

Project Overview

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Summer Project

A waste assessment at “The View”, an apartment complex in Lincoln, Nebraska was performed during the summer of 2005. The site belongs to College Park Communities, a management company with several university-dorm-style apartment complexes throughout the United States catering to college students. Tasks included analysis of the processes, waste assessment and suggestions of pollution prevention (P2) opportunities.

Waste Assessment

From the waste assessment, it was determined that the environmental processes of greatest concern involve solid wastes, water and sewer, swimming pool and hot tub, electricity, and maintenance. Several alternatives for process improvements were suggested, such as installing new equipment, choosing alternative materials, and modifying practices.

Results

Recommendations included potential annual savings of \$6,200 as presented in Table 1. The opportunities also have some intangible benefits such as increasing pollution prevention knowledge through on-site workshops and establishing a stronger autonomy in local office. These intangibles benefits may not directly result in savings, but may increase the likelihood of implementations.

Table 1. P2 Opportunities and Cost Savings

Process	Pollution Prevention Opportunities	Annual Cost Savings
Solid Waste	Reduce quantity and volume of dumpsters	\$1,620
	Establish selective collection process	\$1,930
Water and Sewer	Use storm water for irrigation	
	Optimize yard irrigation	
	Repair leaking faucets and pipes	
Swimming Pool and Hot Tub	Forbid food and beverages in the swimming pool area	
	Establish shower within the water recreation area	
	Switch to aluminum sulfate in swimming pool water	
Electricity	Install occupancy sensors	\$2,020
	Replace mercury vapor bulbs by HP sodium	\$370
	Replace missing photocells	\$300
Maintenance	Increase maintenance fee	
	Hold waste reduction workshops	
	Increase the autonomy of local office	