

## **2014 Recycling Awards – Business Category**

### **Curly's Foods, Inc. Winner – Volume**

Location: Sioux City, Iowa

Amount of paper and paper-based packaging recovered in 2013: 1,348 tons

Number of employees: 700

Amount collected per employee: 1.92 tons

### **Background**

Curly's Foods began in 1987 as small meat processing company. Recognizing sustainability as a key component to a successful business, Curly's Foods initiated a recycling program to recover old corrugated containers (OCC) and office paper in the 1990s.

### **Program**

Curly's Foods' recycling program is marketed by their parent company's corporate office and carried out through employee education and monitoring to ensure corrugated cardboard does not end up in the trash. Staff members showcase Curly's corporate commitment to sustainability during the on-boarding process for new employees, explaining the company's environmental management system (EMS), and the importance of the environment and sustainability. Each year, the EMS program is reviewed with all employees and updates are shared on the status of any new programs to increase recycling. To maximize efficient collection, Curly's employees have recycling containers at convenient locations. For example, each office copy machine has a recycled paper container next to it. Office cleaning staffs recover any remaining recyclable paper. Curly's Foods continues to look for ways to improve their sustainability and environmental programs.

### **More information**

To learn more about Curly's Foods, visit [www.curlys.com](http://www.curlys.com).