



Environmental Stewardship Awards

Frito Lay Wooster

In 2008, Frito Lay received a Governor's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Stewardship. The award recognizes Ohio companies and organizations committed to environmental compliance and reducing pollution.

Frito Lay, Inc. has been in operation for more than 60 years as a manufacturer of snack foods and employs 350 people. The company has a comprehensive environmental program, including establishing a Green Team at their Wooster operation. The company was also a participant in federal programs that recognize environmental leadership, including Climate Leaders and Performance Track.

The Green Team

The Wooster facility formed an internal Green Team of technicians and management that work together to drive environmental compliance and stewardship in their workplace and community. Green Team members are encouraged to perform environmental community service work such as the "Adopt-A-Highway" litter pick-up. The team has maintained a two-mile section of State Route 83 North for more than five years, earning them "Gold Star" status in Wayne County, Ohio.

Resource Conservation

Resource conservation is a main focus in Frito Lay's day-to-day operations. Innovative ideas have led to significant savings of electricity, water and natural gas. Since 2004, Frito Lay has achieved reduction of natural gas usage by 4.9 percent, water usage by 25.8 percent and electricity usage by 13.9 percent. Since 2005, solid waste has been reduced 22 percent. Initiatives undertaken to achieve these reductions include, water reuse in applicable processes, installation of energy efficient equipment, additional recycling efforts of scrap metal, cardboard, used oil, batteries, lamps, and by-products.

Frito Lay resized its packages to minimize the amount of empty space and continues to evaluate different packaging technology that lessens their footprint on the environment. All food by-products are recycled or reused for animal feed constituents. Frito Lay purchases remanufactured toner cartridges and recycles the spent cartridges. Other innovative ideas include reusing heat exchanger tubes for hand rails and guard rails.

Economic Benefits and Environmental Management Accounting

Over a three-year period, the company has spent an estimated \$1.5 million on projects to reduce energy use, water use and solid waste production. Projects include: installing heat recovery systems on process stacks; reusing water in plant processes; maintaining/upgrading combustion sources; installing energy efficient lighting and ovens.

Frito Lay Wooster is recognized for:

- Forming an internal "Green Team" to drive environmental compliance and stewardship.
- Developing an internal ISO 14001 Environmental Management System. Frito Lay Wooster regularly conducts comprehensive reviews of all activities at the facility that may impact the environment.
- Achieving the following reductions since 2004: natural gas usage by 4.9 percent, water usage by 25.8 percent, and electricity usage by 13.9. The facility has also reduced solid waste by 22 percent since 2005.

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Examples of projects at the plant which resulted in cost savings include:

- By capturing and drying starch from its process water, the facility saw an economic benefit from avoiding a wastewater discharge surcharge. Starch revenue for the site in 2006 was \$219,000.
- Cardboard boxes are reused up to eight trips. Once the boxes can no longer be used, they are recycled through a local vendor. The company saved \$22,752 in 2006, in addition to the savings from not sending the cardboard to a landfill.
- Sending food waste by-product for reuse in animal feed generated revenue of \$26,200 in 2006.

The facility's environmental management accounting practices include reviews of labor, supplies, energy usage and associated costs. The environmental needs of the facility are forecasted as accurately as possible. Items in the forecast model may include regulatory compliance needs, permit renewals and associated fees, utility data/usage and waste disposal costs. These items are tracked or graphed to identify opportunities for improvement or positive trends.

Environmental Management System

The company's Environmental Management System has been structured in accordance with ISO 14001 standards. It regularly conducts comprehensive reviews of all activities at the Wooster facility that may impact the environment. The reviews include an aspects analysis, which classifies the aspects based on their potential harm to the environment, based on community concerns, and/or based on other objective factors. Frito Lay has integrated site specific requirements for compliance and general company-wide protocol requirements into its EMS process. Examples of such activities include annual Environmental Compliance Audits performed by an external third party and periodic reviews of environmental needs, such as labor, supplies, team engagement, community involvement and compliance needs.

Environmental Impact

The Wooster facility implements the "plan-do-check-act" cycle. This includes analyzing aspects at least annually, while setting objectives and targets semi-annually. Once a process is identified as a "significant aspect," the facility immediately sets objectives and targets toward that aspect to reduce the impact on the environment. An example is water usage. The Wooster facility has identified water usage as a significant aspect and has reduced usage through various applications and continues to look for opportunities for further reduction.

Management Commitment

Environmental stewardship is highly regarded by Frito Lay's management. The company has a written corporate environmental statement of policy, rewards and recognition for employees that participate in environmental programs, continual promotion of the importance of environmental stewardship to their employees through regular, on-going training and awareness activities such as an annual Earth Day celebration. Frito Lay also has a Capitol Appropriations Request (CAR) review process to ensure that project impacts to the environment are minimal, captured, and mitigated. Each individual CAR is reviewed and signed by upper management prior to issuing funds for the project.

For more information

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If you would like additional information about Ohio EPA's environmental stewardship award program, contact the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) at 800-329-7518, or visit OCAPP's website at www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/ohioe3.aspx.