

# NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE CORRECTIONS



June 13-16  
2011

Report to the Commissioner of Correction and the  
National Institute of Corrections

With support from  
the Indiana Department of Correction and  
the National Institute of Corrections  
[www.GreenPrisons.org](http://www.GreenPrisons.org) held the first  
National Symposium on Sustainable Corrections:  
Costs, Practices, and Reentry  
Indianapolis, IN  
June 13-16, 2011

including a one-day tour of Putnamville Correctional Facility

# National Symposium on Sustainable Corrections

## REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTION AND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CORRECTIONS

### VENDOR RECEPTION

The Symposium began on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of June, with a vendor reception, attended by Symposium participants and Vendors, including: Blue Pillar, CMI-CJA, CorrectPac, Energy Systems Group, Greffen Systems, ICON Systems, Inc., Johnson Controls, Lighting Concepts and Solutions, Noresco, Roofing Solutions, and WESCO.

### PREMIUM WORKSHOPS

Following continental breakfast in the Exhibit Hall, two premium workshops were offered by energy service companies—Johnson Controls and Noresco—presenting basic overviews of the services available to correctional institutions and agencies through energy service companies – assessment, financing assistance, installation, etc.



**RON JOHNSTON OF JOHNSON CONTROLS AND DAVE CORNER OF NORESCO  
EXPLAIN HOW ENERGY SERVICE COMPANIES CAN BENEFIT CORRECTIONS**

### CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

As outlined in the Program Guide, the Symposium included 12 concurrent workshops, offered two at a time, in 6 different sessions over the two-day period. Topics included the Sustainable Prisons Project in Washington State, the new NIC Greening Prisons Report, Green Collar Jobs, Environmental Literacy, Greening of the Indiana Department of Correction, Going Green in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Rainwater Harvesting,

Entrepreneurship for Successful Reentry, Energy Use Reduction through Effective Lighting, Sustainable Corrections, and Integrating Energy Saving Technology in Older Prisons. Synopses of the concurrent workshops are contained in the Appendix, below.

All workshop presenters were well-qualified professionals, whose biographies and photographs were included in the Program Guide.



**SYMPOSIUM PARTICIPANTS LISTEN TO PRESENTATIONS BY DAN PACHOLKE, WASHINGTON STATE DOC AND KELLI BUSH, OF THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE, ON THE SUSTAINABLE PRISONS PROJECT AND OTHER PROGRAMS IN WASHINGTON STATE.**

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS: INDIANA COMMISSIONER BRUCE LEMMON



**INDIANA COMMISSIONER BRUCE LEMMON, WITH SHERRY CARROLL OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CORRECTIONS**

After an inspiring Presentation of the Colors by Officers of the Indiana Department of Correction, the singing of the National Anthem, and welcoming remarks by Symposium organizer Tommy Norris of GreenPrisons.org and Ms. Sherry Carroll, of the National Institute of Corrections, the Symposium Keynote Address was given by Indiana Commissioner of Correction Bruce Lemmon, at a luncheon on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. Commissioner Lemmon shared his rationale for the Indiana DOC's commitment to sustainability-oriented practices, beginning with investigating opportunities to save money and maturing into today's broad-based activities to reduce recidivism and improve public understanding of the broader role of the Department of Correction in protecting public safety and security. The keynote address set the tone for the whole Symposium, as well as preparing the participants for the tour of Putnamville Correctional Facility on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup>.



SHERRY CARROLL, OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CORRECTIONS OFFERS WELCOMING REMARKS

## PLENARY ADDRESS: HOW TO SAVE \$1,000 PER INMATE

Wednesday morning's plenary presentation was provided by Eugene Atherton, former Deputy Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections, and Paul Sheldon, Senior Advisor with Natural Capitalism Solutions. Mssrs. Atherton and Sheldon reviewed their estimated calculations for how institutions can save \$1,000 per inmate over the next 20 years, through increased efficiency of energy, water, and waste processing, and provided extensive examples of seven easy steps to more sustainable correctional facilities and programs that have been implemented by institutions throughout North America.



In addition to the many examples of cost-effective, sustainability-oriented practices in use in correctional facilities, the presenters also reviewed the American Correctional Association's recently-adopted "Greening" Standard, which requires facilities seeking accreditation to demonstrate that they have examined, and where appropriate and feasible, implemented strategies that promote recycling, energy and water conservation, pollution reduction and utilization of renewable energy alternatives.

TOUR OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AT  
PUTNAMVILLE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



**PUTNAMVILLE'S WINDMILL POWERS THE TRAINING CENTER**



**TOUR ATTENDEES VIEW THE RECYCLING FACILITY**



**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS READY TO BE RECYCLED**



**FOOD WASTE IS MIXED WITH WOOD CHIPS, PROCESSED IN HEDGEROWS THEN SCREENED TO REMOVE TRASH**

## WILDFLOWER PROPAGATION

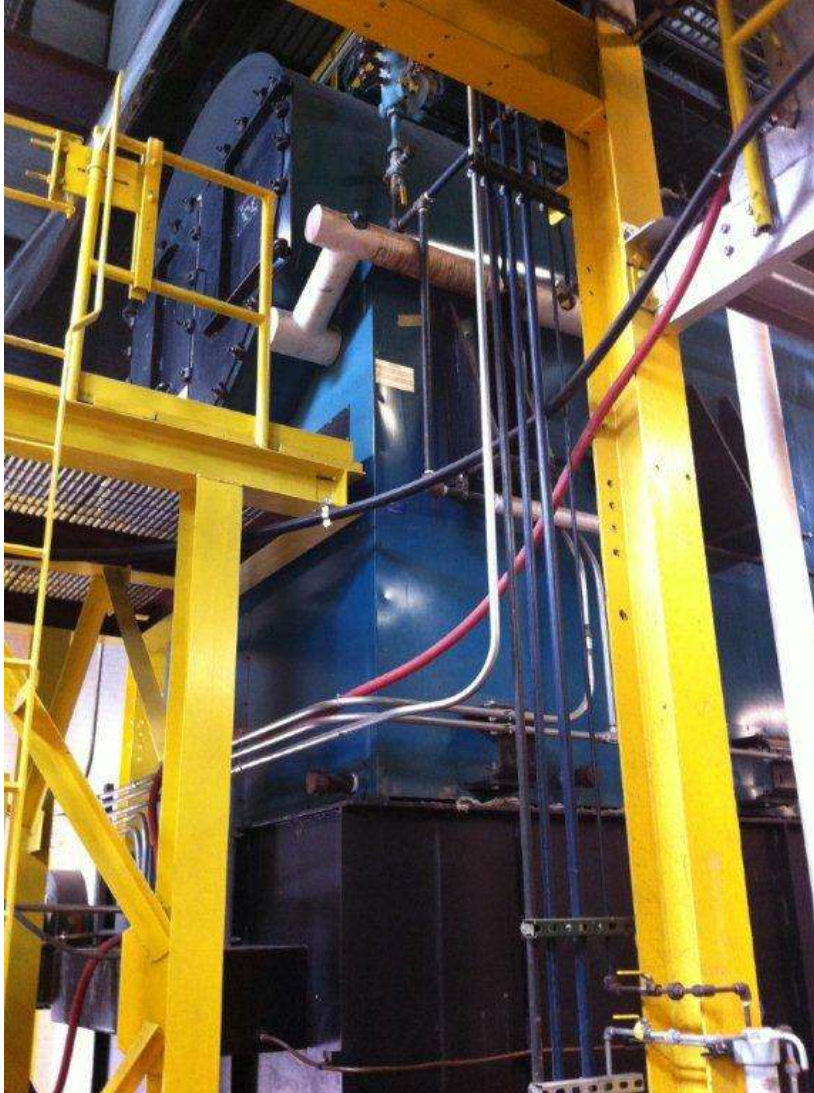


**NATIVE INDIANA WILDFLOWERS ARE GROWN ON PUTNAMVILLE GROUNDS, THEN INMATES DRY, PROCESS, PACKAGE, AND PROVIDE THE SEED TO THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO BE PROPAGATED ALONG HIGHWAYS.**

## BICYCLE RECYCLING PROGRAM



**ABANDONED AND DAMAGED BICYCLES ARE COLLECTED BY FACILITY STAFF, SO THAT INMATES TRAINEES CAN REFURBISH THEM. PUTNAMVILLE WORKS WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES AND CHARITIES TO RECYCLE MORE THAN 720 BICYCLES PER YEAR, WHICH ARE THEN DONATED TO NEEDY CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE STATE.**



**SCRAP WOOD FROM THE FACILITY'S PALLET RECYCLING OPERATION IS SHREDDED AND FED INTO THE BIOMASS BOILER, WHICH PROVIDES HEAT TO THE ENTIRE FACILITY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

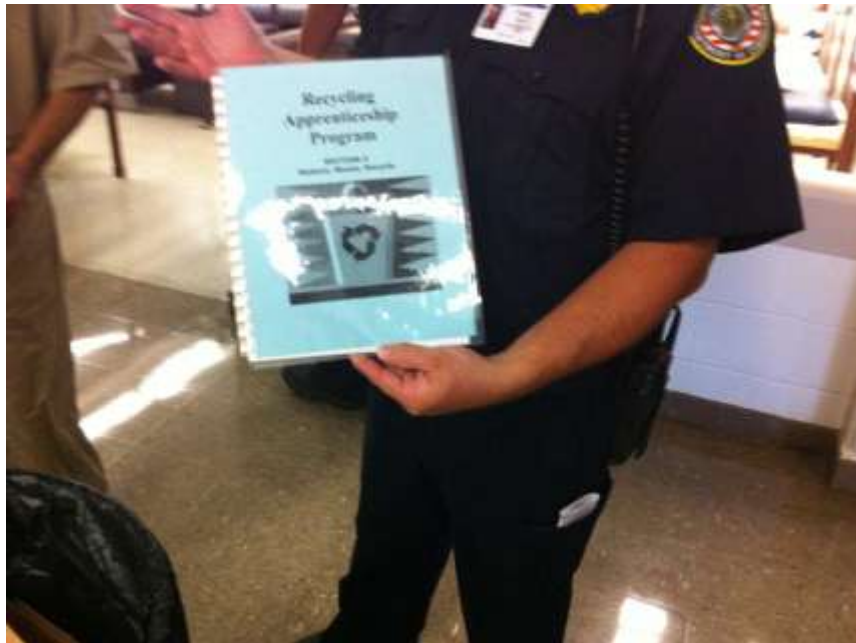


**PALLET RECYCLING YARD**





RESIDENCE HALL RECYCLING PROGRAM HAS GROWN INTO A VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY THE U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR



PUTNAMVILLE CORRECTIONAL OFFICER DISPLAYS THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM MANUAL HE DEVELOPED

## APPENDIX: CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

### Sustainable Prisons in Washington State

Dan Pacholke, Deputy Director, Washington State DOC and  
Kelli Bush, Executive Director, Sustainable Prisons Project, The Evergreen State College

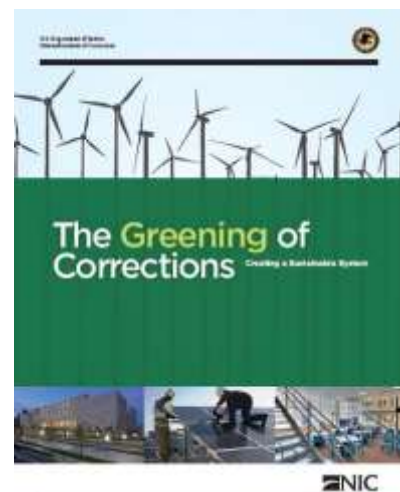


Dan Pacholke and Kelli Bush presented two sessions on the collaborative sustainability programs that are bringing sustainable operations, education, and conservation to corrections centers in Washington State. Education, lectures, workshops, green jobs training, and ecological restoration programs include plants, frogs, butterflies, bees, bird boxes, composting, and vermiculture, with support from the Washington State Department of Corrections, The Evergreen State College, the Nature Conservancy, the U.S. Army, and others. These programs have reduced waste, contained costs, have generated positive media coverage worldwide, and have demonstrated consistent results through tracking of resource usage, tons of trash, water use, electricity, numbers of frogs, plants, and butterflies propagated and returned to native ecosystems, and more. As an example of unexpected additional benefits, Mr. Pacholke reported that the food composting and worm programs reduced suspended solids in one facility's wastewater stream so dramatically that state regulators waived the previously-mandated requirement to implement a multi-million dollar expansion to the waste treatment facility.

### Greening of Corrections

April Pottorff, AIA, Associate Principal, Ricci Greene Associates Architecture Planning

Shortly before the Sustainable Corrections Symposium, the National Institute of Corrections released a landmark white paper, *The Greening of Corrections: Creating a Sustainable System*, co-authored by Frank Greene, Raquel Pinderhughes, Mindy Feldbaum, Sarah Kirschenbaum, Debbie Mukamal, and Megan Walsh. Ms. Pottorff reviewed the contents of the NIC paper, which provides the best currently available review of building construction, recycling, transportation, local materials and food, carbon footprints, energy dependence and reduction, and other aspect of “green” practices in correctional facilities nationwide, with emphases on the U.S. Green Building Council's Leading Energy and Environmental Design features (LEED), as well as the first-ever nationwide review of sustainable correctional industries, green reentry programs, green jobs training programs in correctional facilities and recommendations for greening prisons and jails..



## Green Collar Jobs and the Roots of Success

Dr. Raquel Pinderhughes



Dr. Pinderhughes presented two sessions—the first on green collar jobs, based on the presenter’s experience as Director of the Delancey Street College Program and her work at as a nationally-recognized expert on green jobs and green job training and the NIC white paper described above; and the second on her curriculum *Roots of Success*, designed to provide “environmental literacy” and prepare youth and adults with weak academic skills and limited labor market experience for good green jobs.



## Going Green in the Federal Bureau of Prisons

John Wenkman, Dave Williams, and Tim Sheldrake

This session focused on recent Congressional mandates on all federal agencies to increase their efforts on sustainability. The workshop highlighted procurement requirements and how “green” products and services are purchased, and presented results relating to energy consumption as a result of implementing sustainable practices.

FCI FAIRTON SOLAR SYSTEM (<http://www.correctionsreporter.com/?s=solar>)

## Benefits of Rainwater Harvesting

E.W. Bob Boulware, P.E.

President, Design Aire Engineering, Inc.

Mr. Boulware presented rainwater catchment as an opportunity for alternative water sources in areas where limited water or poor water quality make it cost effective or necessary. Where water costs are rising, due to poor quality water or dry climate, the presentation demonstrated numerous examples of rainwater catchment technologies and techniques for using captured rainwater safely and productively for potable and non-potable purposes and site irrigation.



## Entrepreneurship for Successful Reentry

Bobby Clark  
President, Sustainable Business Ventures



Mr. Clark reviewed new opportunities to reduce recidivism by empowering ex-offenders to start their own businesses, through special savings plans, jobs training, and business development training. Mr. Clark presented the plans of his non-profit organization, Sustainable Business Ventures to develop the proposed Bluegrass Employment and Entrepreneur Program at Blackburn Correctional Complex in Lexington, KY, following on the successful Prison Entrepreneurship Program in Texas – a 5-month intensive program that has graduated 675 inmates, who have created 82 businesses and maintained a recidivism rate under 10%.

## Sustainable Corrections: Clay Feet or Silver Lining

Paul Sheldon  
Natural Capitalism Solutions

Following on his morning plenary presentation on *How to Save \$1,000 per Inmate*, Mr. Sheldon presented an overview of how innovation happens in institutional settings, the basic principles of sustainable management, and more examples of how sustainability-oriented practices are being implemented in correctional institutions. Participants were invited to share examples of successful practices in their institutions, as well as barriers and challenges they had faced and how they had overcome these challenges to start recycling programs, LED lighting retrofits, “green cleaning” programs, and other activities.



## Energy Use Reduction, Lighting, and Older Prisons

Jerry Elmlad  
Michigan Department of Corrections Energy Specialist



Mr. Elmlad, the former Energy Specialist for the Michigan Department of Corrections, presented two sessions on reducing energy use for lighting, and integrating energy saving technologies in older prisons. Because of his vast experience in testing and implementing energy solutions in prisons, Mr. Elmlad shared many examples and useful statistics relating to LEDs, solid state lighting, CFLs, induction lights, and ways to integrate “green” technologies into existing buildings. Both these workshops included lively discussions with participants regarding conditions at their facilities and specific strategies for saving money and resources in innovative ways.