

# Skidmore College Waste Audit

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	Wednesday May 22, 2013 10:00AM
<b>Location</b>	Hiram Hollow Transfer Station
<b>Auditor</b>	Casella Waste Management, Inc.

<b>Metric (Weight or Volume)</b>	Weight
<b>Units</b>	LBS

## Audit Procedures

Casella's Fort Edward team audited one 6yd FEL trash container from Case Hall and one 30yd trash compactor from the Dining Facility. Inbound and outbound weights were obtained to define the amount of material being audited. The 6yd FEL container contained 880 lbs of material and the compactor contained 5.4 tons of material. Due to the amount of volume represented in the compactor, Casella removed a representative sample, weighing 1680 lbs, to sort through.

Contents from the FEL container and compactor were dumped on the tip floor at the transfer station in separate locations. Casella's team sorted through the FEL container contents first, separating trash and recycling contents into separate containers and opening all trash bags sorting the contents (except for bathroom and food waste). After all of the material was separated into trash and recycling containers, weights were calculated using the transfer station scale. This process was repeated for the trash compactor. Photos of the material were also taken and are attached to this report.

<b>Front Load Container Beginning Total Weight in Pounds</b>			<b>880</b>
<b>Trash</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>570</b>	<b>64.77%</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>35.23%</b>

The audit found that at least 35% of the material in this trash container was recyclable. If you we include the contaminated recyclables the rate would be much closer to 45 or 50% but due to food waste residuals and overall wetness, these additional recyclables were directed to the trash at the completion of the audit.

Bags of clothing and unused pantry items (jam jars, dressings, detergent, etc.) were also found in this container. We attribute the majority of this material to be associated with move out and believe the average stream would not contain as much of this material during the normal course of the school year.

<b>Compactor Beginning Total Weight in Pounds</b>			<b>1680</b>
<b>Trash</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>1280</b>	<b>76.19%</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>28.57%</b>

The audit found that at least 28% of the material in this trash compactor was recyclable. If we include the contaminated recyclables it would be much closer to 55 or 60%. There was a significant amount of contaminated paper and OCC that was trashed due to extreme contamination- close to 30% of the entire load. Contamination derived from food waste, solids and liquids, and the compaction process.

There was a much higher percentage of plastic/glass containers filled with food/cleaning product, bags full of textiles & office (folders/papers) supplies in the compactor than we saw in the FEL container. The trash from this compactor was mostly plastic film, food waste, textiles, electronics (should be recovered), dorm room items (drawers) and overly contaminated recyclables.

Again, we attribute the majority of this material to be associated with move out and believe the average stream would not contain as much of this material as we saw during the audit.