



An electronic newsletter produced by GA Tech's Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling (OSWM&R)

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In This Issue

[Earth Day Booth Registration](#)

[Students Develop Recycling App](#)

[Game Day Recycling Update](#)

[GT Recycling Receives Recognition](#)

[Ask Enviro-Man](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

Recycling Tips

Did you know you can make your holidays green and earth-friendly too? The "Green Your" website has a list of [12 Ways to Green Your Christmas](#), such as using eco-friendly bulbs and wrapping paper. Visit their website to learn more:

<http://www.greenyour.com/lifestyle/events/christmas/tips>

Earth Day Booth Registration Now Open

Don't miss your chance to have a booth at Georgia Tech's 16th annual Earth Day Celebration! The 2013 Earth Day Celebration will be held on Friday, April 19 from 10am – 3pm on Tech Green. The Earth Day planning committee is currently seeking exhibitors for the event. Both on and off-campus groups are welcome, and hosting a booth is free.

If your company or organization is focused on the environment or sustainability and can help us communicate this year's theme: "TECH for a Greener Future," we would like to invite you to host a booth. Booths are available on a first-come first-serve basis. Please go to www.earthday.gatech.edu/registration.html for more information and to request a booth.



Computer Science Students Develop “Bin There” Recycling App

This semester, a group of Computer Science students have worked with the OSWM&R to develop a recycling app for Georgia Tech. Kyle Kukshtel, Madhura Bhawe, and Clay Garrett created the “Bin There” recycling app as part of the requirements for the senior design course Computing for Good.

Tell us about the project you are working on and what the goals are. Our project for the OSWM&R is called “Bin There”. Bin There attempts to increase overall awareness of recycling across campus by challenging students to locate the recycling bins at Georgia Tech. Each time they find a bin and “tag” it via our developed app, they will gain points. Participants also earn points by answering recycling trivia questions. The goal is to hold a contest every semester where students try to get the highest score in the app by tagging the most bins.

Why did your team decide to work with the OSWM&R? We all liked the idea of making an impact right here on campus. We knew that Tech was well recognized for its green initiatives and focus on sustainability, and being able to contribute to those types of initiatives really intrigued us. The solution we came up with was also derived from a relatively open-ended premise, so we got to engage many of the skills we learned at Tech to arrive at an appropriate solution and then implement it.



Computer Science students (from left to right) Kyle Kukshtel, Madhura Bhawe, and Clay Garrett developed the “Bin There” recycling app in their senior design course, Computing for Good.

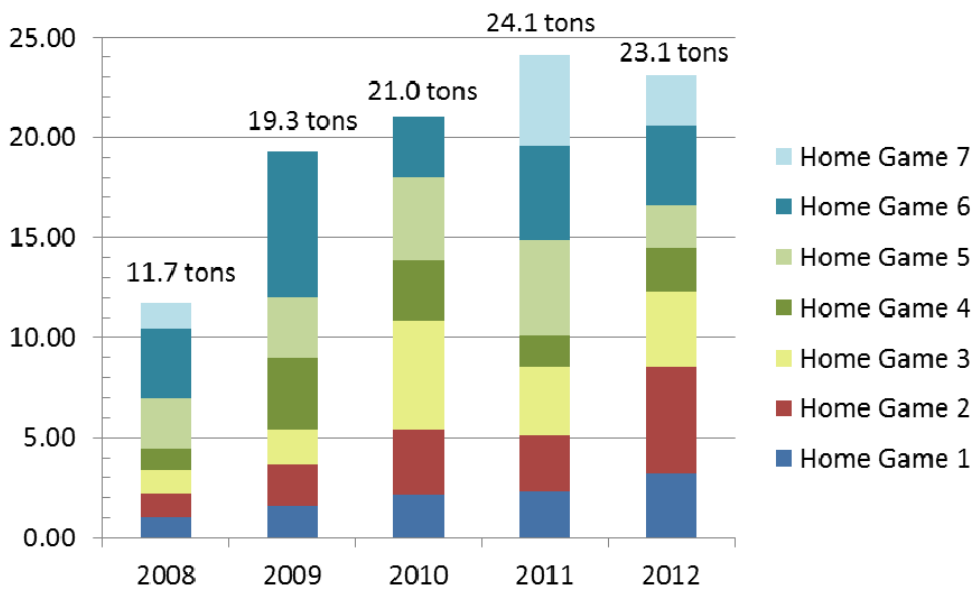
What are your team’s accomplishments this semester and what are the future plans for this project? This semester we were able to develop the app as well as get some initial tagging of bins done. The app works: users are able to sign in with their GTID, go to the bins that we have stored in our database, and receive points for tagging them. The next step will be to get GPS locations of all the bins on campus (there are more than 200!) and adhere a code to them, that way students will potentially be able to learn where every bin on campus is.

Was there anything that surprised you while working on this project? We were surprised to find out how well it worked! We did a large scale user test among the other students in Computing for Good where they were tasked to find all the bins in either Klaus or Clough, and more than half of the students reported knowing where the bins were after the test was over. This is very much in line with our original goal, so we were all very pleased!

Game Day Recycling Program Wraps Up Fifth Season

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Game Day Recycling program this season! The OSWM&R would especially like to thank the 215 student volunteers who helped out this semester. This season we were able to collect 23.1 tons of bottles, cans, and food waste. Since the program began in 2008, 99.2 tons of material have been diverted from the landfill.

Materials Diverted From the Landfill by the Game Day Recycling Program (tons)



Georgia Tech's Recycling Program Receives Recognition

Georgia Tech's recycling program was recently recognized by TheBestColleges.org. The college and university ranking site named the Institute on its list of [11 College Recycling Programs That Put All Others To Shame](#). The organization was impressed by our Game Day Recycling program, day-to-day recycling programs, and our recycling and donation drives during spring semester student move-in.



ASK ENVIRO-MAN



Question: I don't want to throw away my tree when the holiday season ends. Is there a way to recycle it?

Answer: Usually there are tree recycling or mulching projects in communities across the U.S. Often your local public works department will shred the tree to provide mulch for your garden or for city parks. Depending on the area, sometimes the chipped trees can be used to renew hiking paths or to create soil erosion barriers along lake shores. You should also check with your local Home Depot. Some of them offer Christmas tree recycling in select areas. Just call up your local store to see if they are participating. You can also check for local tree recycling at Earth911: <http://search.earth911.com/>. Just search for "Christmas tree" and plug in your ZIP code.

To ask Enviro-Man a question, [click here](#).



Here are some of the things we are looking forward to this holiday season:

- ★ What is your favorite holiday tradition? *"Setting out cookies and milk for Santa"* – Cindy
- ★ Who do you usually spend the holidays with? *"Friends and family"* – Heart
- ★ What are your plans for the holidays? *"I'm going back to Alabama to see my Mom and family there. Mostly, I'm looking forward to relaxing with friends."* – Nick
- ★ What did you ask Santa to bring you this year? *"A pocket full of money, a whole fridge full of eggnog and sweet potato pies, and a new Range Rover truck!"* – DeMarco

Opportunities and Upcoming Events

[A Year In Green, 2012 Holiday Celebration](#)

Environment Furniture, in the White Provision Building
1170 Howell Mill Rd., Atlanta, GA 30318

Thursday, December 13 (7-11pm)

Admission: Free

At the 2012 'A Year In Green' Holiday Celebration, nonprofits, professional groups and businesses from across the city will gather to celebrate a year of environmental achievement and shared goals for a bright green future. All members of the community are welcome to attend (no memberships required). Admission is free and there will be free food, drinks and valet parking. Live music and a DJ. Raffle tickets are available for purchase, with proceeds benefitting the Georgia Conservancy.

[Recycling Innovators Forum Offers \\$20,000 Prize for Best Idea](#)

Open to anyone willing to participate, the Recycling Innovators Forum and Competition seeks original and actionable innovations that have the potential to transform the recycling industry. With the long-term goals of awarding invention, originality and measurable improvement in recycling customer experiences, processes, technology and markets, the Recycling Innovators Forum and Competition organizers have identified more than a dozen topics innovators can focus their efforts on. These requests for proposals cover everything from recycling markets, to engineering improvements, to innovative collection ideas, and more.



More information, including a complete list of rules and requests for proposals, can be found at www.recyclinginnovators.com. Note that a 3-4 page abstract should be submitted before January 7, 2013 to be considered.

Comments and Suggestions

If you have any questions or suggestions about our program, please feel free to contact us by simply replying to this [newsletter](#). We are here to help, and together, we can work to benefit the environment.

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Visit Our Website

As part of our effort to provide you with better services we continually update our website. Recycling guidelines and useful links can be found at www.recycle.gatech.edu.

[Back to top](#)