

RECYCLING PROGRAM OUTLINE:

The Facilities Management department's recycling program is executed by the Custodial Services department for all E&G areas on the following campuses: MMC, BBC, EC, and the Wolfsonian museum.

In addition, there are many other units that play an important role in the universities recycling and waste reduction strategies. Though not all are listed here a few examples are: the Utilities department that plays a critical role in energy reduction, the Plumbing department that plays a critical role in water consumption reduction, the Procurement Services department that plays a critical role in purchasing recycled materials for the university, the Office of University Sustainability that plays a critical role in creating awareness and initiating various programs, and administration which plays a critical role in supporting the university's sustainability efforts. Again, these are only a few examples of the many contributing units.

The University's recycling efforts are governed by the State of Florida under Florida Statute 403.714 and The Florida Solid Waste Management Act of 1988.

The University has a well-established recycling program which exceeds the minimum standards as required by the above-mentioned statute.



SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAM:

FIU has implemented a single stream recycling program which has enhanced our recycling program. This is completed by disposing all recyclable materials in one bin.

In early 2009 Miami-Dade County implemented a single stream residential recycling program. This program allowed residents to dispose all recyclable materials in one bin; instead of three separate bins. This program was possible with the launch of a single stream recycling plant in South Florida operated by Waste Management Corporation.

Shortly after the county launched its program, Facilities Management started evaluating the possibility of implementing a similar program at FIU. In June of 2009, Facilities Management commenced the single stream recycling program at FIU and the program has seen steady growth since then.

Single stream recycling items include:

- Steel, Tin & Aluminum Cans
- Plastic Bottles & Containers
- Office Paper, Brown Paper Bags, Newspaper
- Paper Cardboard, Dairy & Juice Containers
- Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard
- Junk Mail & Magazines

The University absorbs the cost for recycling these items.

Labels on all single stream bins indicate which items are acceptable and which are not for placement into the recycling containers. (See the sample label on the next page).



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Following is a list of items currently being recycled at FIU at varying degrees:

<u>Corrugated paper (cardboard)</u>:

Currently we have eighteen 8-yard containers for the collection of folded cardboard located throughout both MMC and BBC. (AHC-1, AHC-2, AHC-3, MARC, DM, PC, CP/OE, RB, GC, EC, CSC, CBC, GL, PG-5, SIPA, and AC-1). All cardboard containers /compactors are being serviced by a vendor under a recycling bid contract.

The University is absorbing the entire cost for recycling these items.

<u>Wood pallets</u>:

All wood pallets are collected from the different loading zones and taken to our recycling compound. From here the reusable ones are separated from the broken ones. The reusable ones are then recycled in the sense that they are given to our vendors for reuse rather than being thrown into the trash, providing that they pick them up at our compound themselves. This has been very successful and has played a good role in our "reduce and reuse" strategy. *Again the University does absorb the labor cost for the man hours and equipment to collect the pallets around campus.*

• <u>Batteries</u>:

Custodial Services recycles all batteries collected such as lithium batteries, 6-V batteries, 12-V batteries, alkaline batteries, UPS, etc. For example all batteries used in our automatic key lock doors are being recycled. All emergency exit sign batteries are being recycled. All batteries from battery operated hand tools are being recycled. There is a drop of location for students, faculty and staff located at the Campus Support Complex room 1132 at MMC, or at AC-1 room 195 at BBC. These materials are being recycled and picked up for recycling by a local company, currently E-Scrap. *The University absorbs the entire cost for recycling these items.*

• <u>Cartridges and cell phones</u>:

Printer toner cartridges are being recycled and there are various drop-off locations throughout all the main buildings. In addition there is a drop-off location at the Custodial Offices located in the Campus Support Complex room 1132 at MMC, or at AC-1 room 195 at BBC.

• Light bulbs / Ballasts:

All light bulbs as well as electrical ballasts being replaced on the MMC, BBC, and EC campuses are being recycled. Bulbs are packaged in the same boxes that the new bulbs came in. This is done in order to further reduce our footprint and the used bulbs and ballasts are then picked up by a local recycling company, currently E-Scrap, and taken to a recycling plant in Palm Beach County. *The University is absorbing the entire cost for recycling these items*

• Car batteries used oil, oil rags and used tires:

These items are recycled through Vehicle Services. *The University absorbs the entire cost for recycling these items. Note: only car batteries, oil, and used tires used by <u>University vehicles</u> are recycled. For recycling of these items from personal vehicles please use the Dade County Recycling center located within 1 mile from MMC on SW 117th Avenue.*



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Currently we have over 5,000 recycling bins spread out around the campuses.

There are too many bins to be marked on a single map and we have bins inside and outside of buildings. The common rule of where bins are located is as follows:

- a) Small recycling bins inside all offices
- b) Medium size recycling bins by all copy room areas
- c) Medium size single stream recycling bins near vending areas
- d) Medium size single stream recycling bins near elevators
- e) Medium size single stream recycling bins in hallways where classrooms are located
- f) Large single stream recycling bins located at all loading zones of all the buildings
- g) Large single stream recycling bins located at all Athletics facilities (Football, Baseball, Arena)
- h) Large single stream recycling bins located at the Housing complexes on both MMC and BBC campuses (On the exterior placed strategically throughout the housing complex)

All bins used to collect recyclables around the campuses contain recycled content themselves. Depending on the bin type this ranges from 20% to 100% recycled content.

Here are some sample pictures of some of the recycling bins used on campus:





Green Cleaning

Paper Goods:

All paper supplies (toilet tissue, paper roll towel, junior jumbo toilet tissue, and toilet seat covers) in <u>all</u> restrooms on all campuses are green products. These products are not only made from 100% recycled material but had a minimal impact on the environment during manufacturing, and the manufacturing procedures used to produce these recycled materials are environmentally friendly oriented processes as well.

Trash Bags:

All trash liners used by our unit are either biodegradable or contain recycled content.

Cleaning Chemicals:

Most cleaning chemicals to clean our campus facilities bought by the Custodial Services Department are either Green SealTM certified products or carry the EPA "Design for the Environment" certification. We have partnered with 3M to provide a "Cleaned Green" program to all the buildings we service.

Great effort has been spend to reduce the amount of harsh and harmful ingredients in the cleaning chemicals we use.

All cleaning chemicals used by the Custodial Services Department are correctly blended by the use of chemical blend centers. This eliminates immediate contact with the chemicals and ensures proper dilution of the products and prevents over dilution as so often happens when people manually "eyeball" dilution ratios. This is extremely important as even "Green" products can be harmful if not properly used and properly diluted to the correct ratio for its intended use.



Cleaning Equipment:

Most cleaning equipment used by the custodial services unit was purchased with the environment in mind. This means for example that all vacuum cleaners have HEPA filtration and carry the CRI Green Label (Carpet and Rug Institute) certification; all carpet extraction equipment uses 50% less water than previous models and have dual operating modes (low moisture modes) for further reduction in energy and water usage: all floor scrubbers use 50% less water than previous models (Considering that we have a little over 2 million cleanable square feet of carpeted areas alone, this means a significant reduction in water usage); hard floor burnishes have HEPA filtration: and last but not least HOT water is no longer used in our cleaning process which is an additional reduction in energy use.



Contact:

University Custodial Services, Recycling & Solid Waste Management

For further information visit our website: <u>http://facilities.fiu.edu</u> and click on the recycling logo.

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We would like to hear from you! Please send us your comments and suggestions to:

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