

Project Overview

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Major: Biological Systems Engineering
School: University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Summer Projects

The objective for the 2005 summer was to provide technical assistance in pollution prevention to three small businesses in Lancaster County. One reassessment of work completed in the summer of 2003 was conducted for the City of Lincoln Star Tran Garage. A second reassessment was conducted at LI-COR Biosciences of work originally completed during the summer of 2004.

Waste Assessments

Water and sprinkler installation assessments were conducted for LI-COR Biosciences and West Gate Bank located in Lincoln Nebraska. A waste assessment for office paper use was also conducted for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (NU) Lancaster County Extension Office.

Education

Public outreach was an important aspect of the tasks for 2005. Activities include teaching at Clover College, a day camp for children ages 6 to 13, by building edible earth parfaits and discussing the effects of pollution, creating garbage crafts, and participating in a garbage relay. Presentations were also made to the Lancaster County Extension Board and the 2005 Bright Lights, another children's day camp. As a result of these activities over 100 people received the message of pollution prevention.

Results

Combined, the quantifiable benefits from these assessments are shown in Table 1. The primary savings results in water savings from landscape sprinkler adjustments. The intangible benefits from these assessments included improved public relations with customers for improving water use and management and increased awareness of those everyday habits that lead to waste.

Table 1. Total P2 Savings

Solid Waste diverted from the landfill (lbs)	Water conserved (gal)	Cost Savings (\$)
1610	137,600 gallons	\$470