

Paper Towel Compost Pilot

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Project Outline

- Status Quo
- Purpose
- Case Studies
- Pilot Project & Process
- Future Plans



Where We Are

AH/ES/ restrooms	Total Weight (lbs)	% weight by Category	Total Volume (gal)	% volume by Category
Compost	115.05	72.9%	192.0	72.05%
Recycle	32.75	20.8%	53.5	20.08%
Garbage	10	6.3%	21.0	7.88%
TOTAL	157.8		266.5	

\$30,000 is spent by Western on paper towels annually for 6,600 rolls of paper towels

The majority of restroom waste is compostable

With a small routine change the bathroom waste could be all compost

Where We Want to Be

- Paper towel compost pilot in the bathrooms on the first and second floor of Haggard Hall

- Zero Waste Western:

Committed to eliminating all recyclable and compostable waste from the WWU waste stream.

The WWU Office of Sustainability, A.S. Recycle Center and Facilities Management.

- Education:

Educating students, faculty and staff about eco-friendly practices is an essential aspect of Western's Zero Waste goal

UC Berkeley



University of British Columbia

- On-campus composting facility
- 1900 metric tonnes composted per year
- All compost becomes landscaping fertilizer
- UBC is the first of its kind of any Canadian University!



Initial Goal

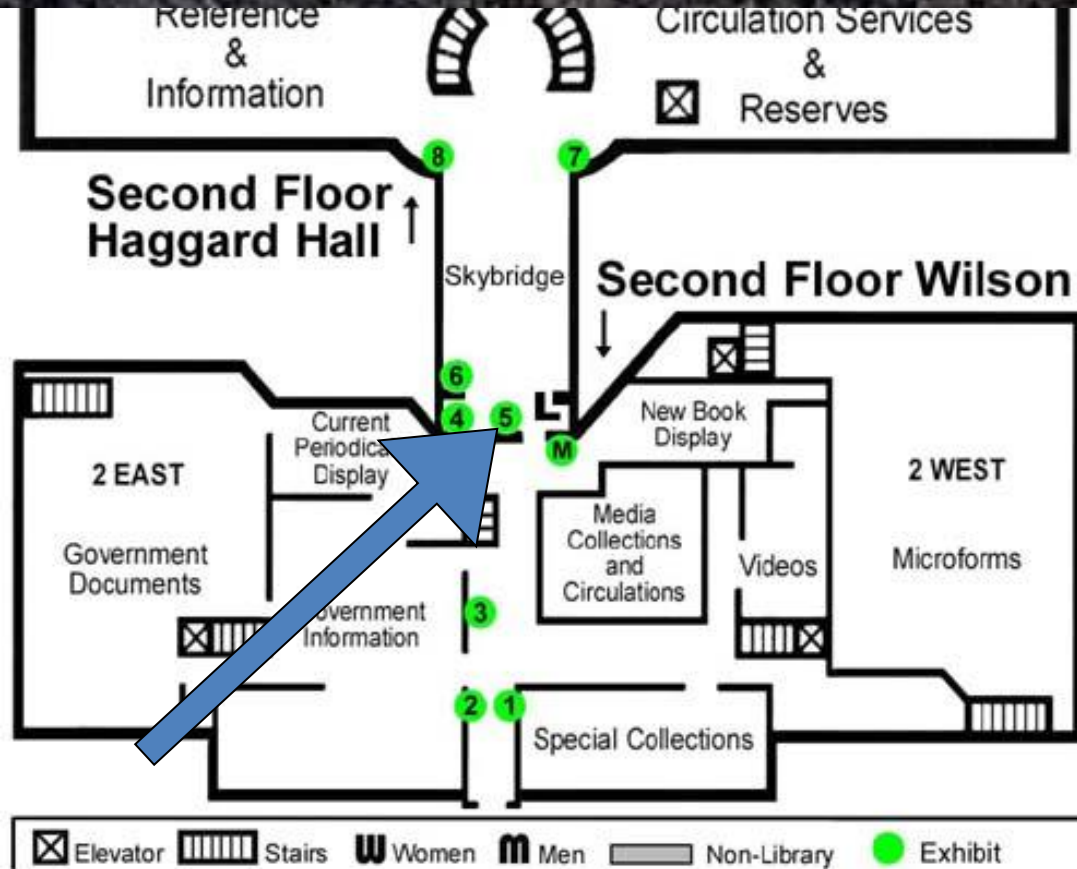


These Come From Trees

- “20 cents worth of sticker can save a tree’s worth of paper towel each year, 100 pounds.”



Library and Signs



NEW

• **waste reduction** •

PILOT PROGRAM

1st & 2nd Floor of Haggard Hall



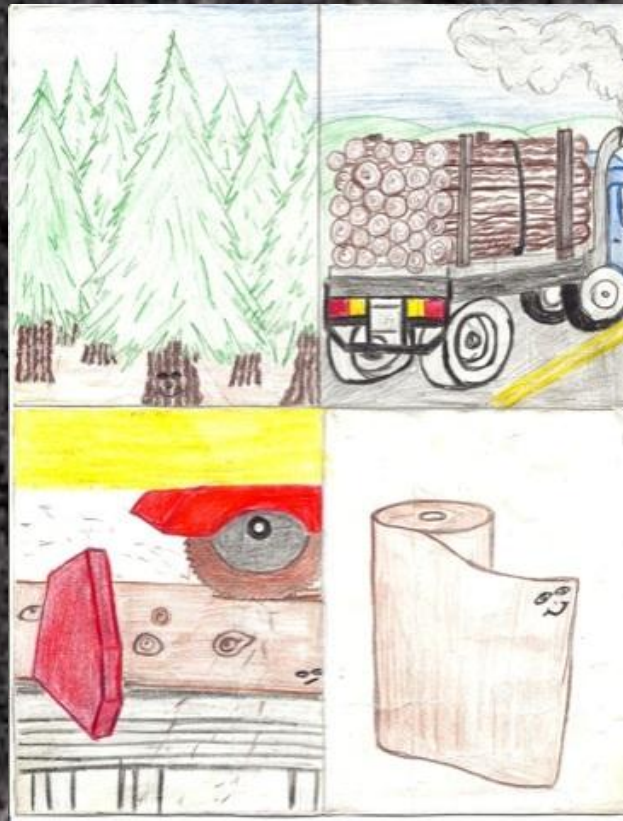
All bathroom trash bins will now be turned into paper towel only bins.

Why?

Because paper towels are compostable but if they aren't composted, they go to landfills and contribute to landfill emissions. By redirecting paper towel waste, we can decrease the amount of land needed for landfills.

The Life of a Paper Towel

Reincarnation



Production

Cradle to Grave



Recycle Center Pickup

- 55 Gal bin placed outside Haggard Hall
- Custodial staff takes paper towels to bin
- Daily pickup by Recycle Center
- Composting at Recycle Center
- Compost taken by Sanitary Services to Green Earth Technologies
- Weigh the barrel for analysis



Campus Contacts

- Mike Smith: Academic Custodial Services
- Richard Neyer: Recycle Center Manager
- Lindsey Crawford: Graphic design @ Office of sustainability lindsey@wpicreative.com





The Future



WWU OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY