

WASTE WATCHER

SPRING 2011



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING ON CAMPUS

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SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCES

Recycling Improvements
Contact PSU Recycles!
725-4300|recycles@pdx.edu

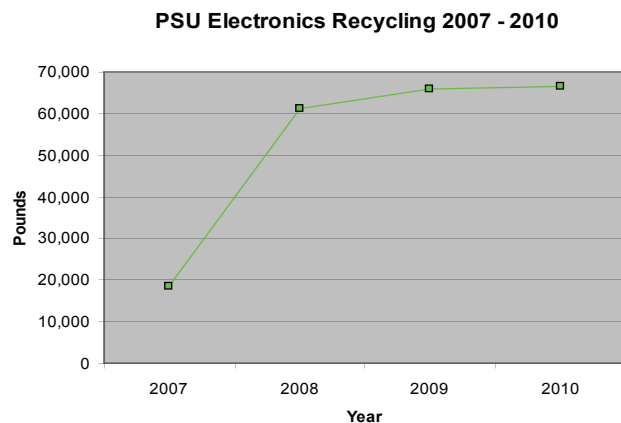
Energy: Data Feedback & Conservation Presentations
Contact the CSO
725-8951|energy@pdx.edu

Start a Green Team
Contact the CSO
725-8951|greencampus@pdx.edu

Online Sustainability Action Hub & Weekly Bulletin
ecowiki.pdx.edu

Sustainability Information for PSU Employees: <http://ecowiki.pdx.edu/content/resources-green-teams>

Please contact greencampus@pdx.edu for ideas and suggestions regarding future issues of Waste Watcher



In 2010, PSU recycled over 66,000 pounds of unwanted electronic devices, including old computers, monitors, televisions, keyboards, and more. The electronics are refurbished for reuse or recycled by Garten Services in Salem. Garten Services is a non-profit organization that employs

people with disabilities, and is committed to triple-bottom-line sustainability. Garten's recycling program guarantees that none of PSU's electronics end up in landfills anywhere in the world.

Computers, monitors, and televisions have been banned from landfills in

Oregon since January 1, 2010. However, PSU has been recycling a wide variety of electronics for several years, from cell phones to servers, copiers to cameras. Even cables and cords can be recycled. Garten estimates that PSU's 2010 electronics recycling reduced greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to taking 15 cars off the road for one year!

Call Facilities and Planning at 5-3738 to have unwanted campus electronics properly recycled. Visit the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's website to learn how to recycle your personal and home electronics: deq.state.or.us/lq/ecycle/consumers/faq.htm.



Electronics collected by PSU Environmental Health & Safety



Electronics bundled for pickup

STUDENTS AND STAFF REPLANT BROADWAY ECOROOF

Through a partnership between the Campus Sustainability Office, Sustainability Leadership Center, Residence Life, Auxillary Services, and Facilities and Planning, students recently had the opportunity to revegetate the EcoRoof on the Broadway residence hall building. At the time it was built, the Broadway EcoRoof was the largest in Portland!

by Noelle Studer-Spevak (former Campus Sustainability Manager), Keith Nevison (Student Garden Liaison), Danielle Grondin (Residence Life Sustainability Liaison) and Heather Spalding (Sustainability Leadership and Outreach Coordinator).

Approximately 20 students attended the event on April 30th. Many of the attendees are participants in the new EcoReps education program coordinated by the Sustainability Leadership Center. The project was overseen

During the course of the afternoon, the group removed weeds, hauled and spread compost, and planted new vegetation. The species chosen were a mixture of natives and or-



namentals. Some of these plants are being used for the first time on ecoroofs and will be studied to determine

their success. The project is also being used as part of Keith Nevison's honors undergraduate thesis project.

FOURTH ANNUAL EARTH DAY EVENT REACHES 89.4% WASTE DIVERSION RATE

The 4th annual Earth Day Festival was held on Friday, April 22nd from 11-4 pm in the PSU campus Park Blocks. PSU's Earth Day celebration was one of the largest campus festivals to date, and showcased sustainability projects from around our region. This

year's festival featured bands, food vendors, non-profit organizations, and sustainability demonstrations. PSU Recycles! closed off the park block trash cans and several dedicated volunteers monitored (4) resource capturing stations for this

year's Earth Day activities. Collecting trash, compost, liquid, and recyclable materials, waste minimization at this year's Earth Day event was a tremendous success.

as follows:

- Trash: 7.2 lbs.
- Compost: 34.7 lbs.
- Liquid: 11 lbs.
- Recycling: 15.2 lbs.

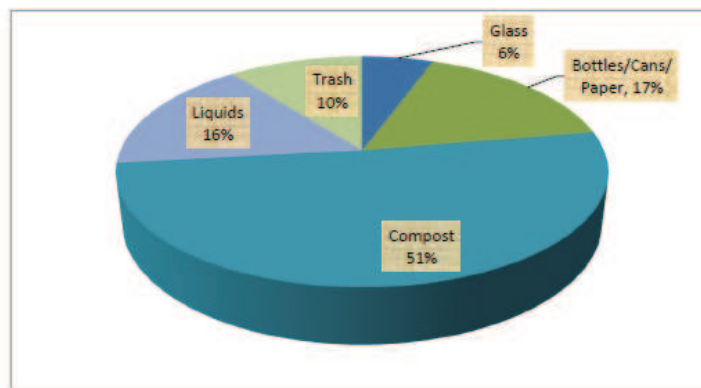
After the event, all trash, compost, and recycling was weighed and the results are

This means we had an overall diversion rate of 89.4%. A considerable feat for any event, let alone one with such diversity of people and materials.

Thanks again to everyone who helped promote sustainability on our campus!

PSU Recycles! |
503.725.4392
Portland State University

22-Apr-11	
Earth Day 2011	
Glass	3.8
Bottles/Cans/Paper	11.4
Compost	34.7
Liquids	11
Trash	7.2
Total	68.1



Diversion Rate:
0.894273128
89.43%

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

REGIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

This term's sustainability spotlight shines on PSU's Regional Research Institute for Human Services (RRI), a research unit within the School of Social Work that conducts research and evaluation with the goal of improving peoples' lives, human services, supports, and policies.

Last month RRI made duplex (double-sided) copying and printing their department's default setting. Now, rather than requiring individuals to remember to choose duplex settings for each print or copy job, all printer/copiers in the department will perform this paper-saving method automatically. (Single-sided printing can be chosen on an as-needed basis.) The change was administered through OIT and the RRI's internal IT staff member, Tyson Vanover. Duplexing saves paper (trees!), financial resources for PSU, as well as the embodied energy, and carbon emissions that go into the production and disposal of paper. Thanks to the RRI for pioneering this best practice!

If you would like to nominate a department for next edition's Spotlight, please contact greenecampus@pdx.edu or 5-8951.

RECYCLEMANIA RESULTS

The 2011 RecycleMania competition is over. RecycleMania is a nationwide, friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities. From February through April, Portland State competed in the waste minimization category, measuring overall waste reduction. Additionally, PSU participated in the food service organics (compost) targeted material category. Through classroom presentations, green

team outreach, and tabling, student, staff, and faculty participation was highly encouraged for this fun and informative ongoing event.

This year, 630 schools from across the United States joined to recover 91 million pounds of recyclables and organic materials, which prevented the release of nearly 270 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2E). This reduction in greenhouse gases is equivalent to the annual emissions from more than 52.8 million passenger cars; electricity use of more than 32.7 million homes; or the burning of nearly 1.5 million railcars' worth of coal.

PSU RECYCLES! PRESENTS



NEW ITEMS FOR SALE

Purchase yours today at the PSU Recycles! Office, 2nd Floor, USB
ORDERING INFO @ 503.725.4300
617 SW Montgomery Street (same building as the Career Center)

\$ 1 0 0 %
ORGANIC
COTTON
COMPOST
T-SHIRTS

\$15

REUSE
MUGS

\$10

RECYCLED
PLASTIC
REUSE
BAGS

\$6

In the "Waste Minimization" category, determined by the amount of waste generated per person over the 10 weeks of the competition, PSU Ranked 54th out of 182 (31.82 pounds/person).

For the "Per Capita Classic," (pounds of recyclables collected per person over the 10 weeks) PSU ranked 251st out of 362 with 7.26 pounds/person.

Targeted Material Food Service Organics: (Pounds per person over 10 weeks) PSU ranked 56th out of 131 with 3.83 pounds/person. This year, Portland State finished 197th out of 288 in the combined race to be "Grand Champion" with a 10 week average recycling rate of 22.83%.

More info: www.recyclemaniacs.org.