



SUSTRAINY

Sustainable action Training for Youth



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SUSTRAINY PROJECT



PANORAMA OF SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES PRACTICES

AUSTRALIAN PAPER RECOVERY (RECYCLING IN WORKPLACE)

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Australian Paper Recovery (recycling in workplace)



Source: PixaBay

Category – Key words	Recycling, waste recycling, recycling paper in workplace, paper recovery
Who?	Australian Paper Recovery
Location	Australia
Years of implementation	2002 - ongoing
Website	https://australianpaperrecovery.com/

Abstract

Reason for the initiative

When it comes to going green, recycling in the workplace is an easy place to start. From altering your office lighting to implementing a sustainable waste management solution, there are many ways to become more environmentally friendly without increasing costs.

However, despite this, research shows that, for instance, Australian businesses generated around 17 million tonnes of waste in 2013-2014 – which is just under a third of all produced waste in Australia. Worse still, 7 million tonnes ended up in landfill. Sending a large portion of company waste to the landfill each year is not only harmful to our environment but can be very costly too. That being the case, learning how to reduce business waste and implementing new recycling policies is definitely a worthwhile project – not only for the environment but for your business too.



From 500 disposable cups to 10,000 sheets of paper, the typical office worker produces quite a substantial amount of waste each year. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the average person will create around 2kg of waste each day. In other words, an office of around 100 workers will produce an average of 20 waste bags per week – that fills over four 1,100L waste bin each week.

Process of design and implementation

With the ever-increasing landfill costs, it makes sense commercially and financially to recycle whenever possible.

Australian Paper Recovery is proud to be providing commercially successful and effective waste paper, cardboard and plastic recycling solutions on a large scale to make an impact.

We provide multiple solutions for the collection of your waste paper, cardboard and plastic.

Due to the fact that identity theft has become one of the fastest growing crimes in the world and ever tightening legislation for businesses relating to the disposal of private and confidential data – it has become a necessity for all government departments, businesses, organisations and even households to review how they dispose of their confidential data. We have our own dedicated shredding truck that comes to you. APR Onsite is one of only a few companies in Australia that is able to guarantee the security of your information – by securely shredding documentation at your site, APR Onsite is completely eliminating the risk of any of your confidential information falling into the wrong hands. See the huge benefits and key points of difference with APR Onsite on-site document shredding system.

Concept Addressed

Recycling is the process of converting waste materials into new materials and objects.

Recycling at work requires some thought and action from management and employees, but represents an effective method for reusing materials and making a positive contribution towards caring for the environment.



Relevance

Added value:

APR has been operational since 2002 and in this time has handled in excess of 1,000,000 tonnes of recyclable products especially paper, plastic and cardboard to both domestic and international markets. APR has established its packing sheds in Melbourne and surrounding suburbs, with its own baling and sorting facilities and its willingness to contract process. APR sees itself as the market leader offering its services to many of Australia's leading recycling companies.

General benefits of the recycling at the workplace

- Eliminates the need to mine for and process virgin material
- This in turn, conserves natural resources, saves energy and reduces carbon emissions
- Prevents chemicals and toxic elements from entering landfills and potentially the surrounding environment
- Prevents plastics from breaking down into microplastics that can bioaccumulate up the food chain
- Lowers your garbage accumulation thus lowering disposal rates
- Can create jobs in your community as the demand to recycle more materials continues
- Can bring additional revenue through rebate programs or government incentives such as business grants or emissions reduction credits
- Creates a sense of purpose and promotes teamwork in the workplace
- Supports Green Business Certification and other green office and sustainability initiatives
- Builds a positive company and community image

Challenges to be able to apply and how to overcome some difficulties:

- How to deal with motivation: you have to get your employees on board, not only to praise them but make them conscious about the issue. For instance, it can be done through teambuilding events and common activities.
- Don't overcomplicate it at the beginning: you need to propose a very simple and easy to use system so that people don't take a lot of time thinking of/ going to recycled bins or containers. For example, install recycling bins on each floor which would be easier for everyone
- Fun and no shame: make the system fun and don't shame those who struggle at the beginning.



Tips to implement

Step 1: Identify your waste

Step 2: Get your employees and customers on board

Step 3: Put a strict waste system in place.

Step 4: Think about the products you purchase.

Step 5: Ensure you understand the ins and outs of recycling.

Encourage people to recycle by making it simple and fun!

Bibliography

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