



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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FY08 EP³ Annual Report

The EP³ annual report is prepared each year to track the implementation of AR 35.80, which established the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program. Employees are responsible for providing purchasing data when requested at the end of the fiscal year for preparation of the annual report. The [FY08 Annual Report](#) was recently completed and is available for viewing on the [EP³ website](#). The report shows that the City purchased over **\$42 million** dollars worth of environmentally preferable products and services in FY08. The City also realized savings and revenue from renewable energy purchases and sales, energy efficiency upgrades, recycling, reclaimed water, and recapped tires, which saved the City almost **\$13 million** dollars.



Information is currently being collected for compilation of the **FY09 Annual Report**. Report your green purchases to Donna Chralowicz, Recycling Specialist, at dchralowicz@sandiego.gov.

Pilot Projects

Several departments have been pilot testing some exciting new products and services and evaluating their potential.

Plastic Manholes

Metro Wastewater has installed seven plastic manholes as a replacement for concrete manholes that have been traditionally used. The plastic manholes last longer than their concrete counterparts because they are resistant to bacteriological and chemical corrosion. This also reduces infiltration that occurs when manholes become corroded, which can reduce demands on wastewater treatment. According to a life-cycle assessment prepared by CleanMetrics Corp., the annual greenhouse gas emissions associated with manufacturing, transportation, and rehabilitation are 5.3 lbs of CO² equivalents for a plastic manhole vs. 73.6 lbs for a concrete one. The plastic manholes cost about \$500 more than concrete manholes, but are quicker to install and require less frequent rehabilitation, which saves money on installation and maintenance costs.





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Do you have a “green” pilot project you’ve been wanting to try, but don’t have time to do the research or groundwork to get started? Assistance is available to City staff! Contact us and we will help with research and find contacts in other jurisdictions that have experience with a product or service you want to try.

For assistance or more information, contact the Environmental Services Department:

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(858) 492-5059

dchralowicz@saniego.gov

or

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Pilot Projects (cont.)

Goats!

In FY08, the Park & Recreation department tried using goats instead of motorized equipment for brush management on about 6 acres of open space area in Carmel Valley. There were some logistical issues that required a little extra time to work out, and larger woody brush still had to be cleared with equipment, while the goats did better with grass and lower leaf material. Further use of the goats for periodic maintenance is being considered by the department.



At start of project....



...and at end of project.

Organic Fertilizer

Park & Recreation has also been trying out a third party certified organic fertilizer in certain areas of Balboa Park. Benefits of an organic based product include heartier root growth and less top-growth on grass, which provides increased stress tolerance. This allows plants to better withstand drought conditions and may reduce water needs. It may also require less mowing of the grass. Other benefits include less frequent application and less nutrient run-off. The organic fertilizer costs more than conventional, but may pay off with fewer needed applications and reduced maintenance and water costs.

Green Cleaners

Building staff in CAB and COB have been testing out a few different green cleaners. The products appear to be effective and the maintenance staff are pleased with the pleasant fragrance and milder chemicals, which they find less irritating than harsher products. In addition, many of the cleaners come in pre-measured concentrated packages that are diluted in reusable bottles using a system that ensures the correct dilution ratio and eliminates spills, contact with the concentrated product, and waste.

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