



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Timber Creek Recycling
Meridian, Idaho
2015

Environmental Commitment

Timber Creek Recycling provides a great example of how to find value in something that others consider waste. The company uses organic waste collected from homes across the Treasure Valley to provide valuable inputs to its dairy operation in Meridian.

Pollution Prevention Success

Timber Creek Recycling has utilized creative partnerships to recognize and extract value from waste products formerly being disposed of in the Ada County landfill. The approach proves that, with the right outlook and creative thinking, solutions to waste can be found in unlikely places.

Recycling and Reusing Organic Waste

One of the largest contributors to the total volume of waste to the Ada County landfill is organic waste. From lawn clippings to Christmas trees, these materials would normally be buried. But Timber Creek Recycling has created a home for much of it. The grass, along with other organic waste from food processing operations, is used as green fertilizer to improve the nutrient content of the soil on the company's dairy farm. Using the material in this way not only prevents it from taking up additional space in the landfill, but it also reduces the company's need to purchase fertilizer, reducing pollution even further. Additionally, wood waste from Christmas tree and landscaping cuttings is used as animal bedding, which reduces sourcing needs from virgin feedstock and keeps this material from going to the landfill. Timber Creek has proven that not all trash is just trash, and there are a multitude of ways that waste can be put to good use and made valuable.

For More Information

For more information on how to put pollution prevention to work for your business, contact Ben Jarvis at (208) 373-0146 or ben.jarvis@deq.idaho.gov.