**FINAL REPORT**

**RecycleMania Game Day Event**

On February 26th 2014 the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign participated in its first RecycleMania competition—a game day recycling event at the Illini/Nebraska basketball game. Over 100 volunteers came together to change the waste bin system at the State Farm Center into duel bin stations that included clear signage for landfill and recycling. Each station was staffed by at least one volunteer to educate the fans about proper disposal. In an effort to increase diversion levels, a student also collected all #5 plastic cups, material that is normally not recycled on campus. The game was a collaborative effort involving the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Institute for Sustainable Energy and Environment, the State Farm Center, and Facilities & Services.

After the game the volunteers captured all recyclable material from the seating area. Landfill and recycling was then each weighed to calculate a diversion rate. For this game the diversion rate was 31.5%. Data was entered into the RecyclMania database for comparison to other institutions. Results are shown [here](http://recyclemaniacs.org/gamedayresults).

Post-game feedback was collected from the volunteers. Thoughts included the following:

* Place pictures on the signs to more easily identify what goes in each bin
* Work more with the vendors to change the products they serve with food
* Change to process to include all plastics
* Composting would enable much better diversion numbers

The volunteers were happy to help out but wanted to do more. They were frustrated that more items couldn’t be recycled.

**ITINERARY FOR RECYCLEMANIA GAME DAY**

VOLUNTEER TIMELINE

**FEBRUARY 25, 2014 at 2:00**

Game Day set up

To Do List

* Changes bins from single bins to duel bin systems. One set will be in each entrance – 10 on lower level and 24 on concourse level. Each condiment area will also be turned into a duel bin system-- custodians will provide the additional bins.
* Add signs to the Rebounder’s Club room and the Press Box
* Each recycling bin will have two signs taped to the sides and one to the top
* Each landfill bin will have two signs taped to the sides and one to the top
* Each recycling bin will have the bag replaced with a blue recycling bag
* Each wall sign will be replace with recyclemania signs

February 26, 2014 at 7:00 – half time

Game Day First Shift

* Report to west entrance, give name to the attendant for pass into the arena.
* Inside the west entrance, first 35 volunteers receive a shirt.
* Take a group picture
* Each volunteer takes one entrance (10 on lower level and 24 on concourse level)– assist fans to determine what can be recycled
* Extra volunteers help out in concession areas
* Assist custodians if they desire
* Help out through half time
* Have Fun!

Game Day Second Shift at half time – clean up

* Report to west entrance, give name to the attendant for pass into the arena
* Inside the west entrance, first 35 volunteers receive a shirt
* Take a group picture
* Each volunteer takes one entrance (10 on lower level and 24 on concourse level)- assist fans to determine what can be recycled
* Extra volunteers help out at the concessions
* Assist custodians if they desire
* After the game:
	+ Walk through the entire arena and pick up anything that can be recycled
	+ Take the signs off the bins and return to usual position
	+ Replace wall signs
	+ Take all blue bags to the recycling dumpster

Cell Phone for Bart Bartels 616-298-4296

WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED?

All Plastics #1 and #2

* Bottles of Water, Coke, Diet, Sprite, Lemonade, Coke Zero (estimated 3300)
* Paper pages and programs, cardboard candy containers
* Dippin’Dots containers (estimated 300)
* All paper that is not contaminated with food

In addition we will also collect #5 plastic soda cups and caramel corn containers separately. These cups will count toward recycling but will be used in an experiment to turn plastic into oil.

WHAT CAN’T BE RECYCLED AT THE GAME?

Paper soda cups, popcorn cups, soda lids, contaminated paper, Styrofoam, plastic food containers, hot dog wrappers, hot cheese cups, plastic film, and food waste.

**Publicity on the RecycleMania Game Day 2014**

Illini vs Nebraska

February 26, 2014

Article in the Green Observer

<http://greenobservermagazine.com/phpsystem/outwithphp.php?q=532753f6f0f33bc17d>

Information on the ISEE homepage

UIUC Students for Environmental Concerns newsletter and Facebook page

ISEE Facebook event

Information on the F & S Homepage

Student interviewed on WCIA Channel 3 News at the game

Inside Illinois news briefs

Posted on State Farm Center Promotional Sign

Added to the State Farm Center script and stated during the game

Article in the News-Gazette on 2.23.14

<http://www.news-gazette.com/living/2014-02-23/ui-take-part-national-competition.html>