

Measures to create a sound material cycle

Waste reduction and recycling

JR East generates many kinds of waste through its railway operations, including daily trash removed from trains and stations and industrial waste from our General Rolling Stock Centers. In addition, restaurants and retail stores in our life-style businesses produce garbage and general waste. In order to reduce all these various forms of waste, JR East actively supports the approach known as “reduce, reuse, recycle.” For recycling in particular, goals are set for each type of waste.

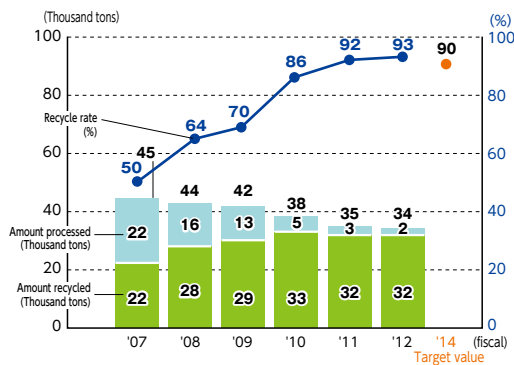
Recycling waste collected from stations and trains☆

In the fiscal year ending March 2012 the ratio of trash from stations and trains that were recycled was 93%. (Beginning in the fiscal year ending March 2008 thermal recycling was considered. Also, definitions were partly changed in the fiscal year ending March 2010.) Since trash from stations and trains contains recyclable materials, we first placed separation bins in stations. We then established recycling centers in Ueno, Omiya and Shinkiba for more rigorous separation. In October 2010, to further improve recycling rates, we consolidated the recycling centers in Ueno and Shinkiba and built the JR East Tokyo Materials Recycling Center (operated by East Japan Eco Access Co., Ltd.).



JR East Tokyo Materials Recycling Center

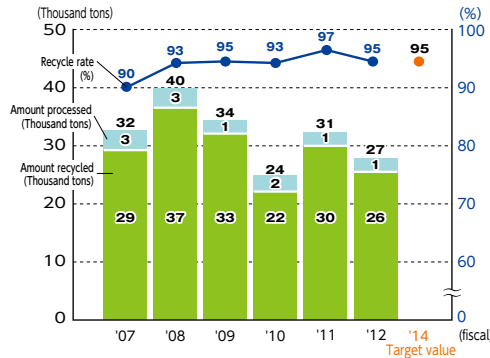
Waste from stations and trains



Recycling initiatives at General Rolling Stock Centers, etc.☆

JR East Group is recycling waste generated during the manufacture and maintenance of rolling stock. At the Niitsu Rolling Stock Manufacturing Factory, we promote waste reduction and recycling, taking into account the railcars' entire life cycle starting at the time of designing. At our regional General Rolling Stock Centers, waste is sorted into 20 to 30 categories to reduce waste generation and promote recycling. Starting in the fiscal year ending March 2006, we have been collecting data on the volume of retired railcars that are sold as scrap to be recycled so as to monitor the progress.

Waste from General Rolling Stock Centers

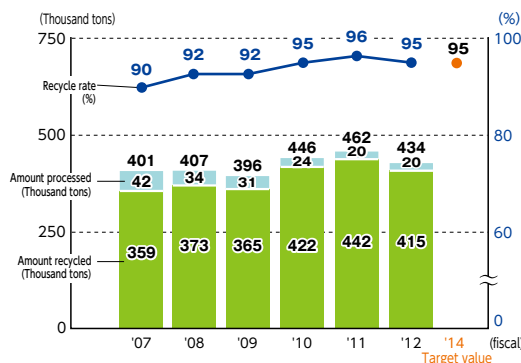


At Nagano General Rolling Stock Center, retired wheels are recycled into brake disk parts.

Reducing construction waste☆

JR East endeavors to reduce waste from construction by requiring subcontractors to use design and construction methods that allow them to properly dispose of construction byproducts and to minimize waste. In the fiscal year ending March 2012, JR East generated 430 thousand tons of waste through construction and maintenance projects at our stations and other structures, including 60 thousand tons of waste through work entrusted to JR East.*

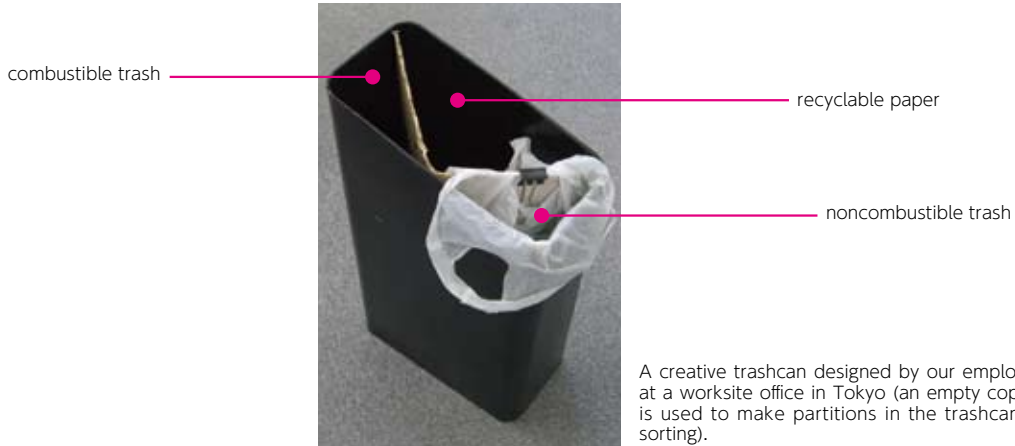
Waste from construction projects



* Work entrusted to JR East: Construction work contracted to JR East by local governments etc., to be done at non-JR East facilities, for such purposes as to ensure safe train operations.

Reducing waste at offices☆

In departments at the Head Office and Branch Offices, we strive to reduce waste by promoting elimination of paper and by recycling, including the use of creative, employee-designed trashcans. In the fiscal year ending March 2012, we recycled 2,213 out of a total of 2,488 tons of waste (89%).



Efficient use of water resources☆

As a consumer of 11.47 million m³ of water annually, JR East actively promotes the use of recycled waste water*, using, for example, rainwater and water already used for washing hands to flush toilets. At the Head Office building, 24 thousand out of 41 thousand m³ of water was reused in the fiscal year ending March 2012.

* **Recycled waste water:** Defined as water of a quality level between clean water and sewage water. It is used for limited purposes as a recycled resource.

Reducing and recycling tickets.☆

Collected used tickets are sent to a paper mill. After the iron powder has been separated from the backs of the tickets, the paper is recycled to make toilet paper and corrugated cardboard. In the fiscal year ended March 2012, all of the 363 tons of collected tickets was recycled. Collected magnetic season tickets were recycled into solid fuel.



Used tickets collected at stations are recycled into toilet paper that is used at major stations in the Greater Tokyo metropolitan area.

Promoting green procurement

As part of ecological activities balancing environmental protection and business requirements, JR East promotes the procurement of products with lower environmental impact, and in 1999 formulated its "JR East Green Procurement Guidelines." When we choose a supplier of materials, we investigate its environmental and CSR activities, and use what we find as a factor in our decision.

To further promote green procurement for our office supplies, we have set a target of "100% green procurement" for the JR East Group as a whole. Through this green procurement, the JR East Group promotes activities to realize a recycling-oriented society.

Recycling trash within the company

JR East promotes in-company recycling of trash generated at stations.

Magazines, newspapers and similar paper items collected from our segregated trash boxes at stations and trains are being recycled into coated paper and stationery and used in our offices.



Newspapers and other papers collected in stations and elsewhere are recycled into office paper used by our company.

Recycling waste PET bottles into civil engineering materials

JR East has constructed a recycling system that produces resin weed-barrier sheets (product name: Nakusa R-PET) by recycling the PET (polyethylene terephthalate) bottles discarded in stations and trains. The main ingredient for resin weed-barrier sheets used to be polyethylene, but JR East has developed and commercialized a weed-barrier sheet composed mainly of waste PET bottles after testing has succeeded.