



2022 Campus Race to Zero Waste Case Study

Salisbury University

Contact info:

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Focus of Case study:

Our focus was to reduce the amount of volume entering the landfill from student move out week.

Detailed description of campaign or effort:

Salisbury University's GIVE&GO project was implemented in May 2022 to reduce what enters the landfill from student move out week. Thirty-yard dumpsters are placed around the residential dorms for the increase of waste that student move out brings every year. Students throw away many items that they deem unusable for the next school year or items that simply does not fit in their vehicles when they pack up. Most items they throw away still have a lot of life left to them. Our GIVE&GO stations were set up in every dorm lobby for on campus students to donate their reusable, unwanted items two weeks before the last final. This gave the students plenty of time to pack and move out. In the first week of the project, two staff members went around each station daily to collect items and sort them. Some of the most commonly donated items were: Ramen Noodles or Cup Noodles, full length mirrors, and clothes. During finals week, our loads increased substantially in volume and weight. Not all items were reusable and some had to be thrown away. Our recycling student worker and a few Grounds staff members helped out part-time due to the increase in volume. Whenever we sorted the items, we took them to a local charity in Salisbury, MD, called HALO. HALO is an organization that helps feed and shelter the homeless community through donations and volunteer work. It is an amazing feeling to know that we are helping the local community by giving them clothes and food. It is wonderful to help conserve our local landfill and protect the environment through this project.

Planning steps & timeline to implement:

- 18 April 2022: Recycling staff discussed the idea of doing GIVE&GO stations to reduce landfill volumes from student move out
- 28 April 2022: Recycling staff met with Housing and Residence Life staff members to propose the GIVE&GO project and request door access to dorms

- 1 May 2022: Recycling staff purchases six of the eight-bushel vinyl basket trucks for item collection and created signage to be posted around dorms
- 6 May 2022: Recycling staff received the printed signage and the set up the donation stations (watermelon boxes); this was implemented in every dorm lobby
- 9 May 2022: Recycling staff began picking up items daily from stations and sorting them for HALO
- 16 May 2022: Recycling staff began picking up items twice a day
- 18 May 2022: Recycling staff requests additional help from Grounds' crew and the use of Support Services' box truck due to volume increases
- 20 May 2022: Recycling and Grounds staff spent the whole day collecting items from stations with the use of Support Services' box truck
- 23 May 2022: Recycling staff went around one more time to collect items from stations and multiple trips were made to HALO with donated items
- 24 May 2022: Recycling staff removes signage and stations from dorms. The rest of the donated items were taken to HALO

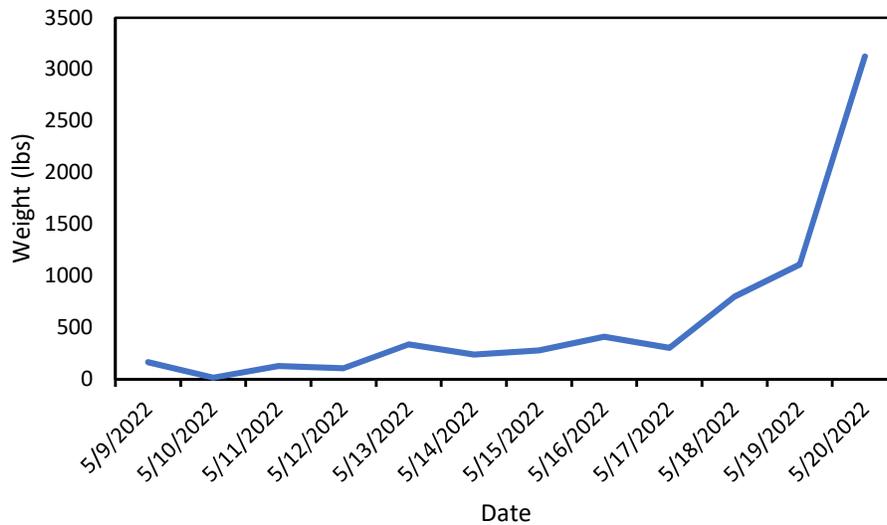
Resources and stakeholders involved

Signage and six vinyl basket trucks were purchased by the Recycling Program. Salisbury University's Grounds, Support Services, and the Housing and Residence Life departments supported this project. Rachael Faust and Richard Shaw were the two staff members who implemented and worked on the GIVE&GO full-time. We had two Grounds staff members and a student worker help part-time during the week of move out. Mark Tolley from Support Services donated the use of their box truck. Jason Mocar, the Assistant Director of Housing, helped in numerous ways. He gave the recycling crew access to dorms, helped spread the word about GIVE&GO amongst the Salisbury University community, and monitored the stations over the weekends with the use of Resident Assistants.

Describe the Results of this campaign component:

The GIVE&GO was a new project at Salisbury University and we are hoping to continue it for every student move out. Twenty-three hundred residential students were given the opportunity to divert items from the landfill and help the local community. We received positive feedback from students, the Housing and Residence Life department, Housekeeping, and other staff members.

Specific measurable impact figures:



We diverted 7,019 lbs. (approximately one thirty-yard dumpster) of reusable items from the landfill and gave it to the community.

What would you do differently in the future?

I think more time for planning, more advertisement, and student/club involvement would make SU's GIVE&GO project more successful. We only had two weeks to plan and implement the project, so there was very little advertisement and notice. We posted on our Instagram page, but it is a newer page with few followers. We also had our Housing & Residence Life send out a mass email to residential students informing them of the project once it was set up and ready to go. Sending a mass email multiple times and having the Residential Assistants helping spread the word would be something we would like to do next time. Some items that were placed in the donation stations were items we could not repurpose. Some edits will be made to our poster for what we are able to take. There were three employees helping with item pick up from donation stations in one truck, which was inefficient. If we could have more help monitoring, picking up, and sorting that would make it a much more efficient project and less labor intensive.

What advice would you give to another college that wanted to do a similar effort?

My first piece of advice would be to have proper staff numbers to assist in picking up and sorting. It can be very labor intensive if it is only a few people working on the GIVE&GO, especially with the afternoon heat. My second piece of advice would be to have the proper materials to help collect and sort. We only bought six vinyl basket trucks and did not have containers to place sorted items in the last two days of the GIVE&GO due to the mass volume of items we received. We ended up ordering more after our GIVE&GO was over due to their usefulness with other recycling activities. My third piece of advice would be to make sure your signage has a "DON'T" section to minimize the items that cannot be reused or repurposed.

Photos and Graphics:



Give & Go

Give your stuff a new life!

DONATE YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS TO LOCAL CHARITIES

Drop off items at the lobby of your residence hall

FOOD

Unopened food & drinks



CLOTHING & BEDDING

Accessories, bedding, clothing & shoes



HOUSEHOLD MISC.

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



For more information contact Rachael Faust: rxfaust@salisbury.edu




 Housing & Residence Life
 SU Recycling Program


[@salisburyuniversity_recycling](https://www.instagram.com/salisburyuniversity_recycling)

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Signage that was posted on and around the GIVE&GO stations.

Instagram posts on our Recycling Program's page: [@salisburyuniversity_recycling](https://www.instagram.com/salisburyuniversity_recycling)

Give & Go

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HOUSEHOLD MISC.
Books, housewares, electronics, sporting goods, school supplies, toiletries & cleaning supplies

For more information contact **Reichel Faust** rafaust@salisbury.edu

Salisbury UNIVERSITY Housing & Residence Life Ski Recycling Program

salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling We are setting up donation stations for student move out in dorm lobbies later this week! Please donate your unwanted items that can be reused by those in need.

Edited · 4w

♥ Liked by esa_salisbury and 13 others

🗨 Add a comment...

Post



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling Our Give & Go Donation Stations are ready for your unwanted items! Give your stuff a new life! These items will be given to those in need.

3w

♥ Liked by salisburyuniversitybarboretum and 26 others

🗨 Add a comment...

Post



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling Gathered 165lbs of reusable items! Please keep donating your unwanted items in the dorm lobbies! Give them a new life!

3w

♥ Liked by esa_salisbury and 14 others

🗨 Add a comment...

Post

RECYCLE YOUR UNWANTED NOTES AND ASSIGNMENTS HERE

PLEASE

RECYCLE

Each ton (2000 pounds) of recycled paper can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, three cubic yards of landfill space, 4000 kilowatts of energy, and 7000 gallons of water. This represents a 64% energy savings, a 58% water savings, and 60 pounds less of air pollution!

salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling There are now paper recycling bins next to our Give&Go Donation Stations! Put any of your old unwanted notes and assignments in there! Please recycle!

3w

♥ Liked by salisburyuniversitybarboretum and 15 others

🗨 Add a comment...

Post



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling Food and Drink donations from our Give&Go went to Food for the Flock! Please keep donating your unwanted items that can be used by others in need!

Edited · 3w

♥ Liked by salisburyuniversitybarboretum and 14 others

🗨 Add a comment...

Post



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling 120lbs of donations were collected this morning! Keep on donating items that can be reused!

3w

♥ Liked by salisburyuniversitybarboretum and 13 others

🗨 Add a comment...

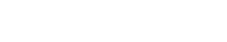
Post



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling Over 300 lbs of items were collected overnight! Awesome guys! The current total we diverted from the landfill is 751 lbs! Today we took food and hygiene items to @foodforthehook. We took clothes and houseware items to HALO (Hope And Life Outreach)

2w



Liked by esa_salisbury and 18 others

Mar 19

Add a comment...



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling So far we have collected over 1,500 lbs of reusable items to give to local charities. Over 400lbs of that was collected yesterday afternoon! Let's try for 2,000 lbs! Please do not put expired items or trash in the donation boxes.

2w



Liked by esa_salisbury and 15 others

Mar 19

Add a comment...



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling Collected 800 lbs of reusable items today! Our most yet! Current total is 2,622 lbs!!

2w



Liked by esa_salisbury and 14 others

Mar 19

Add a comment...



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling We have collected over 1.5 tons of reusable items! Thank you so much to Support Services for the use of your Box Trucks! Thank you to HALO for taking most of the donated items!

1w

suenndepd Amazing work!

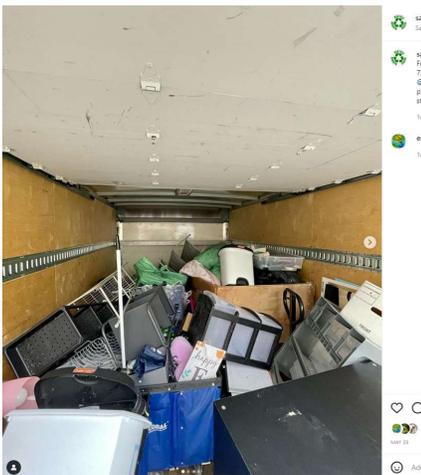
1w Reply



Liked by salisburyuniversityarboretum and 10 others

Mar 19

Add a comment...



salisburyuniversity_recycling
Salisbury University

salisburyuniversity_recycling We collected over 1.5 tons on Friday the 20th. Our grand total for our Give&Go event was 7,000 lbs!! 3.5 tons!! A big thank you goes to @salisburyhousing and Support Services for helping initiate this program. Also thank you to our amazing grounds & recycling staff members who helped us move and donate all these items!

1w

esa_salisbury 🙌🙌🙌

1w Reply



Liked by esa_salisbury and 23 others

Mar 20

Add a comment...