



Baling your recyclable waste can help you to turn it into a valuable commodity.



ORWAK
Environmental
Services Ltd.



To find out more

For information on your legal obligations, download our simple Guides on www.orwak.co.uk or visit www.netregs.gov.uk

To find out more about our range of compactors and balers, visit www.orwak.co.uk or call 0800 169 3534

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Cost-effective waste disposal:
Implementing a company policy



by 2010 the Landfill Tax
will have doubled to

£48

per tonne



With waste disposal costs increasing year on year and UK businesses estimated to have produced over 80 million tonnes of waste in 2005, nearly half of which went straight to landfill, the financial, legal and ecological pressure to have a robust waste management process is strengthening.

As well as ensuring your legal compliance, a good segregation and recycling policy can also save you money and demonstrate your company's commitment to the environment. This Guide is designed to offer you a number of ideas and strategies that can be simply and easily incorporated into your business to help you better manage your waste.

Reduce

Waste reduction, or waste minimisation is at the top of the so-called "waste hierarchy" and should be the first step for any business looking to improve their waste policy. Waste minimisation is in essence another name for good housekeeping and you will almost certainly find areas where waste can be significantly reduced by examining your operational processes.

Buying in bulk, for example, will also keep costs down and significantly reduce the amount of packaging coming into your organisation. Other simple steps such as reducing the amount of packaging around products or switching printers and photocopiers to double sided printing could save hundreds of pounds. Challenge everything you do on a daily basis and ask yourself if there is a better, less wasteful way of doing it.

Re-use

Another simple step is to re-use wherever possible. With many products, packaging constitutes a major part of the overall purchase cost, and so re-using it can offer savings for both supplier and customer. This might involve something as simple as requesting stock delivery on returnable pallets. Many suppliers are also willing to investigating other innovative packaging options, such as re-useable plastic boxes or trays, in place of cardboard boxes and shrink-wrap.

Recycle

A good segregation policy is absolutely essential to any recycling program and yet it's probably the hardest part to implement. Effective segregation requires the ongoing support and engagement of every single staff member.

The way to succeed is to involve staff fully and at every stage; remembering that a dictatorial approach will almost certainly fail. Make sure that those who actually generate, handle and collect the waste are involved at all stages in the creation of a segregation system. Make sure that you have the right bins in the right locations and make it easy, not difficult, for staff to segregate.

Bale

Segregating recyclable waste presents businesses with the opportunity to reduce their waste disposal costs. This is because materials such as paper, cardboard, glass and cans may have a commodity value. By correctly segregating waste and then baling it, you make it much more attractive to recycling companies. Correctly sorted waste, which is baled in standard sizes, will be collected by many recyclers for free. And with significant volumes of high value waste, such as high-grade office paper, you may even be able to negotiate a payment from the recycler.

Compact

What can't be recycled can then be compacted to reduce the number of waste collections required and paid for. Compacted general waste will take up far less space, and most companies should be able to halve their waste collections using this method, thereby achieving significant savings in the process.