

Waste-Recycling-Composting

Blake Bensman, Brandon Hendricks, John Randolph, Annie Pearce, Greg Evanylo, Jody Booze-Daniels, Rob Lowe, Denny Cochran, Reed Nagel, Casey Underwood, Anthony Purcell, Anthony Watson, Jennifer Russell, Greg Canaday, Teresa Sweeney, Amy Klinger

VT 2020 CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENT
UPDATE PROCESS – SPRING 2020



16 member subcommittee:
faculty, staff & students
from CALS, CAUS, CLAHS,
Facilities, Sustainability
Office, Dining Services &
Housing and Residence
Life, Athletics, & MRSWA

Waste-Recycling-Composting Subcommittee

Purpose:

- Assess the current system of VT waste management including recycling and composting
- Compare VT waste/recycling/compost and procurement management to peer universities
- Explore opportunities for composting/methane digestion facility at Kentland Farm to serve animal waste management and composting needs of campus and community
- Develop options for improved coordination and management of VT waste/recycle/compost system
- Develop and evaluate scenarios for future VT waste management including **zero waste scenario**

NOTE: REPLACE
WITH A PIC THAT
REPRESENTS YOUR
AREA OF WORK

TIME FOR SIDE:
75 seconds



Source: <https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2015/03/031815-vpa-treecampus.html>

Preliminary Findings, Goals, Pathways

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- **“Zero Waste Campus”** is defined as a 90% waste diversion rate
- In 2019, VT **landfilled 4,000 tons** of municipal waste at cost of \$218,000, **recycled 2000 tons** at cost of \$69,000, and **composted 600 tons** at cost of \$32,000.
- The **VT recycle rate** for 2019 was 39%. Its waste diversion rate was 80%, including construction debris and Hokie stone production waste-rock.
- **Compost from dining halls** is transported 154 miles round trip twice weekly to Royal Oak Farms. Contract with Royal Oaks expires in June 2020.
- **Waste management on campus is functional but disjointed**, involving a number of units including primarily Facilities, Dining Services, Resident Services, Athletics, Construction oversight, and Sustainability Office.

Preliminary Goals Pathways

PRELIMINARY GOAL: Zero Waste Campus by 2030

POTENTIAL PATHWAYS TO GOAL

- Reduce waste to landfill per student by 25% by 2025
- Increase waste recycling rate to 55% by 2025
- Increase waste diverted from landfill—including construction waste—to 85% by 2025
- Develop **University Compost Facility at Kentland** to process campus organic food waste, veterinary and agriculture animal waste, yard trimmings, other compostables
- Hire a **zero-waste consultant to conduct a waste audit study** and plan to evaluate organization, procedures, and staffing to enhance campus waste management.
- Promote **waste reduction** by Pollution Prevention (P2) methods: reduce-reuse-recycle
- Promote greater student/faculty/staff use of **recycling/compost behavior**

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENT UPDATE

Thank you for your attention. We invite you to engage. Please visit the CAC website (link below) to:

- Watch the other committee videos
- Read the CAC Interim Report
- Complete the climate action survey
- Register for a Zoom forum
- Engage through an online bulletin board
- Contact us

<https://svpoa.vt.edu/index/VTCACRevision.html>

***PLEASE FIND LINKS IN THE DESCRIPTION
BELOW***