Campus Race to Zero Waste 2021 Final Results

2.9 Million College Students and Staff Participate in National College and University Waste Reduction Competition

2021 Winners

Zero Waste category:
Kent State University at Kent, Ohio (*only one campus was awarded in this category because all participating campuses were large campuses.)

Food Organics category:
Small campus – Macalester College, Minnesota
Medium campus – University of North Carolina Asheville, North Carolina
Large campus – University of California Irvine, California

Diversion category:
Small campus – Macalester College, Minnesota
Medium campus – Seattle University, Washington
Large campus – Grand Valley State University, Michigan

Per Capita category:
Small campus – Rhode Island School of Design, Rhode Island
Medium campus – Wilkes University, Pennsylvania
Large campus – Stanford University, California

Race to Zero Waste—One Building Challenge:
Aquinas College, Michigan

Electronics:
Per Capita - Southwestern College, Kansas
Total Amount Recycled - Kent State University at Kent, Ohio

*Due to COVID-19 pandemic closings and increased online learning, many Campus Race to Zero Waste campuses were unable to reach the success levels accomplished in past years, however, despite these difficult circumstances, this year’s tournament had a tremendous impact!
Campus Race to Zero Waste 2021

- **230 million** single-use plastic containers kept out of the landfill.
- Prevented release of **30,669 metric tons** of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2E) into the atmosphere, equivalent to preventing annual emissions from **6,463 cars**.
- **25.8 million** pounds of waste donated, recycled and composted.

Campus Race to Zero Waste—A Campus Solution

Plastic pollution and solid waste disposal are rising as a critical threat to the world’s wildlife and to human health. There are few solutions to this problem as important as engaging and educating America’s future leaders on the dangers of solid waste and plastics build-up, and how the problem can be addressed through reduction of use, recycling, composting, and more.

The Campus Race to Zero Waste competition is designed to educate and challenge students and staff and faculty at college campuses to compete for best in category by reducing and recycling the most waste in a prescribed eight week period. The competition measures such factors as how much of a campus’s waste stream is recycled, how much is diverted, per capita results, food waste abatement and more. It also examines the effect of education on young people avoiding single-use plastics such as disposable bottles and packaging.

In 2020, RecycleMania announced its new name, Campus Race to Zero Waste, to better reflect the purpose of the program—to help campuses find a pathways toward zero waste.

www.CampusRacetoZeroWaste.org

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