



February 2002

# Doing What it Takes to be WasteWise

**F**rom reducing product packaging to composting excess food, the food manufacturing/processing industry has a wealth of waste reduction opportunities. Below is a sampling of the commitments and achievements of WasteWise partners in this industry. These types of activities also can help your company reduce waste and cut costs. For more information or to enroll your company in WasteWise, call **800 EPAWISE (372-9473)** or visit our home page at **[[www.epa.gov/wastewise](http://www.epa.gov/wastewise)]**.

## Waste Prevention

**T**he cornerstone of WasteWise, waste prevention means using less material to do the same job, cutting waste before recycling. Regardless of industry sector, everyone can take advantage of general waste prevention goals, such as double-sided copying, packaging reduction, or switching to reusable supplies. Some WasteWise partners in the food manufacturing/processing industry have gone beyond the basics and implemented activities that target industry-specific waste materials. The following is a sampling of these goals:

- ❖ Return produce boxes to farmers.
- ❖ Decrease flap sizes on corrugated shipping containers.

- ❖ Use durable plastic pallets instead of wood.
- ❖ Pack fruit in outdated phone book pages.
- ❖ Eliminate paperboard sleeves for products sold in plastic tubs.
- ❖ Reduce weight of corrugated board for fluid shipping containers.
- ❖ Give plastic ingredient buckets to farmers for reuse.
- ❖ Donate unusable food products to pig farmers.
- ❖ Implement bulk supply systems.

### WasteWise Partners in the Food Manufacturing/Processing Industry

AG Processing, Inc.	Marconi
Anchor Food Products, Inc.	Mrs. Alison's Cookie Co.
Ben & Jerry's	Power Logistics
Food Marketing Institute	Reckitt & Colman Inc.- Springfield Plant
Frito-Lay, MD	Royal Crest Dairy
Frito-Lay, Wooster OH	Snoball Foods, Inc.
General Mills, Inc.	Stonyfield Farm Yogurt
Gilroy Foods	Sunshine Nut Co., Inc.
Grocery Manufacturers of America	The Earthgrains Company
Hawkeye Food Systems, Inc.	The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, Inc.
Jackson Milk & Ice Cream Company	The Pillsbury Company - Hannibal, MO facility
Land O' Lakes, Inc.	The Pillsbury Company - New Albany Facility
Lipton	

As of February 1, 2002

## Recycling Collection

**W**asteWise partners commit to initiating, expanding, or improving company programs to collect recyclables. In some cases, companies add new materials to an existing program, or they increase effectiveness through activities such as employee education or community outreach. WasteWise partners in the food manufacturing/processing industry have set these goals:

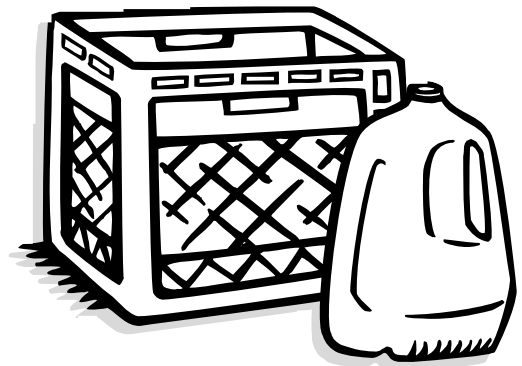
- ❖ Facilitate recycling by minimizing use of composite materials and multicomponent packaging.
- ❖ Make product packaging from materials with readily available end markets.
- ❖ Implement plastic bag recycling program with local schools.
- ❖ Compost agricultural byproducts.
- ❖ Recycle fat and bone materials.
- ❖ Compost food waste from test kitchen.



## Buying or Manufacturing Recycled Products

**W**asteWise partners commit to increasing the overall recycled content in the products they purchase. WasteWise partners that are manufacturers can either increase the percentage of postconsumer content in the products they make or increase the recycled content in the products they purchase. Buy-recycled activities of WasteWise partners in the food manufacturing/processing industry include:

- ❖ Design product packaging to incorporate corrugated fiberboard with recycled content.
- ❖ Use recycled-content paperboard packaging.
- ❖ Use plastic shipping crates, trays, and bins with recycled content.



### Sample Partner Achievements

- ❖ **Stonyfield Farm Yogurt** donated 336 tons of yogurt manufacturing by-product to local farmers to be used as animal feed. The company also donated 45 tons of yogurt to food banks and recycled 327 tons of cardboard, paper, plastic, and aluminum.
- ❖ **Ben & Jerry's** waste reduction program diverted more than 750 tons of material from landfills. Ben & Jerry's also provides its employees with the opportunity to make waste prevention suggestions on a regular basis.