

April 22, 2005 is the 35th Anniversary of Earth Day

Please take a moment to reflect on how your job can impact the environment. Below are a few questions to help guide you and some suggestions on how you can help reduce the impacts.

How Does Your Job Impact the Environment?

Do you...

- Use paper, computers, batteries, or fluorescent light bulbs?
- Purchase fuels, supplies, or furnishings?
- Commute to work?
- Store or dispose of solid, hazardous, or medical waste?
- Use electricity or water?
- Perform equipment maintenance?
- Manage facility maintenance or landscaping?
- Plan or design new buildings?

Your job activities could impact the environment by...

- Increasing demand for landfill space by not recycling or not using recycled products when available;
- Creating air, soil, or groundwater pollution from improper use, storage, or disposal of fuels, lubricants, or waste;
- Creating air pollution through vehicle emissions (single rider commuting);
- Creating air pollution from power plants that results from excessive electricity use;
- Causing an accidental spill or release of fuels or hazardous chemicals that could pollute the air, soil, or groundwater;
- Using non-native landscaping plants that require extra water and pesticides to maintain;
- Producing negative environmental impact from new building construction.

Possible Solutions...

- Walk, bike, use public transit, carpool, or vanpool;
- Substitute "green" products for purchases;
- Use recycled paper and recycled-content office products;
- Participate in your facility's Recycling Program;
- Conserve energy and water;
- Follow procedures to prevent accidental spills and releases;
- Follow environmentally sensitive planning and design practices;
- Use native plant materials in landscaping;
- Maintain regulatory compliance.