



Event and Venue Recycling Case Study: Friday Fest, N.C. State University

Recycling since: 2006

Type of Event: Outdoor concert: N.C. State University's Lee Field

Recycles: Aluminum cans, plastic bottles, cardboard, food composting

Cost of Service:

The cost for dumpsters, bins and bags would have cost around \$300, but Waste Reduction and Recycling donated the items as a sponsor of the event.

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Description

Every year, N.C. State University holds an outdoor concert called "Friday Fest" as an ending to "Wolfpack Welcome Week." The concert is held every year on campus and has been recycling items since 2006. At the 2009 concert, plastic bottles, aluminum cans and corrugated cardboard were recycled. Food composting was also offered for the first time. Approximately 5,000 people usually attend the event.



Implementation

The campus Waste Reduction and Recycling office placed recycling and food compost bins next to trash receptacles throughout the event grounds. They were strategically placed by entry ways, populated areas and next to food vendors. Volunteers helped monitor the recycling and food compost bins to make sure there was minimal contamination. Additionally, an informational booth and signs were present at the event to promote recycling and educate attendees and vendors about suitable items to recycle and compost. Event bins included 45-gallon blue barrels for trash, recyclables and food waste. One 8-cubic-yard trash Dumpster and one 8-cubic-yard cardboard Dumpster were provided for vendors.

Because volunteers were largely responsible for the recycling efforts during the event, it was necessary to educate and inform them about their responsibilities. All of the volunteers went through a brief training to learn what materials could be recycled or composted. The crews that collected the containers were also educated about composting. There was a concerted effort by Waste Reduction and Recycling to educate and inform all those in attendance about the importance of recycling.

Results

Overall, the efforts of Waste Reduction and Recycling have been successful at diverting a considerable amount of waste. Eighty-two percent of the waste produced at "Friday Fest" was diverted from the landfill by means of recycling and composting.

Waste Reduction and Recycling is going to continue to provide recycling and composting at the event and hopes to increase awareness with attendees and vendors about what items can be recycled and composted during the event.

2009 Friday Fest Waste Streams

