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West Coast Climate & Materials Management Forum

Eugene Paves the Way with a Cooler Asphalt Mix

The City of Eugene is driving the use of warm mix asphalt pavement and reaping the benefits. Warm mix asphalt pavement is identical to conventional hot mix asphalt pavement, except that it is produced at 50 to 100 degree lower temperatures. This cooler temperature has several advantages:

- Lowers costs and greenhouse gas emissions as less energy is used to produce warm mix asphalt
- Benefits construction workers and the public since the "light oils" in the liquid asphalt stay below their boiling point and aren't released into the air as smoke.
- Increases product life by retaining light oils and reducing high temperature oxidation which cause

Upcoming Webinar

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Construction Sector

Date: Tuesday, May 12
Time: 9:30-11 am PDT

As publicly-funded building and infrastructure projects increase, the impact on the environment can be substantial, especially from ubiquitous products like concrete and asphalt. Attend this webinar to learn about innovative techniques and institutional procurement tools that can reduce emissions and improve performance of asphalt and concrete in construction and infrastructure projects. Presenters will showcase new research into lifecycle analysis, share a case study about successfully using the procurement process to reduce emissions, and provide resources for implementing best practices in your next project.

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premature aging of asphalt.

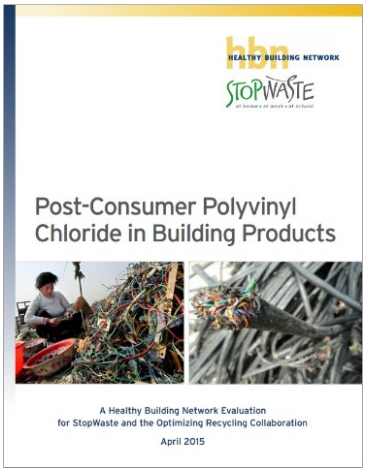
The use of warm mix asphalt pavement was first made optional on city projects in 2009, as they worked with local asphalt pavement producers to assess the feasibility of plant retrofits and a cost sharing program. In 2010, all asphalt concrete producers in the area had retrofitted their plants to produce warm mix asphalt and the city made it a standard specified material. Since the initiation of using warm mix asphalt concrete, the City of Eugene has placed 361,000 tons of warm mix asphalt concrete, resulting in an approximate greenhouse gas reduction of 8,700 metric tons CO2e.

To learn more, join the May 12th webinar. Jenifer Willer, with the City of Eugene, will present a case study on warm mix asphalt.

Recycling in the Age of Product Transparency

The building industry is increasingly faced with questions about the complete lifecycle impacts of the products used to construct workplaces, schools, and homes. And while recycled content materials are widely known to be environmentally beneficial, questions remain about the ingredients, additives and overall environmental impacts of many recycled content feedstocks.

A new collaboration of researchers and public agencies, consisting of Healthy Building Network, StopWaste, and the San Francisco Department of the Environment, is investigating common recycled-content feedstocks that are found in many building materials. The goals of this work are to celebrate the many benefits of recycled content and simultaneously identify ways to improve feedstock value, minimize health concerns of some problematic feedstocks, and create better awareness of recycled content materials used in products.



The report**, Post-Consumer Polyvinyl Chloride in Building Products,** by the Healthy Building Network and StopWaste is a prequel to their forthcoming white paper that assesses eleven common recycled content feedstocks found in building materials sold into the Bay Area of California. The white paper will present methods for monitoring and improving the purity of recycled feedstocks in order to increase feedstock value, protect human health, minimize environmental impacts, and dramatically increase recycling rates.

Check out this one-pager on the West Coast Climate Forum that summarizes the

"Our research has identified some best practices and room for improvement in recycled materials supply chains" said Wes Sullens, of StopWaste. "From our findings, we seek to engage in a dialogue with manufacturers, owners, and regulators to find solutions that ultimately lead to the greater use of recycled content materials in building products."

The group's recently released report, "Post-Consumer Polyvinyl Chloride in Building Products," is the first in a series that will examine eleven commonly used recycled feedstocks. Additional reports on recycled content feedstocks will be released in the coming months.

Visit http://www.healthybuilding.net/content/optimize-recycling for more information and to join the conversation on optimizing recycling.

work we do and why materials matter.

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Meet the West Coast Climate Forum Leadership Team

The West Coast Climate and Materials Management Forum is an EPA-convened collaboration of state, local, and tribal governments that develops ways to institutionalize sustainable materials management practices. We identify and share effective greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies that improve the way communities source, use, and recover materials. More than 50 contributing partners work collaboratively to create the West Coast Climate Forum tools and resources.

The West Coast Climate Forum is led by a leadership team which sets the strategic direction, leads product development, and plans the webinar series. Several members have been part of the leadership team since its initiation in 2008.

The Leadership Team:

- Shannon Davis, EPA Pacific Southwest Region
- Ashley Zanolli, EPA Pacific Northwest Region
- David Allaway, State of Oregon, Department of Environmental Quality
- Janine Bogar, State of Washington, Department of Ecology
- Karen Cook, County of Alameda, General Services Agency
- Leslie Kochan, State of Oregon, Department of Environmental Quality
- Babe O'Sullivan, City of Eugene, Office of Sustainability

- Wes Sullens, County of Alameda, StopWaste

If you're interested in getting involved in the work of the West Coast Climate Forum, email: info@westcoastclimateforum.com

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Disclaimer: The West Coast Climate and Materials Management Forum is an EPA-convened partnership of state and local governments that develop and share ways to integrate life-cycle materials management policies and practices into climate, sustainability, and solid waste plans. **Please note that articles about state and local government programs or policies do not represent EPA policy or constitute endorsement by EPA.**