New York State Grocers Wanted

for Sustainable Pilot Program

The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation are collaborating to conduct a Sustainable Grocer Program Pilot Project.

What is the pilot program?
Six NYS grocery stores are being sought for participation in this program and will receive an environmental assessment that will prioritize opportunities for cost reductions and environmental impacts. The assessment will identify opportunities for environmental improvements and savings to your bottom line.

Assessments focus on cost effective solutions to:
- Conserve water,
- Reduce toxic and hazardous materials such as cleaning products, and
- Manage organic and food wastes

Who can participate?
Grocers located in New York State can participate. Selected stores will cover a wide range of sizes and locations. Independent and chain stores are eligible to participate.

What are the benefits of participating?
Opportunities for environmental improvements will be identified, including those within the supply chain. Assistance to help you manage your organic and food wastes to reduce environmental impact and operating costs will be provided. Economic analysis will be performed to determine the cost-benefit of environmental improvements to further help you with decision making.

Environmental practices can gain customers. According to a 2012 Food Marketing Institute study, a store’s sustainability practices are an important factor for 50 percent of customers when they consider where to shop.

What is the cost to participate?
Assessments are provided free of charge to six stores! Grocers must be located in New York State.

For more information, contact Kate Winnebeck at Kate.Winnebeck@rit.edu or (585) 475–5390.

This project is being conducted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) which received financial support from US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under an assistance agreement, and by the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) through a grant from the NYSDEC.

Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I), the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), or the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).