

Recycling

Energy-from-waste projects are fully compatible with recycling



Energy-from-waste (EFW) facilities worldwide have been shown to be complementary to efficient recycling programs and to reduce the overall environmental impacts of municipal waste management¹. Detroit Renewable Power's EFW facility is no exception, and we are committed to working with city leaders and community and business organizations to offer support for the development of a comprehensive curbside-recycling program.



DRP collects and recycles nonferrous metal (left bin) and ferrous metal (right bin) from the ash. Additional ferrous metal is separated and recycled from the MSW shortly after it is received and processed.

EFW & Recycling in Detroit

Detroit Renewable Power is Detroit's largest recycler, using highly regulated combustion technology to safely recycle municipal solid waste into renewable energy and recovered materials. In addition to renewable energy, each year Detroit Renewable Power recovers, recycles, and returns to commercial markets **more than 39,000 tons** (78 million pounds) of ferrous metals. Detroit Renewable Power also recovers thousands of tons of non-ferrous metals from the waste stream annually.

Communities with energy-from-waste plants have **higher recycling rates** than the national average.¹

Converting municipal solid waste into energy is a form of recycling - one made even more efficient if comprehensive curbside recycling takes place prior to combustion.

General Motors (GM) worked closely with a number of partners in Detroit, including DRP, to make the GM Renaissance Center landfill-free. The GM Renaissance Center now recycles, reuses or converts all its daily waste to energy.

EFW & RECYCLING WORLDWIDE

- Approximately **87** U.S. EFW facilities recover and recycle **more than 700,000 tons** of ferrous metals each year.²
- The five European nations with the highest recycling rates — Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, and Sweden — have among the highest EFW usage and have reduced landfill use to **less than 1 percent** of their waste.³
- Sweden (with a rate of recycling higher than 22 other European nations) actually competes to import waste.⁴

¹ Jonathan V.L. Kiser, "Recycling and Waste-to-Energy: The Ongoing Compatibility Success Story." MSW Magazine. May/June 2003.

² Werner Sunk and Nickolas J. Themelis, "Increasing the Quantity and Quality of Metals Recovered at Waste-to-Energy Facilities" 14th Annual North American Waste-to-Energy Conference. January 2006.

³ Ella Stengler "Recycling and Waste-to-Energy in Combination for Sustainable Waste Management" CEWEP. October 2012.

⁴ John Tagliabue "A City That Turns Garbage Into Energy Copes With a Shortage" New York Times. April 29, 2013.

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