UW Recycling: Student Cleanup, Recycle, and Moveout



About UW Recycling

OUR MISSION: UW Recycling provides innovative recycling, composting and waste reduction solutions

- Collect waste and recycling across UW Seattle campus
- Manage contracts for all recycling and solid waste vendors on the UW Seattle campus
- Provide waste containers to increase access to waste diversion
- Provide on-site training and presentations for students, faculty and staff



Hierarchy of Waste



WASTE HIERARCHY



UW Recycling & HFS



SCRAM



UW HFS Quick Facts

- 12 residence halls and 8 apartments
- 9,550 current residents
- 89% of students move out in June (9 month leases)
- 11% of students move out in August (12 month leases)
- 57% Washington residents & 23% international students
- 71.1% of freshmen live on campus



What is SCRAM?

SCRAM is UW's way of making sure there is as little waste created as possible from student move out

1-week long event of donation stations set up in residence halls and campus apartments

DON'T FEED THE TRASH MONSTER!





Drop off unwanted items at the SCRAM Donation Station in Haggett: On the outside patio, by the North Tower.



On the Monday of finals week, donation stations are added to key residence halls and apartments on University of Washington's campus in Seattle.



Collection bins and containers are provided for all materials for students to sort their castaway items while they pack up at the end of the academic year.

What does SCRAM Collect?



DONATE YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS TO LOCAL CHARITIES!

Drop off SCRAM items at the Alder donation station: In Alder Commons, room 103.

FOOD Non-perishable, canned or boxed food



CLOTHING, BEDDING, ETC. Accessories, bedding, clothing and shoes



HOUSEHOLD & MISC.

Books, housewares, electronics, sporting goods, school supplies, toiletries and cleaning supplies













Collection Process



All donation stations are serviced once or twice a day Materials are collected by our vendors or our team for further sorting in the UW Recycling warehouse

Items that cannot be donated (such as perishable food, recyclables, used batteries or lightbulbs) are recycled by the team



Emergency Backpacks









Food & Toiletries







Foam Mattress Toppers











Mini-Fridges























Donate

The materials collected go to local non-profit organizations:

University District Food Bank

Northwest Center

Downtown Emergency Service Center





3rd busiest food bank in Seattle

Services for children & adults with developmental disabilities





Connecting people to housing from homelessness

What is Donated?

2023 Donations: 34,000 lbs (17 tons)





Why Does It Matter?

- SCRAM creates a clear diversion path from waste to positive local changes
- New adults are trained to look for ways to prevent waste after their first move out
- Learning donation practices creates active community members
- Increased diversion rates per year indicate an expansion of awareness for the program
- Get a clear look into opportunities for improvement for reducing waste on campus



Sustainability Barriers

- Bulk food and toiletries are cheap and popular, but are rarely used completely in a rent cycle
- Common items (mattress pads, mirrors, cheap furniture, bedding) are not easily reused/donated
- Fast fashion, short term trend-based decor
- Many students live far away when the lease is over
- Transportation of items is challenging
- Parents overbuy for move in





Sustainability Opportunities

- Sharing (food, cleaning supplies) with roommates & neighbors saves money & creates community
- Prevent the need for commonly wasted items
- Make it easier to connect with folks who want items (free trade/thrift)
- Utilize programs that prevent extra item use, such as the Mini Fridge/Microwave Rental Program!
- Shop after move in; Clear communication on what's available in rooms



Future of SCRAM

Helpful Tips:

- Store food to last
- Share with your neighbors
- Borrow or buy with intention
- Assess the longevity of your items
- If you can, take it with you
- Reduce, reuse, and rebuy!
 > UW Surplus!







UW Recycling

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Want to take action? Take our training!

- <u>Staff: Intro To Recycling (Bridge TMS)</u>
- <u>Students: Waste 101</u>