



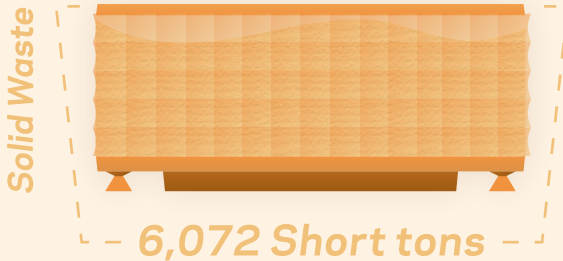
Waste & Recycling

Yale is committed to a 25% reduction in waste and a 25% increase in recycling by 2013. We can meet this goal if everyone saves more and uses less.

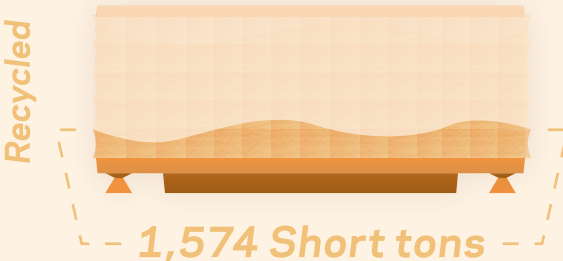


Total Waste Created Last Year

Enough to almost fill Beinecke Library.



The amount recycled was equal to 1/5 of the solid waste created.



The amount of solid waste that is created and disposed of every day is extraordinary. For example, the average American produces 4.3 pounds of garbage per day! Our waste stream is made up of things we use everyday such as packaging, food, clothes, furniture, office supplies and equipment, all items that we could find alternative uses or disposal methods for.

Waste from Yale goes directly to a trash to energy facility located in Bridgeport, Connecticut. At this facility there is no separation of recyclable metals or non-combustible materials, everything is burned with no processing. The resulting ash residue from the plant is then trucked to a landfill in Putnam, Connecticut which leads to additional greenhouse gas emissions through the use of vehicles for its transport.

To reduce its impact, Yale is committed to reducing its solid waste by 25% and increasing its recycling rate by 25%, all by 2013. Programs that focus on reducing, reusing and recycling are a priority for Yale and will all help to achieve these goals.

Impact of Waste & Recycling Goals

Waste Impact



69%

Reducing the amount of waste Yale creates is equivalent to enough garbage to fill 69% of the Commons Rotunda.

Recycling Impact



× 33

Increasing Yale's recycling rate by 25% is equivalent to the weight of 33 fully loaded garbage trucks.

What you can do to help

Reuse items. For example, reuse bags and stationary such as envelopes and boxes.



Make sure you have a recycling bin in your suite, office, and workstation.



Consider the durability of a product before you buy it. Cheaper, less durable items, often wear out quickly, creating waste and costing you money.



Avoid single use items. For example use a reusable mug, silverware, and plates.



Donate or exchange items with people.



Purchase items with little to no packaging and that are recyclable.

