

A blue-tinted map of North America with a grid overlay. A small black circle marks the location of Denver, with the word "DENVER" written in blue capital letters to its right.

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4th Annual Conference
“Airports Going Green”
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presented by
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DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TOGETHER WE SOAR

Net Zero Waste - 2020

- Current Solid Waste Diversion = 12.4%
 - About 1,400 TPY (not including C&D)
- 2010 Waste Audit (published 02/2011)
 - Evaluate Recoverable Waste Components
 - Facility-Wide Audit
 - Grab Samples From All Waste Streams



Current Initiatives / Programs

- Single Stream Recycling
- C&D Waste - Concrete & Asphalt Recycling
(two on-site yards)
- Composting
- Plastic Film Baler
- Toilet Paper Repurposing
- "RAFT" Project
- E-Waste & Battery Collection
- Fluorescent Tube "Bulb Eater"



Current Initiatives / Programs

- **Plastic Film Baler**

- Stakeholders: Air Cargo, DHL, Fed Ex & UPS
- Baler purchased with \$21,000 State Grant
- Avoided Annual Landfill costs: \$5,282.15
- Potential Rebates: \$8,900
- Total Annual Savings: \$14,182.15

- **RAFT (Resource Area for Teachers)**

- Capture and re-purpose discarded DIA waste as material sources for teachers.
- Donations for 2011 as of September: 150 cubic feet.



Current Initiatives / Programs

- **Repurposing Toilet Paper**

- DIA janitorial staff routinely changes out partially used toilet paper rolls prior to them becoming empty; partial rolls were discarded.
- Repurposing program started in 2009, based on a DIA employee's suggestion.
- Two local non-profits (Denver Rescue Mission and Metro CareRing) alternate pick up, using their own vehicles.
- About 100 bags (1,400 partial rolls) of TP are distributed every two weeks.
- DIA collected and donated approximately 6,760 pounds (3.3 tons) of partial rolls in 2010.
- No cost to DIA (except for minor staff support).



87.6% Still Sent to Landfill

Total Remaining Solid Waste Diversion Potential

Item	Waste Reduction Potential (%)	Waste Reduction Potential (Tons)
Divert Recyclables to Existing Single Stream Program	29.8%	3,229.5
Implement Pre and Post Consumer Composting Collection Program for Food Waste and Wax Cups	15.77%	1710.5
Eliminate Paper Towel Waste From Bathrooms	8.5%	917.1
Eliminate Liquids in Load	4.7%	509.1
Recycle Construction & Demolition Debris	0.9%	95.5
Implement Airlines Textile Collection Program for Reuse through Donation	1.6%	170.9
Recycle E-waste from Airlines	0.2%	24.1
Bale and Recycle Film Plastic	0.8%	89.3
Total Savings	62.2%	6,746



Challenges

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- Landfill Disposal Cost = \$55/ton
(transport & tipping)
- Recycle Cost (single stream)= \$129/ton
 - Minus Rebates (market variable)
- Labor Costs (composting collection)
- Mixed Sources
 - Compostables (corn starch) Contaminating Plastics
 - Balance of Yard Waste & Food Waste for Compost
- General Logistics Issues



Possible Strategies

- “Pay As You Throw”
- Economic & PR Incentives
- Mandates
 - Construction Specification
 - Airport Rules
 - Tenant Leases
 - Development Guidelines
- Education & Outreach



Next Steps & Goals

- Solid Waste Action Plan: 2012
 - Expand Single Stream Capture
 - Eliminate or Divert Paper Towel Waste
 - Evaluate Liquids Disposal Stations
 - Evaluate On-Site Composting
 - Expand E-Waste Program
 - Waste to Thermal Energy?
(37.8% “Non-Recoverable”)
- FAA Sustainable Management Plan: 2011-2012
- Climate Action Plan: 2012-2013



Happy Halloween!



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Thank You

