

A Hiland Sustainability Story: Chandler Tea Bag Initiative



At Hiland Dairy, sustainability is more than just a buzzword; it's something that guides our activities every day. More than simply recycling cardboard and plastic, our sustainability efforts include coordinated initiatives that are designed to reduce waste and improve the environment. One such initiative is a program that recycles the millions of used tea bags produced by our Chandler, Oklahoma, plant every year as part of its production of Red Diamond Iced Tea.

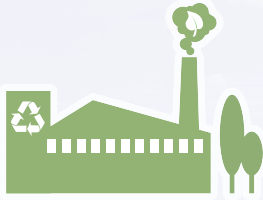


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Seeking to reduce the amount of landfill waste produced by used tea bags, Hiland invested \$30,000 in equipment to shred, haul and spread the used tea bags so they could be recycled as fertilizer. So far, the program has shown excellent results. As the Chandler tea bag initiative continues, Hiland will regularly test the soil quality to determine the rate of improvement. As the soil quality improves, Hiland will plant additional feed crops, which will produce additional sources of feed for area farmers.



Tea Production at Hiland's Chandler Plant



- **45,000** gallons of tea brewed per day
- **1.25 MILLION** gallons of tea brewed per month
- **21,060** bags to brew 45,000 gallons of tea

Tea Bag Recycling Program Results

- Improved soil quality
- Reduced landfill waste by **150** tons per month
- Saved **50,700** dollars in dumping costs per year



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