



sustainability

Energy Usage

We continually look for ways to minimize our energy usage. We use Natural Gas to power our lehrs and renewable hydro-electricity energy throughout our facility. Since 2006, through the use of increased insulation, revised operating practices and scheduling programs we have reduced our GJ usage per hour by 13%. Whenever we can, we turn our lehrs completely off, resulting in significant energy savings.

Energy Conservation

Over the past 6 years, Universal Packaging has taken part in B.C. Hydro sponsored energy conservation forums. Currently, Universal is a registered participant with the B.C. Utilities Commission focused on the development of rate structures geared to encouraging energy conservation in the province. During the winter months, we use the heat generated by the lehrs cooling systems to heat our facility.

Recycling

We ship all of our paper, plastic, stretch wrap, glass, wooden pallets, excess paints and cardboard to recycling facilities, thus ensuring that it does not end up going to the landfill site.

Waste Reduction

Universal purchased and installed on-line carton printing equipment, which eliminates the need for cross-packing from a plain white carton into a new printed carton. This results in a significant reduction in cardboard waste.

Waste Water

The City of Vernon has certified that our waste water meets or exceeds all local environmental standards.

Environmentally Friendly Paints

We only use lead-free ceramic and organic paints and decals. These paints meet all Federal, State and Provincial environmental regulations.

Logistics

We have worked with our suppliers to reconfigure the containers so that additional glass can fit into them. This results in fewer carbon emissions as fewer trucks are needed to transport the goods.

Allan Brooks Nature Centre

Universal Packaging matches all employee donations to the Allan Brooks Nature Centre. The Nature Centre provides visitors a firsthand opportunity to see and learn about the North Okanagan's unique and diverse natural heritage through views, information, programs and displays of the region's natural areas.