



U.S. Postal Service Environmental Highlights

The U.S. Postal Service is committed to protecting the environment and providing a safe workplace for its employees. With support from MBDC, LLC, the Postal Service has taken dramatic first steps toward reducing the environmental impact of more than 500 million envelopes and packages it provides customers each year. But that is only one example of the innovative work that is the hallmark of the Postal Service environmental program.

National recycling and waste prevention programs generated more than \$9 million in revenue and resulted in the **recycling of 1 million tons** of wastepaper, cardboard, plastics, cans and other materials.

Based on the recycled content of the more than 500 million Express Mail and Priority Mail packages and envelopes the Postal Service provides its customers each year, **more than 15,000 metric tons of carbon equivalent emissions** (climate change gases) will be eliminated annually.

Partnerships with Topeka Area Retarded Citizens Industries, DOVEBIRD Inc. and UNICOR Federal Prison Industries have led to **recycling more than 2,300 tons of Postal Service computers** and parts since 2004. More than 63,000 computers were resold during this same time, reducing the use of landfills.

The Postal Service has more solar photovoltaic systems than any federal agency in the nation, including systems in San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento processing and distribution plants. Use of solar power eliminates emissions and is equivalent to planting **850,000 trees**.

More than \$108 million has been invested in facility energy efficiency in California in 2004 and 2005, resulting in annual energy savings of nearly 340 Btu – **enough energy for 4,800 typical California households**.

The Postal Service has more than 216,000 vehicles in its fleet; about 36,000 of which are alternative fuel capable. In 2006, the Postal Service purchased **1.6 million gallons of alternative fuel**. These vehicles can run on ethanol, electricity, hybrid technology, biodiesel, propane and hydrogen fuel cells.

The first executive director of energy initiatives was appointed by the postmaster general of the United States in 2006 with the critical mission of reducing energy use throughout the organization and **reducing energy demand in the 37,000 Postal Service facilities**.

More than **700 tons of scrap paper is eliminated** from the nation's landfills by the Postal Service switching to stamp product labels that have no liners.

The Postal Service has been honored with more than **70 environmental awards** since 1995, including 36 White House Closing the Circle Awards and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WasteWise Partner of the Year Award for seven consecutive years. These awards recognize environmental leadership in recycling and pollution prevention. The EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy recognized the Postal Service as the nation's second-largest "Green Power Partner."