Recyclemania began in 2001 as a contest between Ohio and Miami Universities to see who could recycle more per person.

Today 630 Universities in the US and Canada compete in 11 different categories each year.

In 2009, GCU placed 34th nationally in per capita recycling rate.

In 2012, our recycling rates were worse than 257 institutions (out of 338 competing) for per capita recycling. We recycled 5.56lbs but threw away a whopping 21.71 lbs of trash per person.

One of GCU’s “distinctives” is our commitment to justice, integrity and respect for people and the environment.

When we don’t recycle, we waste precious resources that could be reused. This then means we now need to mine / manufacture more of those resources, with all the pollution that entails.

Most trash that is not recycled ends up in landfills, taking up space that could be better used for farming or even homes. It also leaks pollutants into the water and air over time.

While recycling is important, not making waste at all is even better. Last year only 45 of 180 institutions did better than us at reducing waste per person, which is pretty good.

Nonetheless we clearly have lots of room for improvement. So... we are asking for your help. Buy less. And when you buy stuff, try to buy the brand with the least packaging material.

Also, please use the blue bins only for recyclable materials like paper, cans and empty plastic bottles. Trash like food wrappers and leftovers goes in the brown bins. Exercise your Lion Pride: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

If you would like to get involved in any of the sustainability efforts on campus, please contact
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