Spring 2009

Campus Recycling: Distribution Analysis and Future Considerations

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INTRODUCTION

Many students had expressed interest in taking a closer look into the campus recycling program. There was concern about accessibility and convenience of recycling bins located throughout the campus. As a group, we felt that a distribution analysis of the outdoor trash and recycling bins would be an appropriate starting point. We wanted to look at locations of current trash and recycling bins to see if improvements in placement could be made to increase the utility of recycling on campus.

METHODS

- Collected GPS locations for every trash and recycling bin on campus
- Took detailed notes about location of bins for accuracy
- Uploaded points to Google Earth
- Adjusted points according to notes
- Evaluated bare spots and clusters
- Considered foot traffic
- Found problem areas (see Figures 2-9)
- Created a final map of our opinions of future considerations for recycling placement (See Figure 10)

DISCUSSION & FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Figure 10 is a recommendation for immediate improvements of campus recycling placement. These are areas that should be addressed due to inadequate distribution and need.
- In the future, all trash cans should be converted to recycling/trash combination bins.
- Any new construction, such as the current Saluki Way project, should only have combination recycling/trash bins.
- All seasonal and special events should have movable recycling bins available.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Professor Therrell for his guidance and assistance with this project. We would also like to thank our GEOG 433 classmates for their input and analysis on the project.