



Press Release

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Berkshire Gas Continues to Expand Corporate Recycling Effort

----- CET Recognition Highlights Environmental Benefits

Pittsfield MA - Berkshire Gas has been recognized by the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) for the third year in a row for continued expansion of its corporate recycling programs.

Berkshire Gas began its cooperative recycling relationship with CET in 2007. Since that time, the company has almost tripled the volume of waste paper products that it removes from the waste disposal stream and sends for recycling. Over the last three years, more than 16 tons of waste paper has been collected from the company's business operations for recycling. This translates to saving 357 trees and the prevention of more than 5 tons of air pollutants. This effort also offsets the need for more than 6,000 gallons of oil as part of the paper manufacturing process.

In addition to office paper, Berkshire Gas also recycles a variety of other materials used in the conduct of its business including waste oil, batteries and cardboard.

Commenting on the CET recognition, Berkshire Gas President Karen Zink said, "Berkshire Gas has always been an advocate of sound environmental business practices. As the distributor of America's most environmentally friendly fuel, natural gas, environmental awareness is one of our core business values. Berkshire Gas is committed to implementing and maintaining environmentally responsible business practices. We are also pleased to work in partnership with CET on our corporate recycling program and we are thrilled with the continuing success of this effort."

Berkshire Gas Office Paper Recycling Statistics

Year	Office Paper Recycled (lbs.)	Trees Saved	Air Pollutants Offset (lbs.)	Reduction in Oil Demand (gal.)
2007	5,850	64	1,931	1,123
2008	11,400	125	3,762	2,189
2009	15,300	168	5,049	2,938
Total	32,550	357	10,742	6,250

Berkshire Gas provides natural gas service to 36,000 customers in western Massachusetts. The company has been meeting the energy needs of customers in western Massachusetts for more than 155 years.