

Missouri State Recycling Program Annual Awards

Each year the State Recycling Program accepts nominations for the Annual Recycling Award. Employees, departments, or agencies are eligible to be nominated for outstanding contributions made in the areas of recycling collection, waste reduction, and/or recycled content procurement. Members of the Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee review the nominations and vote for an individual and agency award. The State Recycling Program encourages nominators to submit information demonstrating the *value* of the nominee's recycling efforts. *Value* could include costs avoided, revenue generated, ongoing leadership/commitment/passion/enthusiasm, or environmental benefits.

FY13 Annual Recycling Award

Northwest Missouri State University (NWMSU) was selected by the Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee as this year's winner of the Missouri State Recycling Program's annual award. NWMSU's **Hardscape and Recycling Team (HaRT)** continue to demonstrate how collaboration, innovation, and long-term dedication produce valuable results. HaRT has been involved in a multi-year transformation of recycling practices on the NWMSU campus. The examination of recycling systems has been quite thorough and covers everything from looking at program costs and benefits from a strategic vantage point to rethinking collection practices ... from vehicles to recycling containers.

The primary reason NWMSU was selected as this year's winner is related to the development of their on-campus material recovery facility. This is where campus material streams are processed for recycling. The centerpiece of this operation is a baler that was modified to include a conveyor, hopper, and loading system which will allow for more efficient processing of materials. HaRT was very resourceful in creating this equipment as they reused and repurposed existing equipment and scrap to make these modifications. For example, poles from old emergency call stations were used to create legs for the hopper.

The other significant development over the past two years with NWMSU's recycling scene is the launch of a food waste composting program. Since implementing this service NWMSU has diverted over 300,000 lbs. of food service organics from the landfill creating a nutrient-rich compost which is used extensively as a soil supplement in the Arboretum greenhouse and campus grounds. HaRT once again fabricated much of the collection and composting equipment with hardware and scrap already on-campus; thereby saving NWMSU significant costs.



Kneeling L to R: Robert Lager, David Stith, Kurt Davis, Mike Adwell | Front Row L to R: Rick Swaney, Bruce Devers, Travis Stokes, Danny Smith, Shawn Sisney, Cree Beverlin, Bryan Freemyer, Jada Tressler, Zuelika McClarnon | Back Row L to R: Grady Hilsabeck, John Viau, Danton Green, Nic Abarr, Doc Bliley, Chase McCutcheon, Robert Archer, TJ Allen, Les Chesnut, Chris Redden

Northwest Missouri State University Solid Waste Management Statistics			
Year	Total Waste (Tons)	Total Diverted from Landfill (Recycled Tons)	Percent of Recyclables Diverted from Landfill
2010	939	185	20%
2011	960	255	26.5%
2012	911	316	34%

Over the past several years, NWMSU's HaRT have engaged in a continuous improvement process that has resulted in better solid waste management practices. Collection processes have become more efficient, percentage of recyclable materials diverted from the landfill has increased and the total tons of waste generated is trending downward (see table to left).

Honorable Mentions

The State Recycling Program thanks those who took the time to make a nomination and at the same time wants to recognize the patience, passion, and persistence that the nominees have exercised with their efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle state government waste.

Dept. of Natural Resources' South Service Center (St. Louis)
Dept. of Natural Resources' State Parks - Long Branch State Park