

Business Waste Reduction Project Toolkit Introduction

Welcome

Welcome to the North East Waste Forum Business Waste Reduction Project.

The Business Waste Reduction Project is an initiative of the North East Waste Forum (NEWF) aimed at assisting businesses within the region to reduce the quantity of waste they generate and send to landfill through more efficient waste management practices. The North East Waste Forum has been working with six large waste producing businesses on the north coast of NSW since April 2005, all of whom have achieved inspiring waste reduction results. We would like to share our findings with other businesses by providing this simple toolkit, designed to lead you through a series of steps to help you achieve similar goals. Follow the steps from one to six, and make a positive impact on your company's profits *and* the environment.

Why reduce waste?

There are many reasons why we should reduce the amount of waste we create. For one, Australia is one of the highest waste generating nations on earth, each of us sending an average of over 1 tonne of waste to landfill each year. This level of resource use is unsustainable, and our main method of disposal – landfilling - has its own set of environmental problems.



Benefits of reducing waste in the work place

Implementing more efficient waste management and resource use practices has the potential to bring your business many benefits. Some of the benefits you can look forward to include:

- Reduced waste collection and disposal costs;
- Potential revenue from resource recovery;
- More efficient resource use = \$\$ in the bank;
- Conserving precious natural resources;
- Reduced environmental impacts associated with raw material extraction and manufacturing processes;
- Reduced energy needed to manufacture new products;
- Production of fewer air emissions and water pollutants;
- Promotion of more efficient work practices;
- Positive public image;
- Extended landfill life;
- Improved staff morale.

Reducing waste provides potential customers with a good reason to choose your products over your competitors

How does the Business Waste Reduction Toolkit work?

The Business Waste Reduction Toolkit has been designed to lead you through a series of steps that will allow you to review current waste management systems and identify options to reduce, reuse and recycle your waste, providing your business with cost savings, while also benefiting the environment. For each step in the process, the NEWF Toolkit provides all the user-friendly resources you need, including templates and case studies. If you would like advice or to discuss your project at any stage, please feel free to contact us on our Business Waste Reduction Project 'self help' line: (02) 6685 8016.

The 6 Steps of the NEWF BWRP

Reducing waste has never been easier. Simply follow the NEWF BWRP six step guidelines. An overview of the objectives of each step and the order in which tasks are undertaken is shown in the figure below.

Step 6: Improve and refine waste practices.

With each successive review process you can refine your WRAP to help meet your targets. Continue to communicate your results to management, staff & contractors.

Step 5: Review the process.

Monitor the effectiveness of your WRAP in terms of waste reduction, better resource efficiency and cost savings.

Step 4: Implement the Waste Reduction Action Plan.

Put your waste reduction initiatives into practice.

Step 1: Commit to improving waste reduction.

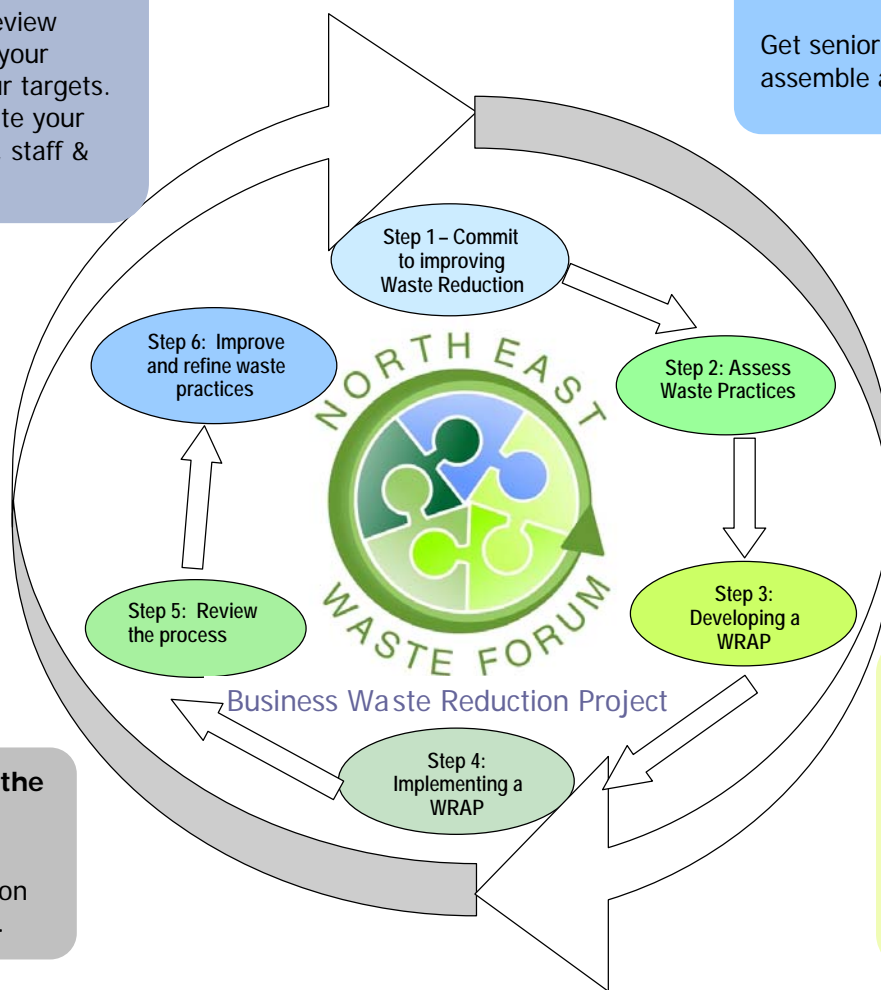
Get senior management support; assemble a waste reduction team

Step 2: Assess waste practices.

Review current waste systems; conduct a waste assessment; identify opportunities for improvement

Step 3: Develop a Waste Reduction Action Plan (WRAP).

Document waste reduction initiatives; allocate duties; set goals and timelines



Think you'd like to get involved?

Contact NEWF to join, then work through the six steps! We are here to support you toward greater business success and reduced environmental impact.

Contact Details

For additional information regarding the NEWF's Business Waste Reduction Project, contact:

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