

GEMS

Green Environmental
Management System



Our VA Puget Sound **GEMS** Program asks you to:



- **R**educe, **R**euse, and **R**ecycle materials
- Comply with all environmental regulations
- Conserve natural resources
- Purchase **GREEN** products
- Use, handle and dispose of chemicals and hazardous materials wisely
- Use environmentally friendly products
- Reduce our impact on the environment



What are Environmental Impacts?



Environmental Impacts include any change to the environment, whether adverse (air pollution) or beneficial (water conservation)



What are Environmental Impacts?



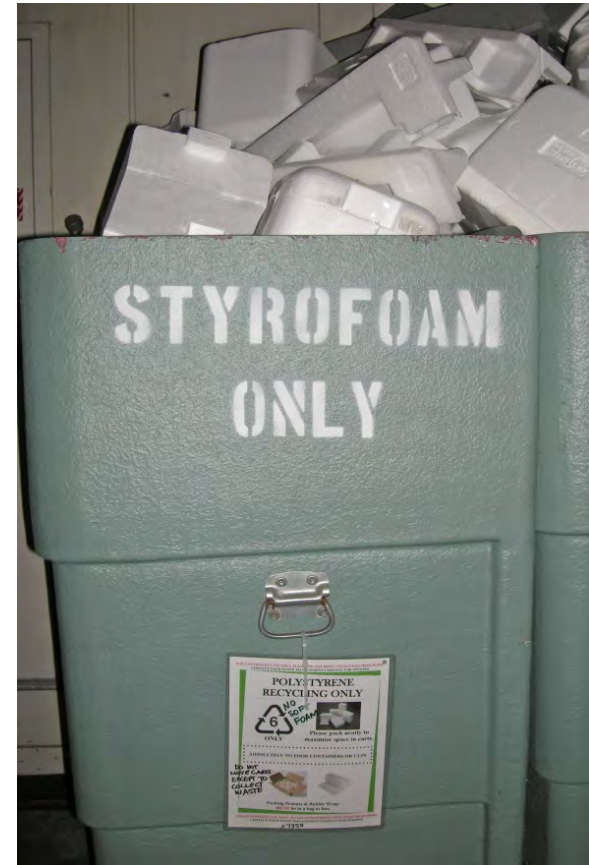
Sea Life

Current VA Projects

- Formaldehyde neutralization (you must keep a Waste Treatment log)
- Hydrogen peroxide sterilization in Animal Research Facility
- Orphan Chemical Adoption and sharing
- Toner & printer cartridge recycling

Packaging Recycling

- Polystyrene (Styrofoam™)
 - clean polystyrene (#6)
 - bag peanuts
 - remove **ALL** tape and labels
- Polyethylene
 - clean polyethylene (#4)
 - all #4 packaging must be bagged
- Locations:
 - loading dock, Bldg. 1 (by the Hazardous Waste shed)
 - Bldg. 1, in hallway by room 724 (green bin)



Mixed Recycling

Plastic soda bottles
Aluminum cans
Light weight cardboard
Magazines/Catalogues
Newspaper, books
Plastic tubs (clean only)
Starbuck's coffee cups, *but*
NO Lids/NO Straws
NO Glass
NO Food
**NO Lab Plastic (except
plastic pipette tip boxes)**



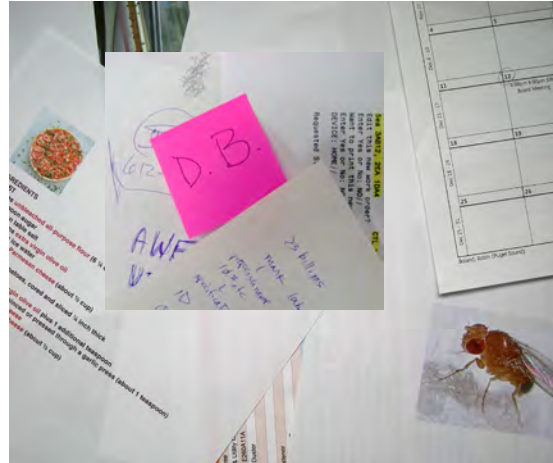
Document Recycling

- VA Memorandum IM-10: the facility shreds **100% of paper products**
- All of the following must go into the Shred-It boxes: post-it notes, patient documents, receipts, scrap paper, reprints, printed documents & e-mails, envelopes, ads and junk mail, file folders, all DBs



Document Recycling

– Shred-It!



– Place into Mixed Recycling



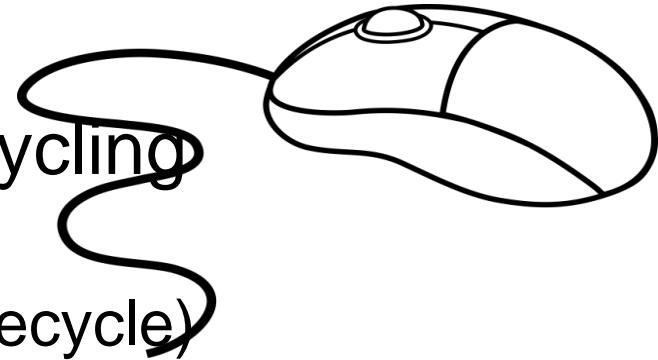
Cardboard/Paper Bag Recycling

Cart location:
Building 8
1st floor



More Recycling Projects

- Electronic waste (e-Waste) recycling
 - cords
 - key boards (remove batteries & recycle)
 - miscellaneous electronics
 - computer mouse (remove batteries & recycle)
 - recycle batteries in battery container
- No bar-coded items
- No data storage media (flash drive, floppies)
- Containers located in Research Lab hallways



e-Waste



Batteries



Contacts

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GEMS



Conserve Energy. . .

Please remember to
turn out the lights
when you leave

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