

RECYCLING UPDATE

PARKS LIBRARY RECYCLING PILOT PROJECT

In July 2021, a recycling pilot project on the 3rd floor of Parks Library started with increased recycling bins paired with trash bins as well as signage that guides what goes into the recycling bins and improves waste diversion from the landfill. This project is in conjunction with the Student Government Sustainability committee who funded the recycling bins to increase recycling presence in Parks Library.

To determine the effectiveness of the pilot, a waste audit was conducted in September and both trash and recycling materials were collected for four days for the waste with the following results.



Pictures from waste audits

THANKSGIVING WASTE REDUCTION TIPS

As the holiday draws near starting with Thanksgiving, waste generation tends to increase but here are waste reduction tips that can help you and your household reduce your waste footprint during the thanksgiving holiday season:

- Plan your shopping list** - Make a list, and only buy what you know you'll use or need based on your headcount. This is especially important when purchasing perishable items like produce, dairy, and meat.
- Skip paper or plastic cutlery** - Avoid using extra trash bags and choose cloth napkins and reusable dishes.
- Take only what you will eat** - On a holiday that is all about eating, it's easy for your eyes to grow bigger than your stomach. Be mindful of your serving size. Start with small portions. You can always go back for more!
- Don't throw away food. Eat it, or compost it!** - Have a lot of leftovers? The freezer is your food waste reduction ally! Better still, compost them.
- Recycle wine corks, glass, and other recyclables** - Recycle wine corks at a ReCORK drop-off location. Holidays tend to create a lot of waste, so recycle what you can of glass, plastic, metal, paper, and cardboard.

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY- NOVEMBER 15

America Recycles Day, a Keep America Beautiful national initiative, is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States. Each year, thousands of communities across the country participate by promoting environmental citizenship and taking action to increase and improve recycling in America. Since 2019, Governor Kim Reynolds each year has signed a proclamation to also declare Nov. 15, Iowa Recycles Day, and it is expected that same will be done this year.

Event details to celebrate that day on campus will be coming out soon on the recycling [website](#). Please stay tuned.

