

Walmart Eliminates More Than 80 Percent of its Landfill Waste in California

In addition to recycling and donating, program finds new solutions for organic waste

In March 2011, Walmart reported that it had eliminated more than 80 percent of the waste that would go to landfills from its operations in California. Results of the [program](#) exceed both the national rate of [45 percent](#) and the California rate of [65 percent](#). The program that produced these results has now been implemented across the company's more than 4,400 facilities nationwide.

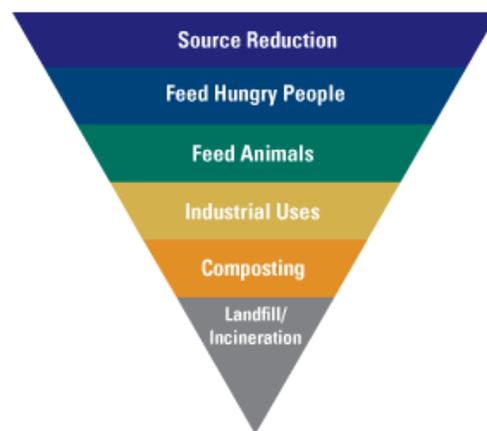
Program Overview

Walmart is dramatically reducing the amount of garbage it sends to landfills through a program of innovative organic waste solutions, donating and recycling. The initiative utilizes hundreds of partners around the country, from local haulers to national companies and is creating green jobs in the United States. National companies playing a leading role in helping Walmart develop this program include Quest Recycling, Feeding America, Georgia Pacific, International Paper and Greenstar, Oak Leaf, Waste Management.

Waste Program Store Components

Organic Waste

- Walmart follows the E.P.A.'s [Food Waste Recovery Hierarchy](#). The retailer uses innovative organic solutions for products not eligible for donation, such as hot foods from our deli, outdated and returned food. These products are creating animal feed, energy or compost.
In 2010, Walmart:
 - Supplied animal rescue parks with more than 7,000 tons of meat renderings to help feed the animals.
 - Supplied animal feed producers with more than 17,000 tons of feed stock – enough to produce poultry meal to feed 177,000 chickens for one year and produce more than 48 million eggs.
 - Converted enough used cooking oil into 80/20 biodiesel to fuel 480 single driver semi-trucks for one year.
 - Created nearly 1,500 megawatts of energy from our organic waste.



Food Donation

- Through its stores, Sam's Club locations, distribution centers and return centers, Walmart donated more than 256 million pounds of healthy, nutritious food to hunger relief organizations around the country in FY 2011. That's equivalent to 197 million meals. Walmart's food donation program takes food that is safe for consumption off our shelves and delivers it to neighborhood food banks. The food – which consists of nutritious servings of produce, deli meat, beef, chicken, dairy and other groceries – is then given to needy families, often in less than 24 hours.

Recycling

- Corrugated cardboard is bundled into bales and sent to paper mills to be recycled into new paper products.
- Walmart and Sam's Club locations use the [super sandwich baling](#) process to recycle 32 different materials, including aluminum cans, plastic bags, plastic bottles, [office paper](#) and paperback books.
- Items such as floral buckets, apparel, cake icing buckets and wood pallets go to our return centers for reuse or recycling.
- In our Tire and Lube Express Centers and Tire and Battery Centers, we are recycling used tires, used oil and used oil filters generated as a result of the business. In 2009:
 - Walmart's recycled tires generated enough energy to power 19,600 homes for a year.
 - Walmart refined its used motor oil into enough reusable oil to provide 4 million oil changes (6 quarts per car).
- Walmart recently partnered with [Worldwise](#) to convert cardboard, plastic bottles, plastic hangers and plastic bags collected in stores into new pet products, including dog beds, kitty litter scoops, pans and liners and scratching posts that are sold on Walmart shelves. It's a great example of a [closed-loop system](#).