

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



OnCampus ecoAmbassadors are college students who implement projects from EPA's partnership programs to help carry out the Agency's mission to protect human health and the environment. The program is open to ANY college student, regardless of program, age, or background. All interested students are encouraged to participate.

Reduce Waste During Moves

- Instead of using cardboard and Styrofoam packaging to move items, consider using plastic containers or storage bins that can be reused throughout the year in your dorm
- Never throw out clothing or shoes – donate them to local charities or shoe recycling programs
- Consider giving your used items to friends or family who need them
- Wrap fragile items in old newspaper and recycle the newspaper after use
- Purchase items that are biodegradable or have recycled content

Learn More

WasteWise is a U.S. EPA program that helps organizations save money, improve efficiency, and reduce their climate footprint through waste reduction. Any organization, including large and small businesses, colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, and federal, state, local, and tribal governments, can become a WasteWise partner

For more information, please visit:
www.epa.gov/wastewise



Move In/Move Out Day

Moving can be a hectic experience – whether you are moving into your first dorm or moving out of an apartment, it's easy to overlook how much waste is produced. The good news is that most of this waste can be reused or recycled if residential halls and apartment complexes provide recycling bins and host donation drives during the times of the year when moving occurs. Initiate a Move In/Move Out Day program on your campus to help reduce waste during campus moves!

Goals of the Move In/Move Out Day

- Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills during moves
- Increase the recycling rate in residential halls and apartments during moves
- Donate unused or gently used items to local food pantries, libraries, consignment stores, or homeless shelters
- Encourage proper disposal of electronic and hazardous waste
- Increase student awareness of waste, recycling, and reuse

If You're Interested In:

- Educating others about ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle
- Working with non-profit organizations and local agencies to coordinate donation drives
- Organizing events
- Meeting new people

... then Move In/Move Out Day is for you!

See page 2 for a step-by-step checklist for Move In/Move Out Day.



Students Taking Action

Arizona State University (ASU) hosts an annual Ditch the Dumpster campaign during student move-out in late April. The campaign promotes recycling and reuse of student waste by providing drop-off locations for smaller items (such as clothing, shoes, and food) and larger items (such as furniture). Participating charities sort through the donated items and give them to local people in need. In spring 2011, over 30,000 pounds were donated to charities during move-out! Students involved in the University of New Hampshire's (UNH) Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) established the sustainable Trash 2 Treasure (T2T) project to reduce waste during move-out. T2T, hosted entirely by UNH students, collects reusable items that would otherwise be thrown away and stores them over the summer. Items are then re-sold at a SEAC-sponsored yard sale during move-in.

Move In/Move Out Day is ideal for students pursuing degrees in communications, education, environmental science, and environmental studies.

Checklist for Move In/Move Out Day

Follow the steps below to initiate a move in/move out day on your campus.

- ☐ **1. Find out what's being done on your campus.**
Meet with residential hall staff, administrators, facilities staff, sustainability directors, and environmental clubs to learn about your campus waste management practices and what is being done to reduce waste during moves.
- ☐ **2. Gain support on campus.**
Raise awareness and develop support for your efforts by talking with other students and creating relationships with residential hall staff, facilities staff, sustainability directors, and environmental clubs.
- ☐ **3. Contact organizations to pick up the items.**
Reach out to non-profit organizations and local agencies to accept items from your donation drive. For books and school supplies, contact local libraries, book stores, community centers, day cares, and homeless shelters. For clothing and shoes, contact consignment stores, homeless shelters, and relevant non-profit organizations that donate clothes to the needy. For food items, contact local food pantries and soup kitchens. For furniture and bulky items, contact office supply and furniture warehouses or consider hosting a yard sale during the next move-in.
- ☐ **4. Consider the costs of your project.**
There may be additional costs to transport and store the items you collect during move-in and move-out. Research how much it costs your college to dispose of the waste produced during moves, then compare the costs of transporting and storing all of the items you plan to collect. Apply for funding through your student government or available grants on campus as needed.
- ☐ **5. Publicize your event.**
Utilize multiple media outlets to get the word out about your event. Create a Facebook event and invite your friends. Promote the event in your school newspaper and on bulletin boards. If possible, have your event sponsored by relevant student organizations and campus officials to reach a larger audience.
- ☐ **6. Prepare your resources and contact facilities staff.**
Organize all the materials you will need during your move-in and move-out events. Ensure that enough recycling and trash bins are available by contacting the facilities staff for residential halls. Create easy-to-read, informative signs to display with the recycling bins that instruct students what to put in each bin.
- ☐ **7. Host your event and take photos.**
Take photos during your event and share them on the OnCampus Facebook page at www.facebook.com/epaoncampus. Celebrate your success and record results and lessons learned so you can make your next move even better!
- ☐ **8. Fill out your completion form.**
Record the information that you are required to report to EPA on the event completion form, including your name, date of the event, name of your college, a description of the event or events, the number of interactions (include any interesting comments), and additional comments.

Resources

Items that Can Be Donated or Recycled

1. Clothes and shoes
2. Paper
3. Aluminum cans, plastic, glass
4. School supplies and textbooks
5. Furniture
6. Non-perishable food

Helpful Websites

WasteWise Waste Reduction Resources
www.epa.gov/epawaste/partnerships/wastewise/wrr/index.htm
College and University Recycling Coalition
www.curc3r.org/curc-webinars/move-out-programs
Dump and Run
www.dumpandrun.org

Join WasteWise

WasteWise is a program that helps organizations save money, improve efficiency, and reduce their climate footprint through waste reduction. Your school can join WasteWise as a "partner" or as an "endorser." Learn more and join WasteWise at www.epa.gov/epawaste/partnerships/wastewise/join.htm.

EPA Contact Info

WasteWise

(800) EPA-WISE
oswwastewise@epa.gov

Allow a few days for a return call. Contact the OnCampus team if there is no response from the WasteWise helpline.

EPA OnCampus Team

EPAOnCampus@epa.gov

EPA OnCampus Websites

Visit the EPA website at
www.epa.gov/ecoambassadors/oncampus



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