



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Facilities Management | Building Services | Waste Reduction & Recycling

Recycling Offers Spring Cleaning Tips

By Joan Hicken

Spring is here and it's time to seize the opportunity to let go of the clutter that has accumulated over the winter months. The Waste Reduction and Recycling Department (WRRD) would like to remind the campus community to reduce, reuse, and recycle when spring cleaning.

"It's understandable to want to hurry through spring cleaning chores," said Barnese Adair-Wallace, director of Building Services. "However, taking a moment to separate recyclables from trash not only benefits our environment by conserving landfill space, but also benefits our bottom line by avoiding disposal costs associated with landfills."

According to an OfficeMax Organization Survey, 77 percent of respondents admitted office clutter negatively affected their productivity, and 38 percent noted office clutter negatively affected their professional image. However, 71 percent felt a sense of accomplishment when they organized their workspace.

WRRD offers the following tips to encourage students, staff, and faculty to reduce, reuse, and recycle this spring:

Reduce

- Buy products in bulk to reduce packaging waste
- Take along reusable bags when shopping
- Use two-sided printing and copying

Reuse

- Trade single-use paper towels for reusable cleaning cloths
- Borrow books from the library
- Carry a reusable water bottle

Recycle

- Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, and other paper
- Plastic bottles #1 and #2 (look for a recycling symbol and the number 1 or 2 at or near the bottom of the container)
- Aluminum cans and steel cans

Incorporating these simple changes into a spring cleaning routine will make a difference in reducing the amount of waste produced and promoting a cleaner, greener year.

Auburn University's recycling program was established in 2005. WRRD manages all waste contracts on campus and provides recycling services to the university community.

More information about Auburn University's recycling program is available online at auburn.edu/recycle.