



ECOWISE



Happy New Year!



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www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/ph/phecc/newsletter/newsletter.cfm

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Recycling Program Reduces Waste and Provides Cleaner Environment



The Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) and Civicorps (formerly East Bay Conservation Corps) were awarded a Multifamily Beverage Container Recycling Grant, worth \$156,000, from the California Department of Conservation to initiate a pilot program for resident recycling. The pilot program kicked off on March 3, 2008. The OHA previously recycled only at their offices and maintenance service center, but this grant enabled them to begin recycling programs at two of their public housing sites for 542 families.

The grant is providing funding for common area recycling containers for paper, cardboard, and beverage containers, recycling training sessions, and the equipment used to haul recyclable materials. Several recycling informational sessions were held to notify residents of the new program and to educate them about recycling requirements. Civicorps will use the new trucks purchased with part of the grant money to pick up the recycling on a weekly basis. Civicorps has been serving the community for almost 25 years and currently provides recycling services for more than 200 businesses from their recycling center in West Oakland.

This grant is one part of OHA's recycling program, which includes recycling for mattresses, appliances, e-waste, paper, cardboard, bottles/cans, batteries, bike

and mattress frames, filing cabinets, iron doors, window frames, and toner cartridges either refilled or recycled. The OHA recycling program has expanded over the years and for the single period from January to June 2008 accounted for 78 tons of recycled material. The recycling program has reduced OHA's waste disposal costs, helped to maintain a clean and healthy environment for residents and decreased the amount of solid waste going to the landfill. For additional information contact **Judy Monnier** at ejmonnier@Oakha.org or 510-874-1617.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2009 International Builders' Show

► Jan 20-23, 2009 | Las Vegas, NV
 ☞ www.buildersshow.com/Home/Page.aspx?pageID

2009 MIT Energy Conference

► Mar 6-7, 2009 | Cambridge, MA
 ☞ www.tinyurl.com/mit09conf

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association's Building Energy 09

► March 10-12, 2009 | Boston, MA
 ☞ www.buildingenergy.nesae.org/bios.php

Healthy Buildings 2009

► Sept 13-17, 2009 | Syracuse, NY
 ☞ www.hb2009.org

We want to hear from you! Please send us nominations for projects to be highlighted in the EcoWise success stories.



Contact us at ☞ ecowise@deval.us

Electronics Recycling

With television stations switching from analog to digital signals in February 2009, experts believe that the number of televisions being disposed of will increase. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintains a [website](http://www.epa.gov) that can be used to find recycling resources including information on regional and state electronics recycling programs.

Earth911.com has a zip-code based search engine that enables you to look for recycling options in your community for various products. CollectiveGood.com

can be used to recycle old cell phones, pagers and PDA's. Office Depot will recycle technology products in stores through their [Tech Recycling Service](http://www.officedepot.com/techrecycling). Sharp Electronics Corporation is also providing free, convenient consumer recycling of Sharp, Panasonic and Toshiba brand televisions and other consumer audio and video products. A complete list of Sharp recycling locations is available at <http://www.MRMrecycling.com>.

Free IPM Webinar Series

The New England Asthma Regional Council, the Boston Public Health Commission, and the Boston Housing Authority are sponsoring a FREE three-part webinar series on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The series will provide practical tools for PHAs interested in implementing IPM in affordable housing.

IPM reduces pest infestations by detecting and correcting conditions that lead to pest problems. IPM practitioners block pests' entry points and eliminate their sources

of food, water, and shelter, using low-toxicity, low-risk pesticides as a last resort.

The webinar series will explain why IPM is a safer and more effective solution for pest problems than traditional methods of pest control. It will also detail the process of planning, implementing, and evaluating an IPM program in public housing facilities. Finally, it will provide information on IPM bid specifications, performance-based contracts, and contract management. For additional information please contact **Molly Brett** at mbrett@tmfnet.org or (617) 279-2289 ext 538.

SCHEDULE

January 22, 2009 | 2-3 PM
REGISTER:
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/913019320>

Implementing IPM: A Guide for Managers and Owners of Affordable Housing; Presenter: Susan Altman (Environmental and Social Marketing consultant)

February 11, 2009 | 2-3 PM
REGISTER:
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/260795469>

Elements of a successful program: A case study from the BHA; Presenters: Gail Livingston, John Kane, & Lori Luce (BHA); tenant representatives (Boston Committee for Public Housing).

February 23, 2009 | 2-3 PM
Registration opens in Jan.

Working with an IPM Contractor; Presenter: Jonathan Boyar (WatchAll Pest Mgmt.)

Green O&M Template Available

MaineHousing utilizes a [template](#), based on and adapted from a manual that was originally prepared by M. Landman Communications & Consulting and published by Enterprise Community Partners for The Plaza Apartments, a building developed by the Public Initiatives Development Corporation, which assists building managers in producing a Green Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for PHA properties.

To be truly green, a building should be operated and maintained using green products and procedures. A building's energy and water efficiency, indoor air quality, durability and resource efficiency are greatly influenced by its O&M. Furthermore, the cost of O&M over a building's lifetime far exceeds the building's initial

construction cost, so reducing O&M costs can lead to substantial savings over the life of the building. Also, O&M has substantial implications for the health and safety of a building's residents, the building's environmental impacts and its financial performance.

This template assists building managers in producing a green O&M manual specific to each property. This manual serves as a standard reference guide for each property's management and maintenance staff. Its recommendations should be incorporated into the standard policies, procedures and practices of the building's property management and its contracts with maintenance companies and vendors.

The manual provides general guidelines for best-practice building operations and maintenance procedures in the areas of indoor air quality management, green

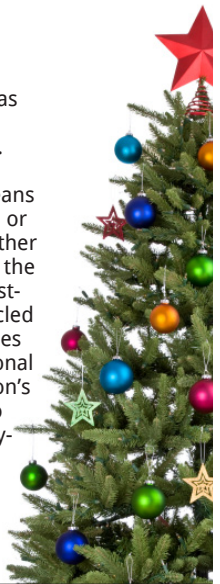
CFL Recycling

The Home Depot, Inc. has launched a national in-store, consumer compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb recycling program at all of their locations. Expired, unbroken CFL bulbs can be dropped off to the store associates behind the returns desk. [Click here](#) for more information.



Tree-Cycling

If you had a real Christmas tree this year, instead of throwing it out, recycle it. Real Christmas trees are biodegradable, which means they can be easily reused or recycled for mulch and other purposes. To learn about the many ways that real Christmas trees are being recycled and reused in communities nationwide visit the National Christmas Tree Association's [website](#). Use [Earth911](#) to find a Christmas tree recycling drop off location in your area.



and healthy housekeeping, indoor pest prevention and control, waste reduction and recycling, energy and water conservation, and green grounds keeping.

It also lists reference documents that would provide more in-depth guidelines on green cleaning standards and certified cleaning products, integrated pest management guidelines, public transit information and other useful resources. Contact **Dave Ranslow** at dranslow@mainehousing.org or (207) 626-4602 for further information.