

2024 Campus Race to Zero Waste Case Study Rider University

1. <u>Contact info:</u>

Melissa Greenberg
Director of Sustainability & Special Events
Rider University

megreenberg@rider.edu

(609) 896-5000 ext. 7559

2. Focus of Case study:

Through our strong advertising campaign and various live events, Rider University promoted the reduction, reuse, and recycling of each of the CR2ZW materials.

3. <u>Detailed description of campaign or effort:</u>

Over winter break, Rider's Office of Sustainability took note of all methods used around campus to communicate messages to students. These methods included our newsletter, digital signage across campus, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, mass email, sidewalk chalk, and mass email to all Rider students. After creating an ad campaign spreadsheet, which allowed us to track if and when each method of advertisement was employed, we made sure to push our on-campus events through every approach available to us. It was through these events that we focused on the corresponding CR2ZW material. For example:

Week 1 (Plastic & Glass) – The Office of Sustainability ran a bee's wax paper event where students could make their own reusable food wraps to encourage less plastic & glass for food storage.

Week 2 (Metals) – Rider held an inspiration board night, where students created inspiration boards and used salvaged metals as parts of the backing.

Week 3 (Cardboard) – The Office of Sustainability held a Valentine's Day event where students made cards from recovered cardboard.

Week 4 (Food & Organics) – The Office of Sustainability held a "Weigh the Waste" event where students discarded all their uneaten food into containers. The waste was measured and the results were sent to the student body to remind them to only take what they need. The Food waste then went into a digester. Week 5 (Clothing & Textiles) – The Office of Sustainability held a "Free Shop," where students could donate or pick up gently used clothing, keeping them out of landfills. Additionally, Eco-Pub trivia was held

in our on-campus pub to encourage students who may not be aware of the challenge to attend and learn about the eco-skills. Finally, the office partnered with the Broadway Green Alliance in a Stitch & Mend event which focused on repairing clothes rather than throwing them away.

Week 6 (E-Waste) – The Office of Sustainability held a battery collection for the entire week in their offices. Students, faculty, and staff were urged to bring any used and depleted batteries into our collection site for proper recycling. Batteries were also donated by the Rider Broadway Green Alliance chapter that were slightly used in performance mic packs. Our Facilities Department now uses them in handheld radios.

Week 7 (Recycle at Home) – Students were encouraged to continue their green habits at home during spring break via our social media platforms.

Week 8 (Recap) – The end of the CR2ZW challenge commenced with a discussion about waste & recycling and a showing of the film *The Lorax*.

4. <u>Planning steps & timeline to implement:</u>

- All brainstorming was done during our weekly meetings with our five Eco-Reps (student workers)
- All planning and preparation were done during the Eco-Reps' office hours
 - Each Eco-Rep works in the office a minimum of 2 hours per week.

5. Resources and stakeholders involved:

The vast majority of materials used were salvaged. A budget of less than \$20 was used for the wax used for the bee's wax event. Stake holders include the Office of Sustainability, Residence Life, Rider Dining Services, Rider College of the Arts & Sciences, Auxiliary Services and Facilities Management.

6. Describe the Results of this campaign component:

There has been a noticeable increase in awareness of Rider's recycling programs. The increased visibility of the Office of Sustainability and Eco-Reps has led to an uptick student interest in volunteering for oncampus green events.

- 7. What would you do differently in the future?
 - Partner with more campus organizations to expand our reach
 - Hold live events in dorm buildings to encourage green living & recycling
- 8. What advice would you give to another college that wanted to do a similar effort?
 - Hold events in high-traffic areas at peak times
 - Have a standard pack list, include a display board and promo materials for all upcoming event and programs

9. <u>Photos and Graphics:</u>



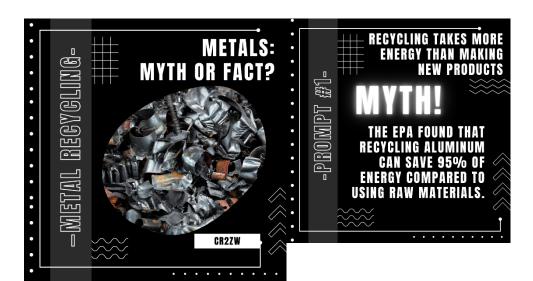












STEEL IS THE MOST **RECYCLED METAL IN AMERICA**

PROMPT

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STEEL COMES NOT ONLY FROM CANS BUT ALSO FROM CONSTRUCTION SCRAPS AND CARS, AND IT CAN BE TURNED RIGHT BACK INTO STEEL USED FOR EXACTLY THE SAME THINGS.

ELECTRIC CAR BATTERIES ARE WORSE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT THAN GAS CARS

(P)

PROMPT

ALTHOUGH THE MANUFACTURING OF ELECTRIC CARS CAN SOMETIMES LEAD TO MORE CARBON EMISSIONS THAN THE MANUFACTURING OF GAS CARS, IT MAKES UP FOR <u>it while driving!</u>

METAL RECYCLING REDUCES AIR POLLUTION

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DID YOU KNOW THAT JUST BY USING RECYCLED STEEL THERE IS AN 86% REDUCTION IN AIR POLLUTION AND A 76 PERCENT **REDUCTION IN WATER** POLLUTION? THAT'S WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO RECYCLE.