



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

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Recycling Tips

The long lines at coffee shops and carts around campus are a sure sign that the spring semester is in full swing. Thousands of hot beverages are consumed on campus everyday, and most of those are served in disposable cups. Paper coffee cups have a thin plastic coating on the inside and are not recyclable. You can reduce your environmental impact by bringing along a reusable mug. Watch this ["Quick Tips" video](#) by The Urban Conversion to learn more.

Help Plan Georgia Tech's 15th Annual Earth Day Celebration

Georgia Tech's annual Earth Day Celebration is one of the most highly anticipated campus events during spring semester. The event is free and open to the public, and features 70 exhibitors, eco-friendly giveaways, recycling opportunities, a clothing swap, an office supply exchange, live music, a green market, free organic popcorn and more. With an annual participation of more than 3,000 people, this is one of the largest Earth Day celebrations in the southeast.



Georgia Tech students, faculty, and staff are invited to join the Earth Day Planning Committee. Members are expected to attend weekly meetings during the spring semester (on Fridays from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM) and actively participate in the planning of the 15th Annual Earth Day Celebration and Think Green Week events, which will be held on campus from April 16 – 20, 2012.



Don't miss the 15th Annual Earth Day Celebration on April 20, 2012, from 10 am-3 pm, on Tech Walk.

If you are interested in joining the Earth Day Planning Committee, please join us on Fridays from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM in Student Center room 343. Upcoming meetings are on January 13th and January 20th. For more information contact Cindy Jackson at cindy.jackson@facilities.gatech.edu or visit the GT Earth Day website: www.earthday.gatech.edu.

Residence Hall Recycling Initiatives

On November 7, 2011 the Peer Leaders from three East Campus Freshman Experience residence halls (Cloudman, Harrison and Howell) hosted a “Green is the New Black” fashion show, which showed looks from a consignment shop called Poor Little Rich Girl located in downtown College Park. The models were all residents and/or student staff members residing in the area. Their goals were to bring awareness to sustainability causes that some students may not think about, such as vintage/second hand clothing. Facts were given out about the cost and resources used to produce new clothing, and also about sustainability efforts around campus and housing in particular. Sherry Grace, Residence Hall Director of Cloudman, Harrison and Howell, says “The residents had a lot of fun doing their part in bringing awareness to the issue and staying fashion forward while doing so.”



Some of the looks from the “Green is the New Black” fashion show, hosted by Freshman Experience Peer Leaders.

Help Cut Back on Recycling Contamination



No pizza boxes, please!

Certain materials have a tendency to make their way into campus recycling bins, even though they are not recyclable. One of these items is pizza boxes. Many people feel bad about throwing them away, since they are made out of cardboard. Used pizza boxes, however, are contaminated with grease and food residue, and are not recyclable. Putting them in the recycling bin actually does more harm than good. The pizza boxes have to be pulled out by hand, otherwise our cardboard may be rejected when it is delivered to the recycling facility. Since the food residue and oils are not removed or destroyed in the recycling process, grease from pizza boxes can ruin an entire batch of recycled fiber. Now that you have the facts, please make sure not to put pizza boxes in the recycling bin! Used pizza boxes are classified as trash, and should be put in the trash can.



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

Join the Earth Day planning committee!

Meeting are Fridays (11:30am – 12:30pm)
in the Student Center room 343

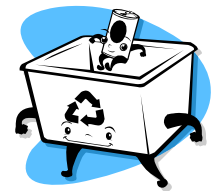
Upcoming Meetings: January 13th, 20th, and 27th

Be sure to bring your green thinking caps!



ASK ENVIRO-MAN

Question: My department has some confidential/sensitive documents that need to be destroyed. How can we recycle and not waste that paper?



To ask Enviro-Man a question, [click here](#).

Answer: When a department has documents to shred, follow these simple steps: (1.) Pack up all material in boxes, seal them and mark the boxes “Confidential/Sensitive”. A maximum of 25 boxes are permitted. (2.) Email Heart Hodges and place a request for the confidential boxes to be picked up: heartense.hodges@facilities.gatech.edu. (3.) Your boxes will be picked up by the OSWM&R and taken off campus by a certified vendor to be shredded and recycled.

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.



David Pina, Campus Recycling Specialist I

The OSWM&R is pleased to introduce one of the newest members of our team, David Pina. David has been with the OSWM&R for six months. Originally from Boston, he moved to Atlanta six years ago. He prefers the warmer climate here, and doesn’t miss the cold New England winters one bit.

➤ *What do you enjoy most about your job?*
My coworkers. I work with a great group of people.

➤ *What is something everyone should do while at Tech?*
Go to the pool at the CRC and go down the slide. I have to confess that I’ve never actually done it myself (I’m afraid of heights), but my daughters love it! They ask me to bring them almost every weekend.

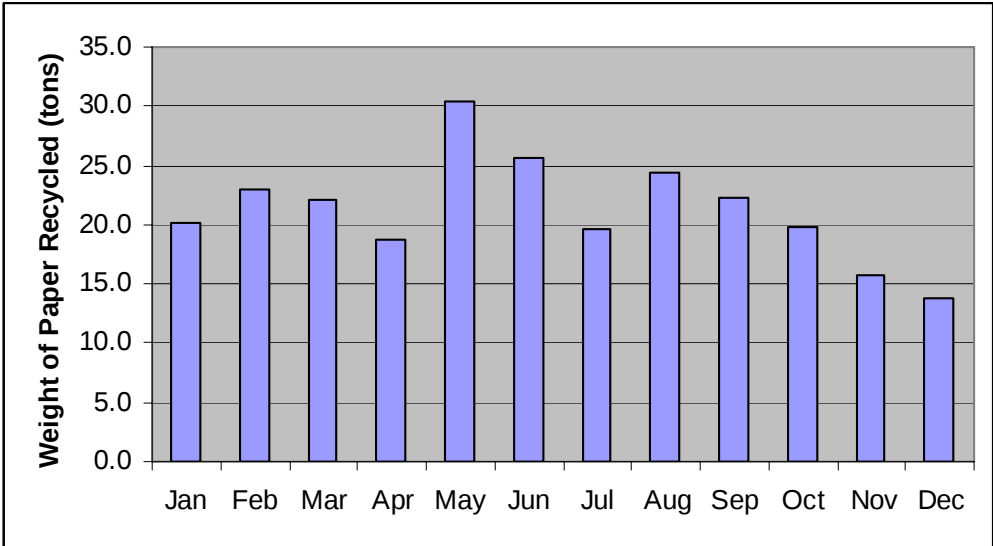
➤ *What are some of your interests outside of work?*
I enjoy watching sports and playing golf. Another one of my hobbies is cooking. I like experimenting with new recipes that I haven’t tried before.

➤ *What are you cooking for dinner tonight?*
Whatever my kids request! It can be anything, sometimes they want breakfast for dinner. Their favorite, though, is ribs. That’s another thing I will just have to take their word on, since I don’t eat pork myself; I just make it for them.

Georgia Tech Waste Diversion Statistics

Georgia Tech’s Atlanta campus recycled 256 tons of mixed office paper in 2011. That’s an average of 5.2 tons for each of the Wednesday paper pickups! You can see on the graph below that paper recycling varies somewhat from month to month. It is highest at the end of spring semester and beginning of fall semester.

Georgia Tech Mixed Office Paper Recycling 2011



Upcoming Events

[Keep Atlanta Beautiful – Community Recycling Center](#)

320 Irwin St. Atlanta, GA

January 14, 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.keeptatlantabeautiful.org/programs/e-scrap.asp>.

[Georgia Tech Leadership Conference 2012](#)

Klaus Atrium, Georgia Tech's Atlanta Campus, Atlanta, GA

Saturday, January 21, 2012 (9:00 am – 2:30 pm)

Hosted by the Georgia Tech chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, the 2012 Georgia Tech Leadership Conference (GTLC) will take place Saturday, January 21, 2012, in the Klaus Advanced Computing Building Atrium.

GTLC will feature several speakers, workshops and activities aimed to develop students' leadership skills, with Dan Cathy, president and chief operating officer of Chick-fil-A, as the keynote. The conference will also feature a panel of to offer further insight into this year's theme of Innovation & Service.

Registration is \$15 until January 18th and \$20 at the door. Meals and a leather padfolio are included in registration fee. Register [online](#).

[Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable](#)

All Saints Episcopal Church – Ellis Hall

634 West Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA

Friday, February 3, 2011 (7:30 – 9:00 am)

Cost: \$10 - \$20, includes continental breakfast and beverage

Presented by [Southface](#), the Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable is a monthly discussion forum. The topic for February is "Georgia's General Assembly Update." The cost is \$10 for students. For non-students, the cost is \$15 for advance purchase, and \$20 at the door. Continental breakfast and beverage are included.

Doors open at 7:00 am for networking; the roundtable discussion is from 7:30 – 9:00 am.

Comments and Suggestions

If you have any questions or suggestions about our program, please feel free to contact us by simply replying to this [newsletter](#). We are here to help, and together, we can work to benefit the environment.

Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling

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Visit Our Website

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