



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

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Recycling Tips

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Sustainability Division has developed a Sustainable Office Toolkit, with resources and tools to help offices of all sizes move toward sustainability through practices such as recycling, energy and water conservation, and green building. It is available online at <http://gasustainability.org/toolkit/>.

Earth Day 2010 Environmental Awards Now Accepting Nominations

Georgia Tech's Earth Day committee is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 7th annual Environmental Leadership Award (ELA) and the 1st annual Environmental Initiative Award (EIA). The competition is open to the entire Georgia Tech campus community: students, faculty, staff, alumni and retirees. Winners will be announced at the Earth Day Celebration on April 23. Recent ELA winners include Students Organizing for Sustainability (2009) and Tommy Little, Building Services manager and leader of Georgia Tech's Green Cleaning Program, (2008). For application forms and nomination criteria, visit <http://www.earthday.gatech.edu/leadership.html>.



Members of Students Organizing for Sustainability (SOS) accept the Environmental Leadership Award at Georgia Tech's 2009 Earth Day Celebration.

Applications are due by March 12, 2010
and self nominations are accepted.



Earth Day 2010 T-shirt Design Competition Open - \$500 Prize

Georgia Tech's annual Earth Day Celebration is one of the largest in the Southeast. During the event thousands of people converge upon the Skiles walkway to enjoy a festival atmosphere with exhibitors, eco-friendly giveaways, recycling opportunities, a clothing swap, an office supply exchange, live music, and organic popcorn. One of the highlights of Earth Day is the commemorative T-shirt that is given away free to participants.



Undergraduate Industrial Design major Blake Williford (on left) won the 2009 T-shirt Design Competition. Earth Day committee member Steve Cseplo (right), is wearing the winning design.

Each Earth Day Celebration features a unique T-shirt that reflects the current year's theme. This year's theme is **Celebrate Our World**. Do you have an idea for a T-shirt graphic that effectively conveys this theme? If so, the Earth Day planning committee invites you to enter the Earth Day T-shirt Design Competition. The competition is open to all members of the Georgia Tech community – students, faculty, staff, alumni and retirees. The winning design will be printed on approximately 1,500 T-shirts, which will be distributed at the Georgia Tech Earth Day Celebration on April 23, 2010. The contest is sponsored by Coca-Cola, and the winner will also receive a \$500 cash prize. Don't miss this opportunity to have your design featured on the Earth Day 2010 commemorative T-shirt.

For more information, go to www.earthday.gatech.edu/t-shirt.html. All entries must be received by March 12, 2010.



Cooking Oil to Fuel Trolley Fleet

Georgia Tech Parking and Transportation reveals that in a unique recycling initiative, used cooking oil will be recycled into biofuel for the Tech Trolleys and Stinger buses. Biofuel is a liquid fuel made from renewable resources such as soybean oil or recycled grease. Biofuel made from recycled grease, which is a waste product, is more environmentally friendly than biofuel made from vegetable oil.

Georgia Tech Dining Services already donates the used cooking oil from all of its kitchens to Perfect Circle Renewable Energies. The local company collects cooking oil from the Atlanta airport food court and other locations, and converts it into biofuel. Perfect Circle Renewable Energies produced an estimated 50,000 gallons of biofuel in 2009. Soon, some of that biofuel will be coming back to Georgia Tech to run the campus' fleet of 21 buses and trolleys.

Georgia Tech's Alternative Transportation Coordinator, Aaron Fowler, explains that the vehicles' warranty allows them to be run on a diesel and biofuel mix that contains up to 20%



Torise Battle and Aaron Fowler explain that biofuel (left) is made from used cooking oil (right).

biofuel. The resulting mixture is called biodiesel. Parking and Transportation is in the process of purchasing a tank to store the biodiesel, and Aaron anticipates that the Trolleys and Stinger buses will begin running on biodiesel this spring. He is excited about the switch, which will mean a greener ride for the 16,000 people (on average) who ride the Trolleys and buses every day.

Aaron is working with Parking & Transportation’s Communications Officer, Torise Battle, to educate the campus about green commute options. They report that 60% of people drive alone when coming to campus. The good news is that many people already use alternative modes of transportation to and from campus: 12% walk or bike, 12% take public transit, and 9% carpool. Aaron and Torise would like to see those numbers go even higher, and to make that happen Parking & Transportation is developing a Long Range Alternative Transportation Plan.

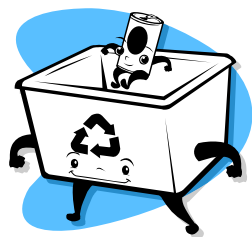
One of the benefits currently available to Georgia Tech students, faculty and staff is a discount on public transit passes. A monthly MARTA pass is just \$46.50 for faculty and staff and \$36.50 for students. Full-time employees can purchase discounted passes for MARTA, Cobb Community Transit (CCT), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), and Gwinnett County Transit (GCT) passes through payroll deduction. For more information about purchasing public transit passes at a reduced rate, visit http://www.parking.gatech.edu/transportation/4_Metro_Transit/index.php.

Greenco Environmental

Last month we reported on the composting program in Georgia Tech’s Dining Halls. Many readers wanted to know the name of the company that operates the composting facility where Georgia Tech’s food waste is processed. Greenco Environmental (“Greenco”) is the leading organic recycling company servicing the Southeast Region of the United States. All of the food waste and compostable items from Brittain and Woodruff dining halls is taken to their facility in Barnesville, Georgia. Additional information about the Greenco and the composting process is available at www.greencoenvironmental.com.



ASK ENVIRO-MAN



Question: Can I put aluminum foil in the aluminum can recycling containers?

Answer: No. The aluminum can bins on campus are for aluminum drink cans only. Other items, such as aluminum foil or soup cans, are not accepted by our vendor and are considered contamination.

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

Upcoming Events

[2010 Wood Solutions Fair](#)

Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA
Tuesday, February 16, 2010 (7:30 am – 4:55 pm)

Wood Solution Fairs bring together architects, engineers, developers and builders for a free educational event focused on non-residential wood design. Featured topics will include: achieving LEED credits using wood, advances in wood design software, and common energy mistakes made by architects and builders. Sessions will feature groundbreaking work from across the globe, including the shake table testing of a 7-story condo in Japan and the construction of the world's tallest wood building.

[Keep Atlanta Beautiful Electronics Recycling Day](#)

Grady High School, Atlanta, GA
Saturday, February 20, 2010 (7 am – 3 pm)

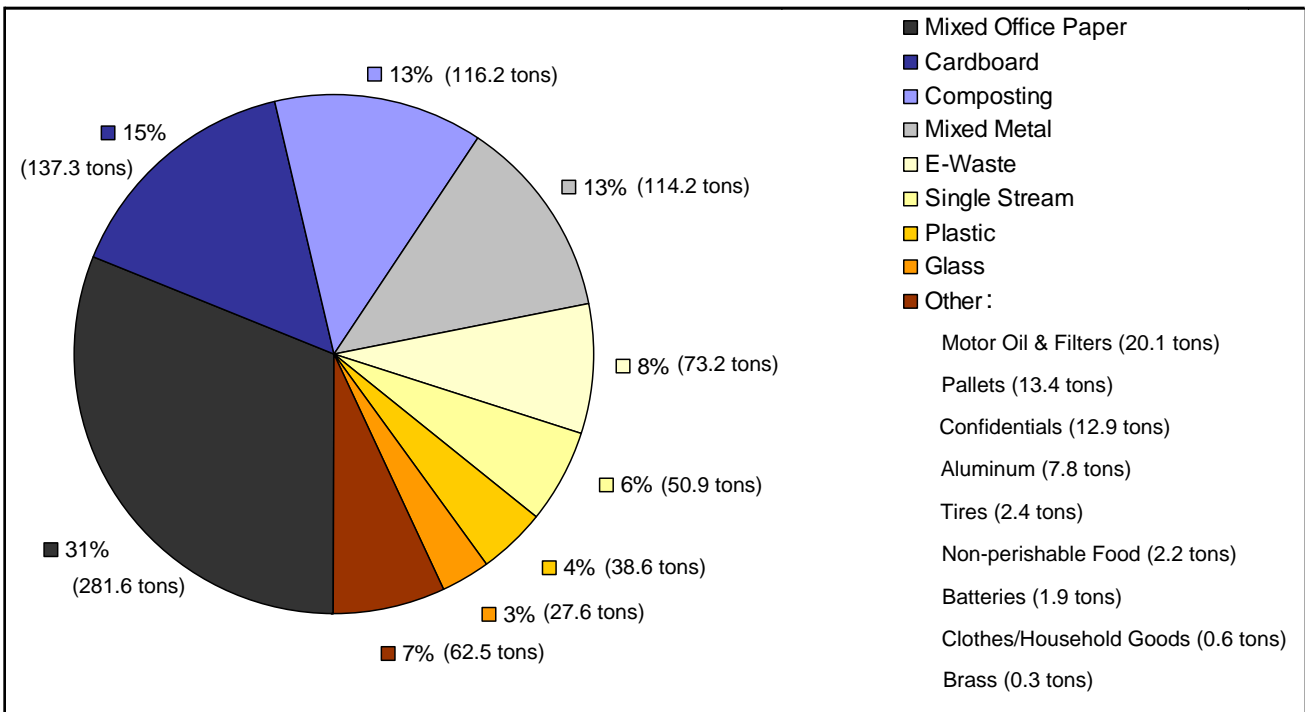
[First Saturday Hikes](#)

Elachee Nature Center, Gainesville, GA
Saturday, March 6, 2010 (10 – 11:30 am)

If you are interested in learning about local native plants and animals, this monthly hike is a great way to explore the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve in North Georgia with an experienced guide. The program fee (\$5 for adults) also includes admission to the museum's exhibitions. If you would like to explore the Chicopee Woods on your own, there are 12 miles of hiking trails open to the public daily from 8am to dusk.

Georgia Tech 2009 Waste Diversion Statistics

This chart shows a summary of the recyclable, compostable, and reusable materials collected at Georgia Tech in 2009 – a total of 902 tons!



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 Contact Person listings, recycling guidelines, and useful links can be found at www.recycle.gatech.edu.

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