

## ***School Cafeteria Conversion Program***

Much of the waste in schools is generated in cafeterias, primarily from the use of disposable service ware. During the first stage of this program, DOE would eliminate the use of disposable food service trays in the cafeterias of the 201 NYC public schools that have unused dishwashers. The City would then study the feasibility of expanding the program by installing dishwashing systems in the remaining schools and evaluating the potential for reusable dishes and utensils.

Implementation Schedule:

2005: Convert 50 schools.

2006: Convert 50 schools.

2007: Convert 50 schools.

2008: Convert 51 schools.

2009: Study feasibility of installing dishwashing systems in other schools; pilot test reusable dishes and utensils.

2010: Implement recommendations of feasibility study; evaluate pilot tests and consider expanding program beyond reusable trays.

## ***Waste Prevention in the Health and Hospitals Corporation***

Establish six Waste Prevention Coordinators, one for every two hospitals within the Health and Hospitals Corporation, to oversee and implement waste preventing practices and procurement in New York City's public hospitals. A revolving capital fund would make available at least \$25,000 per hospital for improvements. Savings realized are used to repay the revolving fund. According to the SAIC, full implementation of waste preventing strategies would reduce hospital operating costs for a 1,000-bed hospital by \$2.3 million a year (Science Applications International Corporation, New York City Wastele\$\$, 2000).

Implementation Schedule:

2007: Six coordinators in place.

2008: Coordinators continue; create revolving capital fund (\$300K).

2010 and beyond: Continue program; report progress and savings.

## ***Agency and Institution Cafeteria Conversion Program***

A large number of cafeterias are present in NYC agencies and institutions beyond the school system. Cafeterias are a source of enormous amounts of waste, especially if they use disposable plates, cups and serviceware. The City should develop a plan to convert all City agency cafeterias to use reusable plates, glasses, trays and serviceware. Where this is not possible the City might want to consider using biodegradable paper and compostable utensils. A technical assistance program for cafeteria conversions should be provided to institutions that receive free collections from DSNY.

Implementation Schedule:

2005: Establish a plan for City agency cafeteria conversion.

2006: Where not possible pilot test paper disposables and compostable kitchenware in at least 5 agencies or institutions.

2007: Based on pilot test results, develop an implementation plan for all cafeterias; provide technical assistance to institutions that receive free DSNY collections.

2008: Begin to implement cafeteria conversions.

2012: Complete conversion of all City agency cafeterias; if non-City institutions make insufficient progress, consider requiring needed changes, or charging for collection service.