



TURI Spring Continuing Education Conference

**Minimizing materials that contribute to solid waste**

April 4, 2019

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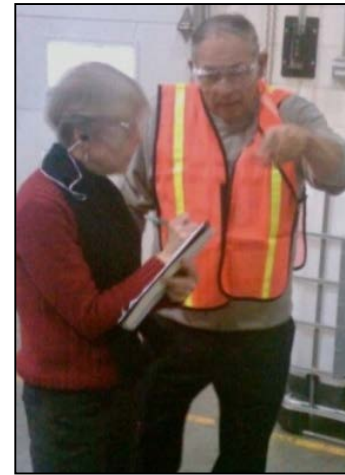
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# Background

- Non-profit, created in 2008
  - Mission to help institutions make better use of resources, improve sustainability of operations
  - Programs deliver triple bottom line benefits to commercial and industrial facilities, municipal entities, not-for-profits throughout the State
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# Programs Offered

- Education – EHS Roundtable, trainings, tours
- Assistance – improve operational sustainability
- The Great Exchange – repurpose excess items



# THE GREAT EXCHANGE

An alternative solution when the generation of waste can not be avoided and valuable resources can't be used internally or recycled







Started in 2009,  
still growing







## THE GREAT EXCHANGE

**New Hours - Add'l Inventory - More Savings**

**Multiple business closings have provided lots of valuable items to choose from**

To make it easier for not-for-profits and businesses to obtain new/like new items for less than 50% of value,

**The Great Exchange is now open the last two Thursdays of each month 8:00a - 4:30p**

**Now 2 sites,  
60+ tons of  
resources  
repurposed  
annually**

# Resources Come In

- Supplies and items donated
  - Some one time, some regularly
  - Some small, some big
  - Some dropped off, some picked up
- New / nearly new condition, nothing hazardous
  - No electronics or household items
- Materials primarily from businesses
  - By-products, imperfect inventory, excess resources, product changes, facility upgrades or closures



# Examples of Opportunities

## By-products

- Audio mfc. offers 100 lbs. packing material monthly
- Used by maker spaces, small manufacturers

## Remodeling

- 5,200 pounds of furniture donated by pharma co.
- Numerous not for profits able to upgrade

## New Operations

- Marketing firm promoted bins no longer needed
- Expanded offer to 6 other products, 3,100 pounds

## Moving

- Medical service provider consolidating offices
- 28,000 pounds of cast off supplies, furniture saved



# Supplies Galore





# Furniture, Fixtures, and More



# Resources Go Out

- Items appreciated by schools, non-profits, community orgs, municipal entities, small firms
  - Savings on supplies, items exceed 50%
- Pictures of items available posted
  - [www.tinyurl.com/TGESupplies](http://www.tinyurl.com/TGESupplies), “[/TGEFurniture](http://www.tinyurl.com/TGEFurniture)”



# Benefits of Diverting for Reuse

- Disposal cost savings
- Resource efficiencies
- Reduced landfill demands
- Employee pride, business appeal
- Funds freed for valued services
- Recognition as valued community citizen





# Contribute to our Success

- Take a tour, because seeing is believing
- Let us know about resources available
- Attend events – last 2 Thursdays of the month
- Spread the word to potential donors, takers



# FYI!

## **EHS Roundtable**

Friday, April 5, 8-9:30a

DEP Section Chief will review regulations:

- Air pollution
- Hazardous waste
- Solid waste
- Industrial wastewater
- Toxics use



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**LET'S TAKE A TOUR**

**THE GREAT EXCHANGE**

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