

# Browns Super Stores

## SUSTAINABILITY RECAP 2012

### Trash/Recycling

In January we began our programs to work towards Zero Waste in all stores. Our focus was on increasing food donations, single stream recycling efforts and organic recycling programs. Brown's recycling rate in 2011 was approximately 60%, we set a goal to increase our recycling rate by 25% in 2012. Our efforts this year have produced the following results:

- For the year we have achieved a total company recycle rate of 79%, an increase of 32%. 8% above our goal.
- Reduced our total company trash sent to landfills by 51%.
- Three stores achieved under 20% sent to Landfills.
  - Roxborough 11.2%
  - Brooklawn 15.5%
  - Fairless Hills 17.2%
- Five stores achieved over a 50% improvement
  - Roxborough
  - Brooklawn
  - Bensalam
  - Fairless Hills
  - East Norriton
- Sent 978 Tons of food waste to composting facilities
  - Top two Organic Recycling stores were Roxborough and Bensalam.
- Increased single stream recycling to 7.1% of total waste up from 3.5% in 2011. Brooklawn, Island and Haverford were the top performers.
- Total trash costs down 18% vs. 2011. Actual savings of \$45,000.

Our results have been achieved by creating programs that are working. We are continuing to make sustainability a part of the Browns culture. We will be making a big push to achieve our corporate goal of being a Zero Waste company in 2013

- We have incorporated sustainability training into our orientation program and cover our sustainability efforts with all new hires.
- Our partner in Organic recycling performs monthly audits in all stores and works with Store Directors and their teams on training.
- The Loss Prevention department has added a recycling portion to their audit program.
- All stores have created Green Teams and we can see the positive effect in most stores.

### Donation programs

In January we meet with all stores and developed a how to program for food donations. Our goal was to increase the amount of "Fresh" food that we donated to our local communities instead of sending to landfills. We began working with Philabundance who helped us get in contact with groups for stores that were not already donating daily. Philabundance also started us on a program for meat donations; all stores are now donating meat which is great for local communities. This program was vetted and approved by Wakefern QA and we have had no issues.

Year to date we have donated 164 Tons of Fresh food to local charities and food banks totaling 327,628 meals.

## **Energy:**

### **Solar**

After testing period in February and March the solar system in Parkside was fully operational in April. During this 9 month period the system produced 312,000 kWh. The Kilowatt hours produced was off projection by 31,000 kWh or 9%. If we factor out the first two months, where we were working out some issues the actual kWh produced was only off projection by about 3%, September, October, and November ran at almost 100% of projected capacity.

### **Energy Star**

In 2012 the Corporate office and five stores qualified for Energy star approval.

In 2013 all stores except Oregon and Island have qualified for Energy Star and we are in the process of applying for those stores and the Corporate office.

In Oregon we have allotted some Cap ex for EC motor installs which should help; I will also work with Wakefern engineering to see if we can push the number without any more costs. Island Avenue is in need of major equipment upgrades.

### **Lighting upgrades and Energy Management**

In 2012 we completed ten LED/Induction lighting projects, for a cost of \$1.3 million and a projected savings of 4.0 million kWh or \$384,400. We also upgraded energy management systems in Cheltenham and Roxborough.

- Oregon down 25% (Completed January 2012)
- East Norriton down 23%. (Cycled last year in September)
- Cheltenham down 17%. (Completed March 2012) Energy management, Ceiling Voits, and Case LED
- Roxborough down 28%. (Completed February 2012) Energy management, Ceiling Voits, and Case LED

Total company down 16%

LED projects projected a maintenance savings of \$44,800. We achieved savings in 2012 of \$57,000

We have allotted for the following projects in the 2013 Cap ex budget

- Parkside and Cheltenham will have Gondola lighting and all offices converted to LED. Cost - \$465,871 Savings \$133,823
- Oregon and Bensalam and Haverford will have EC motors installed in some cases. Cost - \$108,000 Savings \$42,000

Total cost all energy savings projects in 2013 projected at \$574,000 with a projected savings of \$176,677

With these savings and cycling the savings of 2012 projects we are projecting an 8% reduction in daily Kilowatt hour usage in 2013.