Environmental Management Systems
Environmental Management Systems

- Set of processes and practices that enable an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency using risk-based assessment of issues.
  - 1. Environmental Commitment and Policy Statement
  - 2. Planning (Plan)
  - 3. Implementation (Do)
  - 4. Evaluation (Check and Correct)
  - 5. Review (Act)
Environmental Commitment and Policy Statement

- Create Environmental Commitment and Policy Statement
  - The policy statement sets the foundation of the EMS process by describing the environmental principles that are important to your organization and establishes goals for managing them.
  - At minimum, an environmental policy statement should describe a commitment to:
    - Comply with environmental regulations
    - Prevent pollution
    - Continually improve
  - An EMS can also support a strategic approach to business sustainability (e.g. new products, markets, branding, etc.)
Industry Examples

- Farms and Ranches
  - Improve soil health, minimize water use and chemical pesticides and fertilizers
- Processors
  - Utilize energy efficient refrigeration, renewable energy
- Distributors
  - Route optimization, regional distribution approaches
- Restaurants and Retailers
  - Local sourcing more than a token array of products, seasonal menus
EMS Resources


• Introductory Farm and Ranch EMS Guide
• Developing an EMS Policy Statement for a Farm or Ranch – Livestock and Poultry Learning Community
• Agriculture EMS Resources
• Multimedia EMS Compliance Guide for Food Processors – 1999
• Asahi Beverage Producer, Environmental Management System
• Unilever, Environmental Management System
• Restaurant EMS – Case Study
Additional Readings

- “To Combat Climate Change, Start From the Ground Up (With Dirt),” Wendy MacNaughton, 5/2/19, https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/02/business/climate-change-soil-dirt.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share
The Biggest Little Farm (2018)

PG | 1h 31min | Documentary | 10 May 2019 (USA)
Thank you!

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Mark Frudd, http://www.worldwatch.org/node/4119