

Measures to create a sound material cycle

■ Reducing waste 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.

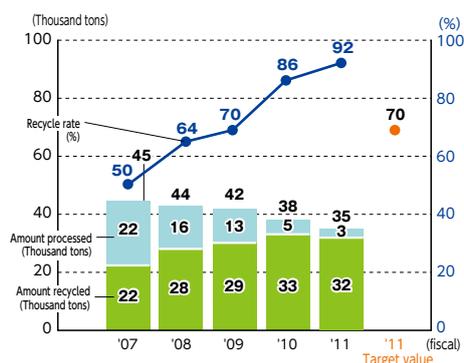
■ Recycling waste collected from stations and trains[☆]

In the fiscal year ending in March 2011 the ratio of trash from stations and trains that were recycled was 92% (Beginning in the fiscal year ending March 2008 thermal recycling was considered. And, also, definitions were partly changed in the fiscal year ending March 2010) Since the trash from stations and trains contain some recyclable garbage, we first placed segregation trash cans at stations to catch recyclable waste. Then we established recycling centers in Ueno, Omiya and Shinkiba to make more rigorous segregation. In October 2010, to further improve recycling ratio, 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.) within the compounds of Tokyo Freight Terminal Station and started operation. This center has a capacity to treat 17,700 tons per year. To make the center environment-friendly, we provided greenery around the building.



JR East Tokyo Materials Recycling Center

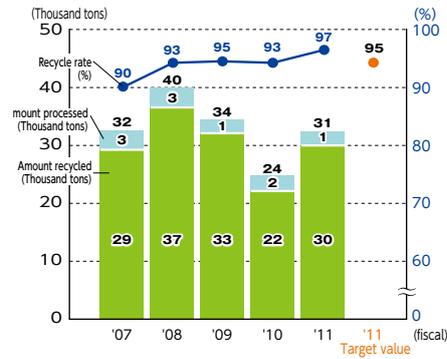
■ Waste from stations and trains



■ 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 included our retired railcars that were sold to outside parties and later scrapped as part of the quantities recycled by the JR East Group when calculating our recycle rates.

■ 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 allowing them to properly dispose of construction byproducts and to minimize waste. In the fiscal year ending March 2011, JR East generated 462 thousand tons of waste through construction and maintenance projects at our stations and other structures, including 47 thousand tons of waste through work entrusted to JR East.*

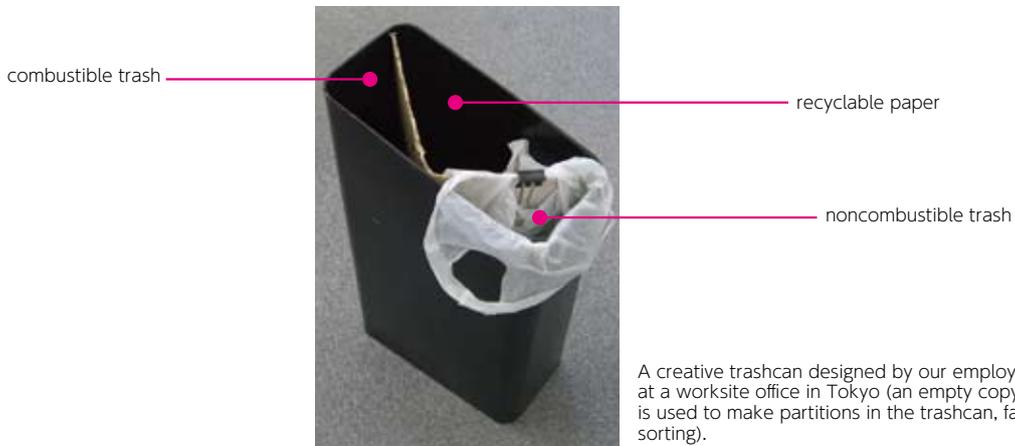
■ Waste from construction projects



*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 2011, we recycled 2,306 out of a total of 2,614 tons of waste (88%).



A creative trashcan designed by our employees is seen at a worksite office in Tokyo (an empty copy-paper box is used to make partitions in the trashcan, facilitating sorting).

■Efficient use of water resources☆

As a consumer of 11.76 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, 23 thousand out of 43 thousand m³ of water was reused in the fiscal year ending March 2011.

* 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, etc.☆

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 2011, all of the 396 tons of collected tickets, etc., 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, JR East promotes the procurement of products with lower environmental impact, and in 1999 formulated the “JR East Green Procurement Guidelines.” 50% of office supplies are subject to green procurement. 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 the green procurement, we plan to set a target of “100% green procurement” for JR East Group as a whole. We will continue our efforts at building recycling-oriented society through our green procurement.

■Recycling trash within the company

JR East promotes recycling within the company of trash generated at stations.

The magazines and newspapers and the like 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, etc. are recycled into office paper used in 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 a weed barrier sheet composed mainly of waste PET bottles, and after testing has succeeded in producing and commercializing the product.