

St. Anthony City Hall Waste/ Recycling Study

"Our mission is to be a progressive and livable community, a walkable village, which is sustainable, safe and secure."



Project Description:

Two four-week waste/recycling baselines were taken: Nov, 2012 and April, 2013. Volumes (%) were collected from waste/recycling bins, converted into tons, then estimated into atmospheric CO² equivalents. The time between the studies was devoted to education and outreach to the City Hall, Police Dept. and Comm. Center providing clarity in recycling procedures. 20 new recycling bins were added, new signs were posted, and conversations between departments, City staff, custodians and cleaning contractors took place.



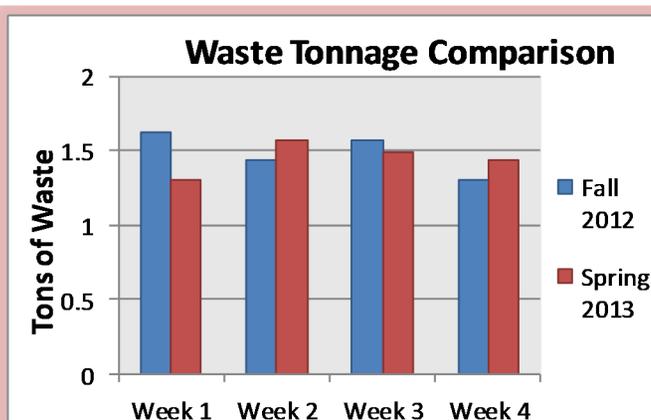
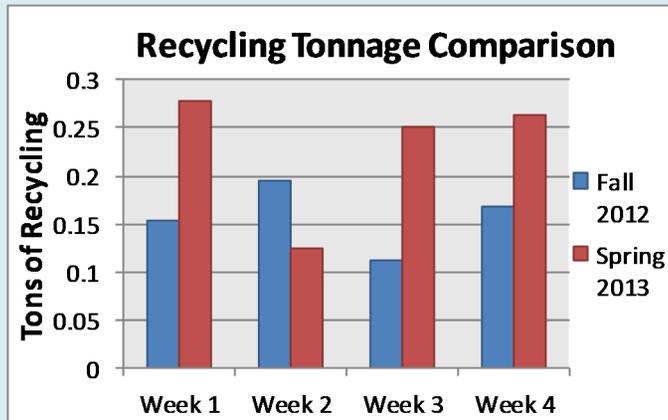
Results: Complete Volume (%) and Tonnage from Fall 2012 / Fall2013

Volume — Tons	Fall 2012 Recycling	Fall 2012 Waste	Spring 2013 Recycling	Spring 2013 Waste
Week 1	55% — .15	90% — 1.62	100% — .29	73% — 1.31
Week 2	70% — .19	80% — 1.44	45% — .13	88% — 1.58
Week 3	40% — .11	88% — 1.58	90% — .25	83% — 1.49
Week 4	60% — .17	73% — 1.31	95% — .26	80% — 1.44
Total Tons	.63	5.94	.92	5.81

1 ton of CO² saved is equivalent to...

- 112 gallons of gas
- 2.3 barrels of oil
- 25.6 Tree Seedlings grown for 10 years
- 41.7 home BBQ propane cylinders

We can estimate that City Hall's current waste and recycling saves 1 ton/ CO² / month compared to months prior to November 2012.



To continue progress St. Anthony will comply with the following:

Proper disposal of e-waste to keep it out of the trash, clear trash and recycling signage, continued dialogue between all departments, keeping up to date with the recycling industry, and utilizing the City website for resources and communication to the Public.

Discussion: Tons were estimated using the EPA's volume-to weight conversion tool (WARM Calculator). Conversion factors were 139 lbs/cubic yard of recycling and 450 lbs/cubic yard of waste. Conversion factors were based on studies from the MN Pollution Control Agency (Tim Farnan, 651-757-2348). Comparisons from fall to spring are as follows:

- Recycling: An additional .29 tons (45% increase) Equivalent to **1 ton** of CO² saved
- Waste: A reduction of .13 tons CO² savings too small to document

Next Steps to Take:

- Attach waste/recycling signage to bins instead of placing onto wall.
- City Hall's waste currently goes to the Maple Grove Landfill. Switch City Hall's hauler so that all waste is sent to the Hennepin Waste to Energy Center (HERC) in Minneapolis. Allied Waste is one hauler that currently exercises this practice.
- Pursue waste reduction strategies throughout the building and all of it's departments.