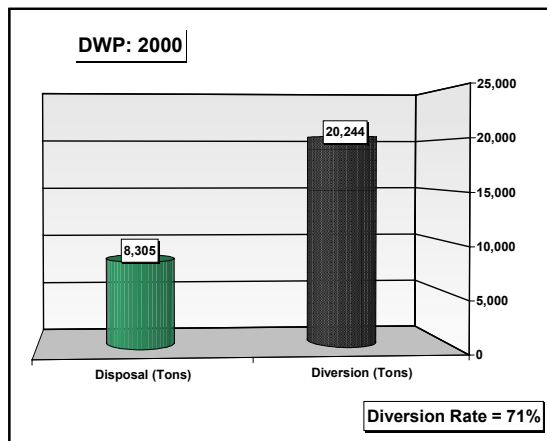


5.7 DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER

5.7.1 Introduction

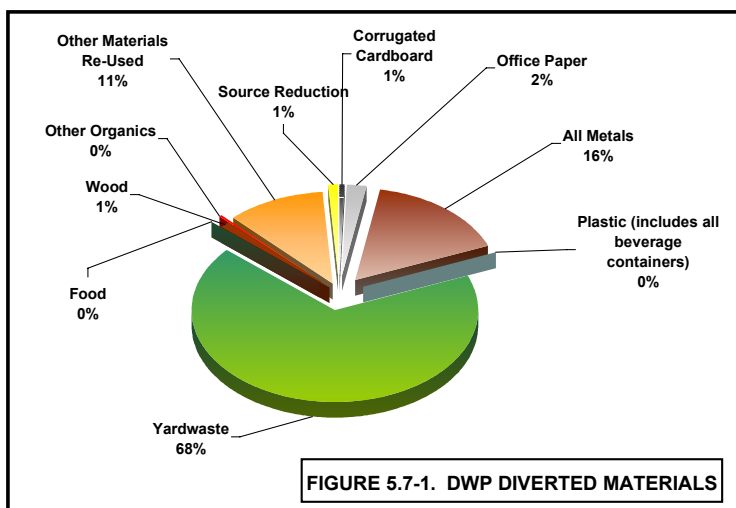
The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), established at the beginning of the century, is the largest municipally owned utility in the nation. It exists under and by virtue of the Charter of the City of Los Angeles, enacted in 1925. With a workforce in excess of 7,400, DWP provides water and electricity to some 3.8 million residents and businesses in a 464-square-mile area. DWP's operations are financed solely by the sale of water and electric services. Capital funds are raised through the sale of bonds. The DWP does not receive revenue from taxes. A five-member Board of Water and Power Commissioners establishes policy for DWP. The Board members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council for five-year terms.



The DWP's Recycling programs are a part of the Green LA initiatives that also include Energy Efficiency, Solar Photovoltaics, Cool Schools Tree Planting, and Electric Transportation.

5.7.2 Assessment of SRRE Goals

Based on records maintained by DWP, the Department generated 28,549 tons of waste in 2000. Of this waste, the Department recycled 20,244 tons and disposed of 8,305 tons for a diversion rate of approximately 70.9%. This information does not include soil and debris disposal or diversion. A summary of the Department's diversion programs is presented in **Figure 5.7-1**.



5.7.3 Description of Recycling Programs

Source Reduction

- Green Waste Recovery (SR26)

The DWP generates and disposes of green waste through its own crews and some privately contracted tree trimmers. Since 1999, DWP landscaping crews have been grasscycling at over 50 sites, diverting 250 tons in 2000. Tree trimming contractors recycle all tree trimmings, diverting 13,650 tons in 2000. Total green waste recovery for the year 2000 is approximately 13,900 tons.

Implementation Year: 1998/Ongoing

- Internal Printing Modification (SR23)

The DWP phased out the use of printing on three-ring binders, so they could be more easily reused. The DWP phased out the use of colored paper wherever possible to increase the use of more readily recyclable white office paper. Major internal printing jobs are issued on white ledger.

Implementation Year: 1993/Ongoing

- Modify Contract Language (SR24)

The DWP modified its contract specifications to require recycled-content in the paper and envelopes its uses for customer billing. Specifications now require that DWP customer bills, the envelopes in which the DWP sends its bills, and the customer payment return envelopes be printed on 30% post-consumer content recycled paper.

Implementation Year: 1994/Ongoing

- Conduct Department Facilities Waste Audits (SR25)

Visual waste audits were conducted to determine which sites to add recycling services. In addition, the Department participated in the Bureau of Sanitation waste audit program and the results are forthcoming. Additional audits will be completed for Valley facilities by the new rubbish-recycling vendor in the year 2001.

- Food Waste Recovery Program (SR27)

Food scraps and paper products from the cafeteria kitchen at the Anthony Office Building (AOB) in the Valley are collected separately and are composted. In addition, waxy cardboard from the John Ferraro Building cafeteria is sent via the Stores truck to the AOB for composting. The food waste recovery program recycled 3.2 tons in 2000.

Implementation Year: 2000

Recycling

- Salvage Materials Recovery Program (NP25)

The Salvage Materials Recovery Program recycles a large variety of materials including all types of scrap metal, wire, tires, scrap wood reels and poles, and old furniture. The material is sold to contracted vendors or the general public. In its initial year, this new program recycled 5,729.6 tons of material.

Implementation Year: 2000

- Pallet Recycling (R81)

Pallets are reused where possible. When the pallets are not needed or broken, they are either shipped to Materials Recovery to be sold, or are sold at the generating site. In 2000, 4 tons of pallets were recycled.

Implementation Year: 1999/Ongoing

- Administrative Office Recycling Program (R69)

The DWP implemented an office paper recycling program in all major administrative office buildings through a privately contracted recycling company. The program targeted high-grade white ledger, computer printout, colored office paper, and cardboard. The program was expanded to include beverage containers in 1998. Approximately 582 tons was diverted in 2000.

Implementation Year: 1995/Ongoing

- Independent Facility Beverage Container Recycling Program (R70)

Beverage containers from sites in the DWP Office Recycling Program are included under the category "Plastic." The weight of containers collected from outlying sites is not broken out separately. Some small outlying sites have also been given recycling bins to recycle their beverage containers informally. Effective 2001, beverage containers will be recycled in the rubbish-recycling program in all Valley facilities.

Implementation Year: 1999/Ongoing

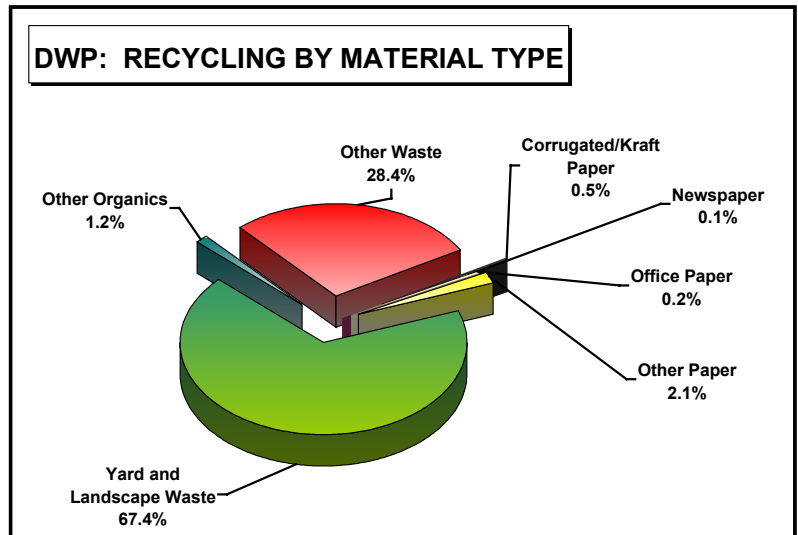
- Recycling Coordinator (R71)

The DWP funds a full-time position to oversee waste audits, recycling contracts and manage programs.

Implementation Year: 1999/Ongoing

- Modification of Agreements with Private Contractors (R72)

Contracts are modified as they are renewed or after pilot tests are done. Where applicable, modifications include language that provides contractors with guidelines for recycling and submitting documentation to the DWP of diversion of materials generated through DWP contracts. Tree trimming contracts have been modified to require recycling/composting of all trimmings. A number of construction contracts have been modified. Depending on the type of the job and materials recovered, some materials are recycled, and some are disposed into inert landfills. Construction materials are stockpiled when possible. All debris from the Valley facilities is separated and recycled.



- Use of Current City Inert Materials Contracts (R73)

The City of Los Angeles administers citywide contracts with two facilities (one in the San Fernando Valley and one in Central Los Angeles) that accept concrete and asphalt from City departments for recycling. The DWP has issued its own contracts for inerts recycling and diverts some clean loads of concrete and asphalt to these facilities.

Implementation Year: 1997/Ongoing

- Green Waste Recovery Contract Language (NP33)

The DWP includes language in its tree trimming contracts that requires contractors to recycle green waste from DWP projects, to document diversion quantities, and to provide documentation to the Department's designated recycling coordinator.

Implementation Year: 1997/Ongoing

- Polystyrene Recycling (NP6)

In 2000, Youth Services Academy students recycled polystyrene packaging materials primarily from new computers. Future plans include recycling cafeteria products (plates, cups, and utensils). Approximately 0.1 tons of material was diverted in 2000.

Implementation Year: 2000

Education

- Source Reduction and Recycling Education (E34)

Ongoing education was expanded to include updates and educational facts in the Contract and Employees' Association newsletters and via E-mail/voicemail. A new policy for duplex printing was added in 1999. Language requiring duplexing for bid submissions was also added to contract specifications. Signs are posted at copiers/printers to remind employees of the policy. The Re-Use store educates employees about reusing office supplies and is stocked with used office supplies salvaged from Department offices that would otherwise have been disposed. During the year 2000, approximately 26 tons of material was diverted through this program.

Market Development

- Buy-Recycled Program (MD18)

The Board of Commissioners approved the Buy Recycled Resolution in April 2000. The Recycling Program provides recycled-content specifications for pertinent contracts to Purchasing. The Department has information about the Buy Recycled Program on the website and on a promotional brochure. The Department switched to recycled specifications for motor oil, carpet, paper (including all billing paper), plastic supplies, promotional items, and may include other materials as contracts come up for renewal.

Implementation Year: 1998/Ongoing

5.7.4 Costs, Savings, and Revenues

DWP has a full-time recycling coordinator, who handles the programs and support policies as part of his/her regular job responsibilities. The cost of assigning a full-time recycling coordinator is covered by the significant savings in avoided disposal and transportation costs that the Department realizes through the waste reduction and recycling programs, and from the revenue the Department earns from the sale of its recyclable materials.