How Should Portland Chuck Its Wood?

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Portland Metro commissioned Evergreen Engineering to perform a study of potential uses of Urban Wood Waste (UWW) as a feed stock for a number of industrial processes including hog fuels, bio-fuels, building products, engineered wood products and others. Some of the specific applications studied were bio-char, densified wood pellets, animal bedding, medium density fiber board, particle board, erosion control, district heat, and anaerobic digestion to name a few.

The study included: a literature review; interviews with more than 30 manufacturers, researchers, scientists and other experts; a survey of 16 prospective end-markets; an environmental assessment of each application; and a review of the current public policy landscape. This presentation will discuss the findings and recommendations of this study, describe the current wood waste management system in the Portland area, and outline plans for further research.