

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

Shred Company Recycles

Owner touts environmental benefits



Shred Shop of Memphis LLC. was founded in 2005. When the company started, its services included accounting, shredding, recycling paper and file storage.

The business is in the process of purchasing equipment that will destroy hard drives.

The company will also have the ability to degauss certain forms of media and will recycle the destroyed media. Additionally, Shred Shop recycles the X-ray film that is received in its shredding jobs.

The company is a locally owned small business and a WBE (Women Business Enterprise) with Tennessee.

Q: In what way is your company green?

We currently recycle paper, cardboard and X-film and will soon recycle media such as hard drives and tapes.

Q: What products do you carry that are green?

In the process of providing paper shredding services, Shred Shop of Memphis accumulates cardboard, shredded paper and X-ray film that is recycled.

Q: Where do you get your products?

Our customers either bring the paper to us to be shredded, or we pick it up. We have a walk-in shredding business for as little as \$10. We provide residential and commercial pickups. Our pickups have ranged in size from 4 pounds to over 41,000 pounds of paper.

Q: Why is reuse and recycling important to you and your business?

Recycling not only provides a tremendous benefit for the environment but is a source of revenue for Shred Shop of Memphis.

Q: What one green practice would you recommend to others?

If your community provides recycling bins, try to make it a habit to recycle plastic, aluminum cans, paper, etc. Since I own a shredding business, I bring all of my scrap paper and discarded mail to Shred Shop of Memphis to be recycled. The economic impact of the recycling industry in 2012 was \$90 billion.

Q: What green trends would you like to see in the future?

Habits take time to change. More and more businesses and individuals are becoming aware of the importance of recycling. As the industry gets more sophisticated and more efficient, there will be additional products made from these recycled materials. Just having these products available for sale, lets everyone know that the recycling industry provides a great benefit.

Companies can help encourage recycling. For example, some hotels request that their customers consider reusing/recycling their towels, sheets, etc. I think if the hotel would offer a discount for each day towels are reused, then the hotel would benefit from the savings on the cost of water as well as reduce the time it takes to clean a room. People are very motivated to change their habits when they can see an immediate benefit.