



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

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Recycling Tips

Homemade lemonade is a summertime favorite for many people. Did you know that the leftover lemon peels can be reused in a variety of ways? Earth911 has compiled a list of 10 creative uses for citrus scraps that don't involve composting. You can make an eco-friendly enzyme cleaner, all-natural insect repellent, or even use the lemon rinds to brighten clothes. To see the full list, with pictures and instructions, go to [Earth911.com](#).

Klaus Recycling Alcove Gets New Look

The recycling alcove opposite room 1443 in the Klaus building received a complete makeover during spring semester. The alcove was previously decorated with facts and figures about recycling at Tech and unfortunately, much of the information was out of date. Undergraduate students Heidi Vreelend, Sarah Horsley, and several of their friends volunteered their time to update the space. Tasked with updating the display, Heidi and Sarah chose to redesign it altogether. They decided to paint a mural, which would be attention grabbing and maintenance free.



Undaunted by taking on a much bigger project than the one they had originally signed up for, Sarah and Heidi recruited their friends to help. The students worked on the mural throughout spring semester as their schedules allowed. After taking a break for finals, they returned to add the finishing touches at the beginning of summer semester. Now the alcove boasts a lively mural that promotes recycling with an assortment of colorful Pokémon characters. The next time you are in the Klaus building, make sure to stop by and take a look!

Georgia Tech Shares Knowledge

2012 marks the 15th anniversary of Georgia Tech's recycling program. The OSWM&R has come a long way from its humble beginnings in 1997, when it started off with just one employee and a handful of recycling bins scattered around campus. Today, Georgia Tech's award winning recycling programs have solidified the Institute's reputation as a recycling leader among colleges and universities nationwide. The OSWM&R frequently receives requests from other schools, who reach out to learn about our best practices and lessons learned along the way. In February, the OSWM&R was invited by Georgia Perimeter College to give a presentation to their Facilities Management staff. This spring the OSWM&R also visited Spelman College and met with their recycling program staff to give advice and exchange ideas. "The meetings are a win-win," says Cindy Jackson, Associate Director of the OSWM&R. "I always learn something new that I can take back to Georgia Tech."

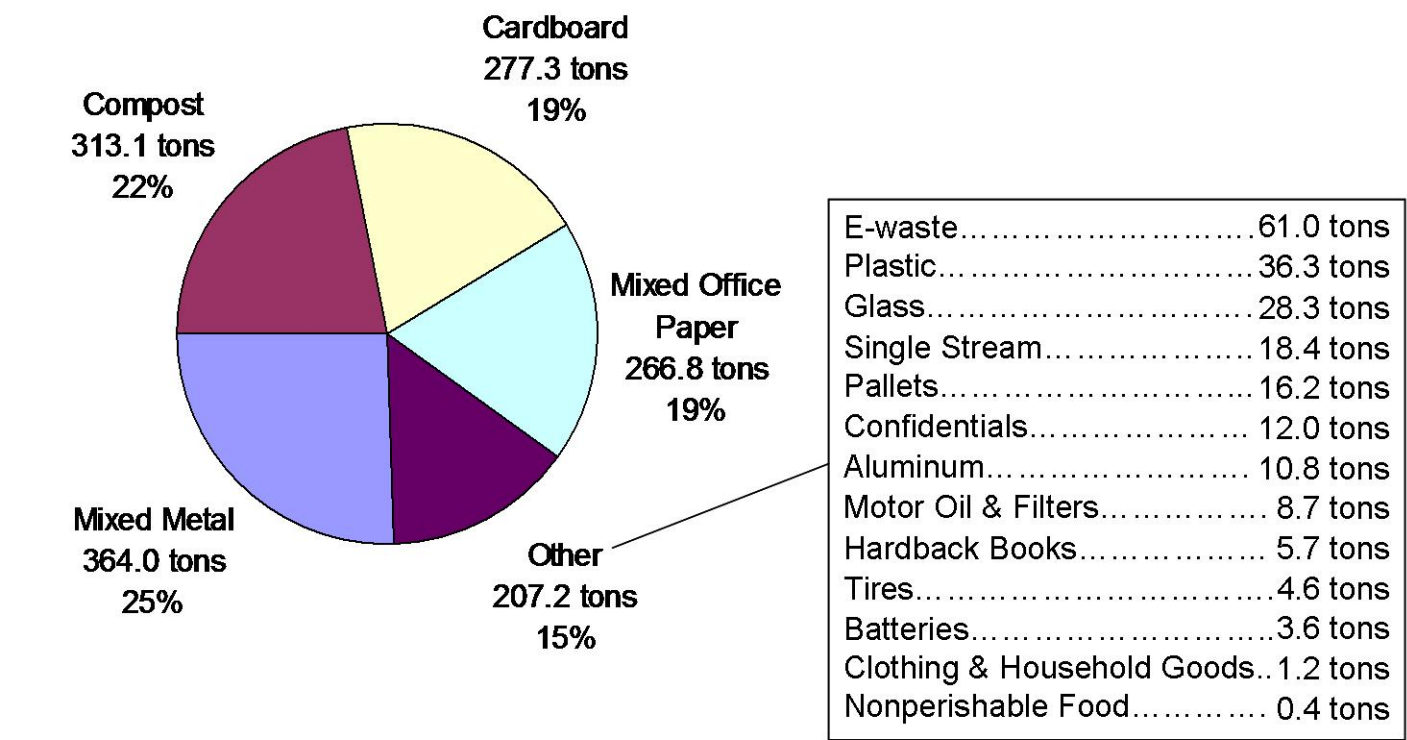


From left to right: OSWM&R Associate Director Cindy Jackson, Elemental Impact Founder Holly Elmore, Georgia World Congress Sustainability Coordinator Tim Trefzer, and OSWM&R Campus Recycling Coordinator Maria Linderoth in the GT Student Center during a campus recycling tour.

The OSWM&R also hosts visitors for meetings at Georgia Tech. Georgia State University's recycling specialist and student assistant took a tour of campus recycling facilities last month, and in February we hosted the Georgia World Congress Center's Sustainability Coordinator, Tim Trefzer, and Elemental Impact founder, Holly Elmore. Georgia Tech and the Georgia World Congress Center are both members of Atlanta's Zero Waste Zone (ZWZ). The goal of the ZWZ is to divert the maximum amount of recyclable items and organic matter from landfills and back into the production cycle. There are five criteria that ZWZ members must commit to, including collecting common recyclables, collecting spent cooking grease for the production of bio-fuel, and composting food waste. Georgia Tech is the first college/university ZWZ member in the metro Atlanta area.

Georgia Tech Waste Diversion Statistics

The chart below shows a summary of the recyclable, compostable, and reusable materials collected at Georgia Tech from January - December 2011 (a total of 1,428 tons).



Student Move Out Solid Waste Report Posted

The May newsletter reported that 3,998 pounds of food and household goods were donated by Georgia Tech students during spring 2012 move-out. This is only a portion of all the materials discarded by students at the end of spring semester. Students also generate a significant amount of trash and recycling as they clean out their rooms. Trash placed in dumpsters or temporary roll-offs is taken to the landfill. The OSWM&R attempts to divert as much waste as possible from the landfill and reduce trash removal costs by giving students the option of recycling or donating items that they don't want to keep. Approximately 8,311 students moved out or switched rooms during the spring 2012 move-out (7,111 in the residence halls and 1,200 in the Greek houses). A total of 104.5 tons of trash (25.1 pounds per student) were generated during the week of move-out, and the trash removal cost was \$12,433.60. Recycling and donations totaled 6.2 tons (1.5 pounds per student). You can download the complete report from the OSWM&R website.



ASK ENVIRO-MAN



Question: I heard that there is a community garden on campus. Where is it located and how can I get involved?

Answer: Students Organizing for Sustainability (SOS) recently constructed a raised bed community garden on the IC lawn, adjacent to the southeast side of the Instructional Center. Volunteers are needed to help water and maintain the garden throughout the summer. For more information, please contact Georgia Wang at gwang42@gatech.edu or visit the SOS website at <http://www.sos.gatech.edu/> (click on “events/projects” and then “SOS Community Garden”).

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

Recycling Is Not Always Serious Business

The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) has produced a recycling video featuring Millie, the Recycle Kitty. According to the IBWA website:



“Millie McMaster looks like just an ordinary house cat, but few people know her secret -- she's really an eco-friendly kitty who is dedicated to rescuing empty plastic bottles from garbage bins and putting them in recycling bins. In this video Millie McMaster transforms into Recycle Kitty who proves what every human being on earth should already know: If a kitty cat can recycle, you can too! Always recycle and encourage others to do so.”

Click on the image above to watch *The Adventures of Recycle Kitty* (2 min & 38 sec).

Upcoming Events

[Flicks on 5th](#)

5th Street Bridge (Spring Street at 5th Street), Atlanta GA

Wednesday nights in June

Remaining Dates: June 20 and 27, 2012

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Cost: Free!

The 7th Annual Flicks on 5th Summer Film Series is taking place during the month of June. This free admission summer film series is held on Wednesday nights on the 5th Street Bridge in the heart of Technology Square (Spring Street at 5th Street). Enjoy dinner specials from participating 5th Street restaurants and free popcorn while supplies last. Grab a lawn chair or blanket and share this one of a kind experience of watching movies in the streets of Midtown with the picturesque skyline as a backdrop.

[Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable](#)

All Saints Episcopal Church – Ellis Hall

634 West Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA

Friday, July 13, 2012 (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 July is "The Transportation Referendum and Transit." Join Southface for a conversation with Dr. Beverly Scott (General Manager/CEO, MARTA), Bill Floyd (Mayor, City of Decatur), and Doug Hooker (Executive Director, Atlanta Regional Commission) to discuss the metro Atlanta transportation referendum and its impacts on transit.

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

320 Irwin St. Atlanta, GA

July 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, polystyrene foam, latex paint, 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/Recycling.asp>.

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.