EDUCATION & OUTREACH
NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR RECYCLING INFORMATION

Rationale

Source reduction, recycling and composting programs are under development and expansion throughout the country, Local agencies and businesses have information needs which should be addressed through a coordinated source. By making important information readily available, the federal government can encourage these activities

Policy

A National Clearinghouse should be established along with a recycling extension service for recycling information, sponsored by the EPA with the following functions:

- Maintain an up-to-date me on all significant state legislative proposals and local ordinances that seek to reduce waste or promote recycling.
- Report rapidly on the development of new collection and processing technologies, and marketing techniques as they are implemented around the nation.
- Report recycling rates for all commodities commonly collected through buy-back, drop-off curbside recycling commercial/industrial recycling or composting activities in a format that can be disaggregated to the level of source of the data by city.
- Report on the costs of recycling (including energy and resources saved), and the costs of collecting and disposing of garbage, including avoided collection landfill and depletion costs resulting from recycling. Provide information to the public through a variety of means, including a toll-free hotline, publication, computer network, public service announcements and/or videos, and a recycling extension service in conjunction with state recycling associations and universities throughout the nation.
- Identify universal measures and methods of calculating to establish level of performance and success of programs.
- Similar statewide and local clearinghouses should be established.