



WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

# Recycling Volunteer Guide

Thank you for volunteering with WKU Resource Conservation!

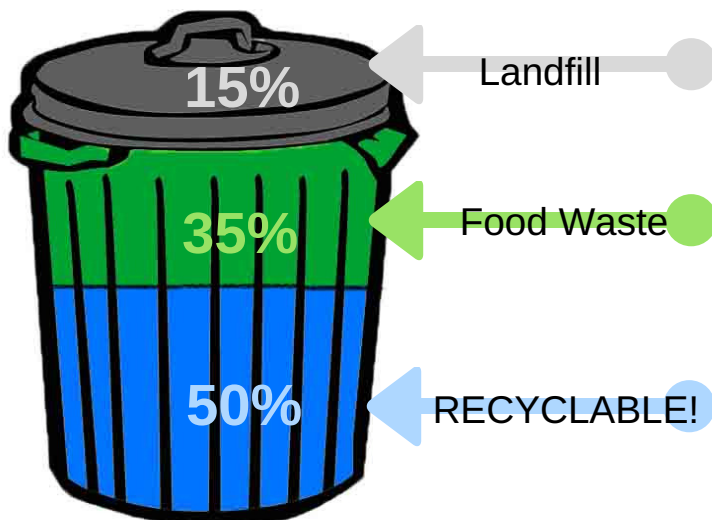
Resource Conservation manages Western's recycling, composting, waste reduction and surplus efforts; but we are best known as "The Recycling People". Recycling is a huge part of WKU's sustainability goals, but it is up to the students, faculty and staff to attain this goal. As a recycling representative, you are helping educate the campus on what and how much is recyclable.

As a recycling representative, make sure to offer as much information as possible regarding recycling practices, including why an item is or isn't recyclable. We want our campus community to develop a deeper understanding of waste disposal. Recycling can be confusing, so thank you for delivering clarification and enthusiasm to WKU!

WKU has recycling partnerships with Southern Recycling, C&I Electronics, Staples, Parish Recycling and QRS.

Our current recycling rate is 23%, but our goal is 35% by 2020!

## WKU's Waste Stream



## Recycling..

- Conserves natural resources by reusing substances already extracted.
- Gives waste products a new purpose
- Offers a responsible waste disposal option.

WKU is able to offer single stream recycling and accept a wide range of materials because we transport our waste to QRS in Louisville.

## Recycling Representative Volunteer Guide

### RECYCLING

#### Paper

- Magazines, printer paper, etc.

#### Cardboard

#### Plastic Bottle

#### Aluminum Can

#### Batteries

- There are battery buckets located in various buildings across campus.

#### Zipblock bag

- QRS, WKU's recycling collector, specializes in unusual plastics. On campus, we can accept clean, clear plastic bags

#### Ink Cartridges

- Cartridge bins are located near most large printers. To request a bin email [elizabeth.gafford@wku.edu](mailto:elizabeth.gafford@wku.edu)

#### Paper Cup

- QRS can accept paper cups

#### Electronic waste

- Discarded or unneeded electronics must be electronically recycled separately. They can be brought to the 2nd floor of the supply services to be recycled

#### Paper Bag

- Clean Paper bags can be recycled

#### Plastics 1-7

### LANDFILL

#### Napkins and Paper Towels

- Napkins and Paper Towels are any "end of life" paper product, so they are too weak to be recycled.

#### Laminated Paper

- Laminated paper is considered a blended material since the paper and plastic cannot be separated.

#### Granola bar wrapper

- Chip bags are considered a blended material, so they must be placed in the trash.

#### Straws

- Straws are too small and too weak of a material to be recycled

#### Plastic Fork

- Forks are too small to be recycled

#### Styrofoam cup

- Styrofoam can only be recycled in select cities on the west coast.

#### Grocery Bag

- Walmart bags are an end of life plastic product, to our recycling collector cannot accept them. However they can be returned to the store for recycling.

