


## WasteWise (USA)

	<b>Region</b>	USA
	<b>Type of prevention measure</b>	Voluntary Agreements
	<b>Geographical level of implementation</b>	National
	<b>Target</b>	Businesses
	<b>Date of implementation</b>	1994
	<b>Type of waste</b>	Business Waste

*The WasteWise Programme was created in 1994 to encourage companies to set targets and measure results on waste prevention and recycling. Actions are given visibility through publication on the programme website and through the annual award.*

### Context

WasteWise was created by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1994 to help a wide range of businesses and public authorities reduce their generation of solid waste and certain non-hazardous industrial wastes. It engages state and local government agencies, NGOs and trade associations as endorsers to help train their members in the benefits of solid waste reduction.



### Objective

WasteWise targets key municipal solid waste materials such as cardboard, office paper, yard waste, packaging, wood pallets as well as certain industrial wastes, including non-hazardous batteries, sludges, ink and oil filters.

### Means

WasteWise uses different measures to interest companies in their programme. Partners are in particular provided with tools:

- to plan an effective waste reduction programme
- to measure their progress

- to consult expert advisors
- to report results and announce achievements

Partners are required to submit baseline data within two months of joining the programme and to track changes annually via the Re-TRAC audit tool.

To motivate partners to be active, “success stories” of partners who have made significant progress in waste reduction are published on the programme’s website. Outstanding achievements of partners and endorsers are recognised through an annual “WasteWise Award” in different categories (business, government and educational sector).



### Results

WasteWise currently has more than 1,700 members in more than 54 industry sectors. WasteWise partners have reported a waste reduction of more than 120 million tonnes and a significant reduction of their impact on global climate change.

### Further Information

WasteWise:

[www.epa.gov/waste/partnerships/wastewise/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/waste/partnerships/wastewise/index.htm)