



## Campus Race to Zero Waste Case Study 2023 Texas Woman's University

### Contact information:

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### Focus of Case Study:

- Education and Awareness
- More participation in the Green room certification
- More students interested in sustainability
- Students showing more care for their environment (residence halls)
- Having more recycling bins in more places
- Recycling getting better, aka less trash in recycling cans
- Our end of year evaluation having a better sustainability rating
- More donations than last year/More diversion

### Detailed Description of campaign or effort:

- Green room certification tabling/postering. Fliered buildings with a QR code that directly took you to the green room certification, tabled to inform students of what the green room certification was, listed the tabling events on Pioneer engage.
- Sustainability Week in fall. We had an item swap where students could swap items with each other, any items left over were donated to Donate2Impact, Denton County friends of the family, or the homeless shelter. We had a reusable tote bag painting event where students also learned about how to recycle/what you can recycle. Green room certification tabling. Collection of plastic bags for our on campus food pantry. Know your plate which was a partnership with dining where students learned about different proteins and carbon output.
- Sustainability Fair in the spring had the know your plate activity, green room certification, making t-shirt bags, plants, painting tote bags, and trading cups/mugs.
- Sustainability related videos from Waterbear were shown to our students during Earth Month.
- More vegan meal options at the cafeteria were provided during April.
- Donation drive at the end of school year from Donate2Impact, the purple bins from them on our campus were also filled to the brim from move out.
- Evaluate how much waste was trash vs non trash.
- Sustainability committee formed from staff and faculty.

### **Planning steps & timeline to implement:**

- Plan events, did throughout the year
- Redirect waste, mostly at moveout
- What are we wasting
- Weight metrics of donations/waste
- Work with outside vendors, the city, and the TWU community
- See what resources are available for free/low cost
- End of year survey

### **Resources and stakeholders involved:**

- Waterbear films
- Volunteers from the housing department
- Student volunteers
- Donate2Impact
- City of Denton
- Texas Woman's University
- Budget help from housing for items that would bring students in

### **General results:**

- A total of 36 students did the Green Room Certification process this academic year.
- Our custodians saw less waste in the recycling containers over the year.
- We seemed to have less items that could be reused in our move out trash.

### **Specific measurable impact:**

- We can track the weight of donations from our Donate2Impact bins on campus: Donations from May 2022 2,177 pounds to May 2023 4,435 pounds total for the bins. Our donation drive collected 1,008 pounds total which makes May 2023 donations total of 5,443 pounds, an increase of 150% over last May. Spring 2022 7,587 pounds VS Spring 2023 10,206 pounds for an increase of 34.5% overall.
- The Green Room certifications last year vs this year were significant. We had under 5 certifications last year and this year we had a total of 34 certifications this year, with only 2 applicants not qualifying.
- End of year survey, .01 less than the year before. This shows me that our survey may not be asking the right questions regarding sustainability.

### **What would you do differently in the future?**

- Get RAs to help promote sustainability more (Take residents to a sustainability program once a semester)  
Could also promote sustainability in other ways
- Start early on the diversion project so that way we can get more companies here to divert waste/donations
- At the start of the school year provide students with sustainability info or do it at their orientations
- We had tons of trash piling up including items that could have been donated or recycled. We need to be more proactive next year and start early. Donation drive every two months, once at the end of September and one before everyone moves out in December. Then in the spring before spring break and before move out.
- Do recycling competitions between halls to encourage students to recycle

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

- Start early
- Plan ahead
- Form a group to help with ideas, include students
- Use waterbear as a resource
- Look for free/low cost things you can do to promote sustainability
- Reach out to other schools that already have a thriving sustainability program for ideas
- Talk to your city's recycling program to see what you can do together
- See if there are any local organizations that would benefit from donations

**Photos and Graphics:**

**DONATE 2 IMPACT**

# ITEMS WE ACCEPT

## Pickups & Drop-offs

- Clothing (all types & sizes)
- Shoes
- Purses/Backpacks
- Jewelry & Accessories
- Linens/blankets
- Household items (bath & kitchen items)
- Books
- Toys
- Electronics
- Small appliances
- Small home décor

twuhousing Donate2Impact will be at Lowry Woods this Wednesday, May 10 from 12-3 PM. Donate your unwanted items to make an impact on local communities and make your move-out easier! Please refer to the graphic for items Donate2Impact will and will not accept.

twuhousing

April 22 10-11 AM  
**Campus Cleanup**  
Meet at fountain by the library!

HOUSING & DINING  
TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

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twuhousing Celebrate Earth Day and help clean up campus this Saturday and do your part for the TWU community at Campus Cleanup! Meet at the Library Fountain at 10 AM, gloves and trash bags will be provided, and be sure to follow up your cleaning by visiting the Sustainability Fair from 2-4 at the Hubbard Hall lawn.  
#txwomans #twuevents #earthday2023

April 18

twuhousing

## Sustainability Week

**Green Room Certification 10/24**  
Come learn about Green Room certification and how you can be Certified!  
9 AM Mary's Hall  
10 AM Guinn Hall  
11 AM Stark Hall  
1 PM Lowry Woods community center

**What is "How Good?" 10/25**  
12-2 PM Dining Hall  
Join us at the Dining Hall to find out How Good your food is.

**Know your plate 10/26**  
12-2 PM Dining Hall  
Join us at the Dining Hall from 12-2 and learn more about the plate you choose.

**Falling for CAPRE 10/26**  
5-6 PM PV Courtyard  
Donate plastic bags to the care office and make a fall door dec for your room.

**Paint and Recycle 10/27**  
3-5 PM Guinn Commons  
Paint a reusable tote bag and learn more about how to recycle properly, sponsored by RHA.

**Sustainable Swap Shop 10/28**  
2:30-4:30 PM Hubbard Lawn  
Bring clothing, shoes, accessories, and small household items to swap. As many items as you bring you can leave with. Enter for a chance to win a prize while you swap till you drop.

HOUSING & DINING  
TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

41 likes

twuhousing Learn about sustainable eating practices, green room certification and recycling during Sustainability Week!  
Oct. 24-28  
Get Green Room Certified, take part in the swap meet and more!  
#txwomans #twuevents #SustainabilityWeek

October 19, 2022

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twuhousing Earth day 🌍 2023  
Special thanks to everyone who came out for Campus Cleanup and the Sustainability Fair last Saturday and helped keep the TWU campus as beautiful as possible!  
#txwomans #twuevents

twuevents 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌

April 25



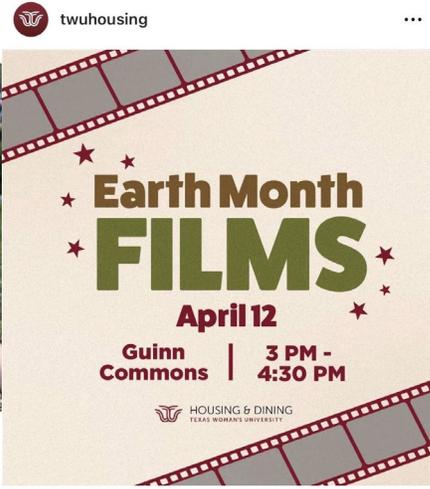
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#txwomans #twuevents

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April 25



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twuhousing Celebrate Earth Month this week and join us in watching some short films about sustainability at Earth Month Films!

Snacks and drinks provided.  
Wednesday, April 12, 3-4:30 PM  
Guinn Commons  
#txwomans #twuevents



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#txwomans #twuevents

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April 25

## ITEMS WE Don't Accept

- Any used medical supplies
- Anything Toxic or flammable
- Blinds
- Building Materials (bricks, lumber, fence posts, tile, etc.)
- Cabinetry
- Chemicals/Oils/Paints
- Countertops
- Doors
- Food - animal or human
- Fuel cans
- Hospital beds/adjustable beds
- Hot tubs
- Large appliances
- Large Exercise Equipment - Heavy Dumbbells
- Light fixtures
- Magazines
- Mattresses/Box springs
- Newspapers
- Office furniture, cubicles, desk, file cabinets
- Pipes
- Scrap fabric
- Sheet Rock
- Sinks
- Soiled, Torn, Damaged, or stained furniture
- Swing sets
- Tires
- Toilets
- Trash
- Tube TV, Tube CRT, and DLP (projection) TV
- Unframed mirrors
- Unprotected Glasses
- Used AC/Heating Units (will take new Inbox)
- Water beds
- Water heaters
- Weapons, Guns, and sword
- Wet, rusty, or broken items
- Windows

[donate2impact.com](https://donate2impact.com)



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