

AT YOUR DISPOSAL

COMMODITY PRICING

What Paper Mills Are Paying
for baled paper

Corrugated containers

National average

For more on baled paper, call (877) 825-6555 or go to www.wastenews.com/secondaryfiberWhat Recyclers Are Paying
for secondary materials

Colored HDPE

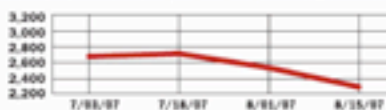
Southwestern U.S. average

For more on loose material call (877) 825-6555 or go to www.wastenews.com/smp

STOCK REPORT

Waste News
Stock Index

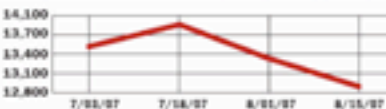
-8.5%

Calvert Social
Index Fund

-3.5%

Dow Jones
Industrial Average

-3.8%



Percentage Change By Market Segment

Waste collection, disposal and management	-8.2
Innovation and medical waste	-0.9
Metals	-6.7
Paper	-6.9
Other materials and equipment makers	-13.4

For more, go to www.wastenews.com/stocks.html and www.calvertgroup.com
Sources: Financial Content Inc. and Calvert Group Ltd.

A LOOK BACK

10 years ago: The largest tire pile in the west was set to disappear as a result of agreements with the owner of the tires and a tire-fueled power plant in California.

5 years ago: Research shows that Americans are generating more food waste than ever, with the average household generating 474 pounds per year.

1 year ago: New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin ordered one of the four landfills accepting the city's Hurricane Katrina waste to close. Critics argued that the unlined site posed an environmental threat to the community.

One person's trash is another's teaching tool

Dumpster diving couple decides to turn trash into teaching treasures

By Chrissy Kadleck

After some covert dumpster-diving missions around the industrial park where his manufacturing company I Was Framed is located in Gardena, Calif., Steve Stanton knew there was plenty to learn from what others leave behind.

Stanton, along with his wife, Kathy — both recently schooled in the idea of using recycled and found objects as creative learning tools for their son's preschool — decided to create a company that would transform this trash to treasure.

"I was just amazed at the variety of things that are thrown away and how colorful and wonderful they are," said Stanton, who has been in the manufacturing business for 35 years and maintains an architecture license. "We realized there was sort of a world of materials around, and in a city the size of Los Angeles, how many needy schools and children there are, it seemed like a natural to explore starting some sort of center where these things could be distributed to schools."

From there, the couple bought a recycled postal truck with a mere 215,000 miles on it, outfitted it with some bins and shelves, filled it with donated materials, and Trash for Teaching, Inc. was founded in May 2004.



TALKING TRASH: Students enjoy a craft period with scrappy supplies from Trash for Teaching.



The company's first stop? The Los Angeles Unified School District, which has about 450 schools and 800,000 students.

Once the arts teachers were on board, Trash for Teaching got the green light to start visiting elementary schools with its "Treasure Truck" (the diesel truck that has since been converted to run

on straight waste vegetable oil and an arts facilitator to transport materials and support to teachers and students.

"The thing that we are really doing is eliminating the need for schools and teachers to go out and buy materials that someone is going to manufacture," said Stanton, who estimates that if all schools in the greater Los Angeles area would use these materials, up to 500 tons of waste could be diverted from landfill annually. "We're offering to kids a much more creative process to challenge to them in learning that can't real-

ly be achieved with traditional materials that people go by."

Working with 45 industries, Trash for Teaching offers an unlimited supply of unique materials including yarn, wood pieces, pen parts, plastic film cases, credit card-sized plastic chips, fabric, cardboard and upholstery.

The company regular visits 40 schools, and more than 3,500 students have gone through the truck to choose their trash-to-treasure materials.

"It's growing like crazy. We're training ad hiring arts consultants and teachers to go out and do these programs for us," Stanton said. "We're going to double from this year compared to last because we are doing twice as many classes."

He said this program could be replicated all around the country and he's hoping to partner with waste management companies and others to broaden the company's scope.

"It's just the right thing to do; there is such a tremendous need, and there's not a school out there that wouldn't love to have these materials. The biggest challenge for us is always the financial side of it," said Stanton, who continues to donate his time as executive director, as does his wife Kathy, the director of the program. "We're very efficient in terms of dollars spent on kids. Almost every dollar goes to making these programs work. But the goal is to find partners and funds so that we don't have to charge schools at all."

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Inbox by Pete Fehrenbach

"COAL: Pennsylvania's #1 Fuel For Electricity ... Now Clean & Green with New Technologies." At least a half dozen billboards my family and I passed as we motored down the Pennsylvania Turnpike last week displayed this message or one like it. This intrigued me, so I decided to do some digging — some mining, you might say. Here's part of the story behind those signs: <http://www.thepittsburghchannel.com/news/13755278/detail.html>.

Be sure to take a look at the covers of Time (<http://www.time.com/time/covers/0,16641,20070813,00.html>) and Newsweek (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20122975/site/newsweek/>) that hit newsstands last week. The great green wave's momentum continues to grow. More and more, environmental issues, particularly those per-

taining to global warming, are becoming top-of-mind everywhere. Similar-themed non-hard-news features almost never grace both national weeklies' covers simultaneously. The last time the stars aligned in this manner may have been when Bruce Springsteen rocketed into the rock-god stratosphere in 1975.

From my perspective, the Newsweek article, "The Global Warming Deniers," is slanted too far toward the green edge of the climate-change spectrum. And that's coming from someone who generally believes global warming policy should err on the side of caution.

My wife and sons and I spent a few days getting smacked around in some strong surf at Delaware Seashore State Park last week. This was great fun for the most part, but it was humbling to be reminded how puny we are and how powerful and ruthless nature can be when she gets her dander up. After the second or third time I got toppled

and rag-dolled around by a sneaky breaker, I thought to myself, right — as if we gnat-like humans could ever have any serious impact on something as formidable as this gigantic mass of water.

Then, after my fourth wipeout or so, I started to get ticked off. I almost started to relate to this fellow, Seth Harris, who, The Onion reports, vowed revenge against the Atlantic after it messed with him one too many times (http://www.theonion.com/content/news_briefs/focal_man_vows_revenge). Say — do you think it's possible to sue an ocean? ■

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