary Square	195	910	18%	136	414	25%
Henry Daly Building	79	513	13%	114	437	21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>1947</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>1251</b>	<b>22%</b>

# Next Steps

- Expansion of the Mini bin/Multi-port program to the Frank D. Reeves Center, the Henry Daly Building and the Judiciary Square Building.
- Frank D. Reeves Center rollout planned for December 2006.
- Rollout updates to be included as part of the quarterly DC Government Employees Recycling Newsletter.

# Mini bin Waste Prevention Program

## SUMMARIZING

- Employees are responsible for their trash
- Take away desk side trash cans
- Replace with Mini bins
- Provide paper recycling bins
- Custodial workers no longer go desk to desk emptying trash cans
- Employees empty Mini bins at central sites



# Targets for FY 2007



- 20% increase in annual diversion rate
- 20% reduction in annual waste tonnage

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# Questions

