



An electronic newsletter produced by GA Tech's Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling (OSWM&R)

## Volume 10 — Issue 3 — November 2011

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### Recycling Tips

The weather is changing and for many people that means it's time for a new wardrobe. If you have clothing that you don't wear anymore, please donate it to a local charity. Be on the lookout for clothing drives during the holiday season. If your clothes are too worn-out to donate to charity there is a chance your clothing or shoes could be recycled. Old clothing can be recycled into rags, new clothing, housing insulation, and can even be donated to your local animal shelter to be used as bedding. Shoes can be broken down and recycled into material used to build running tracks and playground surfaces.

### Recycling 101- Special Requests

'Recycling 101' is a four-part series that takes an in depth look at the major recycling programs on campus. This month the focus is on the Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling's (OSWM&R) on-call services. Currently, there is no fee for these services.

Often sensitive materials requiring confidential disposal will be generated on Tech's campus. The OSWM&R will collect confidential materials to be shredded once a request has been filed with the office (25 boxes maximum). To request a pickup of confidential materials please contact Heart Hodges at [heartense.hodges@facilities.gatech.edu](mailto:heartense.hodges@facilities.gatech.edu). The materials will need to be sealed in cardboard boxes and labeled as "Confidential/Sensitive". If you are discarding records that need to be archived, contact Kirk Henderson at [GT Archives & Records Management](#) at (404) 894-6223.

#### *Did you know?*

The OSWM&R offers several on-call services at no charge, including:

- Pickup and destruction of confidential or sensitive materials
- Temporary recycling bins for office cleanouts
- Recycling bins for special events

Another service provided by the OSWM&R is the delivery of temporary recycling containers. If your office or department will be generating an elevated amount of recyclables for a short period of time, such as during an office cleanout, you can request a temporary recycling container by contacting Heart Hodges at [heartense.hodges@facilities.gatech.edu](mailto:heartense.hodges@facilities.gatech.edu).

Temporary recycling containers can also be requested for special events held on campus. The OSWM&R can provide recycling bins for aluminum cans, plastic bottles, clear glass, green glass, brown

glass and/or cardboard. To request temporary containers for large scale special events please visit [http://www.recycle.gatech.edu/recycling\\_services/Special\\_Events/](http://www.recycle.gatech.edu/recycling_services/Special_Events/) and complete the form.

For questions about anything regarding recycling please visit [www.recycle.gatech.edu](http://www.recycle.gatech.edu) or call the office directly at (404) 385-0088.

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## Game Day Recycling Update

Saturday October 29 was a big day for Georgia Tech – the Jackets beat Clemson 31-17 at our Homecoming Game! The Homecoming game was also a “green” game. In addition to distributing hundreds of recycling bins and bags, the Game Day Recycling program took part in the pre-game festivities by hosting a Green Tailgating Party. Hundreds of people stopped by our Wreck Fest location to learn about the recycling program, sample organic popcorn and fruit, and sign the recycling and green tailgating pledge.

A total of 4.8 tons of recyclable materials were collected at the game, including 7,000 pounds of bottles and cans. Thank you to all of the volunteers and fans who participated! The current season recycling total is 15 tons, and there are two home games remaining (see graph in Recycling Statistics on page 4).

Below: Some of the highlights from the Green Tailgating Party at the Homecoming game.



**Volunteer registration is now open!** It takes many people to reach out to the 40,000 or more fans who attend each game. Volunteers are the main reason the Game Day Recycling program is so successful. You can help by distributing blue bags to tailgaters or greeting fans as they go into the stadium. The commitment is typically an hour or less, and all volunteers are finished by the start of the game. Volunteers receive free T-shirts, free food, and a chance to win great prizes! For more information and to sign up visit [www.recycle.gatech.edu](http://www.recycle.gatech.edu).

You can also connect with Georgia Tech Game Day Recycling on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



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## Earth Day Design Contest – \$500 Prize

The 2012 Georgia Tech Earth Day design contest is now open! Georgia Tech students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to submit their designs for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration (which will take place on April 20, 2012). Designs should reflect the 2012 theme: Helluva GREENgineer.



Above: The winning design for Earth Day 2011

The winning design will be featured on the 2012 Georgia Tech Earth Day T-shirt and will be used for marketing and PR leading up to the event. The winner will also receive a \$500 cash prize! Entries will be accepted until 11:59 PM on Monday, November 28. Complete contest rules, design criteria and entry information are available at <http://www.earthday.gatech.edu/t-shirt.html>.

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## Green Holiday Tips

The holiday season is upon us with all of its hustle and bustle, so here are some simple tips to help green your holidays. Thanksgiving is up first and a great way to keep your Thanksgiving feast green is to make it with organic and/or locally grown foods. Organically grown foods have less environmental impact since they don't require the use of chemical pesticides or fertilizers. Locally grown foods will help to prevent carbon dioxide emissions due to the fact that they require a much shorter travel distance to get to your table, lowering fossil fuel consumption.

A Christmas feast would also lend itself well to organic and local food, plus there is so much more that can be done to have a green Christmas. Each Christmas approximately 8,000 tons of wrapping paper will be used to wrap presents. You can reduce your environmental impact by reusing or recycling the wrapping paper after opening your gifts. Better yet, use materials you have on hand, such as the Sunday comics, to make your own wrapping paper and personalize the presents that you give out.



Christmas trees are an integral part of the holiday season. If you use a live tree, drop it off at a chipping service when you are done with it, rather than sending it to the landfill. Also consider that artificial trees are often priced comparably to live trees and will provide holiday cheer for many years.



Every year there is an energy consumption increase in the average American household around Christmas. This is due to the festive light displays used to decorate houses. Not only will LED lights last significantly longer than traditional holiday lights, they consume less energy. There is also no need to keep holiday lights on during the day so make sure to unplug them or use a timer to save energy and money. When you're spreading holiday cheer and making fond family memories this year remember to stay green and have a happy holiday.

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## Georgia Tech Farmer's Market

There are two more farmer's markets on campus this semester! Don't miss the opportunity to purchase local and organic foods right here on campus Thursday November 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> (11:00 am – 2:00 pm on Tech Walkway). The vendors vary from week to week, but you can find everything from baked goods, to jams, pasta, honey and even popsicles!



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## Ask Enviro-Man

**Question:** Can you clarify the dos and don'ts for the blue recycling bags given out to tailgaters during Georgia Tech home football games?



**Answer:** The blue bags are part of the [Game Day Recycling](#) program, which is designed to make it convenient to recycle on game days. The blue bags distributed to tailgating fans are for plastic, glass, and aluminum beverage containers only. This includes plastic bottles, plastic cups, glass bottles, and aluminum cans. Styrofoam or paper cups, and aluminum or plastic serving trays should *NOT* be placed in the bags. Once the bags are full, simply leave them on the ground and they will be picked up by the OSWM&R staff.

To ask Enviro-Man a question, [click here](#).

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## Meet the Team

“Meet the Team” is a monthly feature that gives you an opportunity to go behind the scenes to meet the staff of the OSWM&R and learn a little more about who we are and what we do.

**Happy Thanksgiving  
from the OSWM&R!**



From left to right: David, Bud, Maria, Cindy, Nick, Karl, Tom, Rod and Marco. Not pictured: Heart and Luke.

Thanksgiving is right around the corner, and that means there is one thing on everyone’s mind – the long awaited Thanksgiving dinner! But what is the best part of the meal? Everyone in the OSWM&R has a favorite dish that they look forward to.

*What dish is a must at your family’s Thanksgiving dinner?*

For Bud and Maria, it’s candied yams. Rod and Nick both agree that the dressing is the best part. Cindy’s favorite is stuffing and mashed potatoes with giblet gravy. Tom says that Thanksgiving dinner would not be complete without deviled eggs. He prefers them with pickle relish and dusted with paprika. Karl and Heart both save room for dessert. A lemon cake, the way her mother used to make it, completes the meal for Heart. Karl’s Thanksgiving just wouldn’t be the same without a red velvet cake, made from scratch with cream cheese frosting. (Are you hungry yet?!)

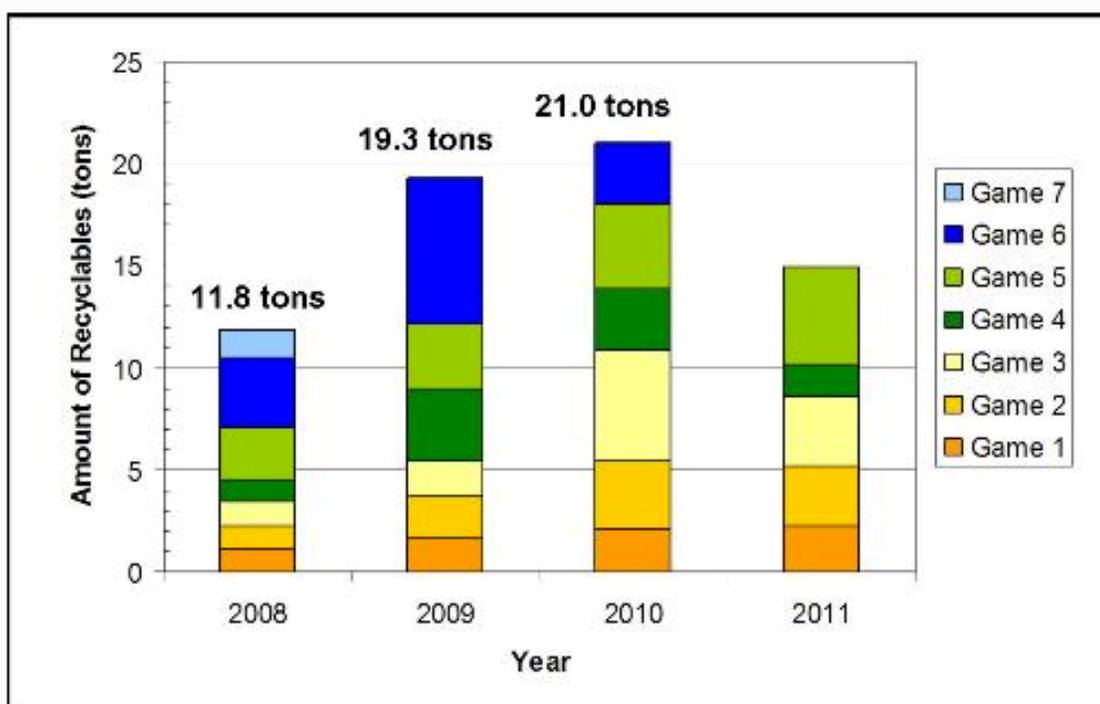
The staff of the OSWM&R wish you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

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## Recycling Statistics

The graph below shows the weight of materials diverted from the landfill during each of Georgia Tech’s home football games and tailgates since the Game Day Recycling program began in 2008. The Homecoming game on October 29 (*light green on the graph*) netted 4.8 tons of recyclables! There are two home games remaining this season.



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## Upcoming Events

### [Game Day Recycling – Volunteers Needed](#)

Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA

Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> (*Times Vary*)

There are two more home football games this season. Tailgaters, keep an eye out for Game Day Recycling volunteers who will be distributing blue bags for bottles and cans. If you have an hour to spare before the game, sign up to volunteer! Volunteers are needed to pass out the blue bags and to greet fans as they go into the stadium. The volunteer commitment is one hour, and volunteers receive a free T-shirt, free food, and are eligible to win great prizes. For more information and to sign up go to [www.recycle.gatech.edu](http://www.recycle.gatech.edu).

### [Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable](#)

All Saints Episcopal Church – Ellis Hall  
634 West Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA

Friday, November 11, 2011 (*7:30 – 9:00 am*)

Cost: \$10 - \$20, includes continental breakfast and beverage

Historic preservation has a longstanding connection with the environmental movement. Since the terms “sustainable” and “green” are now part of everyday conversation, it is essential that historic preservation remains a key part of policy discussions and a centerpiece of long-range planning. Our panel of experts will explore the commonalities among the sustainability and preservation movements, address the role that urbanism and adaptive reuse play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and discuss how fundamental preservation principles reflect an environmental ethic.

### [Keep Atlanta Beautiful – Community Recycling Center](#)

320 Irwin St. Atlanta, GA

Saturday, November 12, 2011 (*10:00 am – 3:00 pm*)

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month

Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Creative Recycling Solutions host a monthly recycling drive for household electronic waste, office equipment and paper. Free, secure paper shredding is now available courtesy of Iron Mountain. Personal computers, monitors, stereos, microwaves, vacuums, telephones, keyboards, mice, printers, and scanners are accepted free of charge. There is a \$10 fee for televisions, cash only. For a complete list of accepted items, go to <http://www.KeepAtlantaBeautiful.org/programs/e-scrap.asp>.

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## Comments and Suggestions

If you have any questions or suggestions about our program, please feel free to contact us by simply replying to this [newsletter](#). We are here to help, and together, we can work to benefit the environment.

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## Visit Our Website

As part of our effort to provide you with better services we continually update our website. Recycling guidelines and useful links can be found at [www.recycle.gatech.edu](http://www.recycle.gatech.edu).