

# Sustainable Solutions post



**KPPC**

Kentucky's Resource Center for  
Environmental Sustainability



## In this issue...

Energy Awareness –  
Putting the Pieces  
Together

Resources for  
Understanding  
Sustainable Purchasing,  
Production and  
Materials Management

What will you do for  
America Recycles Day?

Green Tip of the Month

KPPC's 2008-2009  
Annual Report

Newsbits

## Mark Your Calendar

Green Prosperity:  
Recycling and a  
Sustainable Southeast  
November 3 4,  
Lexington

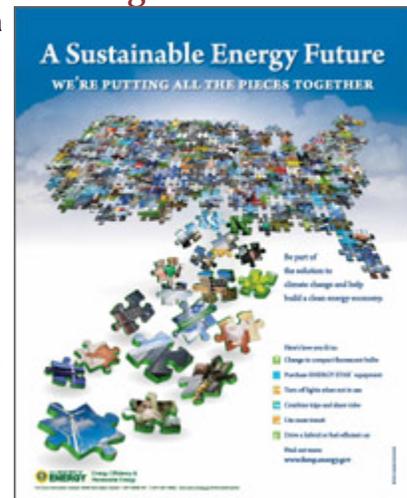
Building a Sustainable  
Future: Progress &  
Trends Toward  
Improving the  
Environmental Footprint  
of Commercial Buildings  
– Webinar – November  
5, 12:30 p.m. EST

Deciding What  
Chemicals to Produce:  
Different Perspectives –  
Teleconference –

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## Energy Awareness – Putting the Pieces Together

October is [Energy Awareness Month](#), and is a reminder to stay focused on energy issues throughout the year. This year's theme, A Sustainable Energy Future: Putting All the Pieces Together, encourages us all to see how we fit in the big picture. No matter how large the problem may appear, the fact remains that each of us is a part of the solution. Every day, we make decisions that can stimulate sustainability and a new energy economy. When we put all the pieces together, all of us — the Federal Government, private industry, and the public — have the means to shape our energy future and move our nation toward energy independence.



## Resources for Understanding Sustainable Purchasing, Production and Materials Management

- **Sustainable Procurement of Wood and Paper-based Products 2009**  
The World Resources Institute and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development have partnered to provide reliable, impartial and technically "easy-to-understand" information to assist sustainability officers and business procurement managers, especially major purchasers of wood and paper-based products, with their purchasing decisions. It also has information on existing approaches to procurement from legal and sustainable sources. [This guide](#) focuses on 10 key issues: origin, information accuracy, legality, sustainability, special places, climate change, environmental protection,



November 5, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST

Communicating with Consumers on a Score or 1-10: Emerging Developments in Sustainability Rating Systems – Teleconference – November 19, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST

KREC Quarterly Meeting – December 10, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST – Frankfort

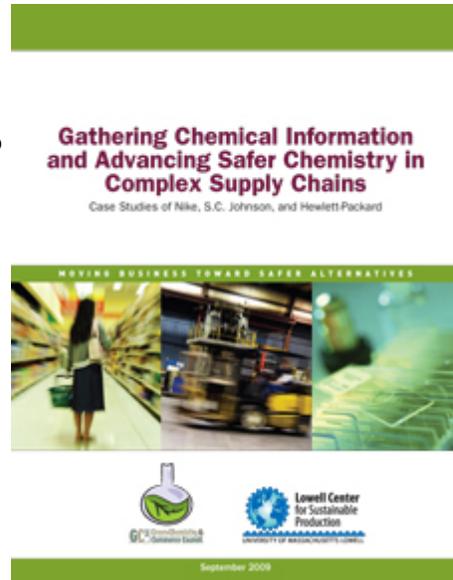
recycled fiber, other resources, and local communities and indigenous peoples.

- **“Shades of Green” Buyer’s Guide**

[Office Depot’s Guide to Buying Green](#) helps its customers make informed purchasing decisions by describing the various types of environmentally preferable products they offer. The buyer’s guide, along with the “Shades of Green” labeling program, helps explain the degree of “greenness” of its products to its customers.

- **Reducing Toxic Materials in Consumer Products**

Regulatory concerns, consumer demand and green certification programs are driving companies to collect chemical information from their supply chains as a step towards eliminating or reducing their chemical use. In September, the Green Chemistry & Commerce Council released the report [“Gathering Chemical Information and Advancing Safer Chemistry in Complex Supply Chains”](#) which provides three case studies of corporate heavyweights, Nike, S.C. Johnson and Hewlett-Packard. The report illustrates best practices, strong supplier partnerships and green design objectives that have allowed the companies to weed out toxic materials from their products.



- **U.S. EPA Report on Sustainable Materials Management**

U.S. EPA’s recent report titled "Sustainable Materials Management: The Road Ahead" provides suggestions for the future based on materials management - fulfilling human needs and prospering, while using less materials, reducing toxics and recovering more of the materials used. The report contains three major recommendations and describes specific measures EPA and state environmental agencies can take to: (1) promote efforts to manage materials and products on a life-cycle basis; (2) build capacity and integrate materials management approaches in existing government programs; and (3) accelerate the broad, ongoing public dialogue on life-cycle materials management. Visit the EPA Web site for [additional information](#).

## What will you do for America Recycles Day?

On November 15th each year, the national America Recycles Day campaign helps millions of people become better informed about the importance of recycling at home and work and buying recycled products.



What can you and your company do to support recycling?

- Take part in a planned community recycling event.
- Visit the [Kentucky Division of Waste Management](#) Web site for recycling information to explore recycling options in your area.
- Contact KPPC (the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center) at 502-852-0965 to learn about industrial recycling and materials exchange resources available to businesses and industries.

## Green Tip of the Month

***Forget the garlic this Halloween. There's a better way to reduce vampire power!***

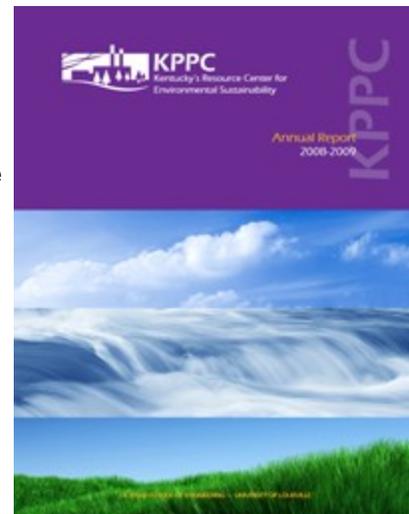
Did you know your office and home may have phantoms and vampires? Phantom Loads, or Vampire Power, as some people call them, happen when appliances and electronics use energy even when they're "turned off" but remain plugged in. Televisions, microwave ovens, digital monitors, printers, home gaming systems, power adapters, computer monitors, cellular phone chargers and many radios, for example, continue to require power in "stand by" mode. While the stand by power used for each individual appliance or electronic item is small, together they add up. So, unplug those appliances when not in use and save energy!

## KPPC's 2008-2009 Annual Report

KPPC has had an exceptional year of service to the Commonwealth, providing on-site pollution prevention and energy efficiency assessments, training, workshops, webinars and technical information to Kentucky businesses, industries and organizations. We invite you to review the 2008-2009 Annual Report, which details the programs and services provided by the Center, as well as performance metrics and client success stories. The Annual Report is [available online](#), and hard copies were printed on a 100% post-consumer recycled paper in place of non-recycled paper, saving the equivalent of:

- 239 pounds of wood – a total of one tree that supplies oxygen for one individual for a year
- 302 gallons of water – enough to take 18 eight-minute showers
- 1 mln BTUs energy – enough to power the average household for two days
- 73 pounds of emissions – carbon sequestered by one tree-seedling grown for ten years
- 39 pounds of solid waste – a total of one 32 gallon can of waste

*Environmental impact estimates are from the Neenah Eco Calculator – [www.neenahpaper.com](http://www.neenahpaper.com)*



## Newsbits

- **Energy Efficiency Grants Available for Local Governments**  
Kentucky cities and counties looking for funding opportunities can compete for [\\$6.25 million in federal stimulus monies](#) through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). Communities can submit energy efficiency or renewable energy project ideas that address reductions in fossil fuel emissions and total energy use, as well as energy efficiency improvements in the transportation and building sectors. Only local governments that did not receive direct EECBG funding earlier this year are eligible to apply. Grant applications will be accepted between November 10 and December 18.
- **Sustainability Goals for Federal Agencies**  
President Obama has [signed an Executive Order](#) focused on federal leadership in environmental, energy and economic performance. The order sets sustainability goals for Federal agencies and focuses on making improvements in their environmental, energy and economic performance. The order requires Federal agencies to set a 2020 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target within 90 days; increase energy efficiency; reduce fleet petroleum consumption; conserve water; reduce waste; support sustainable communities; and leverage Federal purchasing power to promote environmentally-responsible products and technologies.

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

#### **Green Prosperity: Recycling and a Sustainable Southeast – November 3-4, Lexington**

The Southeast Recycling Development Council (SERDC) [2009 workshop](#) offers sessions, tours, problem solving and networking geared toward recycling industry professionals, recycling and solid waste officials, economic developers and manufacturers. On-site registration is available.

#### **Building a Sustainable Future: Progress & Trends Toward Improving the Environmental Footprint of Commercial Buildings – Webinar – November 5, 12:30 p.m. EST**

With this fast-paced [free webinar](#), you'll hear first-hand whether or not green buildings are really living up to their name. Find out how LEED buildings are making a major impact in reducing the overall environmental footprint of individual structures, and what steps are necessary if LEED is to contribute in a meaningful way to reducing the environmental footprint of buildings in the U.S. and worldwide. The webinar will address:

- Status of LEED in 2009, and global green building market trends
- Worldwide impacts of LEED on land use, water, energy, materials, and more
- Progress made since 2008, as well as opportunities for further improvement

## **Deciding What Chemicals to Produce: Different Perspectives – Teleconference – November 5, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST**

Interested in receiving in-depth information on cutting edge issues in the product stewardship field? This networking call will explore different perspectives on how best to ensure the safety of chemicals used in everyday products. It will provide an overview of the processes chemical manufacturers use to decide what chemicals to bring to market, as well as a summary of the principles of green chemistry that call on manufacturers to ensure the inherent safety of their products. The teleconference will include an update on the status of efforts to reform the chemicals policy framework at the national and state levels. Participants will hear from the person charged with product responsibility at a leading chemical manufacturing firm and one of the founders of the green chemistry movement. For registration information, please visit the [Product Stewardship Institute](#) Web site.



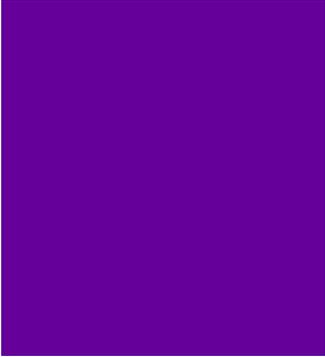
## **Communicating with Consumers on a Score or 1-10: Emerging Developments in Sustainability Rating Systems – Teleconference – November 19, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST**

Consumers and retailers are becoming more aware of the importance and complexity of social and environmental issues related to the products they buy and sell, but most people do not have the information they need on the spot – or in the grocery store aisle – to make informed purchasing decisions. This teleconference will explore the opportunities and limitations of sustainability rating systems and share experiences developing systems for different audiences. What data do you need to describe “sustainability” in a single number, and where do you get it? How do you decide what to include among the many environmental, social and health issues associated with products? How are rating systems being used by companies and consumers, and what are the current and anticipated impacts? How can complex technical information be easily conveyed to a consumer who makes split-second decisions on product purchases, and how can it compete with advertising? How can government officials and environmental advocates assess the quality of rating systems they may recommend to their constituents? For registration information, please visit the [Product Stewardship Institute](#) Web site.



## **KREC Quarterly Meeting – December 10, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST – Frankfort**

At KREC's December Quarterly Meeting members will learn about the findings of the Governor's Task Force on Biomass and Biofuels, KREC's ongoing efforts and new initiatives, and KREC's technical assistance activities and partnership with the KEEPS program. The meeting will also review issues raised at the Carbon Forum, which will give members a chance to discuss in more detail the



topics addressed during the forum. In addition, an overview of the initial activity of research projects funded by KREC's 2009 competitive grants program will be presented.

[Register Online Today](#) for this meeting! Please register no later than December 7, 2009.

