

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. Restaurants and retail stores in our life-style businesses also 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.

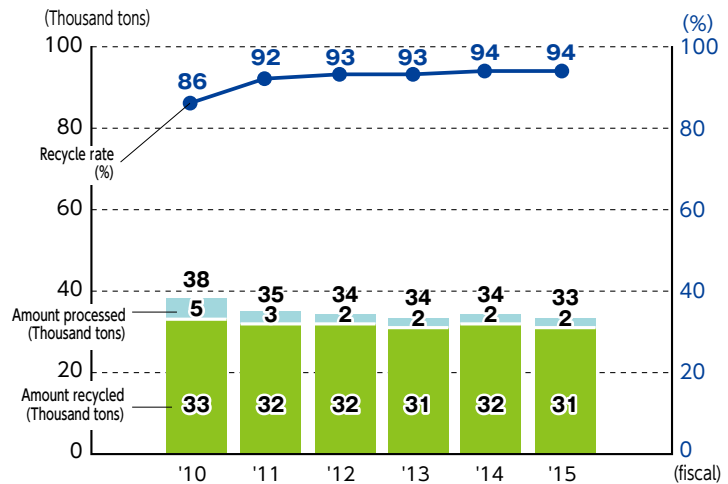
Recycling waste collected from stations and trains[☆]

In the fiscal year ended March 2015, 94% of the trash collected from stations and trains was recycled. Since trash from stations and trains contains recyclable materials, we placed separation bins in stations to have customers cooperate in separating trash. In October 2010, to further improve recycling rates by implementing thorough separation of trash, we built the JR East Tokyo Materials Recycling Center (operated by East Japan Eco Access Co., Ltd.) and started its operation.



JR East Tokyo Materials Recycling Center

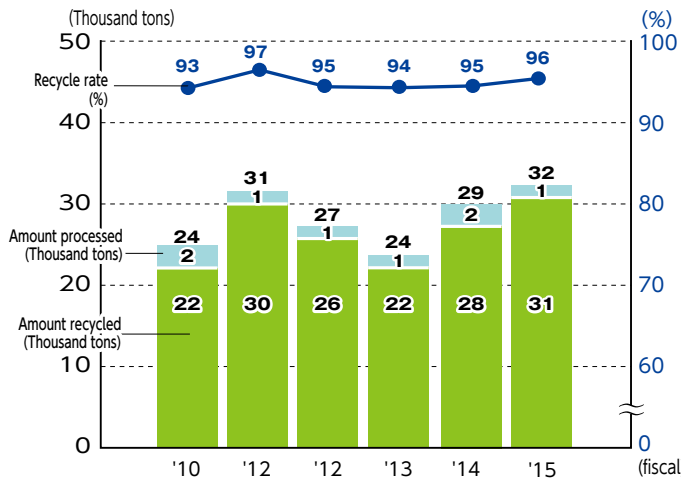
Waste from stations and trains



Recycling at General Rolling Stock Centers[☆]

JR East Group is recycling waste generated during the manufacture and maintenance of rolling stock. At our regional General Rolling Stock Centers, waste is sorted into 20 to 30 categories to reduce waste generation and promote recycling. Starting in FY2006, 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



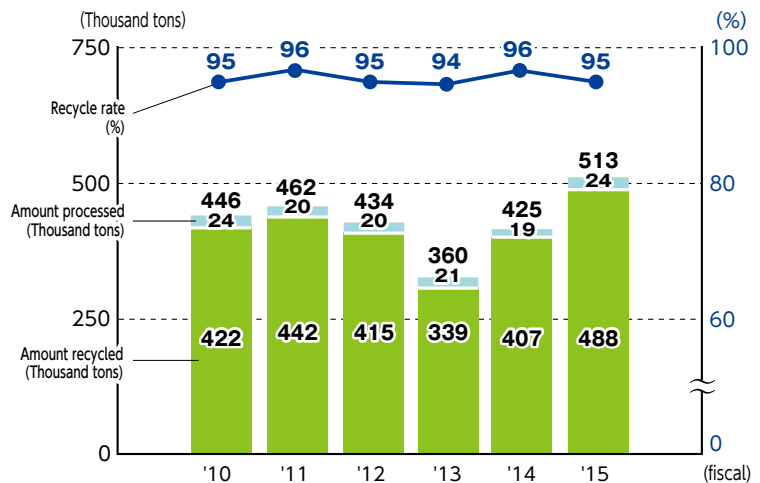
At Nagano General Rolling Stock Center, retired wheels are recycled into brake disk parts

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 2015, JR East generated approximately 513 thousand tons of waste through construction and maintenance projects at our stations and other structures, including approximately 68 thousand tons of waste through work entrusted to JR East.*

*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.

■ Waste from construction projects



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 trash cans. In FY2015, we recycled 1,875 tons out of a total of 2,086 tons of waste (90%).



Separate trash bins for different types of trash (inside Chiba Branch Office)

Efficient use of water resources☆

As a consumer of 11.34 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, 25 thousand m³ out of 32 thousand m³ of water was reused in FY2015.

* 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☆

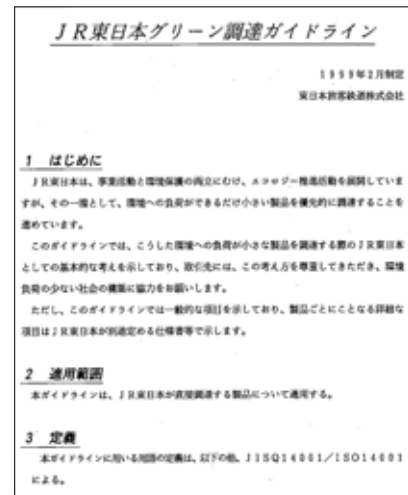
Collected used tickets are sent to a paper mill. After the iron powder has been separated from the backs of the tickets, the paper is recycled to make toilet paper and corrugated cardboard. In FY2015, all of the 326 tons of collected tickets were recycled. Collected magnetic season tickets were recycled 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

JR East is developing ecological promotion activities compatible with both business activities and environmental preservation, including procurement of products with lower environmental impact. As part of those efforts we formulated the “JR East Green Procurement Guidelines” in 1999. Outlined in these guidelines is our philosophy with regard to materials, conservation of resources, and packaging. When considering selection of a new material supplier, we investigate that company’s environmental and CSR activities, and this information is used to help evaluate potential suppliers. We also are promoting the procurement of environmentally friendly office supplies. Through such green procurement, JR East will further deepen our efforts to work toward a recycling-oriented society.



JR East Green Procurement Guidelines

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 tests were successful.