

Facilities Management | Building Services | Waste Reduction & Recycling

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Gameday Recycling Program Diverts More Than 40 Tons of Material

Auburn students volunteered 237 hours for Gameday Recycling during the 2013 season

AUBURN UNIVERSITY – Auburn University Tiger fans recycled 40.6 tons of material during the 2013 football season. Fans recycled 81,200 pounds of material, a 56 percent increase over the previous season.

Gameday Recycling is an opportunity for the university to demonstrate to the campus community that recycling and waste reduction activities are not limited to the home. Sporting events generate a large amount of waste, much of which can be recycled.

The Waste Reduction and Recycling Department staff placed over 300 recycling bins inside Jordan-Hare Stadium and around campus for fans to recycle their plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Student volunteers passed out recycling bags in tailgate areas before kick-off. Fans were also encouraged to recycle with the "Get Caught Recycling" program. At each home game, one lucky winner was caught recycling and received an autographed football by the head football coach, as well as recognition on the Jumbotron.

Auburn University also participated in the Game Day Recycling Challenge, a competition where schools promote waste reduction at football games. The university competed in four of the five categories (Waste Diversion, Waste Minimization, Per Capita Recycling, Greenhouse Gas Reduction) and placed fourth in the Per Capita Recycling category within the Southeastern Conference (SEC). Auburn's goal is to become the number one recycler in the SEC.

Tiger fans can improve the Game Day Recycling Program in 2014 by familiarizing themselves with what items are approved for recycling. For example, plastic bottles (#1 and #2) and aluminum cans are acceptable, while plastic cups and glass bottles are not. Fans are also encouraged to waste less by carpooling or taking Tiger Transit to the game, buying in bulk, and using reusable items like cups, utensils, plates and tablecloths.

More information about Auburn University's recycling program is available online at <u>auburn.edu/recycle</u>. More information about the Game Day Recycling Challenge is available online at <u>gamedaychallenge.org</u>.

(Written by Courtney Washburn.)

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