RecycleMania!

This past winter semester, from January 29th through April 8th, The University of Michigan participated for the second time in RecycleMania. RecycleMania is a 10-week nationwide collegiate recycling and waste reduction competition during the winter semester in which schools compete to see who can collect the largest amount of recyclables (Per Capita Classic), the least amount of trash (Waste Minimization), rate (Grand Champion), tonnage (Gorilla Prize) of, or their entire, campuses from across in RecycleMania 2007! competing, we only par-

Outstanding Reduction and Reuse Program!

The University of Michigan was recognized as the 2007 Recycler of the Year for Outstanding Waste Reduction and Reuse by the Michigan Recycling Coalition during the 25th Annual Conference and Recycling Business Expo in Novi, MI this past May. This award recognizes our Student Move Out Donation and Office Supply Reuse Programs. Since it began in 1993, the Student Move Out Donation Program has collected over 136 tons of clothes, shoes, bedding, household items, food, and toiletries from students moving out of the residence halls and donated them to area non-profit organizations. We collected over 13 tons of donations during the 2007 Student Move Out. For the Office Supply Reuse Program, Waste Management Services collects unwanted, but still usable, office supplies from units around campus. These items are kept at the WMS office and made available to all University faculty and staff at no charge. Since 2000, we have collected almost 21 tons of gently-used items. The next time you need office supplies, stop by our office and “shop” our array of gently used office supplies!
From the Recycling Office

Things have been busy in the Waste Management Services office since the last issue of Recycling Matters. We had another very successful Student Move Out! Over the course of a week, Waste Management Services staff collected over 13 tons of clothing, bedding, shoes, household items, food, and toiletries from all residence halls and seven other campus locations. All of the donations were given to Purple Heart, Salvation Army, Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop, St. Vincent de Paul, and Food Gatherers.

In other news, Waste Management Services is now providing paper and container recycling bins! Since the merger of Grounds and Waste Management Services and Plant Building Services, WMS has taken over the distribution of these bins. If you would like to request additional bins you can contact Waste Management Services. We will also deliver trash bins if they are accompanied by recycling bins. If you wish to obtain just a trash bin, you must still put in a work request to the Plant Operations Call Center to get these bins through Building Services.

Waste Management Services will also be expanding the Food Waste Compost Program! WMS will now pick up pre-consumer food waste for a per cart fee from buildings wishing to participate in the program. For more information about the Food Waste Compost Program and how your building can participate, contact Waste Management Services by calling 763-5539 or emailing recycle@umich.edu.

~ Your friends at Waste Management Services

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

Dear Recycling Matters,

Our office has some burned out fluorescent light bulbs we would like to dispose of. Does WMS take care of this?

All Burned Out, ISR

Dear All Burned Out,

Fluorescent light bulb disposal is handled by UM Occupational Safety and Environmental Health (OSEH). They can be contacted at 647-1143. RM

Dear Recycling Matters,

Can I recycle clean yogurt cups since they have a #2 on the bottom?

Devoted Recycler, Mason Hall

Dear Devoted Recycler,

Great question! Although yogurt cups are labeled with a #2, unfortunately, they must be thrown away. They are made with a different type of plastic than bottled shaped #2 plastics and cannot be recycled in Ann Arbor. RM

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

Aluminum Corrugated Recycle
Binder Glass Reduce
Bottle Green Reuse
Cardboard Newspaper

Save a Tree! Request an e-copy of “Recycling Matters”
America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day is November 15th. This is a national day to increase and renew your recycling efforts. Since the America Recycles Day campaign started in 1997, it has had the goal of increasing purchasing of recycled content products and recycling across the country. For America Recycles Day 2006, residents from every state participated in America Recycles Day activities and pledged to renew and increase their recycling efforts.

Waste Management Services will be celebrating America Recycles Day once again this year! For ARD 2007, in addition to promoting recycling, we will also be promoting waste reduction. In particular, WMS will be encouraging the use of reusable coffee mugs instead of disposable mugs. We will be tabling on campus with information on America Recycles Day and waste reduction and recycling at UM. We will also be giving away free reusable travel mugs filled with hot cocoa! You can also stop by our table and fill out the America Recycles Day pledge form to get entered in the national ARD Prize Drawing.

Waste Management Services will also have tables set up at Michigan Stadium at the November 17th home football game. Stop by for recycling information and giveaways!

Hopefully you will use America Recycles Day as an opportunity to increase your recycling efforts year round!

Dude! Recycling Success at Duderstadt

Last year, over 127 tons of paper were recycled at the Duderstadt Center on North Campus, sparing the lives of over 3,048 trees and conserving over half a million kilowatt hours worth of electricity. All of this thanks to the hard work of Building Facility Manager Mark Scott and the Custodial Staff.

Scott has seen a lot of change since he first started working at the Michigan Union 20 years ago. He helped persuade the Union to purchase the first cardboard bailer on campus which paid for itself in only two years. A strong advocate for recycling, Scott has been enthused about recycling ever since the first Earth Day in 1970. He has helped fuel recycling efforts more recently at Duderstadt by doing such things as organizing a waste sort with Waste Management Services, maintaining the visibility of recycling receptacles within the Center, and ensuring that coffee grounds are composted at the Mujo Café. Scott hopes in the future the University will put pressure on suppliers to ship products such as computers using recycled material.

“It’s the right thing to do and the intelligent thing to do. It doesn’t require any extra effort,” Scott says of recycling. However, he is quick to humbly downplay his role in the Duderstadt’s recycling success and credits much of it to the custodial staff.

“I don’t think it could be done without them. They do all the heavy lifting and really do a good job.”

To increase recycling at other buildings on campus, Scott suggests that other building managers fully take advantage of the myriad recycling resources available to them and work closely with Waste Management Services.

The custodial staff at the Duderstadt Center are Recycling Champions!
RecycleMania cont.

our second year participating in RecycleMania. UM students, faculty, and staff did a great job of recycling and reducing their waste. We are already gearing up for RecycleMania 2008 so look for more information this fall as the competition draws nearer.

In conjunction with RecycleMania, Waste Management Services also held the first annual internal Recycling Champions Competition! This included both a building and a school competition in which participants competed to see which building and school could have the highest recycling rate over the 10 weeks. The Recycling Champions Competition was a success with 22 buildings and 2 schools voluntarily participating! This competition helped to raise awareness about the UM Recycling Program, produced a 9% increase in the amount of material recycled, and an 11% decrease in trash created by participating buildings! Next year we will be expanding the Recycling Champions competition to include a waste reduction and a most improved recycling rate competition. Stay tuned for more information!

RecycleMania Results

Grand Champion Competition (recycling rate) 8th place out of 77 schools with 43.42%

Per Capita Classic (lbs. recyclables per person) 59th out of 175 with 21.41 lbs. /person

Waste Minimization (trash and recycling per person) 6th out of 66 with 49.31 lbs. /person

Gorilla Prize (total lbs. recycling) 6th out of 178 with 1,014,196 lbs. over 10 weeks

Recycling Champions Results

Building Competition Top Five:

1. Dana Building 84.6%
2. Fleming Building 65.6%
3. Student Publications 58.0%
4. South Quad 54.5%
5. Northwood Community Center 51.9%

School Competition

1. School of Natural Resources & Environment 84.6%
2. College of Engineering 53.0%