# Recycling Makes Sen\$e

Northeast Region

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#### Disclaimer

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#### Evolution of Attitude Towards Recycling

- Pack rats to throw away society
- Garbage barge in late '80s
- Mandatory recycling laws



US Recycling Industry includes many sectors

# Without Recycling

Trash = Wasted
Resources

# Know Your Trash - You Are Paying For It!

- What % of your trash is recyclable?
- Reduced trash = less frequent "pulls" by the trash hauler, and possibly a smaller dumpster
- Less pulls, less trash, and smaller dumpster = \$avings
- \$avings can pay for recycling costs, and large generators may get paid for recyclables

### Greening Your Operations

- Recycling shows commitment to the community and the environment
- Recycling information is great for press releases and other marketing materials
- Benefits of recycling can be measured with the use of NERC's Environmental Benefits Calculator
- www.nerc.org/documents/environmental\_benefits \_calculator.html

## Saves Landfill Space

Working Face of Johnston, RI Landfill



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#### Northeast Recycling Industry

Recycling and Reuse Establishments	13,000
People Employed	206,000
Annual Payroll	\$6.8 billion
Annual Revenues	\$44 billion

Source: Recycling Economic Information Study, June 2000, NERC



Source: Recycling Alliance of Texas Green Purchasing Workshop - keynote by Meg Morris, EnergyAnswers Corporation (America Recycles Day Past Chairman)

# Impact of Recycling on Climate Change

- Recycling uses less energy for transport and production than virgin materials.
- Burning less fossil fuels means less greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere.
- Fewer greenhouse gases means avoiding contributions to climate change.

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