

FLC Waste Reduction Program

Mission Statement:

The Waste Reduction Program at Fort Lewis College serves the entire campus community by the collection, processing and marketing of recyclables on campus as well as the promotion of reduction, reuse and recycling through education and experience.

Organization:

The oversight and execution of the program is filled by two positions: Waste Reduction Manager who will oversee the solid waste and recycling programs, work on education of waste reduction, maintain contact with the community, and secure outlets for our commodities; and Recycling Processor who will maintain the recycling sites, collect, sort and process the materials for marketing. The Recycling Processor will report to both the Waste Reduction Manager and the Grounds Crew Supervisor at the Physical Plant. The Waste Reduction Manager will report to the Director of the Physical Plant and collaborate often with the Environmental Center Coordinator.

Long term vision:

The Waste Reduction Program aims to limit the amount of solid waste produced by Fort Lewis College. through means of education about, and implementation of, reduction, reuse, buying recycled and source separation as well as recycling services. Dumpster Surveys can be conducted to advise the campus where dumpster use can be reduced and where extra education about proper recycling is needed. A waste exchange program can be implemented on campus in order to reduce both solid waste and purchasing needs. The expansion of recyclable commodities will also reduce the solid waste on campus and generally improve the local and global environment.

Benefits to the Campus/Community:

Reducing waste on our campus will benefit both our campus as well as the surrounding local and global communities. Implementing measures to reduce our waste will result in a reduction in waste related fees which are currently between \$40,000-\$50,000 annually. An institution of higher education has more important priorities than filling a hole in the ground. Such a reduction will also extend the lifetime of our local landfill in San Juan County, NM, Crouch Mesa. A waste exchange program will reduce the need for purchasing the amount of supplies thus reducing more costs. Reducing our purchases, increasing recycling, and increasing our purchases of recycled products will all help to significantly reduce pollution, energy, and resource consumption; further helping our global environment.