

# Kansas Green Teams

## Friday Facts

[www.kansasgreenteams.org](http://www.kansasgreenteams.org)



### Kansas Green Teams, you have a New Tool!

Kansas Green Teams can now partner with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce waste generation and disposal by becoming a WasteWise partner. Launched by EPA in 1994, WasteWise has more than 2000 nationwide partners representing businesses, local governments, and non-profit organizations of all sizes and from all industry sectors.

#### **What is WasteWise?**

WasteWise is a free, voluntary EPA program that encourages its members to design programs that reduce municipal solid waste, which is waste that you would normally dispose of in a dumpster. Some common examples are copy paper, newspaper, plastic bottles, electronics equipment, aluminum cans, glass, and corrugated packaging. It does not include hazardous, liquid, or specially regulated waste.



To participate in the WasteWise program, partners set goals in three areas: waste prevention, recycling collection, and buying recycled-content products. All you need to do is track the results of your efforts and report your progress to WasteWise annually.

#### **Why WasteWise?**

Kansas Green Team are committed to preserving the environment, which simultaneously improve environmental and financial performance. Waste reduction can be a challenge, and WasteWise offers technical assistance to help you achieve your goals. The WasteWise annual awards program is also a great way to gain national recognition for your hard work!

#### **What are some of the Benefits?**

1. **Toll-free helpline** staffed by information specialists who can answer your program and technical questions.
2. **WasteWise representatives** who provide individual assistance to help you design a successful waste reduction program.
3. **Partner networking**, through a list server and regional meetings, lets you share accomplishments and address challenges with other partners.
4. **Awards and recognition** for successful waste reduction efforts through events, press releases, EPA publications, and an annual awards program.
5. **Publications** such as the *WasteWise Toolkit*, *WasteWise Bulletin*, and *WasteWise Update* offer program guidance, feature partner success stories, and cover specialized topic areas.
6. **Satellite forums** offer viewers the opportunity to learn about money-saving waste reduction strategies from their peers and participate in the call-in portion of the program.
7. **Re-TRAC** access to a web-based reporting and tracking tool.
8. **Use of the WasteWise logo.**

For more information on WasteWise visit [www.epa.gov/wastewise](http://www.epa.gov/wastewise) or contact Sandy Barnett, Kansas State Green Team Coordinator at [sbarnett@kdheks.gov](mailto:sbarnett@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-1617



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