



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Clearwater Paper
Lewiston
2016

Environmental Commitment

Clearwater Paper is the country's largest producer of private label tissue products and is a significant producer of bleached paperboard. Clearwater's environmental commitment is captured in the company's vision and values, which emphasize that the company will be sustainable, minimize the impact of its facilities, and work to avoid impact altogether. In 2012, Clearwater Paper created a framework for achieving its vision and values by publishing a social responsibility report with sustainability goals. This report led to the creation of a sustainability team at the company's Lewiston manufacturing facility. Clearwater Paper's Lewiston facility is currently the company's only location that produces both tissue products and paperboard products, and its staff have worked diligently to reduce the facility's environmental impact in a number of ways while maintaining quality products and meeting customer needs.

Pollution Prevention Success

Clearwater Paper's Lewiston sustainability team has successfully achieved pollution prevention results in three areas that have made the company more environmentally sustainable, more competitive, and better positioned to respond to customers. These focus areas are water conservation, energy reduction, and waste reduction.

Water Conservation

Water is a key component of tissue and paper manufacturing. The formation of Clearwater Paper's sustainability team was a catalyst for water conservation. The sustainability team profiled the water use of the facility and identified numerous opportunities where water could be conserved, including modifying manufacturing processes and creating visual reminders for employees to conserve water. These actions ultimately led to a reduction in water use by over 1 million gallons per day in the Lewiston paper and tissue mill. This savings is roughly the equivalent to the average daily consumption of 2,500 American households at 400 gallons of water per day. For local context, the city of Lewiston has approximately 13,360 households, which means that Clearwater Paper's conservation measures alone could be estimated to be as much as the water consumption of 20% of the population of Lewiston.

Reducing Energy Use

Clearwater Paper has been able to achieve significant success in reducing energy use by implementing many of the same strategies used in water conservation efforts. In total, energy efficiency projects have reduced energy consumption by 20 megawatts per year.

¹ US EPA

² US Census Bureau, 2014

Waste Reduction

Reducing waste sent to the landfill has been a cornerstone of Clearwater Paper's sustainability strategy. Waste reduction efforts have yielded benefits not only for Clearwater Paper but for receiving landfills as well. The company has worked with Finley Buttes Landfill in Boardman, Oregon, to utilize the Lewiston paper mill's boiler ash waste as an alternative landfill cover, reducing the need for the landfill to use topsoil for that purpose. Additionally, Clearwater has implemented waste reduction opportunities that have amounted to over 40,000 tons of waste being diverted from the landfill each year.

For More Information

To learn more about Clearwater Paper, visit the company's website at www.clearwaterpaper.com/environmental-performance.

Information on this fact sheet represents an example of pollution prevention projects undertaken by Idaho organizations and does not constitute Departmental certification or approval of compliance at this or any other time with federal, state and/or local regulations.