

Emory Recycles and Waste Department Recyclemania Call for Presentations

Waste Reduction Challenge at Emory: How to achieve 65% waste diversion by 2015?

Emory Recycles and Waste Department invites the submission of presentations for entry into their Recyclemania Waste Reduction Challenge. This competition is prompted by Emory's participation in Recyclemania which is a friendly competition for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities. For 8 weeks, Emory and over 200 colleges across the United States and Canada will report the amount of recycling and trash collected each week and in turn, will be ranked in various categories. The overall goals for Recyclemania are:

1. to motivate students and staff to increase recycling efforts and reduce waste generation
2. generate attention and support of recycling program
3. change daily habits for less consumption and more reusing, reducing and recycling practices

Requirements:

Presentations should explore and provide ideas for waste reduction at Emory that will help achieve the Recyclemania goals listed above. These ideas should be fully expanded to include the following components of a recycling and waste program:

1. Operations (logistics, route management)
2. Equipment (what is needed, where is it located)
3. Employee training (Emory Recycles, Waste Department and BRS)
4. Outreach/marketing tools for students, Emory community and visitors (should include signage if needed)
5. Education (Emory students, faculty and staff)

Reviewers are looking for novel ideas with practical implementation. The deadline for Intention to submit a presentation is February 24th. Please send your intention to submit to deena.keeler@emory.edu , cc: claire.wall@emory.edu

Prizes:

The best presentation will be awarded a \$200 gift card to Whole Foods and an opportunity to serve on the Office of Sustainability's Waste Committee.

Submission Information:

All presentations should be 15 to 20 minutes in length, electronic and in presentation form (PowerPoint or other). Submissions will be presented to representatives from Emory Recycles, Campus Services Administration, and Office of Sustainability. Submissions should be brought to the CS Training Room in Building B, March 25th at a predetermined time that will be given to the submitter(s) the week of March 1st

Contact Information:

Deena Keeler, deena@keeler@emory.edu , 404-727-9275
Claire Wall, claire.wall@emory.edu , 404-712-8921

Overview of Emory Recycles Operations:

Emory Recycles and Waste operates with a staff of 9 full-time employees in operations and 2 full-time employees for education and outreach. Employees in Operations main responsibilities include:

- Picking up external recycling, composting and waste collections from all building's on main campus, downtown Decatur offices, Emory Clinics, Briarcliff Campus and CDC Clifton Campus and transporting recycling collections to Emory Recycles MRF for further processing
- Emptying external pitch-ins on a daily basis
- Picking up landfill waste from buildings without compactors
- Baling white paper and aluminum collections to sell to vendors
- Servicing special event recycling and composting collections
- Delivering and retrieving carts for office purges and clean outs
- Delivering slim jims and other recycling equipment
- Pick -up of cardboard from all buildings

Emory Recycles operates a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) on Peavine Creek Drive. The MRF stages open tops for collections of glass, mixed paper, construction and demolition (C&D) recyclable waste, food residuals and bathroom waste, and scrap metal. A compactor for

landfill waste, single stream recycling collected from exterior recycling pitch-ins and special events and a compactor for shredded paper are also on-site. Inside the MRF is a baler that bales white paper, cardboard and aluminum and a shredder for Emory Shredding Services. Both the recycling and waste departments work in conjunction with Campus Services Building and Residential Services (BRS) for disposing of recycling and waste collections. BRS is responsible for emptying all interior waste and recycling receptacles and depositing these collections into exterior waste and recycling containers. For interior collections, Emory Recycles provides slim jims containers for white paper, mixed paper, aluminum, food residuals, bathroom waste and plastic in break rooms, lobbies, classrooms, copy machine areas, eateries, bathrooms and central office locations. Containers for glass recycling are located outside the building due to safety concerns concerning broken glass within buildings. Cardboard is collected and placed on the loading dock or beside the exterior recycling carts by BRS and picked up by Emory Recycles staff. BRS provides the landfill waste receptacles. Building occupants with desk side containers for recycling empty these into the centrally located recycling slim jims. Desk side landfill waste containers are emptied by BRS. The program uses 95-gallon carts for emptying the interior container collections. These carts are placed on the loading docks of all buildings with loading docks or placed somewhere outside the building. Landfill waste is emptied into a compactor or if no compactor on site, the bags are placed outside the building for pick up by the Waste department.

Overview of Emory Recycles Outreach/Education:

Emory Recycles web address is www.fm.emory.edu/recycling The website is updated monthly. Emory Recycles sends monthly newsletters via its listserv which consist of Building Managers, Faculty/Staff interested in the program and Building Sustainability Representatives. Interested students can join the listserv by emailing claire.wall@emory.edu

Programs:

Emory Recycles Support "Zero Waste" Orientation by ensuring proper equipment and signage for the Orientation Welcome Breakfast and the Coke Toast Dinner on McDonough Field.

America Recycles Day is November 15th of every year. This is a day to celebrate and encourage recycling across America. More information can be found here: <http://americarecyclesday.org/>. Emory Recycles usually holds several events to promote America Recycles Day and we extend it past the one day and make it a whole week. In the past we have done many different kinds of events: film screening, blue jean swap, e-waste recycling drive, trash audits of buildings, tour of the Recycling Center, etc.

Recyclemania is an annual event. Its goal is to promote recycling and sustainability efforts across college campuses through friendly competition. Recyclemania takes place for 8 weeks, and starts towards the end of January, running through late March. The Competition division encompasses many categories that focus on specific commodities and Emory typically participates in all of them since we have a well-developed program.

Earth Day is held on 22nd of April every year. Emory Recycles hosts a variety of events throughout the month of April to raise awareness about recycling/composting/waste diversion. In the past we have had events like: e-waste drive, personal shredding collection, promote the move-out program Don't Dump It, Donate It. This past year (2012) we held the first Building Recycling Competition. All buildings on Emory's main campus competed for 3,000 dollars and the winner was determined based on who had the largest increase in recycling from April 2011 compared to April 2012.

Don't Dump It, Donate It is Emory Recycles' solution for dealing with all the waste associated with move-out. At the end of April and beginning of May students move-out of the residence halls and as a result have a large amount of items to get rid of. Don't Dump It, Donate It is an alternative to the landfill for many of these items. Students are able to place the items that they would like to donate on large trucks