



Arbor Springs Water has been a part of the Ann Arbor community since 1926, providing bottled water and cooler service throughout Southeast Michigan. The company's primary product is bottled water, sold in five-gallon Lexan and PET plastic bottles. These bottles can be cleaned and reused up to 100 times. When the bottles chip or break they are sent for recycling.

By employing a bottle chipper that cuts the bottles into smaller pieces, Arbor Springs Water is able to send a large number of bottles to the recycler in fewer truckloads. Fewer truckloads of bottles means less gasoline consumed, less air emissions and less wear and tear on the roads. In the end, the plastic is reused in a variety of other plastic forms.

Along with its comprehensive bottle recycling program, the company does its accounting on-line, reducing paperwork by 50 percent. They also close the recycling loop by purchasing office furniture that has been remanufactured by a local re-builder.

Arbor Springs Water Company recently started using a Reverse Osmosis water treatment unit, which eliminates the use of sodium hydroxide and muratic acid. This makes the water purifying process considerably less chemical dependant, leading to a cleaner environment and a safer work place. 90 percent of Arbor Springs delivery trucks are now diesels, as the company replaces gas vehicles. The increase in mileage per gallon is almost 100%. Arbor Springs Water has written a formal statement of their practices and has designated one employee to oversee waste reduction. In addition, they save energy by using florescent bulbs and ENERGY STAR rated office equipment, they place external lights on timers and use night setbacks when the building is unoccupied.

We take pride in being able to implement these and other efforts to contribute to the "Green" initiative:

- Recycling bottles, caps, cardboard, truck oil, pallets and office paper.
- Shredding and recycling bottles on site.
- Using bottle racks made of recyclable material.
- Having compact florescent lighting.
- Carrying bottles and storage crates designed to be used multiple times.

Additionally, all our brand products, HDPE Bottles, PET bottles, office supplies and warehouse items are made in Michigan.

Due to these and other contributions, Arbor Springs Water was awarded the Environmental Excellence Award by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners in 2001 and since 2000, has been a recertified annually as a Waste Reduction Partner with Washtenaw County's Waste Knot Program.

[www.arborspringswater.com](http://www.arborspringswater.com)