

2008-2009 Environmental Objectives and Targets Results

At the Port of Portland, it's our goal to operate in the most environmentally responsible way and continuously improve our environmental performance. Each year, we set objectives and targets to ensure that we push ourselves to more fully integrate environmental stewardship into the work we do. These targets are built around our five core environmental program areas: energy, water, waste minimization, air, and natural resources.



Objective:

Minimize Impacts to Air Quality

Completed Targets:

- We conducted a Portwide greenhouse gas emissions inventory in accordance with The Climate Registry protocol. The Port met the June 30, 2009, deadline, and third-party verification is due to be completed by March 2010.
- Three reach stackers, which handle cargo at Terminal 6, were retrofitted with diesel oxidation catalysts, which reduce diesel particulate emissions.
- A new idling reduction program was implemented at T-6 for cargo handling equipment. The Port collaborated with Ports America and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union to improve communications about the benefits of reduced idling. Random monitoring showed no units idling during lunches or other scheduled breaks; monitoring will continue.

Incomplete Targets:

- Green travel guidelines, currently under review, have been developed for Port employee travel.
- The Port is researching options for providing incentives to alternative fuel vehicles at PDX, but front-of-line privileges have not been fully defined. Further, a target to implement an anti-idling program for taxis is now in place; the Port is beginning enforcement during nonpeak periods.
- A Port target to increase TriMet Red Line MAX ridership was not fully met. MAX ridership is up as of September 2009 by a percentage of total traffic, but down systemwide.



Solar panels at Portland International Airport

Measuring Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Port, as a founding reporter of The Climate Registry, committed to completing a greenhouse gas emissions inventory by June 30, 2009. The Climate Registry is a nonprofit collaboration among states, provinces, territories and native sovereign nations that sets standards to calculate, verify and report greenhouse gas emissions. The Port met the deadline; now inventory results need to go through the required third-party certification by March 2010. Initial data show that, of Port-controlled emissions, our biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions – about 52 percent Portwide – is from purchased electricity. This supports the Port's goal to pursue energy efficiencies throughout our operating areas, purchase certified renewable power, and look for ways to produce power onsite. Examples include a small solar installation at Portland International Airport and a new deicing treatment facility that will use co-generated methane for its heat requirements.

The second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, at 25 percent, comes from stationary, onsite fuel combustion to heat and cool Port facilities, including the airport terminal. As a 24/7 operation, it has extensive energy needs. Other sources identified in the inventory include Port fleet vehicles, cargo-handling equipment and emissions related to construction. The Port will continue to provide annual inventories of Scope 1 (direct control generated onsite) and Scope 2 (generated offsite for our use) to The Climate Registry. Understanding emissions sources is the first step to identifying solutions that help to increase efficiencies and reduce emissions.



Labels on paper towel dispensers in airport restrooms

Using Less, Saving Lots

Portland International Airport serves more than 14 million people each year. In order to reduce the amount of paper towels used at the airport by hurried travelers, the Port tested new strategies to encourage people to think more about using less.

Paper towel dispensers in airport restrooms and administrative areas now have a "Please Conserve" label. Paper towel usage was carefully studied both before and after the labels were applied, with Port staff researching which restrooms saw the heaviest use.

The initial results are positive. Paper towel usage was reduced about 15 percent. Interestingly, the presence of labels reduced paper towel usage in the women's restrooms but increased usage in the men's restrooms. Overall, the net effect is a reduction.



Objective:

Reduce Waste Generation and Hazardous Materials Use

Completed Targets:

- New airfield painting equipment and paints with low-volatile-organic compounds were implemented this year. The new paints reduce hazardous waste associated with airfield and roadway painting by more than 50 percent.
- The Port increased post-consumer recycled content in general office paper from 30 percent to 100 percent. This includes paper used in Port offices and in outsourced printing projects.
- In-house paper use was reduced by more than 25 percent over the year by adding default double-sided printing in all Port offices.
- Restroom paper towel use was reduced by about 15 percent by testing and installing new labels in nearly all Port rest rooms.
- Waste streams at two marine facilities and Troutdale and Hillsboro airports were assessed to identify ways to promote waste reduction and increase recycling.

Incomplete Target:

- An effort to replace disposable serviceware in at least 75 percent of PDX restaurants by July 2010 was not fully met due to increased prices and the economic downturn. However, the target was updated to expand food waste collection at Port facilities; food waste collection stations are now available at Port meetings and events. Pilot testing for new food waste collection stations at the PDX food court was conducted in June 2009; results will help implement a permanent food collection system in the airport's Oregon Market.



Objective:

Reduce Energy Consumption and Purchase Electric Energy from Sustainable Sources

Incomplete Target:

- The Port targeted two energy audits for the year and a total energy reduction of at least 500,000 kilowatt hours through new projects with a payback of less than four years. Both energy audits were completed, and upgrades at the PDX Central Utility Plant will save approximately 350,000 kwh per year. An additional upgrade at the terminal has a projected savings of 53,000 kwh, leaving the Port just shy of the 500,000 kwh goal.



Objective:

Minimize Impacts to Water Resources

Completed Targets:

- The Port conducted two water efficiency evaluations over the year on irrigation controllers. The systems were reset, using results to conserve water.
- A new phased catch basin retrofit program was designed for the marine terminals to improve water quality.
- Recommendations from the 2007-2008 mercury source survey were implemented: a training program was established and offered on mercury awareness and proper disposal, and mercury disposal areas were set up at the Port's marine and aviation operating areas.
- Water consumption at marine facilities was reduced through restroom upgrades.

Incomplete Target:

- A target to develop and begin implementation of a phased storm sewer system verification program at marine Terminal 4 was not completed. The program is being incorporated into a separate master planning effort and is due to be completed by 2012.



The upgraded Central Utility Plant at the airport

Short-term Target, Long-term Gain

Two separate energy upgrade projects implemented this past year will save the Port more than 400,000 kilowatt hours annually, equivalent to the annual energy use of 34 residential homes. While we did not meet our target to conserve 500,000 kilowatt hours in one year, the Port will benefit from the decreased energy demand for years to come. Additionally, the two projects will pay for themselves in just over a year.



Objective:

Minimize Impacts and Seek Opportunities to Enhance Natural Resources

Complete Target:

- The Port committed to participate in the Northwest Ecological Institute's survey to determine Western painted and pond turtle habitat availability in the lower Willamette Valley. Port staff conducted surveys of turtles at the Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park; six native Western painted turtles were trapped, tagged and released. Monitoring will continue through 2010.

Incomplete Target:

- An initiative to implement a two-year pilot program to plant native trees on West Hayden Island and study successional stages and invasive weed control by July 2010 is at the halfway mark. Site preparation has occurred near an existing mitigation site on West Hayden Island.

2008-2009

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To learn more about the Port of Portland's environmental programs, please visit www.portofportland.com or call 503.944.7047.



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