



Plastic Bottle Recycling

Case Study: **UNC-Chapel Hill Football Stadium**

Recycling since: 2006

Type of facility: Football stadium

Serves: on average more than 50,000 a game

Recycles: bottles/cans, corrugated cardboard

Description:

The University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill has been actively recycling at its stadium events since 2006 and has been consistently improving upon its initiatives since the induction of its program. The facility actively recycles cans and bottles as well as corrugated cardboard.



Implementation:

The attendance for each game during the season averages around 58,000. With such a large quantity of individuals in attendance it is necessary for the sports facilities to bring in additional bins to account for the increased recycling capacity during these periods. An effort is made to distribute the recycling bins (which are barrels with the recycling logos and stickers) so they are placed next to trash receptacles to further assist with waste diversion. The recycling material is commingled. Assistance is provided by Waste Industries which supplies additional roll-off dumpsters to hold the trash and the recyclables, however, the responsibility for maintaining the bins before, during and after the event is the responsibility of the on-site maintenance and cleaning crews employed through the university.

Results:

UNC – Chapel Hill is consistently trying to improve its recycling initiatives and has recently conducted a pilot for recycling during tailgating. The fans attending the games were encouraged to dispose of their trash and recyclables prior to the game which significantly decreased the subsequent waste left for post-game cleanup. Additionally, vendors are dealt with on an individual basis so that they understand that it is required that they actively engage in recycling their corrugated cardboard and other relevant material.



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