International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, on Circular Economy, 2014-05-07

ECO-parks and waste prevention

Pal Martensson
Goteborg
a fast growing sustainable city
Waste and recycling services

At the household
• Combustible waste
• Biodegradable waste (optional)
• Varying service for bulky waste, packaging, paper, batteries, hazardous and electronic waste,

About: 330 Recycling Stations
• Producers responsibility
• Packaging, paper, plastic, metall, glass, cardboard, newspapers, and batteries

10 Hazardous Waste Collection Points and mobile unit
• Hazardous and small electronic waste
• Textile for Re-use and other small second-hand items

5 Recycling Centres
• Bulky waste, garden waste, electrical and hazardous waste, reusable items etc
Total recycling is a big vision - it means not wasting anything.

Waste is proof that something is wrong in the society, it’s a true evidence.

You can try burn it or bury it but still it’s an evidence of a society that's not sustainable.
Waste treatment hierarchy

Reduce

Reuse

Recycling

Energy utilisation

Landfill
Kretsloppsparken
Alelyckan

Why a recycling/reusing/eco-park?

Our introduction concept was:

Gothenburgers' new amusement park for reusers and recyclers
Inaugurated 5 May 2007
Total area of 30,000 square meters
Total cost 4 million euro

Drop off what you want to get rid off and buy what you need

Recycle center
Packaging
Sorting station
Construction mat.
Second Hand Workshop, Food
Eighty percent of the buildings are reused. They have been brought in from other facilities and built up again in the park.

The visitors first arrive at the sorting station where all visitors are met by recycling-park staff and invited to donate any of their items that may be suitable for sale in one of the secondhand shops. Most visitors are pleasantly surprised to be offered this opportunity.
Rooflift!

Entrance

Communication

Hazardous waste

Electronic waste

Donated materials

Free sorting help if needed

To recycling centre
Whitewares are left outside the station.
“The white line” – special profile on all containers in the part of the park where sorted waste is to be dropped off
Nice and clean, send the visitors a message!
1. Stadsmissionen shop – here the visitors can choose from a wide range of second-hand products
Typical Saturday morning before opening, 10.00
...textile...

...furniture...
…or knick-knacks and household goods
2. Återbruket is for recycling of construction materials.
Återbruket – for those looking for used construction materials

City of Gothenburg
3. Returhuset – creative forces that do exciting things with re-used materials
Bike repair at Returhuset
We play on the heart strings when marketing the eco-cycle park

It should be a pleasure and easy to
● Donate
● Buy second-hand
● Sort one's waste
● Understand our system
A few facts about the eco-cycle park

About: 300-400 visitors per day

Turn over: 2013 1,2 milj.euro

Create work opportunities for about 25 people – very important, green jobs

More than 130 guidings from Sweden and more than 50 different countries have visited our Park

We, the park and Gothenburg makes a difference

Free soil, bag and spade from the city's own composting plant to the young ones!
Are we influencing people's behaviour?

- Many come just to donate. They stop at the sorting station and drive out again, without visiting the recycling centre.
- Because we ask ACTIVELY if the visitor has something to donate, we encourage such behavior and more things are left for re-use.
- We educate people, “learning by doing”
Prevention fact!
Alelyckan Recyclingpark in Gothenburg prevents 360 tonnes of waste per year by enabling products to be reused rather than discarded, representing a reduction in environmental impact equivalent to the greenhouse gas emissions from 430 cars, each driven 15,000 kilometers.

Approximately 2,200 tonnes of waste per year – equivalent to just over 5 percent of all waste material delivered to Gothenburg’s five recycling centres – could be prevented if these were converted to recycling parks.

In other words, Alelyckan Recyclingpark is a facility that combines product reuse with waste sorting while encouraging visitors to contribute to product reuse rather than merely discarding their waste.

We create jobs for people that have problem to get into the workmarket, we give them an extra chance

More figures and facts is in an attachment to be provided
Alelyckan reduces the quantity of bulky waste delivered to the recycling centre by over 5 percent. The facility enables 360 tonnes of products per year to be reused rather than discarded. Every year, 2,200 tonnes of potentially reusable products are discarded at Gothenburg’s recycling centres. The corresponding figure for Sweden as a whole is 80,000 tonnes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All products</th>
<th>Recyclingpark</th>
<th>Conventional recycling centre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total inflow, tonne/year (%)</td>
<td>494 (100)</td>
<td>494 (100)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consigned to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuse</td>
<td>358 (72)</td>
<td>52 (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling</td>
<td>84 (17)</td>
<td>135 (27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incineration</td>
<td>48 (10)</td>
<td>235 (48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction fill</td>
<td>4 (1)</td>
<td>72 (14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What waste does Alelyckan prevent?

- Building products, timber: 11%
- Building products, other: 12%
- Large electrical products: 4%
- Small electrical products: 7%
- Furniture: 24%
- Textiles: 23%
- Metal products: 10%
- Plastic products: 4%
- Plumbing products: 3%
- Books: 2%
Zero Waste is more the journey then the destination
There is NO app for this!

You only need a brain and hands
Tiny *tweets*, big steps forward

*Good waste management needs good will and good organisation: "zero waste" is completely possible*

#EUDeb8
Big hug to U all from ME and the City of Gothenburg

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