

Simply Green



Special points of interest:

- Henny Penny Corporation is featured as this edition's "green" industry to take notice of.
- Americans are recycling more and discarding less according to the EPA.
- Do the benefits of recycling outweigh the costs?

Inside this issue:

Henny Penny recycles because it makes sense. 1

American recycling is on the increase. 2

Benefits of recycling vs. costs. 2



Henny Penny recycles non-usable parts from fryer rebuilds.



Scrap wiring ends are being collected for recycling at Henny Penny.

Volume 2, Issue 2

July 2, 2012

Henny Penny Sets the Standard for "Green" Industries in Preble County

The Henny Penny Corporation located at 1219 US 35 West in Eaton, Ohio provides Preble County residents with a shining example of how a large industry can be profitable while protecting the environment by recycling and employing "green" manufacturing ideas and techniques. The company which produces restaurant equipment such as fryers and food warmers for McDonalds, KFC, Wendy's, Chick-Fill-A, and supermarkets and delis worldwide strives to make the workplace as environmentally-friendly as possible for the earth and for the people who work at Henny Penny. Says Joel Guthrie, Director of Operations for Henny Penny, "Recycling just makes sense. It's good for the environment and for people, it results in a profit for the company, and it reduces our energy expenses thereby lessening our dependency on foreign oil."

At Henny Penny, the plant tries to recycle as many materials as possible in order to save landfill space. The major materials currently recycled at Henny Penny are: steel, copper, iron, aluminum, wiring ends and soldering by-products, cardboard, plastics, soda cans, and batteries. In 2011, the plant recycled approximately 1,222,000 lbs. of scrap metals (much of it stainless steel) and received \$767,134.76 in return profits by doing so.

Companies turn in old fryers to Henny Penny to be rebuilt. The company then recycles any non-usable parts. Circuit boards that are built at Henny Penny contain no lead which can be highly toxic if it makes its way to the landfill creating poisonous runoff water. Wire lengths that are cut improperly are routinely recycled and even flashlight batteries are collected in the recycling bins.

Henny Penny's green manufacturing doesn't stop at recycling only. As part of its commitment to safeguard the health and well-being of its employees, the company has installed air rotation units and dust filtration systems while using only 4 highly-efficient HVAC units instead of the usual 30 or so that would be needed for a plant of that size. Skylights for natural lighting were put in and energy saving florescent lighting also illuminates with soft

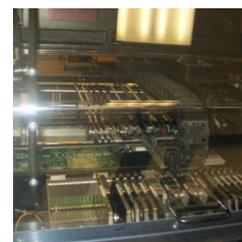
lighting to be less harsh in the workplace. Employees use water-soluble cleaners on equipment parts and water-based paints are used on machinery. Safe chemicals are used in every step of the manufacturing process.

In 2011, Henny Penny recycled 1,414,392 total lbs. of recyclable materials. Henny Penny's commitment to recycling is shown by the fact that recycling bins are not only all over the manufacturing floor but also in the break rooms. It is believed that recycling will become more of a habit for employees if receptacles are made readily available to them.

When visitors tour Henny Penny, they see a company that truly cares about the environment and its employees. The workplace is neat and orderly, the facilities are maintained with safety in mind (recently some cracks in the floor were patched so that people would not trip over them) and the employees seem genuinely happy to work in a company that keeps their best interests in mind. Many area industries can look at Henny Penny as an example of how recycling, safety, green manufacturing techniques and good employee/company relations can make a company an industry leader worldwide.



→ Stainless steel being collected by Henny Penny Corporation for recycling. Over a million pounds were collected in 2011.



→ Circuit board making machine. Circuit boards made at Henny Penny do not contain lead which can produce toxic leachate at the landfill.

**PREBLE COUNTY
SOLID WASTE
DISTRICT**

4499 US Rt. 127 South
Eaton, Ohio 45320

Phone: 937-456-6880
Fax: 937-456-6690

E-mail:
beth.wright@prebswmd.org

We're on the web!
www.preblecountyrecycles.org

The Preble County Solid Waste District's mission is to promote recycling, waste reduction, and responsible waste management in Preble County, Ohio. We want to assure safe and sanitary disposal of solid waste for Preble County residents and reduce reusable or renewable waste from entering our landfill.

*Source article by Larry West. http://environment.about.com/od/recycling/a/recycle_trends.htm

**Source article from Earth Talk. http://environment.about.com/od/recycling/a/benefit_vs_cost.htm

"Even though the benefits of recycling over disposal are manifold, individuals should keep in mind that it better serves the environment to "reduce and reuse" before recycling even becomes an option."—Earth Talk

Americans Recycling More, Discarding Less According to EPA

Americans are recycling more and discarding less, according to a report from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that shows the United States recycled 32 percent of its waste in 2005.

Including composting, Americans recycled 79 million tons of waste in 2005—a 2 percent increase over 2004 and a big jump from the 16 percent of waste Americans recycled in 1990 and the 10 percent of waste Americans recycled in 1980.

Americans also generated less municipal solid waste in 2005, a little under 246 million tons, a decrease of nearly 2 million tons from 2004.

More Recycling, Less Waste Per Person-

Those figures break down to about 4.5 pounds of individual waste per person per day—a decrease of 1.5 percent from 2004—and nearly 1.5 pounds of recycled waste per person per day.

Recycling Highlights from the EPA Report of 2005-

- Container and packaging recycling increased to 40 percent
- Nearly 62 percent of yard waste was composted
- About 42 million tons of paper were recycled—a 50 percent recycling rate; and
- The number of U.S. landfills have been decreasing steadily—from 8,000 in 1988 to 1,654 in 2005—but the capacity has remained relatively constant because new landfills are much larger. *

Do the Benefits of Recycling Outweigh the Costs?

There are some people who believe that "recycling is garbage". They think that recycling programs offer mainly short-term benefits to a few groups—politicians, public relations consultants, environmental organizations, and waste handling corporations—while diverting money from genuine social and environmental problems. Many people would even go so far as to say that recycling is the most wasteful activity in modern America. They assert that recycling doubles energy consumption and pollution while costing taxpayers more money than disposing of plain old garbage.

However, according to Michael Shapiro, director of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Solid Waste, "A well-run curbside recycling program can cost anywhere from \$50 to more than \$150 per ton...trash collection and disposal programs, on the other hand, cost anywhere from \$70 to more than \$200 per ton. This demonstrates that, while there's still room for improvements, recycling can be cost-effective."

Recycling programs can be re-evaluated whenever necessary. For example, in 2002 New York City found that its groundbreaking recycling programs were losing money, so it eliminated glass and plastic recycling. Mayor Michael Bloomberg explained that the benefits of recycling plastic and glass were outweighed by the price—recycling cost twice as much as disposal. Meanwhile, low demand for the materials meant that much of it was ending up in the landfills anyway, despite best intentions. Soon afterward, New York City closed its last landfill, and private out-of-state landfills raised prices due to the increased workload of hauling away and disposing of New York's trash. As a result, the benefits of recycling glass and plastic increased and glass and plastic recycling became economically viable for the city again. New York reinstated the recycling program accordingly, with a more efficient system and with more reputable service providers than it had used previously.

Municipal curbside programs have learned this lesson...don't waste resources due to bureaucratic overhead or duplicate trash pickups (for garbage and then again for recyclables). They have learned to revamp due to changing economic conditions. When managed correctly recycling can cost less than regular trash disposal while keeping the environment cleaner. **