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Iowa State University Competes In RecycleMania 2020

Ames, Iowa – RecycleMania, the premier collegiate recycling competition managed by National Wildlife Federation (NWF), is back again this year to see who will claim the championship title in the fight to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost the most on campus. Iowa State University is competitively participating in the competition for the second time, this year in the per capita classic category. This involves competing with other universities to which campus best collects the largest combined amount of paper, cardboard, bottles, and cans on a per person basis. Results are calculated by dividing recycling weight figures with the full-time equivalent (FTE) student, faculty, and staff population of the school. Food waste, electronics, and other recyclable items are not included in this category. Last year, Iowa State ranked 158th out of 216 colleges and universities that participated in the competition.

“We will report our weights weekly to RecycleMania,” says Ayodeji Oluwalana, Recycling and Special Events Coordinator. “While the competition is stiff with hundreds of schools participating, we hope to benchmark our recycling and waste reduction efforts against other universities and colleges across the U.S. and Canada.”

Schools will go head-to-head in several categories based on the weight of recyclables, food organics, and waste collected. Schools report their numbers each week beginning from Feb 2nd through March 28th, and the regularly updated rankings are used to rally students and staff with promotional activities, displays, and other outreach efforts. Students, faculty, staff, and other “RecycleManiacs” can monitor the competition via the [online scoreboard](#).

“The goal this year is to considerably improve in the rankings at the end of the competition,” says Oluwalana, “and we need everyone’s support to achieve this goal.”

RecycleMania offers different levels of participation depending on a school’s goals and ability to track and report weight data. Schools can compete in as many categories as they would like. Winners of the national Classic 8 Week Tournament and the special categories will receive an award and national recognition.

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