

Executive Summary

OWRR Annual Trend Report

2004-2005

The Office of Waste Reduction & Recycling continued to improve its recovery rate and expand its services in the 2004-2005 fiscal year. The **overall recycling rate** was **41%** of the university's total waste (not including coal ash and waste from construction contractors). This is an increase from 40% in 2003-2004. Additionally, there was a **43% increase in per capita waste reduction from our base year** (1991-1992). This is up from 40% in 2003-2004.

There was a **reduction in overall waste** in 2004-2005 (both trash and recycled) from last fiscal year. Although the campus population increased from 37,035 to 37,813 (source: UNC Office of Institutional Research and Assessment <http://www.ais.unc.edu/ir/index.html>), the total waste decreased from 10,216 tons to 9,447 tons. The **total waste per capita decreased from 525 tons to 498 tons per capita**, which is a 5% decrease.

The amount of **corrugated cardboard** collected this year was **up 200 tons (36%)** from last year. Also, the **Kenan Football Stadium recycling program** was added full-scale this year. Due to this, **an additional 26.57 tons of recyclables were collected** (cardboard and bottles & cans).

With the addition of the Ram's Head Dining Facility in March, an additional 22 tons of food waste was collected at that facility. Despite an expected decrease in the volume of food waste collected at Lenoir from March through June, **food waste collection was up by 50 tons overall as compared to last year.**

The move-in donation stations in the dorms were extremely successful this year. While donations of office supplies and food were down slightly, **donations of clothing and shoes were up by 129%**, leading to an **increase in overall donations of 56%**.

There were two major contract re-bids this year. The outdoor contractor changed from Tidewater Fiber to Paper Stock as of 2/1/05. With this change, the costs for the outdoor program have gone up 9%, despite a small decrease in the amount collected. This may be due to a difference in weighing methods, although we aren't sure at this point.

The indoor contractor remained Orange Recycling Services, but was re-bid on 6/1/05. It is too soon to tell at this point what effect the new contract will have on costs. The cost per ton is decreased from the last contract, but there has also been a steady increase in the amounts of newspapers & magazines and office paper collected indoors over the past year.

There was an 81% reduction in fees for animal bedding collection this year. This was due to the costs being absorbed by Orange County in September, 2004.

This year, the cost per ton for trash came out to be \$397, and the cost per ton for recycling came out to be \$183. These figures include contract costs, labor, a portion of housekeeping costs, and repairs & maintenance.

The avoided landfill costs came to \$175,000, which shows