

Integrated Waste and Discard Management Policy Committee Charter

Overview

The Yale Integrated Waste Management Committee will be responsible for making recommendations on the full range of issues that relate to the production, disposal, reuse and management of solid, universal and hazardous waste generated on the Yale University campus.

Committee recommendations will take into account: the daily activities of campus personnel; existing infrastructure for disposal including recycling; procurement strategies; funding sources and levels that are realistic and feasible within Yale University budgetary policies and constraints; best practices; projected institutional growth; local, state and national regulations; and the teaching, research, and public service missions of Yale University.

Goals and objectives

The goal of the Committee is to develop a set of recommendations that guides the University towards an integrated waste management system.

The recommended system shall strive to:

- Reduce the number of costly waste shipments
- Reduce the volume of the solid waste stream
- Reduce the toxicity of the solid waste stream
- Increase environmental awareness
- Increase recycling efforts and rates
- Assure that solid waste management activities are conducted in a manner that is protective of ecosystem-health and human health
- Promote environmental stewardship at the University.

Background

Integrated Solid Waste Management Systems (ISWMS) differ from a conventional waste management system by incorporating waste prevention, resource recovery analysis and departmental participation in the planning process. The implementation of an ISWMS plan leads to a unified system of waste disposal. A successful ISWMS can lead to a reduced waste stream and reduced costs.

Yale waste streams include:

1. Abandoned property waste/Surplus
2. Animal waste/bedding
3. Bulky waste: furniture, mattresses
4. Chemical waste
5. Constuction/demolotion debris
6. Electronic waste
7. Food waste
8. Infectious waste
9. Municipal solid waste

10. Radioactive waste
11. Storm water waste
12. Surplus materials
13. Universal waste
14. Yard/roadside waste

Deliverables and time line

Phase I: complete by January 15, 2005

Phase II: complete by May 1, 2005

Approach

Phase I: complete by January 15th, 2005

a. Data gathering:

1. Establish a baseline of information that outlines the multiple waste streams and annual disposal figures.
2. Review the current process of collection and disposal including personnel, costs, time, and existing infrastructure.
3. Establish a comprehensive list of best practices from comparable institutions.
4. Determine how procurement strategies can incorporate waste management goals and objectives.

b. Outreach and engagement

Public/invited community forum: The public forum would provide an opportunity for the Yale community members to learn about and provide input into the process.

Outreach to established groups/organizations: Strategically reach out to already existing groups to solicit input and feedback.

b. Analysis

Review the collected data and apply a framework by which to analyze the information and develop conclusions. Establish targets for waste (solid, hazardous, radioactive) reduction, an increase in universal waste collection, an increase in recycling and an increase in the types of items that can be recycled.

Phase II: complete by May 15th, 2005

a. Recommendations and opportunities

Develop and present a comprehensive set of short and long-term recommendations that responds to the issues of supply and demand as well as projected institutional growth.

b. Outreach and engagement

Organize a follow-up public/invited community forum and return to the visited groups. The second visit will both inform and solicit input on the first draft of recommendations.

c. Implementation

Initiate the process of implementing the endorsed set of recommendations.

