USC Spring Sustainability Forum

Waste Management

Topics

- recycLA
- University Impacts
- Implementations and Audits
- CALRecycle vs Total Waste Generation
- Questions

recycLA
Make waste history

- July 2017 LA City Franchise
- The City of LA is divided into 11 zones and exclusive contracts are awarded to 7 designated haulers
- January 2018 the City Franchise launches USC into the City mandated franchise known as RecyLA
- RecycLA mandates separation of waste streams on site
- Commercial bins located in outside enclosures are now color coded for each waste stream
- **Black;** trash, **Blue**; co-mingled recycle, and **Green**; food waste/or yard waste
- RecyLA establishes a target of 50% reduction in organic waste from 2014 level by 2020
- Zero Waste target set for 2028 by RecycLA for The City of Los Angeles

How Does the Franchise Impact the University?

In order to meet City mandates and continue to secure our plan of increased waste diversion, FMS, along with the support of The Office of Sustainability, and Housing/Auxiliary Services, have developed the following engagement and learning opportunities:

The Office of Sustainability leads engagement with students and fans alike to “Recycle Right” when tailgating

Auxiliary Services Sustainability Programs Manager, Nichelle Mitchell-Huizar and Catherine Atkinson, Director of Sustainability Affairs, launch pilot program to support participating students in an off-campus housing composting program.

The Office of Sustainability, Ellen Dux and Mark Ewalt, Auxiliary Services, Nichelle, and FMS meet on a regular basis to further discuss training, waste audits, and resources that are essential to achieve an increase in the University’s overall diversion

FMS Implementation and Audits

Multi stream bins: Bins equipped with both recycling and landfill slots. We currently have 2 -stream(landfill and recycling) and 3 -stream(landfill and 2 recycling slots)

Multi stream bins are the first of the resources implemented to aide faculty and staff to “recycle right”

Training provided to front line custodians, in order to evaluate contamination in multi stream bins and to decrease/eliminate contamination in the final destination (outside trash enclosures)

60 exterior recycling receptacles have been placed side by side trash receptacles in McCarthy Quad and The Village; additional 50 receptacles to be placed

Daily visual audits of waste enclosures performed on campus: success has been measured by a decrease in trash and an increase in recycling

In addition visual audits assist in identifying where training and engagement is required to properly recycle

Overall the auditing in a total of 4 enclosures has resulted in training the frontline custodians and kitchen staff, a monthly cost savings of $1400.00, and an increase of 9% in recycling

Multi Stream Bin Installation

94 Installed

43 Installed

Additional 60 Multi Stream To Be Placed

CAL Recycle vs Total Waste Generation

The 2020 Initiative was based on the Cal Recycle calculation diversion rate of 52%.

The University's current diversion based on the same Cal Recycle calculation is 54%

Cal Recycle no longer practices the formula used to set the University's 75% diversion goal Currently, in partnership with RecycLA, diversion is based on a "per capita" calculation and relies on the trash hauler to report these numbers directly to Cal Recycle

In most recent years diversion rate has been based on a total generation formula consisting of MSW, recycling and composting waste and then divided by the total generation of recycled and compost waste This calculation significantly changes the diversion rate of the University to approximately 27%.

The mandates the University has encountered through the City Franchise create a challenge for our 2020 initiative

In order to welcome these changes, we MUST

and continue to engage, educate, identify and REPEAT!

QUESTIONS