



UB WASTE; WHERE DOES IT GO?

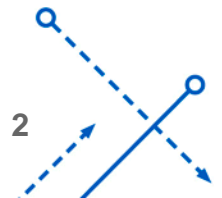
Tony Oswald – Hazardous Materials
Mgr/Chemical Hygiene Officer

Brian Foti – Environmental Programs Mgr

Erin Moscati – Sustainability Education Mgr

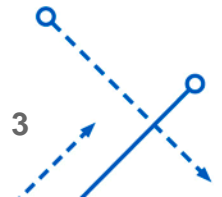
Waste on Campus

- Existing Programs
- Challenges
- Moving Forward



Waste on Campus

Existing Programs



Chemical Hazardous Waste

- Federal and State regulations require specific disposal methods
- Most shipped and destroyed in permitted specialized high temperature incinerators
- UB generates on average of 40 tons a year across all campus locations





Used oil and solvent collected from research labs are blended together to form a fuel for cement kilns.

Kilns burn the fuel to manufacture cement for use in concrete.

Fluorescent Lamps/CFLs

- Contain mercury and must be recycled per Federal and State law
- Bulbs crushed, components separated
- Glass, metals, mercury, etc. recycled



Batteries

Various Types of Batteries Collected/Generated at UB

- Rechargeable
- Lead Acid
- Alkaline
- Misc. type such as lithium, button etc.



Recycling Rechargeable Batteries

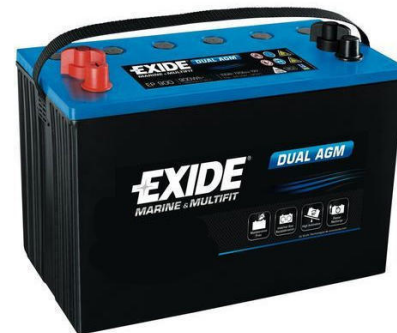
- Must be recycled per Federal law
- 99% of components recycled into reusable products.
- Batteries smashed; plastics and metal components separated
- Plastics and metals smelted and reused
- No cost to UB for recycling recharagables



ComputerHope.com

Recycling Lead Acid Batteries

- Must be recycled per Federal and State regulations
- Smashed in mill
- Plastic, lead and sulfuric acid separated and made into new batteries or other products



Recycling Alkaline Batteries

- No specific regulations on disposal. Can be placed in trash but UB offers recycling as an option
- Recycling stations spread across campus
- Broken apart into metals, paper, brass, plastic



Regulated Medical Waste

- Generated by biomedical or biological research lab
- Collected in Red bags/boxes
- Send for treatment in giant autoclaves which sterilizes the materials



Radioactive Waste

- Radioactive materials used in research at UB. Both long and short half-life materials in use
- Collected by EH&S and stored on campus.
- Short life stored until it decays
- Long life is shipped off to a licensed vendor for proper disposal.
- Use, storage and disposal regulated by Federal and State agencies

Electronics

- Computers
- Printers
- Small appliances
- Lab equipment
- Copiers



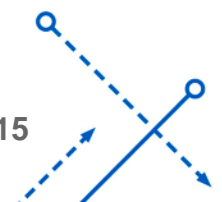
Electronics

- Re-Sell
- Scrap
- Data destruction



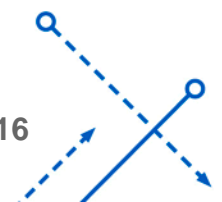
Scrap Metal

- Renovation Projects
- Demolition
- Construction
- Un-wanted furniture
- Vehicle repair



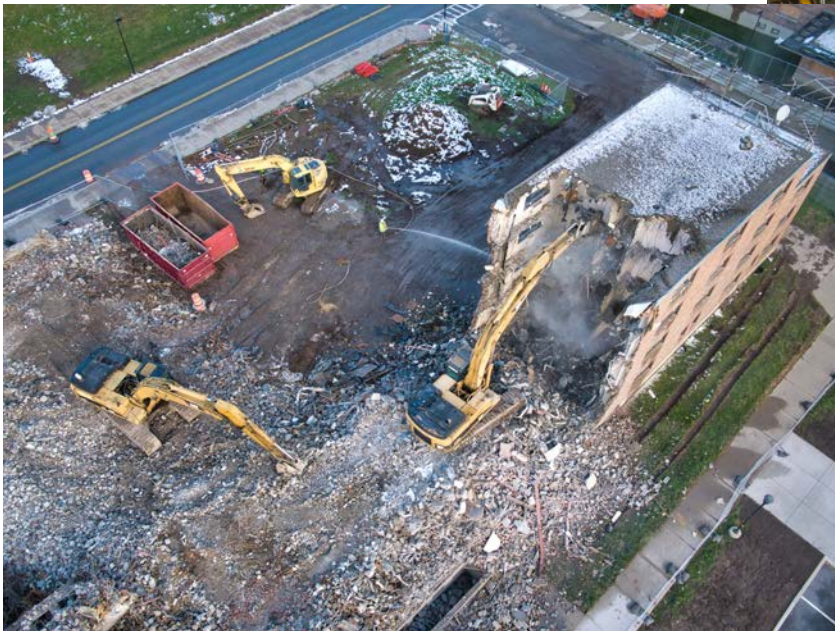
Ceiling Tiles

- Sent back to Armstrong



Construction/Demolition Debris

- Useable furniture
- Wood
- Concrete
- Metal



Campus Dining & Shops

- 40% of supply wasted
- 65% compostable
- ZERO food waste



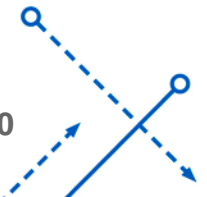
Campus Dining & Shops

- Conveyor belt
- Food canal



Campus Dining & Shops

- Grind and collect



Campus Dining & Shops

- 125 per day
- Natural Upcycle
- Earth Day



Recycling in Offices & Public Spaces

- Recyclable and acceptable are not the same thing
- Not all recyclable items are accepted on campus
- Eliminating contamination is VERY important
 - Rinse when possible
 - Wipe clean if you cannot rinse

Recycle These Items on Campus

- ALL paper (glossy & brights too!)
- metal cans (rinse or wipe clean)
- cardboard boxes (break down and flatten)
- paperboard
- glass is NOT accepted on campus

Recycling Plastics on Campus

Ask these questions

- Is the opening/mouth a screw top closure AND smaller or equal to base?
 - Rinse and RECYCLE it
- Is the opening/mouth larger than base?
 - Place in TRASH

Recycling Plastic Bags, baggies & shrink wrap-style plastic films

- Plastic bags are NOT recyclable on campus
 - If you must use plastic bags, bring them to stores to recycle
- Plastic baggies are not recyclable locally, avoid consuming these items.
- Shrink wrap-style packing films are not recyclable locally, avoid consuming these items.

Waste on Campus

Challenges

Why Must I Throw Away Plastics?

- Many plastics have the ABILITY to be recycled
- Not all plastics are easy to recycle
- World recycling markets have shifted because of high contamination
- At this moment it is very difficult for recycling processors to find markets for hard-to-recycle plastics
- You can ensure SOME plastics are recycled by not recycling ALL plastics

Waste on Campus

Moving Forward



What Can You Do to Reduce Waste?

- Be a picky consumer
- Buy in bulk and decant foods into durable and reusable containers
- Avoid convenience/single serve packaging
- Choose real and unprocessed foods over packaged and processed foods. It's better for your health and the environment.
- Buy less stuff, and ensure the stuff you do purchase is durable and long-lasting.

What Can You Do to Reduce Waste?

- If you are bothered that an item you use is not recyclable, take control of the situation. You always have a choice.
 1. Ask yourself do I NEED the item?
 2. Is there a less wasteful option?
 3. Am I willing to change?
 4. Accept the reality of your decision

Questions Regarding Office & Public Space Recycling

Erin Moscati
Sustainability Education Manager
UB Sustainability
829-5743
emoscati@buffalo.edu

buffalo.edu/sustainability

Questions??