

## **NETREGS DIRECTORY MAKES EASY WORK OF WASTE**

**September 08:** The online Waste Directory developed by NetRegs.gov.uk has been expanded to help small and medium businesses comply with waste disposal laws in the UK. The free directory now includes additional licensed sites, showing businesses their nearest facilities to recycle or dispose of their waste.

The NetRegs Waste Directory gives businesses immediate access to 3,169 Environment Agency licensed waste sites across the UK and lists which of 59 different types of waste each can take. After ticking which waste products need to be disposed of, the closest sites will be listed and a map displayed to help location. The free directory helps businesses save time and money as well as ensuring they dispose of their waste legally.

Serious incidents of fly-tipping are increasing each year, with local authorities in England having to deal with over 2.6 million occurrences between April 2006 and March 2007<sup>1</sup> - a five per cent increase on the previous year.

Jamie Burton from MJS Construction commented on his experience using the directory: "The NetRegs Waste Directory enables me to easily locate waste sites , as well identify some of the other companies that provide a useful collection service. In the future, the directory could also help me save some money as I'll be able to identify local waste sites that I might not previously have been aware of, so that I can compare the complete range of sites to source the most competitive price.

"We will also sometimes have things to dispose of that aren't the day-to-day waste, such as office computers. The NetRegs Waste Directory will mean that we don't have these kinds of things hanging around for too long because previously I wouldn't have had an immediate answer on where to dispose of them. The fact that

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<sup>1</sup> Defra Flycapture data 2006 - 2007

it is a government-backed service is really reassuring too, as you know that companies listed will comply with the relevant legislation."

Under-Secretary of State for Climate Change, Biodiversity and Waste, MP Joan Ruddock, comments: "Fly-tipping is a crime and businesses have a legal duty to dispose of their waste responsibly. The NetRegs Waste Directory simplifies this process for businesses and allows them to easily find the most suitable recycling and waste disposal sites for them."

The Waste Directory allows a business to input the waste type they want to dispose of together with their postcode to get a list of the nearest waste sites, ranked by proximity and by how closely they match their user's requirements.

In addition to the Waste Directory, the NetRegs site has numerous useful tools for businesses across the UK, including the important email updates service that alerts businesses on changes to environmental law and keeps them up-to-date with regulations and good practice. There is also comprehensive help on all waste issues for the agriculture and food & drink manufacturing sectors.

An independent Government survey has recently identified the money-saving benefits of using NetRegs, finding that SMEs across the UK that subscribe to the free NetRegs' email alerts service are saving on average £2,615 per year<sup>2</sup>. For those that log on to the website every week, savings increase to £5,296 a year, a figure that reinforces the commercial benefit in making full use of the guidance available on the NetRegs site.

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**About NetRegs:**

- NetRegs - [www.netregs.gov.uk](http://www.netregs.gov.uk) - is a joint initiative between the Environment Agency in England and Wales (EA and EAW), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA).
- NetRegs was launched in 2004 to provide SMEs with guidance on complying with environmental legislation.

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<sup>2</sup> Research conducted by economics for the environment consultancy (eftec), March 2008.

- The website currently offers specific guidelines for 112 industry sectors in the UK.
- NetRegs provides free guidance to SMEs in the UK, which is available without the need to register.

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