

Hermes RPI Awards



thecentre:mk: Big Hanna

Best Practice Waste Initiative Submissions

March 2009

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Summary of Initiative: Brief description of the initiative

Following the success of surpassing the government recycling target four years ahead of schedule, with 50.3% of the centre:mk's total waste (1114.4 tonnes) being recycled onsite in 2007-2008, the question was: How do we break the onsite 60% barrier?



The answer is in the installation of Big Hanna, an onsite food composter that takes in food waste and produces compost. This compost can be used around the centre:mk for the planters within the malls. Alongside Big Hanna a Dewaterer was installed to remove water from food waste reducing its volume for processing.

The Dewaterer removes 85% of liquid from food waste automatically reducing the mass of 100Kg to 15Kg. The Dewaterer also utilises rain water harvested from the rooftops of the centre:mk, which has prompted the company to extend this area of the project to provide additional water to flush the public conveniences.

For every 100Kg of food waste given to Big Hanna, 10Kg of compost is produced which is a 90% reduction. This final 10% compost is then used to feed the centre's landscaping. This initiative will help the centre:mk to reach its target of 60% onsite recycling by the end of March 2009.

Benefits

The advantage is that we are:

- Increasing the amount of waste recycled on site aiming to break the 60% barrier by April 2009
- Annually producing 6 tonnes of compost
- By using the Dewaterer alone we can reduce landfill by 85% on food waste

Quantifiable Benefits

Since the launch of the Dewaterer the following amounts have been put through the system meaning that 2.2974 Tonnes of Food waste have been processed by the Dewaterer, all of which has gone into the Big Hanna food Composter. Because of the time period needed for Big Hanna to produce compost no compost has been produced yet. However, sending waste to landfill generates 2.90 tonnes of greenhouse gases for each tonne of waste sent. As no waste has gone to land fill, so far 6.66 tonnes of greenhouse gases have been saved.

Contact

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