



# TIPS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BUSINESS

The IAPD Environmental Committee has developed this list of tips to help you adopt environmentally friendly practices in your business. You may have already implemented many of these ideas, but this list may inspire you to adopt some new sustainability practices. We also encourage you to apply for the next available IAPD Environmental Excellence Award, to show your commitment to being an environmentally responsible company in the performance plastics industry.

- Adopt a formal plastics recycling program.
- Adopt a formal recycling program that addresses items other than plastic.
- Measure the progress of your recycling program year-over-year. Set aggressive goals for your recycling and celebrate milestone achievements.
- Have executive-level support of your recycling program.
- Ensure company-wide adoption of/participation in your recycling program.
- Track the percentage of plastic scrap that you prevent from going into your local landfill (lbs generated/lbs recycled):  
 None     <25%     26-50%     51-90%     more than 90%
- Identify what your recyclers do with your scrap and learn where the majority of your scrap goes:  
 Reprocess into another product     waste to energy     sends scrap offshore     landfill/don't know
- Assess all your landfilled waste.
- Measure/track your volume/frequency of landfilled waste.
- Include efforts in your program to reduce in-process waste throughout the supply chain.
- Accept scrap from your customers:  Material you sold to them     Any material that fits into your recycling program
- Offer green alternative products or solutions, such as products containing some recycled content and/or bioplastics, low VOC alternatives for adhesives, etc.
- Limit or do not offer products because of environmental concerns.
- Identify the materials you provide in your product offerings as recyclable or made from recycled materials.
- Purchase recycled/environmentally friendly products for internal use.
- Partner with suppliers on waste reduction efforts.
- Recycle the following:  
 paper     ink/toner cartridge     batteries/light bulbs     soda cans     plastic/glass bottles/food packaging     electronics  
 steel/other metals     oil/coolant     cardboard     shrinkwrap/banding     pallets     other (please list here: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Purchase the following:  recycled office/paper products     environmentally friendly cleaning products/soaps     other (please list here: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Implement programs that conserve:
  - Water, such as landscaping using native plants that use the right amount of available water for your location, water with grey water, etc.
  - Energy, such as adopting solar or wind power, motion-sensitive lighting, energy efficient heating and cooling systems, etc.
  - Other
- Ensure air quality of any emissions at your company's facility(ies).
- Have a social impact, such as engaging in community involvement activities promoting sustainability.
- Encourage/reward employees who carpool or bike to work.
- Encourage employees to purchase energy efficient/hybrid vehicles.
- Provide telecommuting as an option for those employees who don't need to be on the job site.
- Consider purchasing hybrid company vehicles.

