

Recycling Matters

Recycling News & Information from Grounds & Waste Management

for the University of Michigan Community

Fall 2009

In This Issue:

20th Anniversary

Page 1

Move In

Page 1

Reuse Ideas

Page 3

Changes At Our Office

Page 3

2009 Recycling

Rates

Page 4

In Every Issue:

From the Recycling Office

Page 2

Recycling Fun!

Page 2

You've Got Questions

We've Got Answers

Page 2

Waste Reduction Ideas

Page 4

Upcoming Events

Page 4

20 Years of Recycling!

The fall 2009 semester marks the 20th anniversary of the U of M Recycling Program! Recycling at the University has greatly improved over this span of time. The steadily increasing proportion of goods recycled indicates that the program has been successful in encouraging faculty, staff and students to increase recycling.

The University of Michigan established a recycling collection program in 1989 for the collection of paper and corrugated cardboard. The program has since expanded to include collection of mixed paper, magazine, catalogs, off-prints, manila folders, books. Container collection includes glass, aluminum and steel cans, #1 PET or #2 HDPE plastic bottles, milk and juice cartons, drink boxes and ceramics.



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Recycling and waste collection service on campus is provided internally by U of M Plant Building and Grounds Services. In fiscal year 2009, over 2,309 tons of paper and 198 tons on containers were collected for recycling. Recycled materials made up 27.9 percent of all the material collected by U

Continued on page 4

Student Move In Recycling

During the week of Student Move In (August 31st – September 4th) Waste Management Services, along with University Housing, did a fantastic job collecting the cardboard, Styrofoam, that students (and their parents) as they move into the residence halls and unpacked. Packaging from new lamps, let in boards, and much more was all able to be reused or recycled!



Over the course of the week, we recycled 83.3 tons of cardboard, 28 bags of packing peanuts. Overall, it was very successful Student Move In and we hope to reuse and recycle even more next year. Thank you to the students, parents, and staff who were involved and made this year's Move In a little more eco-friendly! See you at Move Out!

of the week, we recycled 715 bags of Styrofoam, peanuts. Overall, it was

Want to Know More?
Check us out online at
www.recycle.umich.edu

From the Recycling Office

Here in the Recycling Office, we love celebrations! Any reason will do: birthdays, holidays, monster truck rallies, baseball games, wood chuck sightings, etc. But, this fall, we have a REAL reason to celebrate and it's the Recycling Program's 20th Anniversary! What a fun, challenging, rewarding time it's been. While we're not the ones who began the program, our staff recognize the time and energy of so many people who have made recycling at UM what it is today and we can best honor their work by striving to provide more programs and opportunities for students, faculty and staff to practice the 3 R's every day.



When we're not wishing each other "Happy 20th Anniversary," we're busy looking to the future

through our strategic planning process. Where do we want the program to go in 1 year? 5 years? The next 20 years?

It's a wonderful time to dream about the possibilities and amazing how getting them down on paper is the first step to becoming a reality. One of my goals for our program is to include a strong waste reduction component. We're all great at placing recyclables in the proper bin (well, most of us are), but reducing the amount of waste we generate is a whole new bunch of bananas. It requires us to reconsider our purchasing habits and will take a true shift in our culture. But hey, 20 years ago, remembering to place your old newspaper somewhere other than the trashcan was a huge challenge and look where we are today!

Continued on page 3

You've Got Questions... We've Got Answers!

Dear Recycling Matters,
My office needs some used campus envelopes. Do you still have these available at campus locations?

Want to reuse, Mason Hall

Dear Reuse,
Used campus are no longer available on campus. To obtain used envelopes, visit the Recycling Office at 1655 Dean Rd. We are open M-F, 8-3.
RM

Dear Recycling Matters,
I always purchase remanufactured toner cartridges. Can these be recycled a second time?
Trying to Recycle, Chemistry

Dear Trying,
Unfortunately, we cannot accept remanufactured cartridges for recycling. Also unacceptable are any cylinder-shaped toner cartridges with powder toner. These must be thrown away. All other types of toner cartridges are acceptable for recycling.
RM

Recycling Fun!

R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	M	A	N	I	A
O	E	R	B	T	T	Z	D	K	C	L	B
S	R	V	O	N	N	O	T	A	D	W	R
N	X	A	T	E	C	C	N	T	Y	B	E
I	G	W	T	M	M	O	G	E	Y	U	C
B	A	A	L	N	Z	N	Y	S	R	F	Y
P	R	S	E	O	R	T	P	Q	C	C	C
Y	E	T	O	R	P	A	A	X	Q	X	L
L	U	E	O	I	H	I	P	T	U	N	E
Y	S	K	O	V	B	N	E	T	L	P	O
E	E	D	E	N	U	E	R	M	Y	D	J
E	C	U	D	E	R	R	I	F	N	M	P

waste
bins
environment
reduce
reuce
recycle

bottle
can
toner
paper
container
recyclemania



10 Uses for Old Plastic Bags

1. Knee Pads - no more dirty pants from gardening!

2. Hand Protectors - for when you're walking your dog...

3. Paintbrush Preservers - no more dried paint on brushes!



4. Makeshift Rain Hat - avoid the frizzies!

5. Trash can liners - no need to buy bags.

6. Wrapping Paper - In a pinch? Use colorful bags to wrap your gifts.



7. Wet Umbrella Holder - No more drips!

8. Shoe Protectors - Keep the mud off your floor!

9. Cookbook Protectors - No more batter splatter!

10. Planter Fillers - They'll be coming up roses!

Tips and pictures from realsimple.com

Questions?
Email recycle@umich.edu

Ch Ch Ch Changes....

A new school year brings changes to the the Recycling Office. Due to the amazing participation of the Waste Management Services 'Shop'-til-You-Drop event, WMS will be changing how it collects and distributes its free, gently-used office supplies. Starting this fall, the Recycling Program will no longer be accepting binders, due to our high inventory.

Additionally, we will be offering quarterly 'Shop'-til-You-Drop events, allowing everyone to come pick up their office supplies during a one-week period, rather than year round. This will streamline our collection process and allow better access and options for our reusers! Watch for emails about our next event check recycle.umich.edu.

From the Recycling Office cont.

That's all from the Recycling Office this time. We hope you enjoy this edition of Recycling Matters and remember to keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars... (Know who's famous for saying this? Be the first to email recycle@umich.edu with the correct answer and win a 20th Anniversary prize!)

Recycling Matters is produced by Waste Management Services, a division of Plant Operations at the University of Michigan. Its purpose is to inform University staff, faculty and students of recycling, waste reduction and waste management issues that affect the campus community.

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Upcoming Events

October

- October 1 World Vegetarian Day
- October 2 World Smile Day
- October 3 Alternative Fuel Day

November

- November 2 Cookie Monster Day
- November 15 America Recycles Day
- November 27 Buy Nothing Day

December

- December 15 Cat Herder's Day
- December 21 Winter Solstice

January

- January 5 National Bird Day
- January 10 National Cut Your Energy Costs Day

February

- February 2 World Wetlands Day

20 Years cont.

of M Waste Management Services. Since the program started in 1989, 41,380 tons of mixed paper and 2,619 tons of mixed containers have been recycled! The department also coordinates all waste reduction and recycling education and promotion efforts on campus.

We will be celebrating our 20th Anniversary all fall semester, so watch for announcements and events on campus!



The Recycling Office all spiffed up, ready for the September 22nd 20th Anniversary Gala!

FY 2009 Recycling Rates

The Recycling Rate Top 5 are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Weill Hall | 76.3% |
| 2. North Campus
Electric Shop | 61.4% |
| 3. Wallace House | 55.5% |
| 4. North Hall &
Museum Annex | 54.9% |
| 5. Fleming Administration
Building | 54.3% |

The Most Improved Recycling Rate Top 5 are:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Institute for Continuing
Legal Education | 225.1% |
| 2. 1025 Wall Street | 83.3% |
| 3. Laundry Services | 80.4% |
| 4. President's Residence | 70.7% |
| 5. Cornwell House | 60.1% |

Waste Reduction Tips Top Ten Countdown

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 10. Create Recycled Arts and Crafts | 5. Compost and Grasscycle |
| 9. Donate Unwanted Goods | 4. Start a Pay-as-You-Throw Program |
| 8. Repair Items | 3. Join a Waste Prevention Forum |
| 7. Reduce Unwanted Mail | 2. Visit the UM Waste Prevention website |
| 6. Shop Carefully | 1. Stop Wearing Neckties |