Less Waste is Smart Business
Who We Are

MINNESOTA CHAMBER of COMMERCE

MINNESOTA WASTE WISE FOUNDATION

ENERGY SMART
**Brief History**

1994 - Minnesota Waste Wise created through partnership between Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

2003 - *It’s in the Bag* program is launched

2008 - Energy Smart program established

2009 - Health Care Blue Wrap Recycling program is launched

2011 - First county contract to address waste reduction and recycling at commercial generators

2013 - Integration with Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

**Today** – Full-service environmental sustainability consulting non-profit organization that specializes in solid waste reduction, recycling, and energy efficiency.
What We Do

• Customized Environmental Consulting
• Site Visit Assessments and Evaluations
• Specialized Recycling Programs
• Assistance with Grants and Rebates
• Trainings and Education
• Waste Sorts
• Special Projects and New Opportunities
Results

Last Year

- 2,325 Direct Services
- 522 On-site Visits
- $185,842 Annual Cost Savings
- 1,579,000 Pounds Waste Diverted
A Few Examples Of How...
Blue Wrap Recycling

- Launched in 2009
- 19 Current Health Care Participants
- Over 100 Tons of Blue Wrap Recycled Since 2009
Delta Air Lines

Actions
- Wood Waste Recycling Program
- Material Donations

The Results
- Around 18,000 lbs. of Annual Waste Diversion
- Around $16,000 Annual Savings
Avant Garden

**Actions**
- Expanded Recycling Program

**The Results**
- Recycling an Additional 1,300 lbs. of Materials Annually
- No Additional Cost
Kato Engineering

**Actions**
- Reduced Waste Production
- Improved Recycling Programs

**The Results**
- Reducing Waste and Recycling an Additional 4-6 tons Per Year
- Saving Over $20,000 Annually on Purchasing and Disposal Costs
The Saint Paul Hotel

Actions
- Organics Diversion Program
- Increased Recycling
- Energy Upgrades

The Results
- 90% Recycling Rate (nearly 200 tons in first 6 months)
- $27,000 Annual Cost Savings
- 300 Metric Tons of Carbon
How Can Businesses Achieve So Much?
The Opportunity

2013 MPCA Municipal Solid Waste Composition Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Plastics</th>
<th>Organics</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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Source: MPCA
Commercial Taxes on Trash

- State of Minnesota: 17%
- Ramsey County: 53%

**Total: 70%!**

Recycling is not taxed

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
Remember this?
Metrodome roof gets new life as Duluth Pack bags

DULUTH, Minn. (AP) - Aug 18, 2013

A Duluth maker of outdoor gear plans to introduce duffel and shell bags made of material formerly used in the roof of the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome.

The bags will be made by Duluth Pack, but they won't be cheap. The duffel bag is listed at $485 and the shell bag at $160, the Duluth News Tribune reported.

Jim Cunningham, an announcer for the Minnesota Twins, and Tim O’Phelan, the son of a longtime Twins physician, bought the entire inner layer of the Metrodome roof after it collapsed in 2010. They spent $4,000 for the Teflon-coated fiberglass, which has an area of about three acres.
The Economics

- Creates new markets and new industries in Minnesota
  - **37,000** Jobs
  - **$1.96 billion** in wages
  - **$8.5 billion** in economic activity

*Source: Recycle More Minnesota*
How We Can Help

- Waste and Recycling Evaluation
- Service and Bill Analysis
- Market Research
- Waste Sorts
How We Can Help

• Set Up New Programs
• Staff Trainings and Education
• Data Collection and Reporting
• Promoting Successes
Work With Us

- Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Membership
- Waste Reduction and Recycling Contracts for Businesses in Anoka, Ramsey, and Washington Counties
- Energy Smart Services in Connexus, Minnesota Power, and Xcel Territories
- Hourly or Contract Consulting Options
- Service and Program Based Assistance
Thank You

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