

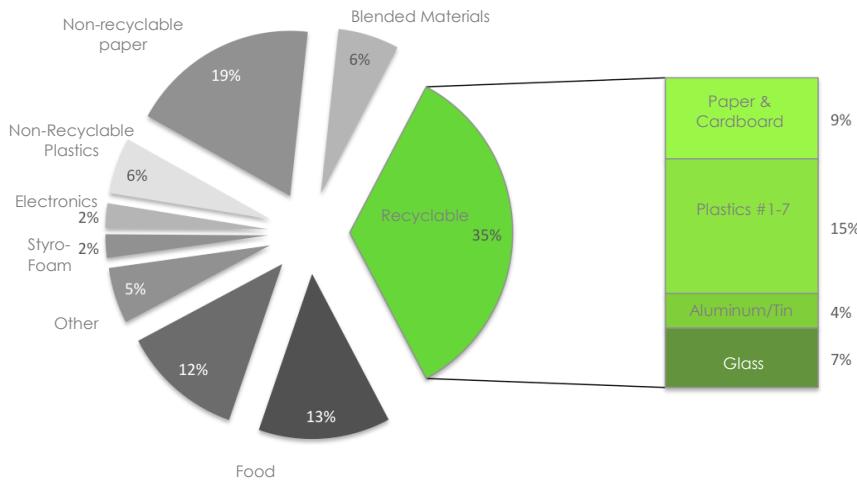


# WKU Resource Conservation

## September 2018

## Education Through Hands-On Engagement

Each year upon request, WKU Resource Conservation works with faculty and students to provide a hands-on learning experience as the Lab component of a Geo-Sciences class curriculum. Each waste audit offers an impactful learning experience for students, while providing valuable data. This fall, we audited the new Parking Structure's waste as a follow-up to their Park Smart Green Structure Certification, as well as Garrett Food Court and Panda Express's waste to determine the effectiveness of the newly installed recycling and composting bins.



### Parking Structure 3

#### An Analysis of PS3's Waste:

- 35% of PS3's Landfilled waste is recyclable
- PS3's recycling rate is 23%
- Most common contaminants in PS3's recycling stream are food, beverages, and blended materials



## Seeing Waste Through a New Lens

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, WKU Resource Conservation coordinated experiences for two students working on a story focused on the, "Movement of WKU's Waste" for the *Talisman*, WKU's award-winning biannual publication. Students met with key informants, rode with WKU's waste hauler, observed a waste audit, and toured the Hopkinsville Landfill, where WKU's landfilled waste reaches its end of life.



# Game Day Initiatives

## GameDay Recycling Challenge

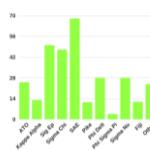


For the 4<sup>th</sup> year, WKU Resource Conservation is competing in the GameDay Recycling Challenge. In this challenge, universities across the country compete to recycle and divert waste. All waste produced from the tailgate area and stadium is weighed to enter as data. One aspect of this program is the greek recycling challenge. Below are the results from the

first two tailgates:

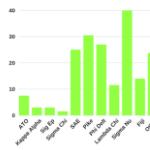
### Greek Tailgating Results

#### Game 1



First: SAE - 68 lbs  
Second: Sig Ep - 50 lbs  
Third: Sigma Chi - 47 lbs  
Total: 309.25

#### Game 2



First: Sigma Nu - 40 lbs  
Second: Pike - 30.5 lbs  
Third: Phi Delt - 27 lbs  
Total: 185.5

### Campus-Wide GameDay Results

#### Game 1

Recycling: 3,360 Lbs.  
Landfilled Waste: 8,080 Lbs  
Food Waste: 657 Lbs.  
Waste Diversion Rate: 31.5

#### Game 2

Recycling: 2,980 Lbs.  
Landfilled Waste: 6,660 Lbs  
Food Waste: 475 Lbs.  
Waste Diversion Rate: 34.2

## Engaging the Stadium in the “Green Goal” Challenge

As a part of the KY Energy & Environment Cabinet’s PRIDE Recycling Grant, WKU worked with Athletics Marketing Department to create a promotional video and on-the-field game to educate fans about which materials can be recycled and to encourage fans to reduce landfilled waste. The promotional video and “live” game will be part of every home football and basketball game throughout the 2018-2019 season – GO TOPS!



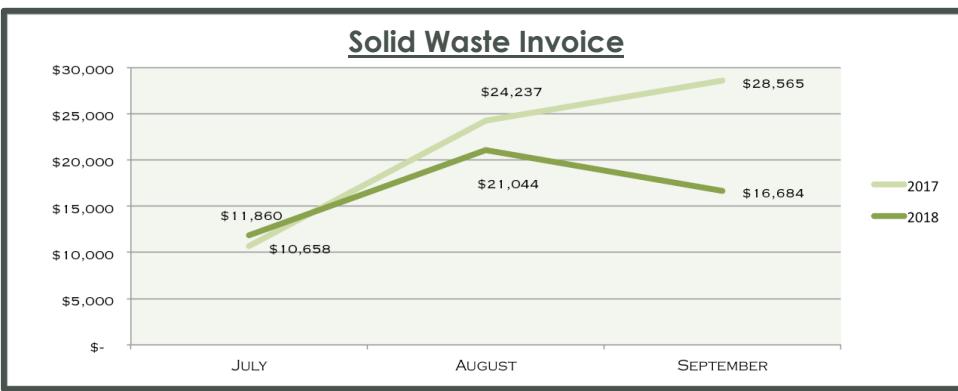
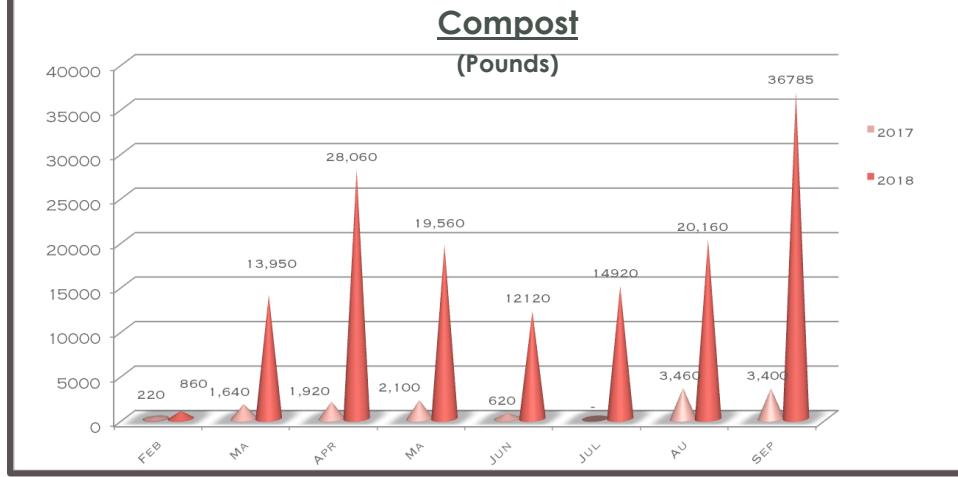
## Rain or Shine: The Smith Stadium Recycling Program

September 9<sup>th</sup> – Farmhouse Fraternity cleaned Smith Stadium after WKU’s first home football game, powering through the daunting task despite the constant downpour. Twenty-one volunteers collected 219.75 pounds liquid waste, 207 pounds of recyclables, and 182.25 pounds of landfilled waste.

September 30<sup>th</sup> – Delta Tau Delta and Potter College Dean’s Council of Students cleaned Smith Stadium after WKU’s 2<sup>nd</sup> home football game. Nineteen volunteers worked for 5 hours to collect 549 pounds of liquid waste, 307.5 pounds of recyclables, and 200.75 pounds of landfilled waste. As a new fraternity to WKU’s campus, Delta Tau Delta earned 50 service hours and \$526 for their organization, while establishing expectations of their members to engage in service, develop character, and strengthen work ethic.

# Compost

- Facilities has collected and composted **146,413** pounds of food waste since expanding compost operations in February, averaging 1,500 pounds/day!
- Sales of compost at the WKU Ag. Farm have **doubled** this year, generating more revenue for student scholarships!
- 41% decrease in cost (\$11,943) compared to September 2017.
- Facilities worked with Dining Services to remove the container previously used for collecting food waste from DSU, which will save the University **\$8,000** annually.



## Surplus Report:

111

Items reused on campus

167

Items transferred to other governmental agencies

259

Items Sold

\$2,350.82

Revenue generated

### Surplus Spotlight: Impacting the Community Reducing Waste

Surplus donated 36 costumes from fashion merchandising's historic collection to the non-profit BG on Stage for their work with youth in the performing arts.

## Recycling

Compared to September of 2017, WKU has reduced landfill waste by 31.8%

- **Single Stream** (including compacted cardboard): 79,584 pounds of paper, cardboard, plastics, aluminum, and glass were recycled in September.
- **Books:** 8,860 pounds of books recycled, saving WKU \$530 in disposal fees
- **Cartridges:** 1,456 used toner cartridges were recycled in September, generating \$249 in recycling revenue.
- **Invoice Credits:** By auditing the Solid Waste Invoice carefully, WKU avoided costs totaling \$1,376.02 for September.