

Rethinking Trash

University Apartments Waste Diversion

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Research Question

Will education and convenience of infrastructure increase participation in waste diversion in University Apartments?

Main Goal

Encourage composting among residents in University Apartments and increase waste diversion from landfill

Goals

- Foster mindfulness among residents about waste disposal and compost
- Develop a relationship with maintenance staff, H&H, and ResLife



Why Compost?

- Compost → less waste to landfill → less pollutants
- UA residents can have a big impact



UCLA Zero Waste 2020

- 69% of generated solid waste being diverted from landfills



Takeaways

- High potential for waste diversion
- Education and communication are essential for the success of composting



Methods



Primary approach: Waste Audit

- Assess residents' waste habits
- Collect data on divertable waste

Subsequent Approach: Education

- Attitude Survey during Earth Day Fair
- Waste Sorting Activity
- Compilation of an ARA Binder

Challenges



Identifying main problem

- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of motivation

Working with residents

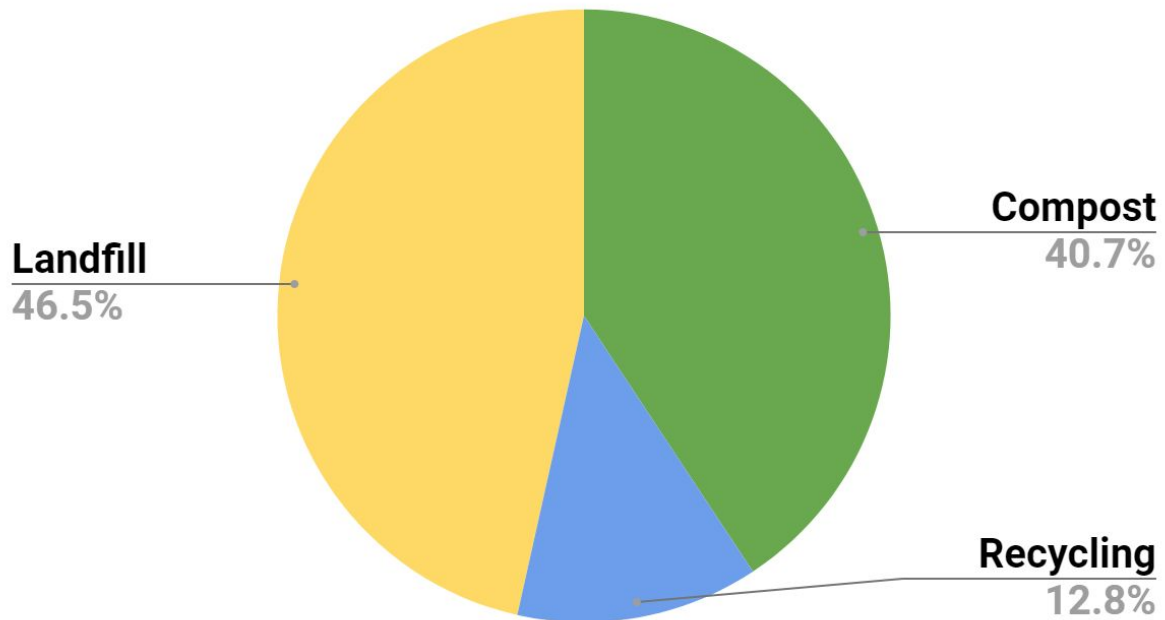
- Establishing contact with ARAs
- Creating an effective way to reach and motivate residents

Results

- Waste Audit lessons



Landfair Landfill



Results

- Establishing Apartment RA relationship
- Interactive sorting event with incentives
- Goal: Apartment RA as sustainability representative

A MESSAGE FROM THE
UA WASTE DIVERSION TEAM

COMPOSTING



IT'S MOTHER
NATURE'S
RECYCLING



“What do YOU think is compostable?”

Educational waste audit

Results



NOT TRUE

SOMEWHAT TRUE

VERY TRUE

Attitude survey from Earth Day Fair 2019

- How do we motivate people to ACT on this conviction that composting can better the environment?
- Goal: Create a sustainable education plan for the University Apartments to maximize resident compost participation.

Deliverables

- Apartment RA binder
 - Motivation, Sorting, Communication
- Implementation Proposal for Glenrock apartments

Conclusion

GOAL: ZERO WASTE TO LANDFILL BY 2020



38% is compostable

UCLA Zero Waste by 2020 goal

Habit building

Future SAR team?

THANK YOU!

Elias, Shannon and Chloé

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