



Moving up the Waste Hierarchy



By following the waste hierarchy, we can reduce our impact on the environment, lower greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and move toward a circular economy. Our core business, energy-from-waste, provides communities and businesses with a critical tool in moving up the hierarchy. But we haven't stopped there: take a look to see how Covanta is following the hierarchy and helping others do the same.



Mercury

We're a sustaining partner of the Product Stewardship Institute to help advocate for removal of mercury from all consumer products.

We offer collection events in many communities. To date, we've recovered over 3,000 pounds of mercury, keeping it out of the waste stream.

**Recovered
3,000 lbs.
of Mercury**

Zero-Process Water Discharge

We operate 15 zero-process water discharge plants, reducing the generation of wastewater.

Waste Auditing

By conducting trash compactor audits and waste sorts, our Environmental Solutions team was able to identify waste reduction and recycling opportunities for a national retail/grocery chain customer. New communication and training programs helped drive improved performance.



Reuse



Water Reuse

A new water filter plant at our Delaware Valley facility reuses 1.3 million gallons per day of effluent water from the local publicly-owned treatment plant.

We've partnered with Global Cycle, Inc. to reuse certain non-hazardous industrial wastewaters after treatment in our air pollution control equipment at our Southeastern Massachusetts facility.

Delaware Valley facility reuses 1.3 million gallons per day

Carbide Lime

We're expanding the use of carbide lime, a historic by-product of acetylene manufacturing, as a replacement for some of the lime in our air and water treatment facilities.

Ash

Following a successful research project, Pasco County, Florida, received approval to use bottom ash for road construction in Pasco County.

Ammonia-Containing Wastes

Our Niagara and Indianapolis facilities have been able to cut back on the air pollutant control reagent ammonia by processing ammonia-containing liquid waste streams.



Recycle



Metals

Boosting recovery

Over the past four years, we've increased our metals recovery by nearly 20 percent. New technology lets us recover smaller pieces of non-ferrous metals than ever before.

Recovering stainless steel

We've installed a new air sorter, the first of its kind, to remove stainless steel from the ash at our Hempstead facility.

Improving quality

A new Metals Processing Facility in Fairless Hills, PA, processes metals from multiple plants into purer commodity streams.

Increased metals recovery by nearly 20 percent

Industrial Recycling

Old X-Rays

For one of our largest federal customers, Covanta developed a special arrangement with United DMS, a leading precious metal recovery company, to help recover and sell silver from old X-Rays.

Pharmaceuticals

We leveraged our growing partner network to reclaim fuel and industrial-grade ethanol from a shipment of liquid pharmaceutical products.

UnWrapp

A zero-waste-to-landfill solution that converts packaged products into recyclable commodities, water and energy.

Fishing for Energy

Through a partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NOAA and Schnitzer Steel, we've recovered over 1,500 tons of derelict and retired fishing gear.

Composting

We began offering composting services through our bundled services offering in 2014. Our acquisition of Advanced Waste Services in 2015 expanded our composting offering.

E-Waste

Our e-Stewards, R2 and ISO 14001 certified facility recycles over

Recovered over 1,500 tons of derelict and retired fishing gear

99 percent of the 13 million pounds of electronic waste it receives per year.

Rechargeable Batteries

Battery recycling is available to all of our employees at each of our EfW facilities.

Recycling in Our Schools

We support the Go Green Initiative, a non-profit with a mission to provide schools with the tools and training they need to create a “culture of conservation,” including recycling, within their communities.

Recycling in the Office

Our Environmental Solutions Team designed a waste management program for a Class A office campus that maximized efficiencies for their waste and recyclable materials, which reduced the environmental footprint of the locations.



Recover



Rx4Safety

Our Rx4Safety program has safely destroyed over 3 million pounds of unwanted medications to date, while generating electricity and steam.

Durham-York Energy Centre

The first new EfW facility in North America constructed in over a decade, the facility processes 140,000 metric tons of waste into 17.5 MWh of renewable electricity, enough to power 10,000 homes.

Dublin

Once completed in 2017, the facility will be able to recover energy from 600,000 metric tons of waste per year, enough to supply 80,000 homes.

Zero-Waste-to-Landfill

We help companies across sectors, including American Airlines, Diamond Packaging, and 10 out of 12 major automobile manufacturers, to achieve zero-waste-to-landfill status by recovering energy from what’s left over after recycling.

Energy Efficiency

We’re working to get as much energy as we can out of the waste resource. Our energy efficiency projects have helped us save the equivalent of 38,700 MWh of electricity—enough electricity to supply over 3,300 homes for a year.

**Safely
destroyed over
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medications**



Disposal



Disposal of waste in landfills is the least desirable waste management approach. In 2014, Covanta's EfW facilities diverted 20.7 million tons of waste from landfill. Our goal is to increase the amount of waste diverted by continuing to facilitate reuse, recycling and recovery of waste.