

What is recycling?

The definition of recycling is to convert waste into reusable material.

Why is recycling important?

- Helps reduce waste in landfills
- Reduces air and water pollution
- Employment opportunities
- Reduces the need for raw materials
- Recycling requires less energy to make products rather than raw materials
- Conserves natural resources



Environmental Importance

If people do not start to recycle more it can cause a huge negative impact on our environment. Chemicals and greenhouse gases are released into our environment as a result from trash piling up in landfills. An increase in global warming and demolition of habitats are some of the environmentally negative impacts in our community and environment. Recycling minimizes the requirement of raw materials and does not demand as much energy, which aids in the preservation of natural resources.

Further Resources

Styrofoam Recycling at UW

(<https://green.uw.edu/>)

Recycling is Important

(<http://www.recycling-guide.org.uk/>)

Recycling Basics

(<https://www.epa.gov/>)

Waste American University

(<http://www.american.edu/>)

Valencia Cleans Up in Recycle Mania

(<http://news.valenciacollege.edu/>)

Benefits of Recycling

(<https://www.greenandgrowing.org/>)

RecycleMania

(<https://recyclemania.org/>)

Pixabay Pictures

(<https://pixabay.com/>)



The Green Team

University Campus Recycling

We as Longwood Students have noticed a lack of recycling bins on campus and a lack of participation in recycling in general. We suggest that the school makes locations for recycling more available and convenient in order to encourage the campus to recycle more.



Our Mission

To motivate and educate campuses and communities on ways to reduce waste in our environment.

Longwood University

Engl 400

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How can everyone make a difference?

If everyone, including faculty and staff as well as students worked together, every university could become waste free. Recycling is a huge way to positively impact our environment. American University in Washington D.C. has found a way to eliminate waste by implementing a zero waste policy. Under this policy, the university promotes recycling and composting to cover both recyclable items as well as organic material. American University has won national competition, RecycleMania, for their efforts to create a more sustainable practices.



Valencia College in Florida has also found ways to establish a campus wide recycling program to reduce waste. During the eight week RecycleMania competition, Valencia College was able to recycle over 40,000 pounds of recyclables. While Longwood is not a large university, there is still the opportunity to greatly reduce waste by establishing a campus wide recycling effort.

What should you do?

The biggest issue is encouraging participation throughout the campus. We, as a university, need to find a way to involve both students and faculty and create awareness. We also need to work together as a community to increase recycling efforts.

Firstly, each student resident building should have its own recycling indoors. With this, the university could then introduce a competition to see which building could recycle the most. It could just happen once at the beginning of each semester and will then works a reminder that these bins exist and start students on the habit of recycling more.

Common Items to:

Recycle

- Aluminum
- Plastic
- Paper
- Styrofoam
- Glass
- Electronics
- Cardboard

Do Not Recycle

- Dyed Paper
- Plastic Grocery Bags
- Ceramics
- Food
- Clothes
- Pizza Boxes

How does your university benefit?

There are also many organizations that accept recycled cans and plastic bottles for money. It is usually a small amount such a 5 cents per can, but that's more money that you would make off of that can than you would in the garbage. This could be something that clubs and greek organizations do for fundraising. Or if the school board did this they could then use those fundings to buy more (and better) recycling bins on campus.

Today, some universities hold competitions to create sculptures and other forms of artwork out of recycled materials. If more universities participated in more recycling activities like this, it would create more beautiful campuses and bring an even more beautiful and creative aspect towards recycling.

