



HADCO Group's Recycling Division Monthly E-Newsletter



Net Zero Emissions – What It Means for Trinidad and Tobago

There is no denying that <u>the world is getting warmer</u>. Last month we spoke about COP26, the promises made, and the various measures which world leaders are taking to further reduce drastic temperature changes due to global warming.

At the summit, the concept of "net zero" was widely discussed as a means by which we can create action against climate change. As such, in this issue of The Recycling Times, we will define the concept of 'net zero emissions' and what Trinidad and Tobago can do right now to significantly reduce our carbon footprint.

What is 'Net Zero?'

Recycling

According to US based <u>National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine</u>, "achieving net zero emissions means that some greenhouse gases are still released, but these are offset by removing an equivalent amount of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere... [as] it would be prohibitively expensive or disruptive to eliminate some sources of emissions entirely."

In other words, the concept of 'net zero emissions' is a gradual process of countering existing greenhouse gas emissions (with more preventative measures) to ensure that no more emissions are added to the atmosphere.

"WE LIVE IN A VERY EXCITING TIME... TOGETHER WE CAN REDUCE OUR COUNTRY'S NATIONAL CARBON FOOTPRINT AND BEGIN TO PAVE THE ROAD FOR NET ZERO EMISSIONS."

> Kevin Whiteman -Managing Director, Recycling Division, HADCO Group

Learn more about net zero emissions below



Think about it this way – it is not possible to ban the use of oil and natural gas with immediate effect because we are too dependent on these fuels for power. But we can take the net zero approach and phase in renewable sources of energy such as solar panels and wind turbines, thereby encouraging less dependency on fossil fuels.

What Trinidad and Tobago Can Do

The United Nations is pushing world leaders to commit to policies and investments that can make net zero carbon emissions a reality by the <u>year 2050.</u>

As these pledges take shape over the next few years, there are a number of practical things that your household or business can do right now to help lower our carbon footprint.

Limit What Enters Our Landfills

According to <u>SWMCOL statistics</u>, around 700,000 tonnes of waste is accumulated annually at our landfills. The burning of garbage at the Beetham/La Basse landfill in Trinidad, or at the Studley Park facility in Tobago is not sustainable, as it releases disruptive amounts of hazardous smoke, foul odours, and greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

With HADCO Group's Recycling Division, you can limit what gets burnt at our landfills. Our company, New Age Recycling, will collect your wastepaper, cardboard, tetra pak, aluminium cans and PET plastic bottles free of charge. We will then sort and ship your waste to international recycling plants for the manufacture of new products. We can also facilitate the collection and export of your used lead acid batteries through another one of our sub-companies, Ecoimpact Co. Limited.

Boost Biofuel Adoption With Your Waste Vegetable Oil (WVO)

Biofuel is an emerging and more cost-effective source of power for cars, buses and most light to medium weight vehicles. As of 2021, <u>the biofuel industry is valued at \$110 billion US Dollars</u> and is set to help offset the dependence on fossil fuels.

Through Ecoimpact, we will facilitate the free collection of your waste vegetable oil (WVO) from restaurants and households. Your WVO then undergoes a series of rigorous and precise filtration processes before it is packaged and shipped to international biodiesel manufacturers in Asia, Europe and the United States.



A tractor clears solid waste from Guanapo landfill, Trinidad Credit: <u>'Guanapo landfill Arima' video by Chris K John</u> (2016)



Biodiesel pump in the United States Credit: <u>Reuters</u>







Get Involved!

Individuals and organisations that are interested in doing their part to help lower our country's carbon footprint can schedule a free collection with us!

For the collection of waste paper, cardboard, tetra pak, aluminium cans and PET plastic bottles, please contact: New Age Recycling: (868) 290-2970 / 2975 or visit <u>www.NewAgeRecyclingTT.com</u>

For the collection of waste vegetable oil and used lead acid batteries, please contact: Ecoimpact Co. Limited: (868) 633-3609 or visit <u>www.EcoimpactTT.com</u>

We also do collections in Tobago!



"WE MAKE IT EASY FOR ANY HOUSEHOLD OR BUSINESS TO RECYCLE WITH THE HADCO GROUP'S RECYCLING DIVISION. A SIMPLE CALL IS ALL IT TAKES TO GET STARTED."

Marguerite Simon-Williams -Operations Manager, Ecoimpact Co. Limited

Credit: United Nations (2022)





