



U.S. Food Waste Challenge

Reduce, Recover, Recycle

Organization(s):

John Hopkins University

City, State: Baltimore, MD

Website: http://sustainability.jhu.edu/sustainability_initiatives/waste/

What are the reduction, recovery or recycling activities?

Johns Hopkins University is active in reducing waste and promoting recycling and composting on all of its campuses. In the last complete fiscal year (FY2012), Johns Hopkins University achieved an overall waste diversion rate of 41%, surpassing its standing goal of 35%. We are poised to do even better in FY13.

Organic and biodegradable waste collected for compost on campus is taken off-site to a service facility where it is processed into soil for gardening and farming in the region. Beyond creating a new useful product, composting also diminishes the public and environmental health problems caused by traditional waste disposal at landfills and incinerators. Air pollution from the burning and burying of waste in landfills causes public health and environmental problems such as cancer, asthma, and species and habitat loss. Campus compost programs accept all food scraps (pre and postconsumer); all paper products like plates, coffee cups, napkins, and paper towels; and compostable utensils made from biodegradable material. Click on your campus/division to determine if compost collection is available where you are under the "Campus Profiles" section of the site.