**PPD Grounds Sustainability Measures in 2014**

**Implemented**

* **Reusing woody waste:** Recently a wood chipper was purchased to process bush and tree trimmings and use the woody waste as mulch. This process reduces the need to purchase mulch which is used to retain moisture into the ground while also shading out any unwanted vegetation.
* **Reusing Discarded Trees:** Larger trees that have been cut down and removed from a specific location are sent to a milling machine for rough cut lumber. This lumber is then dried for a period of time, then used for multiple and unique projects. Of this includes concrete form work, office trim, cabinetry, among other uses.
* **Composting Program:** the PPD is piloting a windrow composting project for yard waste on campus. The finished compost will be used by Grounds & Landscaping to improve soil for campus gardens.
* **Recycling Motor Oil and Filters:** Used oil and oil filters are collected are secured and stored onsite until a specific volume has been met. This surplus is then collected and recycled by a local vendor.
* **Recycling belts:** All used and broken belts are collected and stored into bins for rubber recycling.
* **Reusing Concrete:** Concrete removed from sidewalks, roadways, and other paved surfaces are collected, crushed and repurposed as aggregate and landscape fill for new areas on campus.
* **Reusing Nursery Containers:** Are you in need of some containers to plant or grow your vegetables, plants, or trees? We are always looking to donate nursery containers for those who can use them. There are hundreds to choose from ranging from 2 gallons to 75 gallon containers. If you are interested, please contact Darrell Pons at 352.294.0817
* **Reclaiming Water:** The majority of irrigated areas on campus uses reclaimed water. This water is processed at our on-site wastewater treatment facility significantly reducing the need for potable water. As a reminder, irrigation water is not used for drinking purposes.
* **Native Landscaping**: To significantly reduce the need for irrigation, native landscaping, also known as xeriscaping, has been a fundamental landscape practice on campus for a decade. Currently more butterfly friendly and food producing plants are being planted across campus. Lets see if you can find them.
* **Adopting Flexible Fuels: All** newly purchased vehicles are encourage to carry flexible-fuel technology which encourages the use of mixing gasoline with ethanol based fuels. At the PPD motor pool, these vehicles are using E85 fuel. This fuel comprises of 85% ethanol and only 15% gasoline, significantly improving on the fleet fuel economy.
* **Rewash shop rags:** By reusing shop rags we reduce the amount of solid and toxic waste from going into the landfills.
* **Recycle Parts washer fluid:** Washer fluid used to clean parts is changed out, as needed, and sent back to the vendor for filtering and reuse. This prevents the contaminated fluid from entering landfills and potentially leeching into our ground water.

**In Progress**

* **Recycled Plastic Lumber:** A new walkway is being installed with recycled plastic lumber. This lumber is made from a combination of virgin and plastic waste product and is extra durable to withstand the harsh Florida sun and humidity. Such durability encourages minimal maintenance, minimal color fading as well as shrinkage and expansion.
* **Reusing Pallets:** Pallets from PPD Central Stores were deconstructed to make raised flowerbeds within the PPD compound.