



Eckerd College Recycling and Waste Reduction Practices

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History

- Founded by students five years ago
- Progressed from an entirely student run program to a student run program with oversight from the office of Service-Learning
- Grew from primarily residential side to include academic departments and offices
- [Information displayed on Eckerd's sustainability website](#)

Current Program

- Materials collected Monday-Friday 3:00-5:00 p.m.
- Recyclables brought to the central collection facility and sorted
- These items are removed by Recycling Management Solutions and delivered to various local recycling plants
- Currently employs 50 students using the Federal Work Study program



Recycling Education

- EC-MOB (Eckerd College Master of Bin)
- Recycling Awareness Week (R.A.W.)
- Recycling Dorm Competition

RecycleMania

- Nation wide competition between colleges and universities
- Encourages waste measurement- good strategy for making a business case for recycling
- www.recyclemania.org



RecycleMania Recap

- Placed 8th in the nation in the target materials bottles and cans category
- 12.85 pounds of bottles and cans collected per student during the 6th week period
- Next year step up efforts to include all materials- new recycling provider

Zero Waste Campaign- “Reuse the Refuse”

- End of the year student move out generates a lot of waste
- Attempt to capture this waste by recycling, donating, and reusing as much material as possible
- Dorm collection centers and volunteers (50 in total)

Zero Waste Recap

- Filled large Goodwill 4 times
- Delivered 50 boxes of food and toiletries to St Pete Free Clinic
- Donated 60 boxes of books to Better World Books and Haslam's bookstore
- Recycled the majority of waste generated during the week



Challenges

- Resources (recycling bins)
 - [Coca Cola Bin Grant](#)
- Lack of facilities involvement- program not functional during summertime and student breaks
- Recycling facility



Future

- Resources- appropriate and sufficient number of bins
- Recycling processing center
 - [University of Colorado Boulder](#)
- Some facilities involvement to facilitate academic and summer collection
- Office waste reduction focus groups

The Essentials

- Communication!
- Unique educational methods (R.A.W.)
- Total campus involvement
- Find ways to encourage and recognize

