



Los Angeles World Airports

LAX VNY

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Fact Sheet

Recycling and Source Reduction

Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) strives to divert materials like paper, plastic, glass, metal, organic materials, and wood pallets away from landfills and incinerators, and into reuse and recycling programs whenever possible. In 2015, LAWA achieved a diversion rate of 66 percent at Los Angeles International (LAX) airport, diverting 26,800 tons of material from disposal. This is an increase of five percent over the previous year.

In 2015, LAWA achieved a diversion rate of 38 percent, diverting 38 tons of material from disposal at Van Nuys (VNY) general aviation airport. This is an 18 percent increase from the previous year.

Organic Materials Diversion

Green waste, such as grass clippings and tree branches, are recycled through a chipping and grinding process into mulch at the Harbor Mulching Facility in San Pedro. Following the recycling process, the mulch is made available to farmers throughout the Southern California region.

The LAX Harvest Food Donation Program donates unsold high-quality grab-and-go food to local agencies instead of discarding it as waste. The program is in its fifth year, and brings together concessionaires from HMSHost and the Hudson Group under a unified program to coordinate the distribution of unsold food to local agencies in the LAX area. As of 2015, the program has donated over 152,000 pounds of food.

Since 2014, LAWA has partnered with the Los Angeles Zoo to divert acacia trees from the LAX Coastal Dunes nature preserve for use as a food source for the Zoo's animals. As a non-native plant species to the Dunes, acacia trees are removed to provide room for native plant species to flourish throughout the nature preserve. Upon transfer to the Zoo, the trees are broken down to their edible parts and are enjoyed by a wide variety of animals. The partnership has diverted an average of 47 tons of biomass per year.

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

In 2015, 52 percent of LAX's purchased custodial products were environmentally preferable products, including paper products (e.g., toilet paper, paper towels) that were made with 30-percent post-consumer recycled paper. In addition, 78 percent of IT purchases included sustainability clauses, reflecting an increase of 11 percent compared to the previous year.

LAX Construction Projects

LAWA recycles construction and demolition materials from construction projects as part of its Clean Construction Program.

The construction process for LAX's new Central Utility Plant (CUP), which came 100-percent online in September 2015, recycled 94 percent of its construction and demolition debris. Thirty-seven percent of the CUP building's material content is made from recycled materials.

More than 83 percent of the of the construction and demolition debris from the Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT) Renovation project at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) was recycled, and 45 percent of TBIT's total building material content, by value, was made from recycled materials.

The ongoing Qantas Hangar and West Aircraft Maintenance Area projects are expected to reuse or recycle 185,500 cubic yards of concrete.

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