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August 2015 EcoFacts



BACK TO SCHOOL: Dormitory Move-out Recycling Programs

Did you know?

When residence halls clear out at the end of the college school year, programs across the country give students the ability to donate unwanted items to their local communities. For the past 10 years, students living in resident halls at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have been given the option to donate items they do not wish to keep by placing them in carts throughout UNL's resident halls during the last two weeks of school at the end of the spring semester.



The carts are supplied and collected by Goodwill Serving Southeast Nebraska. Students can donate clothing, small appliances and furniture. Participation has risen steadily every year. Here's a breakdown of (rounded) amounts collected and residence hall population at UNL in recent years:

Year	Weight	Residence Hall Population	Per Capita Diversion
2015	20,000 lbs.	7300	2.7 lbs.
2014	14,000 lbs.	6900	2.0 lbs.
2013	12,000 lbs.	6500	1.8 lbs.
2012	8,600 lbs.	6700	1.3 lbs.

What can you do?

Contact your local university or college to find out if they have similar programs, and if not, share this information with their housing department. If you have a student attending college, plan ahead for donating or storing items for future use. Also, remember that non-working electronics (anything with a cord) can be recycled by any electronics recycling company.

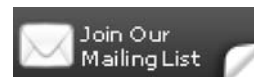
Policy

Colleges and universities with recycling and reuse policies have better diversion rates than those without. Policies provide the guidance and reasoning behind the preferred behaviors, and help drive infrastructure development to support the intended outcomes. Policies often include specific information on source reduction, purchasing, recycling and reuse, and a mandate for data collection.

Visit www.wastecapne.org for all your recycling needs.



WasteCap Nebraska
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