

An electronic newsletter produced by GA Tech's Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling (OSWM&R)

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Game Day Recycling End of Season Update

The Game Day Recycling (GDR) program recently wrapped a successful fourth season on November 26. Since 2008, Georgia Tech's Game Day Recycling program has been making home football



A total of 24.1 tons of bottles, cans and food waste were diverted from the landfill during the 2011 football season!

games more green by diverting plastic bottles, glass bottles, and aluminum cans from the landfill. Fans use blue bags given out by student volunteers and GT Facilities staff to recycle while they are tailgating, and they have access to nearly 200 green and white recycling bins, which are located along pedestrian walkways and inside Bobby Dodd Stadium.

On game days, recycling also takes place behind the scenes. During stadium cleanup, plastic bottles and cups left behind in the stands are

collected separately from the trash and recycled. Last year, food waste composting from the stadium's suites was introduced.

Each season the total amount of waste diverted from the landfill through the GDR program has

increased. A total of <u>24.1 tons</u> were diverted in 2011, which is a 15% increase from last season. You can see a graph of the GDR results in the <u>Recycling Statistics</u> section on page 3.

GDR would not be possible with out the help of volunteers and sponsors. The Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling (OSWM&R) would like to take this opportunity to



The OSWM&R would like to thank all of the fans and volunteers who participated in the Game Day Recycling program this season.

Recycling (OSWM&R) would like to take this opportunity to send a heartfelt thank you to all of our student volunteers, corporate sponsors, and members of the Game Day Recycling committee.

OSWM&R Year-End Update

2011 has been a busy and productive year for the Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling!

Recycling Service Improvements

Several improvements were made to the campus recycling infrastructure, including the addition of new recycling sites and upgrades to existing ones. When students, faculty and staff returned from winter break in January, there were eight new outdoor recycling stations on campus. Infrastructure improvements continued throughout spring semester at the residence hall recycling sites, which received new, updated signage and recycling bins for clear, green, and brown glass.



8 new outdoor recycling sites were added to campus in January.

Program Updates and Highlights

The OSWM&R has several special programs throughout the year to capture the recyclable materials generated during particular events, such as student move-out and football games.



More than 3,000 people participated in Georgia Tech's 14th annual Earth Day Celebration on April 22. The celebration was the grand finale of a weeklong series of environmental events that included and eco-fashion show and documentary film screenings.

During student move out in May, when more than 6,000 students moved out of their residence hall rooms, the OSWM&R made it possible for them to donate

reusable items that they no longer needed. Bins were set up for students to drop off everything from clothing to housewares and nonperishable food. A total of 3,200 pounds of donations were collected, sorted and distributed to local charities.

Then in August, when students moved back in, the OSWM&R recycled their used cardboard moving boxes – 14,535 pounds in just one week! During fall semester our biggest initiative is Game Day Recycling. This season a total of 24.1 tons of bottles, cans, and food waste were recycled or composted at Georgia Tech's seven home football games, up 15% from 2010 (21 tons).



14,353 pounds of cardboard were collected in a single week during fall semester student move in.

New Faces

This year we added two full-time staff members to our team. Nick Giles joined the OSWM&R as a Recycling Specialist II. We also welcomed David Pina as a Recycling Specialist I.



Congratulations to Tom and Heart , who each completed a certificate program in 2011.

Staff Accomplishments and Recognition

Cindy Jackson, Associate Director of the OSWM&R, was recognized by the Undergraduate Student Government Association, which presented her with the Lee Wilcox Servant Leadership Award at the Up With the White and Gold awards ceremony.

Two of our staff members completed certificate programs through the Office of Organizational Development this year. Congratulations to Heart Hodges, Administrative Professional II, for completing the Office Professional Certificate Program, and to Tom Martin, Foreman, for meeting the requirements of the Management and Supervisory Certificate Program.



You Can Help With Planning Georgia Tech's 15th Annual Earth Day Celebration

Join the Earth Day planning committee!

Next meeting:
Friday, January 13th, 2012
in the Student Center, Room 343

11:30am – 12:30pm
Be sure to bring your green thinking caps!



ASK ENVIRO-MAN

Question: The weather is changing and I was hoping to update my wardrobe in a "sustainable" way. Do you have any suggestions?

> Answer: An inexpensive and sustainable way to shop is to buy secondhand clothing from consignment shops and thrift stores. You can search for local stores at http://www.consignmentshops.com. Remember to complete the loop by donating any unwanted clothing to thrift stores or find one of the many clothing drives which

pop up during the holiday season. There are also several websites that make it easy to buy green clothing from home. A few you could try are Loopt Works, at http://www.looptworks.com/, which makes clothing entirely out of leftover fabric that would have otherwise been thrown away. Element Ecowear, at http://www.elementecowear.com/, is a shop which is dedicated to organic clothing. Also try Jute and Jackfruit, at http://www.juteandjackfruit.com/, which not only sells organic clothing, but also clothing and handbags made from recycled materials.

To ask Enviro-Man a question, click here.

Meet the Team

"Meet the Team" is a monthly feature that gives you an opportunity to go behind the scenes to meet the staff of the OSWM&R and learn a little more about who we are and what we do.

Season's Greetings!

The fall 2011 semester is coming to a close and the long awaited holiday break will soon be upon us. The excitement of the holiday season in not lost on the OSWM&R and everyone is looking forward to the break.

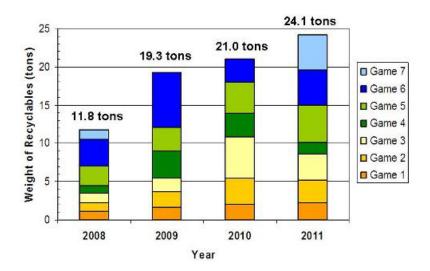
What aspect of the upcoming break are you most looking forward to?

Here at the office Cindy, Tom, Bud, and Marco are all just looking forward to the time over the break to relax and not worry about work. David is excited about the chance to sleep in. Karl is optimistically hoping for snow, while Rod is awaiting the festive lights, decorations, and trees which appear during the holiday season. Heart is happy spending her break reconnecting with friends and Maria plans to spend time with family. Nick and Luke are excited about the food and family present at their respective holiday dinners.

The staff of the OSWM&R wishes everyone a fun and happy holiday season!

Game Day Recycling Statistics

The graph below shows the weight of materials diverted from the landfill during each of Georgia Tech's home football games and tailgates since the Game Day Recycling program began in 2008. The program targets bottles and cans generated by tailgaters and inside the stadium. Food waste from the stadium's suites is also composted. During the 2011 season a total of 24.1 tons of materials were collected, which is a 15% from last year!



Upcoming Events

Keep Atlanta Beautiful - Community Recycling Center

320 Irwin St. Atlanta, GA

Saturday, December 10, 2011 and January 13, 2012 (10:00 am – 3:00 pm) 2nd Saturday of each month

Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Creative Recycling Solutions host a monthly recycling drive for household electronic waste, office equipment and paper. Free, secure paper shredding is now available courtesy of Iron Mountain. Personal computers, monitors, stereos, microwaves, vacuums, telephones, keyboards, mice, printers, and scanners are accepted free of charge. There is a \$10 fee for televisions, cash only. For a complete list of accepted items, go to http://www.keepatlantabeautiful.org/programs/e-scrap.asp.

Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable

All Saints Episcopal Church – Ellis Hall 634 West Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA

Friday, January 6, 2011 (7:30 – 9:00 am)
Cost: \$10 - \$20, includes continental breakfast and beverage

A recent wave of change has resulted in a number of new faces at a host of environmental organizations in Atlanta and in Georgia. These new leaders bring fresh perspectives, boundless energy and a rolodex of new connections. Join us as we turn our focus to a gathering of environmental leaders — those new to the job, as well as some of our more experienced leaders — in a "town hall meeting" format. Veteran journalist Maria Saporta will serve as moderator, guiding us through a discussion that explores this opportunity to build community and advance sustainability in our city, state and region.

MLK Lecture Featuring Myrlie Evers-Williams

Georgia Tech Student Center Ballroom, Atlanta, GA Wednesday, January 11, 2011 (3:00 pm – 4:30 pm)

The Office of Institute Diversity opens the 2012 Georgia Tech Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration with a keynote address from civil rights leader Myrlie Evers-Williams. As the widow of the murdered civil rights leader Medgar Evers and the first fulltime chair of the NAACP, Myrlie Evers-Williams has a lifetime of personal and professional memories and experiences associated with the civil rights movement. She has spent her life preserving the memory of Medgar Evers and fighting for social justice. The 2012 Georgia Tech Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration continues with a variety of events from January 11 – 21.

Comments and Suggestions

If you have any questions or suggestions about our program, please feel free to contact us by simply replying to this <u>newsletter</u>. We are here to help, and together, we can work to benefit the environment.

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Visit Our Website

As part of our effort to provide you with better services we continually update our website. Recycling quidelines and useful links can be found at www.recycle.gatech.edu.