

Our Mission: Buehler's Fresh Foods is committed to operating our business with environmentally responsible behavior, while increasing awareness of the impact to our ecosystem.

carbon footprint

Energy

- light harvesting at Buehler's Nobles Pond location (photo left) - sunlight through skylights
- LED lighting installed in numerous frozen foods door cases - estimated energy savings 70% per door over conventional florescent lighting - equates to 19,836 kilowatts of energy savings in 2009! Researching future applications for LED lighting in backroom coolers and freezers, parking lot lighting, and display cases
- rated in eleven facilities
- reclaimed heat from refrigeration compressor motors used to provide nearly 100% of store's hot water
- exploring used vegetable oil as an alternative fuel in company's vehicles - details coming!
- replaced lights in main office and warehouse with new energy efficient lamps - continually savings nearly 10,000 watts of energy

Refrigerants


- monitor leakage in refrigeration lines based on EPA guidelines
- using Glycol (non ozone depleting) refrigerant at Ashland, Medina, Jackson, and Brunswick locations

Resources

- water reduction: installed waterless urinals in three locations resulting in a savings of nearly 120,000 gallons of water per year

waste reduction

Recycling

- encourages customers to switch to reusable shopping "green" bag by offering a 5 cent reimbursement for each re-use (photo left) - nearly 50,000 reusable bags in 2008
- weekly ad insert printed on 30% post consumer recycled paper with soy ink
-  The UPS Store in Coshocton and Wooster Milltown implemented a Styrofoam recycling program - customers are encouraged to recycle their clean Styrofoam peanuts at either location to be reused as packing material
- recycling recap for 2008

plastic bags	42.96 tons
cardboard	2,630 tons
office paper & documents	23.3 tons
newspaper & magazines	7.5 tons

total recycled paper & cardboard exceeded 2,660 tons (over 5,321,600 lbs.)

all of our recycling efforts saved:

- 45,240 trees
- 18,628,330 gallons of water
- 11,176,998 kilowatt hours
- 1,091,088 gallons of diesel fuel efforts kept 9,048 cubic yards out of the landfill & 159,671 pounds of particles from the air!

- construction recycling: our newest store in Jackson Twp. used recycled roofing materials removed from a previous existing structure - we utilized 39,008 sq. ft. of 2-in. polyisocyanurate salvaged from a total tear-off project in Magador, OH. 6,501 cu. ft. of landfill space was saved - and the salvaged material was polyisocyanurate plastics (a material that takes generations to deteriorate in landfills). While the uses of recycled materials often costs more than new, after deducting the expenses associated with the recovery of these materials, Buehler's was able to save nearly \$10,000 compared to the cost of new materials.

- public collection and recycling site at Buehler's locations (photo left)

- Delaware....Paper Retriever Recycling: partial proceeds from paper recycling benefit local school's PTO
- Medina River Styx & Wadsworth....Medina County: glass recycling only
- Wooster Milltown & Dover.....Stark-Tusc-Wayne Joint Solid Waste Magt. District: recycling bins

Transportation savings

- will save over 3,000 gallons of diesel fuel used in our semi tractors by adjusting to a more efficient delivery system to our stores
- retread all truck tires several times each to extend the life of current tires and reduce waste in our landfills
- no idling policy on semi tractors saves nearly 8,000 gallons of diesel fuel per year

Compost

- composting pilot program at our Wooster Milltown location is estimated to remove 12,000 pounds of produce waste a week or 312 tons per year from the landfill

buy local

Mt. Hope Produce Auction: from farm to cart!

- Buehler's is the largest purchaser of Amish grown produce in the country
- Dave Graf (photo left), Buehler's produce buyer, attends Mt. Hope Auction every Tuesday and Thursday from April through October. Dave has over 40 years experience in the produce industry, and he has a CDL (Commercial Driver's License) allowing him to buy produce and haul it back to our warehouse in one trip
- produce in the field today, can be on your table tomorrow - from farm to cart!

Local producers

- local companies: Smucker's and Smith Dairy in Orrville, Park Farms and Superior Meats in Canton, Gerber's Poultry and the fresh produce auction in Kidron. We support over 40 Ohio based companies including: local produce growers, bakeries, wineries, and meat processing facilities.
- Last year, Buehler's purchased \$2,107,668 in locally grown produce - 1.94% increase over 2007. Our local produce suppliers include:

Bauman Orchards	Rittman
Barco's Greenhouse	Medina
Cedar Lane Farms	Orrville
Farmeers Produce Auction	Mt. Hope
Fruit Growers	Newcomerstown
Michael's Farms	Urbana
Maurer's Farms	Wooster
Zeller's Farms	Hartville
Darr Farms	Newcomerstown
Hartville Dressings	Hartville

