

PROJECT OVERVIEW

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SUMMER PROJECTS

During the summer of 2008, pollution prevention technical assistance was provided to several regional industries as part of the Industrial Assessment Team. These projects were conducted under the auspices of the premier Nebraska environmental service provider, WasteCap Nebraska. WasteCap Nebraska is a non-profit organization that provides free, confidential, non-regulatory waste reduction and recycling services to Nebraska businesses. The services include on-site waste assessments, employee training, educational workshops, and specific product recycling research.

As part of the Industrial Assessment Team, waste assessments were conducted within a range of industries including healthcare institutions and a motel. The locations of the facilities included Fairbury, Superior, Lincoln, and Beatrice. Assistance was aimed at targeting and minimizing waste at the source as well as developing recycling strategies for different areas and processes. A reassessment of a previous intern's project was also performed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

The reassessment was performed for College Park Communities – The View apartment complex to evaluate the progress made towards implementing the pollution prevention recommendations offered and the impact of the suggestions on the facility. In addition, three new assessments were conducted, two for healthcare facilities located in Fairbury and Superior and one for a motel located in Beatrice. The recommendations made to these facilities included suggestions to reduce solid waste such as making double sided-copies, using reusable dishware, and recycling kitchen grease. Other suggestions focused on energy efficiency. These included improved management of thermostats, use of compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), "Turn Off" reminders at light switches, occupancy sensors for guest rooms, and installation of LED exit lights. There were several opportunities for multi-media reductions such as installing a pool cover to reduce evaporation and the need for pool heating and purchase of Energy Star ice makers and air conditioners to increase efficiency and save electricity.

POLLUTION PREVENTION BENEFITS/RESULTS

The benefits and savings associated with implementing the pollution prevention suggestions made to the various facilities are outlined in Table 1. Due to concerns regarding confidentiality, the facilities are identified as Facility A, B, and C.

Table 1. Summary of Pollution Prevention Savings

Facility	Cost Savings (\$/yr)	Reduced Energy (kWh/yr)	Solid Waste Diverted (lb/yr)	Water Conserved (gal/yr)
A	8,926	53,589	3,125	20,000
B	7,941	43,791	17,100	-
C	4,209	21,838	-	56,420
Total	21,076	119,218	20,225	76,420