

Managing Waste in business

Bainistiú Dramhaíola

Limerick / Clare / Kerry

Regional Waste Management Plan

www.managewaste.ie



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Draft Irish National Standard for Compost

Draft I.S. 441: Quality requirements for compost manufactured from source segregated separately collected biodegradable materials

The Department of Environment's National Biowaste Strategy, published in 2006, highlighted the need to develop markets for biodegradable waste.

Cré, the Irish Composting Association, under an EPA-funded Strive programme, has worked on formatting an industry led quality compost standard. Follow-on from this progress was the recommendation to develop this standard into a national quality compost standard. With input from a Working Group, the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) has developed the draft standard.

Draft I.S. 441: Quality requirements for compost manufactured from source segregated separately collected biodegradable materials

The draft standard's public consultation period was from 27th September to 19th October 2010. The submissions that were received will be considering in preparing the final standard for publication.

Websites: www.cre.ie, www.nsai.ie

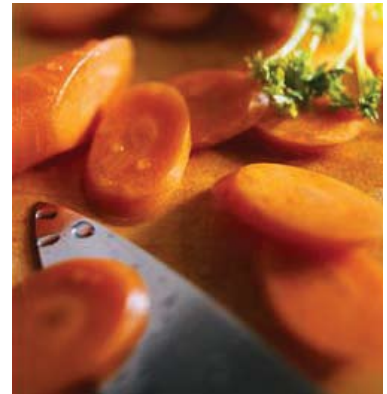


Food Waste Prevention – Useful Websites

www.foodwaste.ie

The new Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations place specific responsibilities to segregate food waste arising on site in order that it can be directed for recovery such as composting. Whether involved in the hospitality and catering sector, food retail or the company canteen, the first objective is to prevent waste. A business must also keep the food waste that is generated separate from mixed 'residual' waste. Therefore, as well as recyclables such as paper and plastic, food waste is now a separate waste stream which will be diverted from landfill, which up to now was the destination for most food waste.

To access fact sheets and case studies, please check the website www.foodwaste.ie, which has been set up specifically to promote the Food Waste Regulations and the prevention and segregation of food waste.



www.stopfoodwaste.ie

stopfoodwaste.ie promotes prevention of food waste in the home. While the environmental benefits are clear, householders can save money by avoiding food waste through careful planning and purchasing, as well as clever use of leftovers.

The website provides tips on managing household food and provides mouthwatering recipes. One section of the website is devoted to advice on composting.



'Less Food Waste More Profit' Workshops



Chef Kevin Thornton doing a demonstration at the 'Less Food Waste More Profit' workshops held in Thomond Park Limerick (left) and Institute of Technology Tralee (right). Kevin showed the audience how, in the course of preparing a meal, food waste can be prevented through practical ways of optimum use of all ingredients.



New National Reuse website - www.freetradeireland.ie

FreeTrade Ireland is a web service designed to facilitate and encourage the reuse of household and business items.

The service was developed from the Dublin Free Trade application, which has been operating successfully since 2006, and is a free and accessible service for all.

Originally operating for household items, the website is now expanded nationally to include business as well as household goods. Therefore with active participation, it is expected that within a short time, it will prove a useful resource for businesses seeking items or materials or alternatively offering resources that they have available and that may be put to good use by another business.

Resource exchanges such as the new FreeTrade Ireland website offer a win-win situation – cost savings in purchases and waste disposal, as well as reduction of environmental impact through diversion of useful materials from landfill or other treatment or disposal.

FreeTrade Ireland is a public initiative. The website was set up with funding from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and is funded on an on-going basis by Local Authorities in Ireland.



Limerick / Clare / Kerry Green Hospitality Awards

Green Hospitality Award Winners from throughout Kerry were presented with their Awards at Hotel Europe Killarney earlier in 2010 Limerick & Clare Green Hospitality Awards were presented at Dromoland Castle.

This environmental programme, including the annual awards scheme, is open to hospitality businesses, such as hotels, restaurants, catering companies and more recently includes an Eco Label Award for guesthouses and B&Bs.

The national Green Hospitality Programme receives funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and is implemented jointly by Hospitality Solutions Consulting Ltd and Clean Technology Centre.

Further information is available at www.greenhospitality.ie



New International Standards for management and verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions data



In response to the threat of climate change, targets are being set to bring about reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels. In order to establish definable criteria for these emission calculations, a new set of international standards has been introduced.

ISO 14064: 2006

This is a three part standard comprising a set of criteria and international best practice in establishing and verifying the reporting of GHGs. The objective is to remove the uncertainties to-date regarding GHG emission reporting

systems, with the ultimate goal that wherever a tonne of CO₂ is emitted, it is reported as the same quantity regardless of location, source or sector. Other GHGs are also covered by this standard. The ISO 14064 standard series may be applied to emissions trading scheme to verify the accounting and reporting systems for the GHGs involved.

ISO 14064 -1:2006, Greenhouse gases – Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for the quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

Part 1 covers the principles for designing, developing, managing and reporting organization or company-level GHG inventories, and includes aspects such as reporting, internal auditing and verification activities.

ISO 14064-2:2006, Greenhouse gases – Part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for the quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions and removal enhancements.

This section focuses on specific GHG emission reduction projects, for example

wind power or carbon sequestration, and provides guidance on monitoring and reporting of the data involved.

ISO 14064-3:2006, Greenhouse gases – Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions.

Part 3 goes into detail on validation and verification planning and assessment procedures, such as those that lead to reports and claims regarding an organisation's GHG emission balances.

ISO 14065:2007

ISO 14065:2007, Greenhouse gases – Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition.

This complementary standard provides more specific requirements in relation to verification and validation and provides assurance to support to organisations managing and reporting GHG data in accordance with ISO 14064. The standard addresses issues such as legal, liability and financing arrangements. ISO 14065 is in particular of use to accreditation bodies and regulators.

Resource Efficiency at Lee Strand Co-operative Creamery Ltd

Employing 33 people, Lee Strand Co-operative Creamery Ltd produces a range of milk and cream products at its site in Ballymullen, Tralee. Having achieved certification to ISO 14001 Environmental Management System in 1998, Lee Strand went one step further and is now certified under EMAS – the European Community and Eco-Management and Audit Scheme.

Sustainability remains the Lee Strand cornerstone and environmental protection is central to the company's management of its operations. It is the experience of Lee Strand that employee participation is more important than expensive capital costs when it comes to achieving environmental goals and targets.

Waste Minimisation

Lee Strand's waste management programme has achieved minimisation in wastes arising from raw material packaging, rejects from the filling machines, as well as general waste from offices and the canteen. Waste disposed to landfill in 2009 (10.7tonnes) decreased by 29% compared to baseline data in 1999 (15tonnes). This success has been achieved by:

- Increasing awareness among all employees
- Close monitoring of all waste streams
- Reduction of waste paper cartons by using jumbo reels on the two 1 litre filling lines thereby reducing the number of changeovers.
- Wood waste generated has been significantly reduced compared to previous years, thanks to the introduction of reusable plastic crates.
- Use of reusable transport bins for transport of carton products.
- Reduction of transport-damaged product by 58% compared to the baseline Year 2000.
- Extending recycling to include: cardboard / paper, plastic and pallets.

Energy

Light fuel oil (LFO) is used for the production of steam; gas oil is used for space heating and diesel is used for refrigerated trucks. Electricity is used for milk processing, compressed air, motor power and ventilations. Mainly through increased awareness and good practices, savings of over €0.5m have been achieved in the past ten years:

- The total actual consumption of LFO decreased by 7% over the period 2007-2009.
- Through reviewing distribution methods and routes, there was a decrease in diesel consumption from year 2008 to year 2009 of 4%.
- Electricity usage showed a reduced level of 0.132 kWh/gallon of milk in 2008 compared to 0.126kWh/gallon in 2009.
- Actual electricity consumed per annum has decreased by 11% from year 2008 to 2009. Lee Strand's Wind Farm in Kielduff near Tralee provides a source of green

energy to meet some of the company's energy needs.

Such is the plant's energy efficiency that Jerry Dwyer, Production Manager, was presented with Energy Manager of the Year Award in 2008 – the Award was granted by Sustainable Energy Ireland.

Water

Water is used for process equipment washing, floor and vehicle washings and boiler blowdown. Wastewater is directed to a balancing tank, prior to discharge to sewer in accordance with the Trade Effluent Discharge Licence issued by Kerry County Council.

- Through improved practices and greater



Lee Strand production line



Jerry Dwyer, Production Manager of Lee Strand, being presented with Energy Manager of the Year for 2008

employee awareness, water usage decreased from by 13.6% from Year 2007 to 2008 and remained steady at this rate in 2009.

Other Initiatives

Lee Strand is closely involved in a range of best practice initiatives

- The company considers people to be the most important resource – they hold the Excellence Through People (ETP) Certification from FAS.
- In 2009 Lee Strand launched a Primary School Art Competition in conjunction with ITT. The artwork of all the winners was printed on all 1 litre packaging.
- They sponsor various other community events, such as the Garda Youth Achievement Awards, Bee for Battens, sports, education and many other charity organisations.

RX3 – Rethink Recycle Remake

The Development Group for Recyclables Markets

Feasibility Study Grant Aid Funding



Rx3 was set up by the Government to encourage indigenous recycling activities within Ireland. Rx3 is the new name of the National Market Development Group for recyclable materials.

Rx3 has announced a call for proposals for feasibility grant aid funding. This initiative is aimed at encouraging the development of business ideas for working with recyclable materials. The main focus is on plastics, paper and organic materials. However, any material other than hazardous waste will be considered within this funding call.

If an individual or organisation wishes to carry out a feasibility study on a particular idea in relation to recyclable materials, it may be worthwhile to submit your proposal for rx3 feasibility funding. Deadline for proposal submission is 21st January 2011.

Further information is available in the News section of www.rx3.ie

A GUIDE TO RUNNING GREEN MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Fáilte Ireland's new Guide to Running Green Meetings and Events provides a mechanism by which event organisers can start on the road towards running an event that can achieve optimum environmental performance.

Increasingly, clients looking to holding events or meetings are seeking to ensure that they are run in a sustainable manner or achieving carbon neutral status. If right now, the demand for this may not be very significant, the trend is that, as with all types of procurement and supply chain influences, environmental aspects will be considered when arranging events and choosing service and product suppliers.

Using Fáilte Ireland's new Guide, professional event planners or individual businesses can use a step-by-step programme and checklist framework for assessing activities and potential suppliers' green credentials, whether they be hotel, catering, transport hire etc.

The Guide offers a simple and focused approach to working towards running green meetings and events. However,

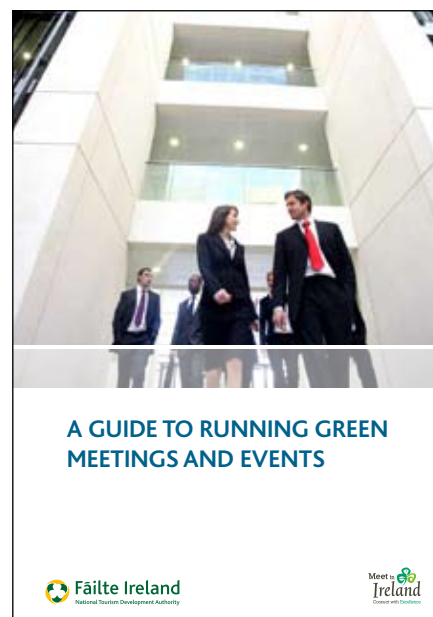
all steps may not be relevant to a particular activity or the approach may need to be adapted to individual situations.

Green filters are more and more becoming the norm for choosing venues, accommodation, services and other suppliers. Quite apart from moral and social responsibilities, the business or facility that is prepared in advance by having an established environmental management system will be at a clear economic advantage over those less prepared.

Fáilte Ireland have a similar guide for organising festivals and cultural events 'How to Make Your Event a Green One'.

For further information, please check Fáilte Ireland's website,

www.failteireland.ie



Green Public Procurement

A public consultation period closed recently on a proposal for a National Plan on Green Public Procurement (GPP). GPP covers 'the approach by which public authorities integrate environmental criteria into all stages of their procurement processes'.

With the adoption of GPP, it will provide an incentive along the supply chain to improve the environmental performance of products and services.

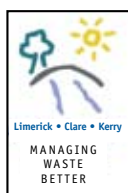
Ireland's proposed National Action Plan on GPP specifies key areas of procurement for which the public sector will have defined GPP criteria as part of the tendering process.

It can therefore be seen that companies with certified green credentials such as externally accredited environmental standards or schemes, will be at an advantage over competitors where all else might be of a comparable level.

Businesses who take a proactive approach to implementing environmental management systems will be already prepared when GPP becomes the norm. By its very nature, GPP will also promote green procurement criteria being adopted by private businesses when reviewing their own purchasing policy.

Further information is available from the Sustainable Development Unit at the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government.

www.environ.ie



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If you would like further information on any of the topics in this newsletter, or any other aspect of waste management, please contact the Regional Waste Management Office at 061 496596, email rwmo@limerickcoco.ie. The Office is funded by Limerick, Clare and Kerry County Councils and Limerick City Council.