



Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

9 a.m.

Via Zoom

MINUTES

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, John Duggan, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Jessa Gagne, Lori Harris, Gina Herosian '23, Bob MacEachern, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Rob Rodgers, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Colin Spencer, Greg Wolfe

Guests: Corey Bova of Clean Way Waste Services, Prof. Eric LeFlore

The meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

1. **Clean Way Waste Services** – Corey Bova, Sales Manager, was invited to discuss how we can work together to improve our reduce, reuse, and recycle efforts. Clean Way tracks our monthly trash and recycling tonnage, which will assist us in determining our progress. Our total waste since May 2021, is 527 tons of material, 15% of which are recyclables.

It was noted that recycling should be simpler. Often, we can't determine what is acceptable to recycle, and we don't want to contaminate the load. Corey noted a single stream recycling guide on their website (page 3 of these minutes). He explained that Clean Way's recycling is brought to either Waste Management in Avon or Casella Waste Systems in Charlestown, where it is sorted. Corey stated that Stonehill has not had any food contamination issues.

Clean Way is exploring composting services, but they currently don't offer it.

Greg asked Corey to help us educate our students and to attend the monthly ESC meetings, if available. He also noted that visiting a recycling facility might be helpful.

2. **Metrics** – Craig shared three slides (see page 4) showing data for our waste/recycling and carbon usage. Over the past few years, we are consistently recycling 16-22% of our total waste.

Although the Covid pandemic has skewed the data, we have clearly reduced our carbon footprint. This is due to major energy projects in our older buildings, water conservation projects, the green container initiative, having more efficient vehicles, and many other initiatives. Despite the large additions of Meehan and May Halls, their systems are much more efficient than those of Stanger Hall and the Old Student Union. It was noted that we need to publicize our achievements better.

John would like to see specific, measurable sustainability goals included in the strategic plan. Please reach out with your ideas.

3. **Stonehill Climate Summit** – Professor Eric LeFlore, Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Science, discussed the campus-wide climate summit being planned for March 30 (tentatively). This will coincide with the *Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice* being coordinated by Bard College. Professors LeFlore and Hauff are seeking involvement from students, faculty, and staff, to engage as many people as possible. The hope is to have student-moderated panels for active discussion on climate change. Reach out to Eric with panelist suggestions eleflore@stonehill.edu.

It was noted that there will be a student-led *Lead for Justice* workshop on April 2, and perhaps the two events could be linked.

4. **November 30 Meeting Minutes** – Cheryl noted a couple of edits to the minutes. The minutes were approved as amended.

5. **Sub-Committee Updates**

Waste Reduction

Bob noted that the group discussed five drop-off locations for the Choose2Reuse containers.

Bob, Cheryl, and Susan Viera will be meeting shortly to discuss ideas for labeling the containers.

Choose2Reuse

Cheryl announced that the pilot is going strong this semester. Volunteer *green shirts* are available during lunch and dinner, to guide students through the Choose2Reuse process.

Kathleen noted that the app was down briefly on Monday night, and that some students are taking the green containers without scanning them. She suggested having more green shirts.

Cheryl noted that there are four interns working on the Choose2Reuse rollout.

Bob offered to have green containers collected over spring break.

Communications/Marketing

Colin noted that the group will be meeting shortly. He intends to send out a bunch of emails this semester, now that a template has been developed. This group will assist with publicizing the Choose2Reuse rollout.

Real Food

The group was unable to meet this month.

6. **Other Business**

Greg stressed the need for student involvement on this committee.

7. **Upcoming Events**

- Fridays in February from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: **Food Solutions New England's Winter Series**. Register for part or all sessions [here](#).
- March 16 at 7 p.m. in Martin Auditorium: **St. Andre Lecture "We Are Creation Too: Learning From and Living Out Pope Francis's Laudato Si"**, presented by Fr. Daniel Horan, OFM, Professor of Philosophy, Religious Studies and Theology at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, IN.
- March 30 (tentative): **Stonehill Climate Summit**, organized by professors Eric LeFlore and Martha Hauff, in conjunction with the *Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice* organized by Bard College.
- April 4-24: **FSNE's 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge**. For information and registration, click [here](#).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Upcoming meetings:

February 22 at 9 a.m.

March 29 at 9 a.m.

April 26 at 9 a.m.

Please remember to send information about all campus wide sustainability-related initiatives to Deb in order to be captured in the next Sustainability Report.

Submitted by Deb Norton

CLEAN WAY WASTE SERVICES, INC. – SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAM

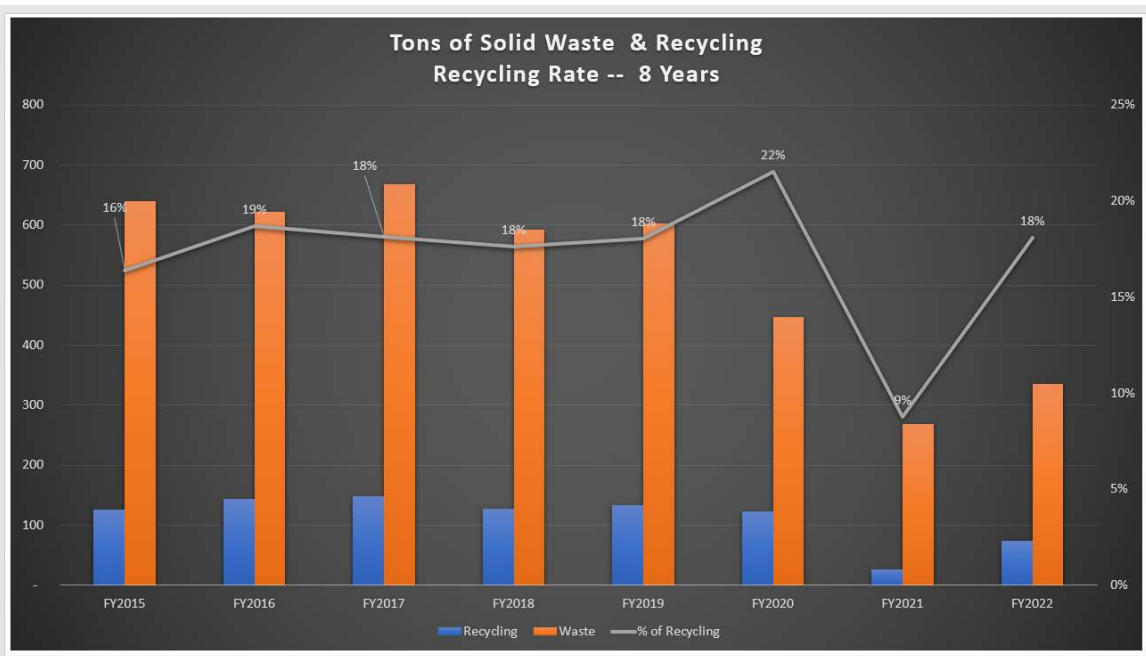
Below are items that you CAN recycle in our program:

*Note: **ALL CONTAINERS MUST BE EMPTY & CLEAN*

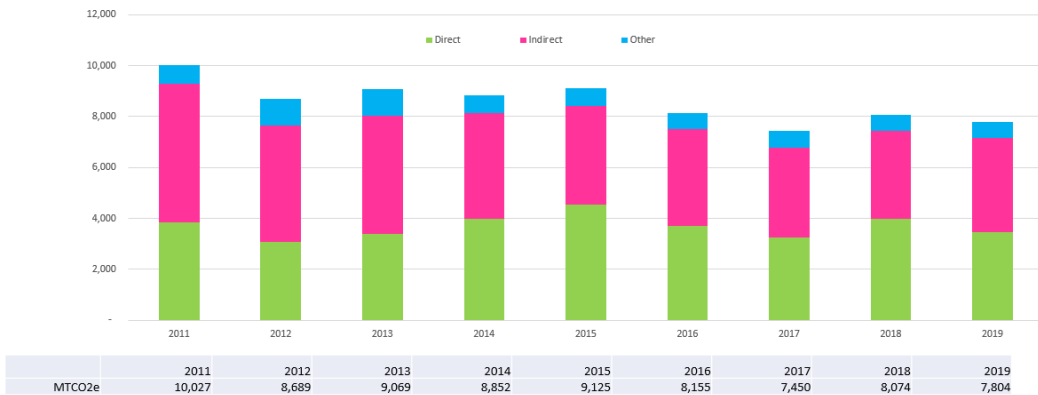
- Paper (newspaper, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, envelopes)
- Clean cardboard and boxboard
- Paper egg cartons
- Paper bags
- Office and school papers
- Empty glass jars and bottles
- Aluminum cans and clean foil
- Empty tin and steel aerosol cans
- All plastic containers labeled #1 and #2

What is NOT recyclable in this system?

- No garbage
- No food waste or food tainted items (used paper plates or boxes, paper towels or paper napkins)
- No polystyrene or styrofoam
- No motor oil bottles
- No hazardous chemical containers
- No plastic toys or sporting goods
- No electronics or batteries
- No compact discs or DVDs
- No foam egg cartons
- No ice cream cartons
- No light bulbs
- No yard waste or garden tools
- No pots and pans
- No phone books
- No pizza boxes
- No mirrors or window glass



Carbon Footprint by Fiscal Year



Scope Definitions

Scope 1: On-site/direct emissions

- Burning natural gas and oil for heat.
- Fuel for vehicles that fill up on campus.
- Propane, refrigerant & fertilizer used on campus.

Scope 2: Indirect emissions

- Emissions from purchased electricity

Scope 3: Other indirect emissions

- Sewer and septic systems
- Trash

