

EAB & Beyond: Finding Value In Urban Trees

Resource conservation &
Development Council

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Genesee Power Station (GPS)

- 35 MW wood waste fired cogeneration power plant
- Located in Flint, Michigan on 26 acres in an industrial park
- Provide electric for approximately 25,000 families in Michigan
- Burns exclusively wood waste - URBAN
- Privately owned (not by me!!) and sells all of its electric output to Consumers Energy under a 35 year contract
- Main competitors
 - Landfills
 - Mulch industry – only for 4 months

Mid-Michigan Recycling (MMR)

- MMR has seven wood collection yards in southern Michigan
 - Flint
 - Macomb
 - Ann Arbor
 - Saginaw
 - Lansing
 - Big Rapids
 - Grand Rapids
- They collect:
 - Tree trimmings from utility right of ways, parks and recreations areas, streets and roads, residential and businesses, etc.
 - Land clearing for development
 - Industrial wood waste e.g. pallets, cribbing, boxes, construction debris, etc
 - Construction, industrial, commercial wood waste e.g. 2x4s, trim, cut offs

Wood Benefits

- **Somewhat different type of recycling - Wood for fuel is a form of recycling/re-use (Cover your eyes.....)**
- **Wood (bio-mass) generated electric energy makes up 50% of Michigan's existing renewable energy sources, 6 plants located in Michigan**
- **Burning wood for fuel is carbon neutral – no additional CO₂ put into the atmosphere**
- **Wood has no mercury, sulfur or lead emissions**
- **Wood ash can be used as a soil amendment**
- **Displaces electric energy generated by coal fired and other fueled power plants**

MMR EAB Program

- Began working in program in 2002
- Recycled over 312,000 tons of wood
- Saved 2.2 million cubic yards of landfill space
- Provided electric for 22,000 families for 1 year
- Burned in a controlled manner, reducing emissions and slowing spread of EAB



























**Dispatcher,
Inspector,
Chief Cook, and
Bottle Washer**

Trucks Tipping Wood Chips



Control Room



Boiler Fire





The End