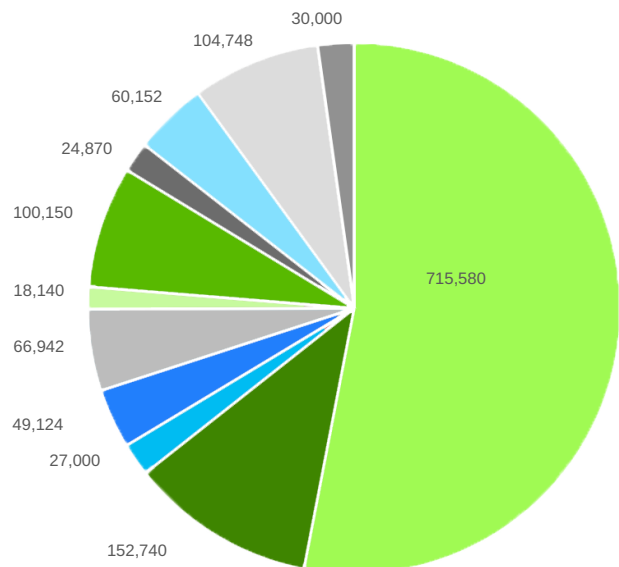


# RESOURCE CONSERVATION

FY18 REVIEW



## Overview



### FY 18 Recycling Breakdown

(Pounds)

- Single Stream
- Cardboard
- Glass
- E-Scrap
- Metal
- Pallets
- Compost
- Books
- Shredded Paper
- Surplus
- Spent Cooking Oil

↑ 23% Increase in Recycling Rate

FY 17: 23.3%

FY 18: 28.7%

↓ 16% Decrease in Landfilled Waste

FY 17: 4,005,264 pounds

FY 18: 3,349,727 pounds

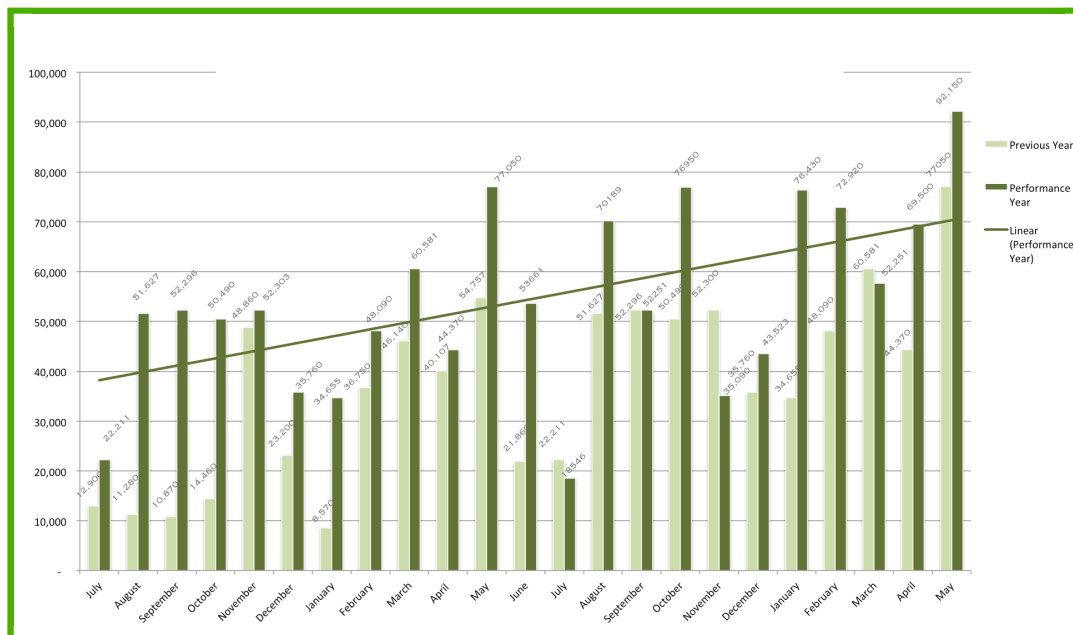
↓ 16% Decrease in Cost\*

- \$15,359 avoided in invoice errors
- \$39,332 avoided in disposal fees by reducing landfilled waste

\*Despite the contractual 3% increase in cost for solid waste & recycling, WKU achieved a 16% reduction in cost

## Single Stream Recycling

Single Stream Recycling is a system in which all paper fibers, plastics, metals, and other containers are commingled and collected together instead of being sorted by the depositor into separate commodities. WKU's commingled materials are sorted at the recycling facility in Louisville, Kentucky. Recycling paper, plastics, cardboard, and aluminum reduces demand for raw materials, conserving valuable resources – both natural and financial.



### FY 18 Achievements

- Increased collection and diversion of recyclable materials from the landfill by 23%, or 66 tons!
- Successfully implemented grant-funded recycling projects totaling \$32,000 that improved recycling collection, educational signage, and outreach
- Received an additional \$71,000 in grant funding to further improve WKU's recycling initiatives

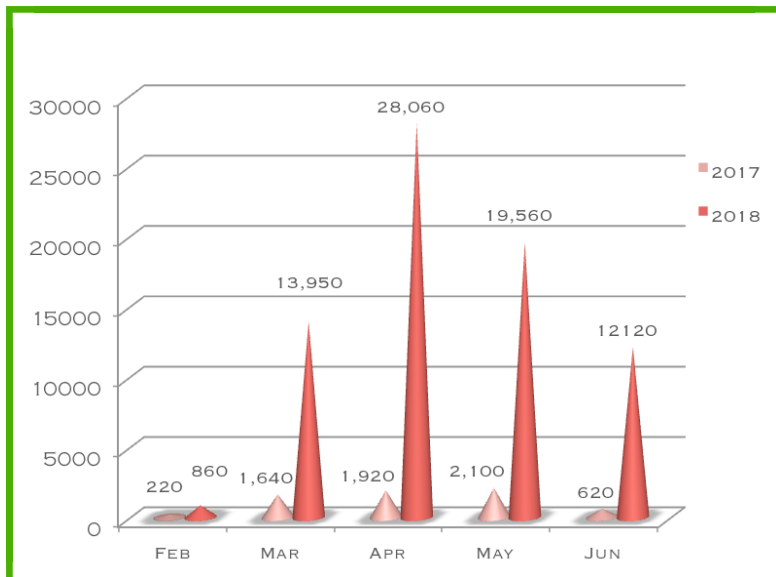


### FY 19 Goals

- Successfully execute grant-funded projects to improve the efficiency of current recycling operations, increase recycling education efforts with students, and raise the profile of recycling at highly-attended football and basketball games
- Reduce costs associated with recycling by \$10,000
- Reintegrate recycling training into DFM's New-Hire Orientation to improve educational reach to all new employees.

# Compost

Composting diverts food waste and other organic material from the landfill, reducing carbon emissions and generating a valuable end-product that improves soil quality and has the potential to generate revenue.



FY 18 Achievements

- Successfully implemented grant-funded projects totaling \$249,000 to expand WKU's existing compost operations. These projects increased WKU's composted food waste 540% from FY17, diverting an additional 76,000 pounds of food waste from the landfill and avoiding \$4,611 in disposal fees.
- Hosted University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and the City of Lexington, showcasing WKU as a best practice for Composting Operations
- 2 WKU Staff members became Certified Compost Operators by Kentucky's Dept. of Compliance Assistance



FY 19 Goals

- Successfully execute grant-funded project to educate students about the benefits of composting
- Incorporate Concessions into WKU's expanded Compost
- Increase compost sales and scholarship funding
- Transition Compost Operations to be Student-driven and maintained.
- Engage Horticulture and Ag Students in research projects

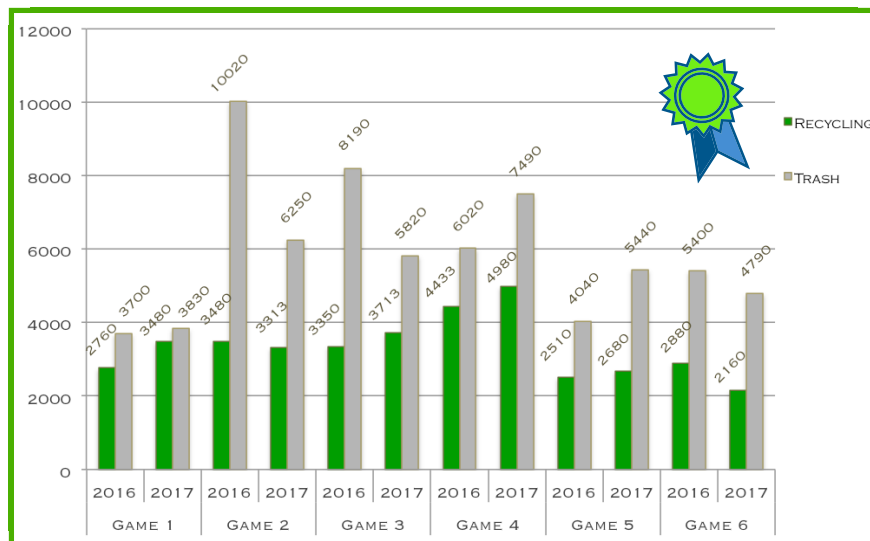
## A Little Healthy Competition...

**GameDay Recycling Challenge** - A friendly-but-fierce national recycling competition amongst Universities throughout the football season. Highly attended athletic events are a great opportunity to increase exposure for recycling initiatives, educate fans, and reduce the waste generated at these events.



FY 18 Achievements

- Advanced 17 places since the 2016 football season and is now ranked 18th nationally.
- Averaged 37% recycling rate for the 2017 football season
- Improved educational signage for recycling throughout Smith Stadium.



FY 19 Goals

- Successfully execute a grant-funded project totaling \$15,000 to promote recycling by engaging fans in an on-field game during each home football game.
- Advance to the Top 10 nationally by including Concessions' food waste into existing GameDay recycling efforts.





# Student Engagement

Engaging students in educational activities that focus on reuse, recycling, composting, and waste-reduction encourages responsibility and positive habits. Many of these activities also provide valuable data, which supports the development of more relevant and effective programming, education, and outreach.



## DIDDLE/SMITH RECYCLING PROGRAM

The Diddle/Smith Recycling Program engages WKU students and fans in WKU's Resource Conservation Program while investing in student organizations and reducing overall costs to the University.

690

STUDENT-VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED IN THE PROGRAM!



2,150

HOURS OF SERVICE!

79%

RECYCLING RATE ACHIEVED, DIVERTING 3,700 POUNDS OF RECYCLABLE WASTE FROM THE LANDFILL!



200%

INCREASE IN RECYCLING COMPARED TO WKU'S CAMPUS-WIDE RECYCLING RATE (24.7%)



720

MEALS DONATED BY THE WKU RESTAURANT GROUP TO STUDENT VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM!



\$13,625

INVESTED IN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS WHILE SAVING THE UNIVERSITY OVER \$16,300!



## FY 18 Achievements

- Implemented the Diddle Recycling Program, engaging students in service, investing in community and student organizations, and reducing cost to the university
- Held WKU's first "Fix It Fest" -- an event focused on addressing the "Disposable Economy" and providing resources for students, faculty, and staff to fix items in need of repair and free repair services. At this event, 13 items were repaired.
- Sponsored M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan's Zero Waste "Farewell Dinner" for incoming freshmen and their parents, assisted with Move-In, provided reusable water bottles for each incoming freshman, provided water-bottle refilling stations at all events throughout the week and implemented a recycling game for sustainable prizes at the Fun Fair.
- Hosted student volunteers with Big Red Blitz for "Weigh the Waste," an awareness activity to illustrate the impact of post-consumer food waste.
- Conducted 4 Waste Characterization Studies in conjunction with WKU Faculty and their course curriculum for GEOS 280: Environmental Science & Sustainability.
- Engaged students in assisting Parking and Transportation in their Park Smart Green Certification to become Kentucky's first Park Smart Green Parking Structure.
- Developed new incentive tool, "Reduce Your Waste-line," to encourage students to reduce their personal waste.
- Presented on Sustainability/Recycling as at WKU's Greek Leadership Symposium.
- Attained approval for sustainability to be a Chapter Development Topic, meaning greek organizations can earn points by having a sustainability speaker at their chapter meetings.
- Developed and Implemented "Borrow-A-Board" to support Housing & Residence Life efforts to promote recycling

## FY 19 Goals

- Expand the Diddle Recycling Program to include all football games and Smith Stadium, Special Events, and basketball games throughout the "J Term," increasing funding and engagement opportunities for students and community organizations
- Advise the SGA Student Sustainability Committee
- Conduct 2-4 Waste Characterization Studies as Lab component to GEOS 280
- Continue involvement with M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan and the Big Red Blitz
- Develop Reduce Your Waste-Line into a semester long guided resolution.
- Continue to build connections with the Greek Community and resources for Housing and Residence Life

# Surplus

Surplus responsibly manages university assets at the end of their life. With a focus on maximizing the utility of each asset, Surplus strives to reuse items as often as possible; however, when assets can no longer serve the University, Surplus transfers them to another state agency, donates them to a local non-profit organization, or auctions them on GovDeals.com.



**WKU SURPLUS AUCTION**  
Online, May 15th-29th

WKU will be sending several vehicles to auction.  
Create a bidding profile online for free at [www.govdeals.com/register/](http://www.govdeals.com/register/)

**WKU Surplus**  
Posted by Courtney Elizabeth Martin  
Tuesday at 2:01 PM · 🌐

Check out these GREAT computer desks! We have 60 student computer desks (30" X 30" X 30") available for reuse as well as 1-2 instructor desks. Please let us know if your department can use these items!



Like Comment Share



**WKU SURPLUS AUCTION**  
Online, April 15th-29th

Auctions occur quarterly on govdeals.com.  
Create a bidding profile online for free at [www.govdeals.com/register/](http://www.govdeals.com/register/)



## FY 18 Achievements

- Held 4 quarterly online auctions on GovDeals.com
- Increased sales 42% from FY 2017
- Sold over 14,000 items via auction on GovDeals.com
- Re-issued over 840 items to campus departments, including vehicles, desks, chairs, monitors, and more, resulting in significant cost saving for over 30 Departments!
- Awarded 5 used computers to students participating in SGA's Earn-A-Computer Program
- Presented on the Earn-A-Computer Program at the 2017 AASHE Conference in San Antonio, TX
- Received Internal Audit's report and recommendations, which led to improvements in Surplus procedures

## FY 19 Goals

- Increase Surplus Sales by 20%
- Increase the number of computers awarded to students participating in SGA's Earn-A-Computer Program to 30, annually. .
- Develop written Standard Operating Procedures for Surplus
- Streamline documentation of all transfers of assets, whether on-campus, to another state agency, non-profit, or public buyer.
- Update Surplus's Policy to reflect Internal Audit's recommendations
- Increase # of items reused on campus by maintaining a strong and consistent presence on the WKU Surplus Facebook page