



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

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Recycling Tips

Reusable shopping bags are a great way to keep polyethylene film out of the landfill and the environment. Plastic grocery bags can easily circulate through the environment, causing a host of problems. One notable example is the consumption of plastic bags by sea turtles. Sea turtles mistake the floating bags for jellyfish and eat them.

If you forget your reusable bag when you go shopping, please make sure to recycle your plastic grocery bags. The closest recycling locations to Georgia Tech are the Target and Publix at Atlantic Station, and the Tech Square Publix.

Recycling 101- Plastic and Aluminum

'Recycling 101' is a four-part series that takes an in depth look at the major recycling programs on campus. This month the focus is on plastic and aluminum. Together plastic and aluminum represent only about four percent of the recycled waste stream (by weight), but they generate a rather significant amount of income. Plastic sells for \$0.01 per pound and aluminum sells for \$0.06 per pound and with an approximate weight of 8,000 pounds of aluminum and 34,000 pounds of plastic per month the sums really add up! Help us recover as many recyclables as possible by making sure that you are putting the correct materials in each of the bins:

Plastic Bottles & Containers

X NO plastic bags, plastic wrap or Styrofoam

The plastic recycling bins on campus accept rigid plastic bottles and containers #1-7. This includes soda bottles, detergent bottles, disposable plastic cups, and clean plastic to-go containers. Things like plastic forks, plastic bags, and Styrofoam are not accepted in the plastic recycling program at this time. (Please note that only plastics #1 & 2 are accepted at North Avenue Apartments.)

Aluminum Cans

X NO foil, tin cans, pots & pans, or silverware

Aluminum beverage cans are the only item accepted in the aluminum recycling containers. Please make sure not to place tin, soup cans, or aluminum foil in the aluminum recycling bins. We want to thank all the students, faculty, staff, and visitors on the Georgia Tech campus for recycling and urge you to participate in the future.

Game Day Recycling Kicks Off

A new semester has begun and September 1 marks the first Georgia Tech home football game! Football games bring thousands of people onto campus and generate tons of trash. Since 2008, Georgia Tech's Game Day Recycling program has been making the games more green by diverting plastic bottles, glass bottles, and aluminum cans from the landfill during home football games and tailgates.

If you are tailgating, you can place your bottles and cans in the blue bags that will be given out by volunteers, then just leave the bags on the ground. They will be picked up by Georgia Tech's Recycling staff the following morning. Recycling bins will also be set up in and around Bobby Dodd Stadium.

At each home football game we will be searching for a "Green Tailgater of the Game" who will be featured on the JumboTron. Use the Georgia Tech [Green Tailgating Guide](#) for inspiration and get noticed!



Green Greeters promote recycling outside Bobby Dodd Stadium.



Volunteer registration is now open! It takes many people to reach out to the 40,000 or more fans who attend each game. Volunteers are the main reason the Game Day Recycling program is so successful. You can help by distributing blue bags to tailgaters or greeting fans as they go into the stadium. The commitment is typically an hour or less, and all volunteers are finished by the start of the game. Volunteers receive free T-shirts, free food, and a chance to win great prizes! For more information and to sign up visit www.recycle.gatech.edu.

You can also connect with Georgia Tech Game Day Recycling on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



Student Move In Cardboard Recycling

Fall semester student move-in took place the week of August 15th. More than 8,000 thousand students moved into Georgia Tech's residence halls and Greek houses, bringing thousands of cardboard moving boxes with them. Each fall, the OSWM&R manages a cardboard collection program during student move-in, to make sure that the boxes are recycled. The OSWM&R used bright orange construction fencing to mark off fifteen highly visible cardboard drop-off areas throughout the residential areas of campus. The drop-off sites were marked with signs that read "Cardboard Only," and as a precautionary measure, "No Cardboard" signs were also placed on every garbage dumpster. Staff members of the OSWM&R monitored the sites and picked up cardboard several times each day.



This year marks the 15th consecutive year for the move-in cardboard recycling program. A total of 14,535 pounds of cardboard were recycled during Fall 2011 move-in. The program consistently has a high participation rate, primarily due to the visibility and convenient location of the recycling sites. One of the many questions on students' minds as they move in is "Where do I dispose of my cardboard boxes?" By placing drop-off sites directly outside the residence halls, the OSWM&R makes moving a little bit easier and encourages recycling at the same time. It's a win-win situation, which has proven very successful. As we start a new academic year, the OSWM&R would like to send a very warm welcome to the class of 2015, and a welcome back to our returning students. Have a wonderful year and thank you for recycling!



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.



Luke Chambers, *Student Assistant*

The OSWM&R is pleased to welcome Luke Chambers as our student assistant for the 2011-2012 academic year. Luke is a third year Environmental Engineering major. He joined our team in July, and has been busy over the summer working on Game Day Recycling, tabling at FASET, and taking care of our vermi-composting bins.

➤ *How does working in the recycling office fit with your overall academic goals?*

I plan to work in the waste management field, particularly with recycling, so this is a great fit for me. I am interested in finding out new and more efficient ways to handle and process materials. I am also trying to understand the reasons why people do or don't recycle.

➤ *What do you enjoy most about your job?*

I enjoy going out on campus and picking up the food scraps for our worm composting bins. It gives me a chance to be out of the office and meet new people. I also like that I am able to work on a variety of projects and can get a behind the scenes look at the recycling operations.

➤ *What have you learned while working at the OSWM&R?*

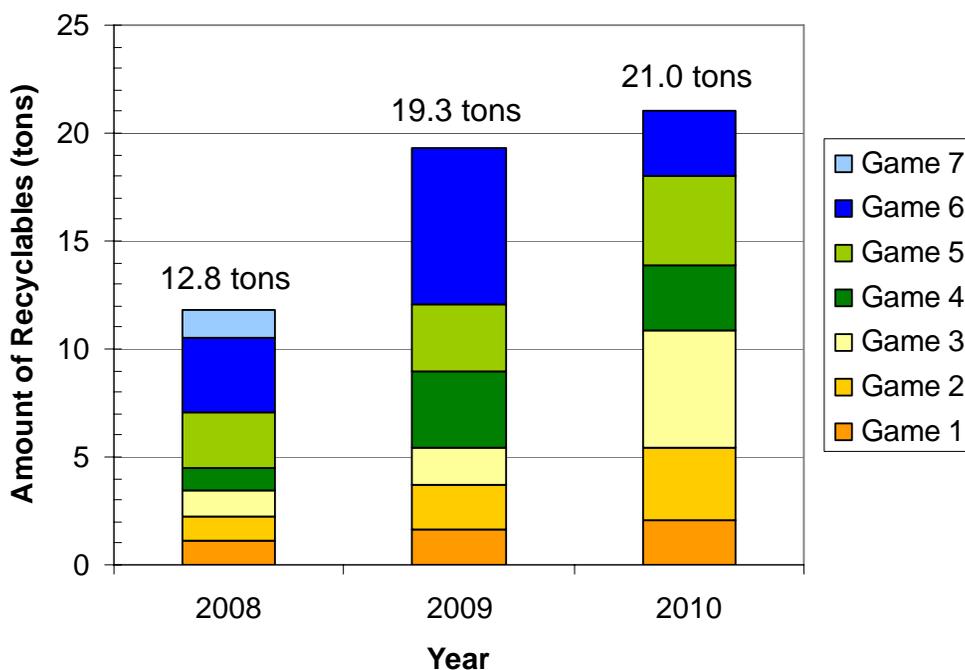
Georgia Tech collects many more recyclable materials than I realized. I knew about the paper, plastic, glass, and cardboard, and plastic collections, but I didn't know about the E-waste, for example. Used electronics from offices and labs on campus are recycled through Surplus. A considerable amount of mixed metals are also recycled on campus, such as metal shelving, desks, file cabinets, etc. from renovation projects.

➤ *Tell us about an exciting project that you are working on now.*

Game Day Recycling is my favorite program. It makes recycling bottles and cans during home football games and tailgates very convenient. When you make recycling easy, people are more than happy to participate. If you have an hour to spare before the game, you should volunteer! Volunteers are needed at each of the seven home games this season, to give out blue recycling bags to tailgaters and greet fans as they go into the stadium. It is a lot of fun and does a lot of good. Don't miss your chance to get a free Game Day Recycling T-shirt!

Georgia Tech Game Day Recycling Statistics, 2008 – 2010

The chart 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's inception in 2008.



ASK ENVIRO-MAN

Question: I'm new to Georgia Tech. What opportunities exist for getting involved with environmental issues on campus?

Answer: In addition to participating in the recycling program in your dorm and around campus, there are several student organizations and programs available. For information on what to recycle and where, visit www.recycle.gatech.edu. Prior to home football games you can volunteer for [Game Day Recycling](#). This program targets the waste generated by football fans and has great incentives. Below is a list of student organizations which might be of interest to you:



Engineers Without Borders (EWB) ewb-gt.org
Hannah Kates (hannah.b.kates@gmail.com)

Students Organizing for Sustainability (SOS) sosatgatech@gmail.com
Alice Shen (ashen6@gatech.edu)

Environmental Alliance at Georgia Tech (EAGT)
EAatGT@gmail.com

Bicycle Infrastructure Improvement Committee (BIIC) http://bike.gatech.edu/?page_id=681
Johann Weber (johannw@gatech.edu)

Student Government Association Sustainability Committee (SGA) <http://www.sga.gatech.edu/green>
Mindy Kao (mkao6@gatech.edu)

Georgia Tech Student Alumni Association (SAA) <http://qtsaa.com/>
DaNae Robinson ([drobinson19@gatech.edu](mailto:d Robinson19@gatech.edu))

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

GREEN FARMER'S MARKET

TECH WALKWAY
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS SKILES)

OPEN EVERY THURSDAY
11AM - 2PM

SEPTEMBER 1ST - NOVEMBER 17TH

SPONSORED BY: Georgia Tech Dining Services Georgia Tech Student Center

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.GATECHDINING.COM

Upcoming Events

[Game Day Recycling Kicks Off 4th Season – Volunteers Needed](#)

Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA

Thursday, September 1, 2011 (4:30 pm, 6:00 pm, and 6:30 pm)

The first football game of the 2011 season is September 1! Tailgaters, keep an eye out for Game Day Recycling volunteers who will be distributing blue bags for bottles and cans. If you have an hour to spare before the game, sign up to volunteer! Volunteers are needed to pass out the blue bags and to greet fans as they go into the stadium. The volunteer commitment is one hour, and volunteers receive a free T-shirt, free food, and are eligible to win great prizes! Volunteers are also needed September 17 and 24. Times vary. For more information and to sign up go to www.recycle.gatech.edu.

[Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable](#)

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

Friday, September 9, 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. This month's topic is *The Future of Alternatively Fueled Vehicles in Georgia*. The session will be moderated by Commissioner Tim Echols (*Georgia Public Service Commission*), and the speakers are Ian Skelton (*Atlanta Gas Light's Natural Gas Vehicle program*), and Don Francis (*Clean Cities Atlanta*).

[Park\(ing\) Day](#)

Fifth Street at Tech Square, Atlanta, GA

Friday, September 16 (9:00 pm - 3:00 pm)

Cost: Free!

Come out to Park(ing) Day, an international event where metered parking spaces transform into miniature parks for the public! Park(ing) Day will take place Friday, September 16th in metered parking spots along Fifth Street in Tech Square from 9am until 3pm. The students of the College of Architecture invite you to come by our miniature parks to hang out and visualize how urban space can be used for public spaces, green spaces, and other uses. Last year's event was Georgia Tech's first Park(ing) Day, which offered a morning yoga session and a green space for passersby to stop and hang out and eat their lunches. More details about the event are available at www.planning.gatech.edu. Park(ing) Day was originally invented in 2005 by Rebar, a San Francisco-based art and design studio to challenge people to rethink the way streets are used.

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.

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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.