

OSU Recycles
Mission, Vision, Goals, and Objectives
Adopted by the OSU Recycling Committee 9/11/13

Mission Statement

The OSU Recycles Program mission is to cultivate a campus-wide, sustainable recycling system and culture that will increase OSU Stillwater's recycling rate, reduce waste and pollution, and raise resource conservation awareness through education and outreach programs that foster generations of environmental stewards.

Vision Statement

The OSU Recycles Program vision is for conservation, reuse, recycling and responsible stewardship of materials to be second nature to OSU community members everywhere.

Program Goals & Objectives

1. Enhance the campus wide recycling program by creating a culture of resource conservation within and beyond the university community.
 - a) Objective: Establish educational and outreach programs designed to foster an environmental ethic, sense of community, and competitive spirit of improvement
 - b) Objective: Provide students with research topic ideas
 - c) Objective: Ensure transparent reporting of commodities and quantities recycled
 - d) Objective: Transmit knowledge gained to the citizens of Oklahoma via Extension
 - e) Objective: Work with Athletics to establish recycling programs within venues for all athletic events
 - f) Objective: Support student organizations with their resource conservation, reuse and recycling program efforts

2. Increase the demand for recycled products in the marketplace and at OSU.
 - a) Objective: Comply with the provisions of the Oklahoma State Recycling Procurement Act for the purchase of products with recycled content and reporting of amounts and materials recycled
 - b) Objective: Determine OSU's baseline percentage of products purchased with recycled content and establish goals for increasing this percentage
 - c) Objective: Work with OSU Procurement to establish a Resource Conservation Purchasing Policy
 - d) Objective: Familiarize the university community with the provisions of the OSU Resource Conservation Purchasing Policy

3. Reduce, as much as possible, the quantity of virgin materials used and the amount of waste generated by maximizing efficient use and reuse of products.
 - a) Objective: Establish waste minimization, source reduction and reuse programs for items such as paper, cardboard, beverage containers and expand to other products
 - b) Objective: Promote the use of durable products over disposables
 - c) Objective: Support reuse programs such as OSU Surplus, OrangeTech ink cartridge refilling, Real Pokes Pass It On, online campus materials exchanges, etc.

4. Ensure OSU Recycles is a self-sustaining program by maximizing returns from the sales of recyclable materials and/or saving on waste disposal charges.
 - a) Objective: Increase OSU's recycling rate from the 2011 baseline of 8% to 30% by 2015 and to 50% by 2020
 - b) Objective: Expand the paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and aluminum can recycling program to other solid waste streams
 - c) Objective: Adapt recycling, reuse, reclamation, waste minimization, source reduction, and procurement programs to as many solid waste streams as possible

5. Support the establishment of a Residential Life single-stream recycling program for campus housing.
 - a) Objective: Expand the type of recyclables accepted for campus residents who have a larger variety of recyclables and the ability to rinse containers
 - b) Objective: Draw attention to Residential Life's recycling program marketing and education efforts
 - c) Objective: Encourage competitive programs such as Recycle Mania

6. Become a zero-waste campus by 2025.
 - a) Objective: Determine the volume and weight of organic material in the waste stream
 - b) Objective: Conduct feasibility studies on various methods of organic waste diversion such as using bio-digesters, small-scale composting, commercial-scale composting
 - c) Objective: Develop zero-waste plans for operations and marketing