



Lewis Clark Recyclers, Inc.

Recycling & Information Destruction Since 1989

BUSINESS PROFILE (Example)

Type of Business: Corner Store, service station & Deli (operating 24/7)

Contact: John D. (owner)

Assessment Request: John, "I just bought this place and I could use all the advice I can get to help reduce my costs."

Business History: John recently retired from a local utility company and bought the business which had been in operation for over 15 years. Several of the other staff had 3 to 4 years history with the previous owners.

Number of Staff: 3 full time and 6 part-time. Including owner & manager

Building Features: Fuel pump islands on two sides of the 1550 sq. ft. structure, 850 sq. ft. of retail area, including cooler space and small snack bar. 1 office w/ 2 desks, 200 sq. ft. receiving/storage room, three rest rooms, and 90 sq. ft. behind the deli / register counter. Employee parking adjoins the rear of the bldg with alley access for deliveries through a rear entrance, which is poorly lighted.

WDS in use: Historically, 2 separate two-yr dumpsters are used to accommodate all waste generated by the operation, one dumpster is emptied 6 times a week, the other is emptied three times a week (M/W/F). Neither dumpster is kept inside an enclosed area. The cost for this level of service being \$731.00 per month / \$8,772 annually, plus regular extra volume charges.

Waste Assessment Findings:

- ♻️ Empty cardboard boxes (from staff & vendors stocking) were not being broken down before disposal, thus appearing to represent up to 45% of actual waste (by volume) on days freight is received.
- ♻️ Trash can liners (24 per day) were tied off retaining air in 25 to 50% of their capacity.
- ♻️ Paper towels from rest rooms, fuel islands - the deli and housekeeping activities represented 20% of actual waste (by volume).
- ♻️ The office is flooded daily with trade and product journals, catalogs and other related mailings, representing 3 to 5% (by weight) of all generated waste paper.
- ♻️ Food waste from the deli and snack bar appeared to represent less than 15% of actual waste (by volume).
- ♻️ The 2 dumpsters appeared to be commonly used by neighboring businesses, vendors and/or the general public, due to easy access. This represented up to 25% of the actual waste (by volume).

Accompanying Observations:

- ♻️ Staff empties 8 trash cans, replacing plastic liners each time, on each of the three daily shifts.
- ♻️ No effort is made to reduce air mass before placing trash can liners in dumpsters.
- ♻️ The two public rest rooms are accessible from only the exterior of the building.

- ♻️ Paper towels in the two public rest rooms have a history of being used to plug the commodes, used at the fuel islands and/or just disappearing (especially on weekends).
- ♻️ Management is making plans to expand deli items and increase sales. The sink in the deli area is not equipped with a disposal.
- ♻️ The night and early morning shifts are responsible for food prep, stocking coolers, the retail area and general housekeeping duties between sales.
- ♻️ Individual boxes of merchandise are shuffled between the storage and retail areas to manage inventory.
- ♻️ After dark, staffs are afraid to get close to the rear entrance, or to go outside.
- ♻️ There appears to be no recycling effort as part of the operation.

Recommendations:

- ♻️ Install an enclosure around the dumpster area to restrict public access. Perhaps install motion detecting lights for the area.
- ♻️ Replace one trash dumpster with a cardboard recycling container (\$25.00 per month fee, for multiple times a week collection service).
- ♻️ Purchase a 2 shelf push cart (\$119.00) for shuttling inventory and broken down boxes to and from retail and storage areas.
- ♻️ Have all empty boxes broken down prior to disposal. Box knives used to open boxes can be used to break down the empty ones as generated.
- ♻️ Replace paper towel dispensers in the two public rest rooms with cloth recycling type from local vendor (\$24.00 per mo.) or purchase and install electric blower type dryers (\$456.00).
- ♻️ Change trash can liners at ¾ full, stuff smaller or partial full liners into one another and/or larger ones from the fuel islands. Always remove any excess air from the liners before tying them closed.
- ♻️ Recycle all waste paper and junk mail from the office and register areas, (one time refundable fee of \$42.00 for system - collection is a FREE service).
- ♻️ Include a sink disposal as part of upgrade to deli expansion (\$725.00).

Target Objectives:

1. Reduce dependency of waste disposal services to a single dumpster, serviced only twice a week. Reduce basic waste related costs from \$731 to \$212 per month including additional cardboard collection service.
2. Eliminate staff time and/or plumber service costs associated with plugged toilets, by removing paper towels from public restrooms.