

## May 2014 – Green Labs Meeting

May 23, 2014

10-11 AM

### **1 - Kimberly Clark Nitrile Glove Recycling:**

Only program of its kind in the USA, Kimberly Clark has goals set for 2015 concerning “People, Planet and Product” (\*One goal being a zero manufacturing waste to landfill goal\*)

1.2 tons of waste per year for average customers who use 25 cases per month, so can reduce waste by 47% by using more sustainable glove

#### **How are they recycled?**

Right Cycle partners create a life cycle solution, the gloves are pelletized and the end products consist of benches, bike racks or even Adirondack chairs...

#### **How does it work?**

4 Steps: Register, Collect, Wrap pallets, Ship... costs about \$350 per pallet for shipping

Any receptacle that's usable, no bags or liners are necessary but can be used

As far as contamination, lightly soiled are acceptable, but heavily contaminated or Red Bag biological waste could not be recycled, nor could those used in radiation labs.

University of CA Santa Cruz has recently adopted the program and their website provides information

Pilot program steps would involve targeting labs that use the gloves, determine best practices, and initiate RightCycle at UNC

They're looking into other end products, much of the material is donated ie: playgrounds etc.

**Next step:** Identification of Labs that use the gloves already, and that could participate

**Contact Information:** [ty320f@live.unc.edu](mailto:ty320f@live.unc.edu)

### **2 - Plastic Film Recycling – Tonya Randell and Thomas Lentz**

Pilot in Thurston Bowles with Thomas and from Central Receiving

Thomas has been collecting for about two years, primarily from his bio- lab, and around 200 pounds/year has been recycled from his lab

About 15% of what was collected was questionable or unable to be recycled

Smaller travel sized plastics present a problem for Material Recovery Facilities

Sonoco reported that pipette wrappers, etc. cannot be recycled

Biggest issue is the inability of UNC Recycling staff to pick up on a regular basis

**Contact Information:** [tonya.randell@moorerecycling.com](mailto:tonya.randell@moorerecycling.com)

### **3 - Move in**

OWRR will allow people to bring in Styrofoam to the staged trailer during this year's move in week and promote it

May be promoted with flyers, emails, enthusiasm, etc.

### **4 – Green Labs Intern**

Sarah Lowder will be working with us again beginning June 2 and will work with UNC Sustainability as well as OWRR