



UWT Recycling Program

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Introduction

The basic idea of sustainability is that we are able to meet the needs of today's people while still providing a future for generations to come. In order to do this we need to protect the natural environment that humans rely on for survival while still maintaining a good quality of life. Stewardship of land and natural resources involves maintaining or enhancing this vital resource base for the long term" (Feenstra 2008).

Traditional recycling programs are not as sustainable with our ever changing world. Today, convenience is key to reaching people and allowing more options for more sustainable practice.



UWT Recycling Program and Methods

- Observe and record the amount of trash and recyclables that were put into recycling bins every Wednesday and Thursday morning in the WCG and Mattress Factory Buildings.
- Create a new bin modification for better recycling and waste disposal.

Zero Waste

Zero-waste is the recycling of all materials back into nature or the marketplace in a manner that protects human health and the environment.

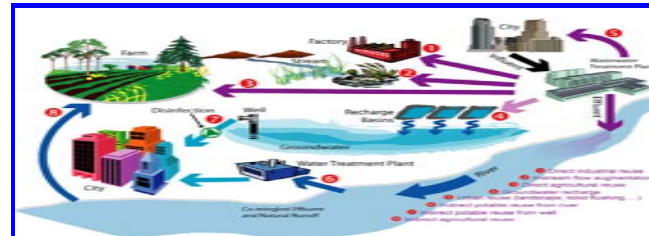
Living life based on the zero waste approach includes the following:

- reduction of materials used
- increase of materials reused
- recycling of all possible inorganic materials
- composting of all possible organic/biodegradable materials
- disposal of all toxic products at hazardous waste facilities
- the return of minimal waste, if any, to landfills

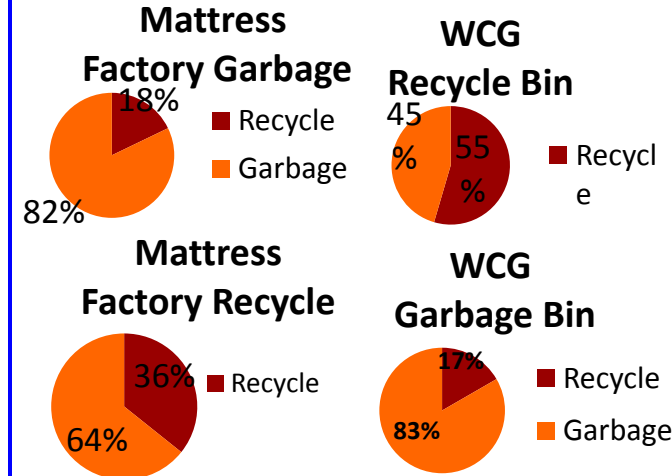
As of now, many campuses are establishing zero waste programs and approaching issues on how to green a campus. The University of Washington is striving to create new recycling techniques to become zero waste. UW Seattle just created a new announced new recycling and garbage diversion initiatives for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Results 2010-2011

- This study shows recycling trends to help strengthen an already dead program.
- In February, a recycling lab sheet was issued to Julie Masura's class to raise awareness for the problems with recycling and more awareness of the program. The results are shown above.



2010 Results from Lab:



Conclusion

What can you do to lessen your impact?

1. Be more aware of your actions
2. Take charge, the first step is to change yourself and your behaviors before you can change others behaviors.

References

- a) Landfill: proposalfargolandfills.blogspot.com
 - b) Recycle chart: water.ca.gov
- Evolving Wellness: <http://evolvingwellness.com/posts/784/zero-waste-sustainable-future/>

Acknowledgements

Julie Masura- Mentor
Tessa Coleman- Facilities Consultant
Milt Trembley- Facilities Consultant

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