



Press Advisory

Following are some Agency developments which may interest you. If you need more information on any of these subjects, call the appropriate contact.

For Release: Tuesday, November 4, 2003

WasteWise Hall of Fame Honors Corporate Role Models

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Forty-four organizations were recognized for their waste reduction efforts at EPA's WasteWise Ninth Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. WasteWise, a voluntary partnership program launched in 1994, has reported reductions of 69 million tons of waste through prevention and recycling efforts. EPA also estimates that since the program's inception, partners have prevented the emissions of over 39 million tons of greenhouse gases, similar to removing 31 million cars from the road for one year. This year's ceremony featured a WasteWise Hall of Fame to acknowledge WasteWise partners that have reported outstanding achievements for many years. The three Hall of Fame inductees are: Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N.Y.; Public Service Enterprise Group, Gibbstown, N.J.; and Virco Mfg. Corp., Conway, Ark. As charter members of WasteWise, these companies continue to identify innovative waste reduction strategies serving as role models to other WasteWise partners. For example, Kodak deconstructed more than 40 buildings across the country, reusing much of the original construction material and crushing the remaining brick, concrete and asphalt into aggregate for use in making concrete. Kodak reused more than 30,000 tons of this aggregate to build new roads and buildings at its facilities, saving \$2 million. In another example, in just 18 months the Public Service Enterprise Group saved nearly \$2 million in waste management costs and reduced tons of waste; since 1995, the Group's recycling rates have consistently exceeded 90 percent. In an additional example, Virco, by preventing manufacturing waste, purchases fewer raw materials and transfers the savings to consumers. Waste reduction efforts also have saved Virco thousands of dollars in disposal fees. For a complete listing of the 44 organizations that received awards, and for further information about EPA's WasteWise program and the 2003 Waste Wise Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/wastewise/about/winners.htm> or contact the WasteWise Helpline at 1-800-EPA-WISE (372-9473).

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