



RECYCLE PROGRAM
Established 1976

A. OVERVIEW

It is a goal of the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) to minimize the waste that is produced by the campus community. Keeping waste out of the landfills decreases greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with resource extraction, manufacturing, landfill disposal and incineration, and saves the university money. Student groups, other university departments and contractors work together to promote sustainability.

UMBC Facilities Management coordinates campus recycling for buildings, exterior spaces and special events across the campus. The program is a cooperative effort between the Facilities Management Department, the Housekeeping Contractor, and the Division of Student Affairs. Containers marked for recycling are found in public spaces, hallways, individual academic departments, Residence hall lounges and apartment complexes. Student Workforce will relocate unwanted or reusable furniture, electronics and other large items that can be re-purposed. Surplus furniture, electronics, building supplies and other materials are reused, recycled, or donated to charity.

B. WHAT MATERIALS DO WE RECYCLE?

The UMBC campus recycling program has transitioned to Dual Stream recycling, while it continues to collect certain target marketable materials based on benefits to the campus sustainability effort. Dual Stream recycling is the separation of beverage containers from paper materials. The four major recyclable categories: 1) Paper; 2) Metal cans; 3) Plastic; and 4) Glass bottles are collected in two separate receptacles. Glass, Plastic and cans are collected together and Paper materials are collected separately. Dual Stream recycling is collected in blue plastic bags to distinguish it from waste. Collecting in this manner has proven to produce cost savings to the University. Such funds are returned to the UMBC recycling program for outreach and maintenance.

Note: Nationally standardized labels produced by *Recycleacrossamerica.org*, will be instituted to promote a consistent clear message on each container.

1. Glass Plastic and Cans – Beverage Containers

Recycling containers in interior and exterior public spaces, accept glass, plastic, and cans,. Blue labels for “Glass, Plastic Cans” will be attached to recycling containers.

2. Paper

Academic departments are encouraged to recycle paper through desktop and copy room collection bins. Paper is collected throughout campus in designated bins with light blue labels - “Mixed Paper” or “Paper.”

3. Cardboard

Cardboard is collected and baled at three locations near the food venues at Facilities Management. It is also accepted at mixed recycling dumpsters, located in the residential areas of campus. “

4. Other Recyclable Items

UMBC Facilities Management recycles a wide variety of other waste products commonly produced by the campus community. A variety of other recyclable materials include, light

bulbs/tubes, scrap metal, wooden pallets, ink cartridges, batteries and electronics. Construction materials, carpet and furniture are also recycled, repurposed or donated.

- ***Ink/Toner Cartridges***
Designated collection sites are available in The Commons and The Comm Store for inkjet toner cartridge recycling. Cartridges can also be mailed through interoffice mail to Facilities Management. Departments are encouraged to use return mail labels in the existing packaging for used cartridges.
- ***Light Bulbs***
Facilities Management collects and recycles light bulbs, tubes and light ballasts as they are replaced throughout campus.
- ***Batteries***
Battery collection is located in high traffic areas such as The Commons, and the Comm Store. Facilities Management services the collection stations as needed. Batteries can also be mailed to facilities management through interoffice mail.
- ***Food Waste***
Compostable materials are collected by True Grits dining hall staff, stored in dumpsters that are serviced three times a week. Cooking grease/oil is being recycled from all dining facilities.
- ***Electronics***
The University is currently recycling IT assets such as computers, printers, and copiers. Ongoing collection is available through the AIM Customer Request Service request to the Student Workforce group. As an added benefit the contractor also recycles other electronic devices such as televisions, white goods, vacuums, cellphones and more. A minimum of two e-cycling collection days are held each year in addition to residential hall Move- out collection.
- ***Wooden Pallets***
The university contracts with a vendor that services the campus as an on call basis to collect and repurpose wooden pallets. Wooden pallets, not acceptable for repurposing are also collected for the annual UMBC Homecoming bonfire.
- ***Scrap Metal***
Scrap metals are collected as an ongoing service to departments on the campus. Two containers are located in the Facilities Management yard for aluminum and steel collection. Keys and other target metals such as copper and stainless steel are taken directly to a local recycler for recycling.
- ***Motor Vehicle Materials***
The UMBC Auto Shop recycles used motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, and tires from its vehicle maintenance operations. Old vehicles are either resold or recycled.
- ***Construction Materials***

Each campus construction project is required to recycle materials. Carpeting, metals, hardscape products such as asphalt, pavers and, organic materials are some that are captured for recycling.

C. RECYCLING STORAGE

Recycling storage dumpsters are conveniently located for on-campus apartment residents' use at West Hills, Terrace and Hillside apartments. Recycling dumpsters are located at Central Plant, Harbor, Susquehanna, Erickson and Patapsco. Abitibi Bowater Paper Retriever containers are available to the wider campus community at three locations, Library, Central Plant and Alumni House. The designated contractor services dumpsters three to four times a week. The Commons, University Center and True Grits Dining Hall all have been provided with containers or balers specific to the services for cardboard, mixed, oil and /or composting. Paper filled gaylords, cardboard bales light tubes and other recycling are stored at Facilities Management for pickup by the designated contractor monthly or more frequently as an on call basis.

D. RECYCLING COLLECTION PROCESS

Administrative, Academic Buildings and Outdoor Spaces

Indoor and outdoor recycling bins are emptied and recycling collected by the housekeeping contractor. Special requests for office purging can be made by submitting an AIM Customer Service Request. Facilities Management will collect the items by appointment.

Residence Life Buildings

Indoor and outdoor recycling bins located in public spaces are emptied and recycling collected by the housekeeping contractor. Residence Hall students can deposit their recyclables in recycling bins located on each floor and in the lobbies and lounges. Apartment residents deposit recyclables directly into dumpsters located in residence areas. The bins are emptied on a daily basis.

Special Events

Recycling services for campus special events are requested through the UMBC Events and Conferences Office by submitting an AIM Customer Service Request.

E. WASTE MINIMIZATION

UMBC is dedicated to improving the environment by implementing waste reduction practices. The university encourages the campus community to reduce waste by instituting an active program to sell or donate campus surplus, offering reusable mugs and dinnerware, and installing water stations. The university has created an accrual mechanism to use savings in disposal costs to fund recycling and waste reduction initiatives, and has established a waste and biodegradable composting program.

F. EDUCATION AND MARKETING

Facilities Management in partnership with the Division of Student Affairs has established a team of staff and students to promote recycling and other sustainable practices. The Retriever Sustainability Events

Team (ReSET) promotes recycling through events such as the fall Green and Clean Rally, RecycleMania and several targeted recycling (e.g. E-cycling) collection days throughout the year. Various online communications are used to promote these events as well as recycling best practices and tips.