

# Sustainable Solutions post



**KPPC**

Kentucky's Resource Center for  
Environmental Sustainability



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## Sustainable Packaging Market to Nearly Double by 2014

A recent "[Sustainable Packaging](#)" report from Pike Research says that worldwide packaging industry revenues will increase from \$429 billion in 2009 to \$530 billion by 2014, representing a growth rate greater than that of the global economy itself.

Along with this growth comes an ever-greater burden on the environment in the form of raw materials, energy, transportation, and disposal impacts.



However, the report forecasts that the sustainable packaging sector is growing much faster than the overall packaging industry, and the cleantech market intelligence firm anticipates that eco-friendly packaging will nearly double in revenues between 2009 and 2014, from \$88 billion to \$170 billion.

Pike Research anticipates that plastic-based packaging will be the fastest-growing segment of the sustainable packaging sector. The report examines key market drivers and details five-year forecasts for the total packaging market as well as the sustainable packaging sector.

## EPA Offers Environmental Community Grants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is making \$2 million available in 2010 to reduce pollution at the local level through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. CARE is a community-based program that works with county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities to help the public understand and reduce toxic risks from numerous sources.

EPA will award CARE cooperative agreements in two levels. Level I awards range from \$75,000 to \$100,000 and will help establish community-based partnerships to develop local environmental priorities. Level II awards, ranging from \$150,000 to \$300,000 each, will support communities that have established broad-based partnerships, have identified the priority toxic risks in the community, and are prepared to measure results, implement risk-reduction activities and become self-sustaining.



[Applications for the CARE grants are due March 9, 2010.](#) EPA will conduct three Webcasts to answer questions from prospective applicants about the application

process on February 2, 23 and 26 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## Green Tip of the Month

### Resolve to Become Greener

- Resolve to be ever mindful of your carbon footprint, and to look for ways big and small to keep reducing it.
- Resolve to replace all your remaining incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs, and to keep those lights off whenever possible.
- Resolve to drive less and to try and live car-free at least one day a week. Combine all of your weekly errands into a single trip and try walking when possible.
- Resolve to eat locally as much as possible and to go vegetarian at least one day a week to reduce the impact of our diets on the atmosphere and the environment.
- Resolve to buy less stuff. Before making a purchase, ask yourself if the item is truly needed, and investigate whether we can rent, borrow, or buy used instead.
- Resolve to cut your solid waste by 25% by increasing your recycling and composting efforts, and when possible, buy products that create the least amount of trash.
- Resolve to spread the word about environmental issues and to encourage all efforts to do something about them.

### Mark your Calendar for these Upcoming Conferences and Events

#### State of Green Business Forum 2010 – February 9 – Chicago, Illinois



Hear firsthand about the latest trends in sustainability and how to leverage them into business opportunities. Topics will include:

- Carbon Management After Copenhagen: Learn how leadership companies are approaching a post-Copenhagen world.
- Green Marketing in the Age of Radical Transparency: Discover how the rules are changing in a world where consumers have unparalleled access to data about products and companies.
- Can IT Solve the World's Problems? Beyond energy-efficient data centers, a new generation of information technology that is greening company operations as never before.
- The Green Economy Meets the Great Lakes: How the Great Lakes region is seizing the opportunities of the growing green economy.

[Registration](#) is \$399.

## Plastics Recycling 2010 Conference – March 2-3 – Austin, Texas

Sessions at this year's conference will relate to certification, legislation, export, design and the state of the plastics recycling industry. The trade show floor will include dozens of representatives of the broad spectrum of the industry: equipment and processing system companies, materials handlers, consultants and commodity brokers.

[More information on the conference](#), including sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities, is available online.

## The Southeast Recycling Conference & Trade Show – March 7-10 – Destin, Florida



The [Southeast Recycling Conference & Trade Show](#) (SERC) is a four-day event linking industry leaders and recycling officials, offering focused educational sessions, the latest recycling products, equipment and services and exciting networking opportunities. The event will attract 400-600 industry leaders and exhibitors.