



Recyclemania Week 5 Update

This Week's Weigh-In

Here are the results for this week's weights:

Landfill waste: 11,060 lbs

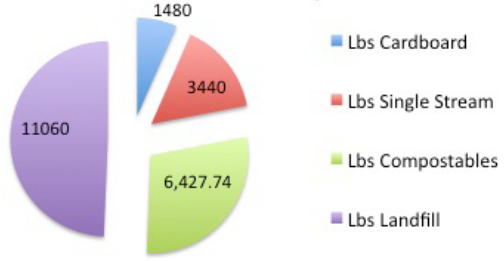
Recycled

Single stream: 3,440 lbs

Cardboard: 1,480 lbs

Compost: 6,427 lbs

Waste Stream Analysis Wk 5



Waste Audit Results

Recyclemania participants along with Evergreen faculty and staff came together for a waste audit this Thursday.

The purpose of the audit was to discover what the percentage of compostable/recyclable materials are wrongly disposed of in the waste bins. Containers were collected



Top: Breezy Medina empties a trash bin into the sort trays.
Bottom: Halli Winstead weighs recyclables found in a waste bin.

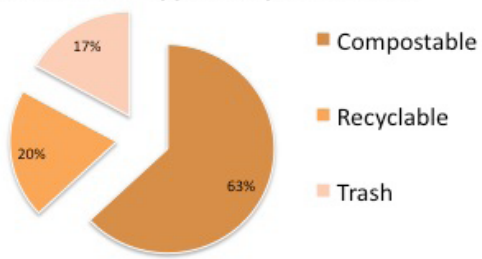
from C-Lot, several locations on Red Square, the Library building, the CAB, and Seminar II. Participants emptied bins into sort trays provided by Thurston County Solid Waste, and sorted the waste into three categories: compostable materials, recyclables, and trash. They weighed the sorted trash and recorded the information on a chalkboard for passers-by to view throughout the day.

Findings indicated that 63% of materials in trash bins are compostable, and another 20% of them are recyclable. This demonstrates significant potential for expanding the compost program, and educating the campus community on how to use it.

The audit was planned as a part of Recyclemania, the campus wide friendly competition encouraging students, and faculty and staff to be more aware of how we dispose of waste materials on campus. The audit that took place last May showed an alarmingly high rate of compostable and recyclable materials that were thrown into trash receptacles.

Audit participants hope that this February's audit serves as an educational forum to students and staff at Evergreen, and promotes dialogue on and off of campus.

Percentage of Compostable, Recyclable, and Waste in Upper Campus Trash Bins



Scott Morgan stopped by during lunchtime to take a look at the data being posted on the chalkboard and visualize the campus waste stream.

Take Back the Tap! www.foodandwaterwatch.org

Bottled Water is not Safer. The federal government required far more rigorous and frequent safety testing of municipal drinking water than bottled water.

Bottled Water is much more Expensive. At \$2 for a 20-ounce container, bottled water costs thousands of times more than tap water.

Bottled Water Hurts the Environment. After millions of barrels of oil are used to produce and ship plastic water bottles, 90% of them land in the garbage instead of the recycle bin.