

Green Zone Taskforce

Alternatives to Burying Debris in Landfills

The GreenZone Task Force membership is composed of Church Organizations, Environmental Non-Profit Groups, New Orleans Neighborhood Organizations University faculty and residents of Orleans Parish.

We have been meeting in person, by e-mail and phone conference call since the fall of 2005. The concerns that brought us together were how the handling and disposal of the debris from Katrina had a negative effect on recovering neighborhoods in Orleans Parish. The handling of the debris in our view seemed to be very short sighted. FEMA and the local governments had failed to remember our past environmental problems caused by debris removal from Hurricane Betsy including the public health disaster of the Agriculture Street Landfill.

The members of the GreenZone Task Force knew that there were better ways of handling the debris from Katrina that could create jobs and a recycling economy in Orleans and neighboring parishes in Louisiana. An economy which would better prepare Orleans Parish and Louisiana for the handling of future Hurricane debris problems and the daily garbage in Orleans Parish.

It seemed to us that the Corps of Engineers and others “in charge” of the debris removal were still using 19th century thinking “dig a hole in the ground and dump the stuff into it” rather than the 21st century thinking where there are many new and creative ideas in operation around the United States that could have been put into operation quickly to lessen the need for landfill disposal and future liability for Orleans Parish.

All of the members of the GreenZone Task Force are working and will continue to work for creative solutions to deal with the problems created by Hurricane Katrina. We feel that there needs to be an informed public debate on debris / garbage and its management.

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The GreenZone Task Force Key Goals

- Protect the health of people
- Reduce, reuse & recycle waste
- Protect our natural resources
- Create a recycling economy
- Use our financial resources wisely

Members as of May 2007:

All Congregations Together (ACT)

Alliance for Affordable Energy

Citizens for a Strong New Orleans East

Global Green

Holy Cross Neighborhood Association

Kristen Ardani

Liz Davey

Louisiana Environmental Action Network (LEAN)

Mercy Corps

Pax Christi

Sierra Club, Delta Chapter

The Green Project

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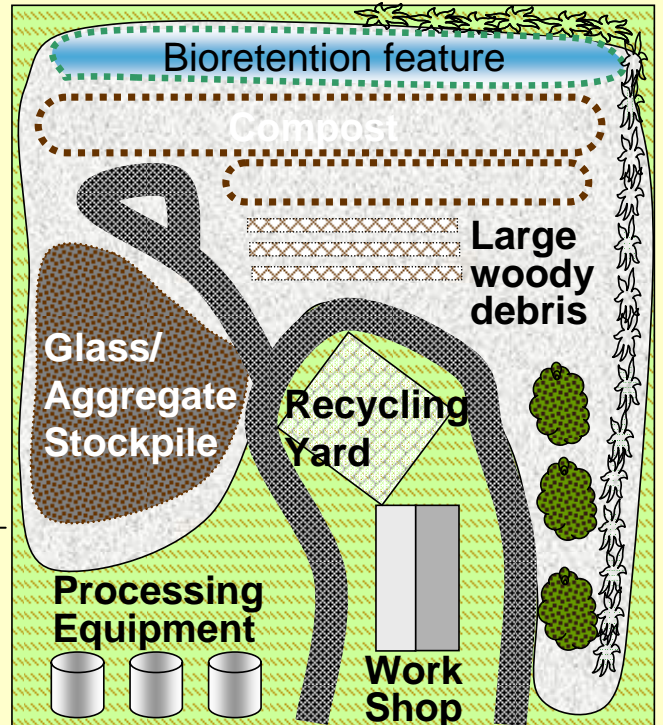
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Holy Cross Green Zone Demonstration Project



Operating Footprint

Operating Schematic →



VISION: An eco-industrial green zone that practices and demonstrates *integrated waste management* for terminated building stock, using deconstruction, reuse, and recycling, to create jobs, improve the environment, and greatly reduce material sent to landfills



Plant Stock

ACTIVITIES

- Training
- Deconstruction
- Recycling
- Composting
- Wetlands Cribs
- Aggregate Grinding
- Horticultural Stock
- Permaculture



Investment
And Jobs

OUTCOMES

- Skilled Workforce
- Building Materials
- Materials Sales
- Bulk and Bagged
- Bayou Bienvenue
- Materials Sales
- Products Sales
- Eco-functional Park



Revenues and
Environmental
Improvement

Environmental and Economic Benefits

- Quality jobs
- Architectural treasures
- Organic products
- Ecological restoration
- Outdoor recreation

Financial scenarios begin at \$50,000. Revenues and returns on investment are improved with larger capitalization