

Trash on a Tarp!

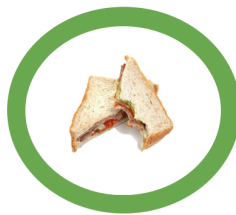
Mount Si High School

September 12, 2017

Lunch time observations



Recycle



Compost



Garbage

Most common items

Milk cartons
Aluminum cans
Plastic bottles
Plastic cups
Cardboard
Brown paper bags

Brown paper bags
Food scraps
Napkins
Sandwiches
Vegetables
Banana peels
Checked paper
Apple cores
Unopened snacks: crackers, bars, milk, string cheese

Ziploc baggies
Styrofoam trays
Paper boats
Snack packs
Styrofoam bowls
Plastic spoons and forks
Chip bags
Bar wrappers
Yogurt cups

Contamination

Straws
Dirty plastic
Drink containers with liquids
Napkins

Food in wrappers
Plastic bags
Bowls
Forks

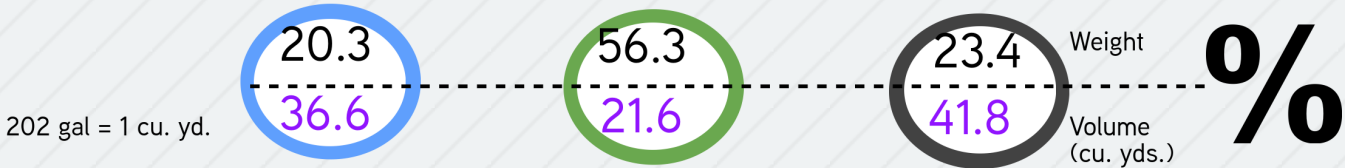
Plastic bags with food in them
Unused napkins
Entire unsorted lunch in bags
food on trays and boats

Other observations

- Kitchen staff talking about recycling a lot
- "We need a movie of the recycling process"
- "Isn't recycling always a good idea? Why do you need weights?"
- Some individuals seemed frustrate and confused while others were excited and interested
- Friends and acquaintances of Green Team members were more willing to sort
- Signage helped
- Lots of coffee cups with liquid and/or ice still inside
- A lot of plastic baggies
- People appreciated the help
- Lots of people stopped and stared - were interested in what was happening.

Waste data

	Recycle	Compost	Garbage	Total waste
Weight (pounds)	19.56	38.9 without liquids 54.4 with liquids	22.6	96.56 with liquids
Volume (# of 32-gal containers)	3.5 bags 112 gal.	2 bags 66 gal. with liquids	4.0 bags 128 gal.	9.5 bags 306 gal. with liquids



Green Team idea brainstorm

- Reusable lunch box & water bottle campaign
- Get rid of plastic baggies
- Get rid of styrofoam trays - durable or compostable?
- No waste Wednesday - share top 5 ways and then measure/compete
- Start recycling in the lunch rooms
- Start composting in the lunch rooms
- Decrease brown paper bags
- "helping each other" culture
- Cost analyses - financial and labor

Recommended actions:

- 1 Start recycling in both lunch rooms
- 2 Perform a cost analysis with multiple solutions for replacing Styrofoam
- 3 Start composting in both lunch rooms