Design Standard

Solid Waste and Recycling Containers

A Solid Waste Minimization (SWM) Committee was established in 2015 and includes key stakeholders from various departments on campus, with an objective to develop an action plan to minimize the amount of solid waste from campus delivered to the landfill by increasing the opportunities for recycling collection. Consistent and recognizable recycling containers and uniform labelling standards were identified as physical needs to best support the SWM Program objective.

To support the solid waste minimization goals and to continue to improve the recycling opportunities on campus and provide greater uniformity in the appearance and use of recycling containers, a labelling standard was approved by Texas A&M University Marketing and Communications in 2016 and standardized interior and exterior recycling units were approved by Texas A&M’s Council for the Built Environment (CBE) in 2017. Appendix A and B of this standard show visuals of these two items.

For the purpose of this standard, “waste” is referred to as material that cannot be recycled and therefore will be sent to landfill.

Detailed specifications follow.

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.01 All campus buildings *should* provide adequate containers for waste and recycling collection in common use area based on building occupancy. Waste and recycling containers *should* be included in budget for new buildings or renovation projects. New building construction *should* include an area where recycling materials can be centrally collected.

1.02 Any construction that includes recycling containers will adhere to the labelling and containers standards provided. Any exceptions to the design standards shall be reviewed and/or approved by Campus Architect.

1.03 Utilities & Energy Services (UES) shall provide service to central collection areas within buildings and SSC Grounds Maintenance will be provide service to exterior containers.

PART 2 - RECYCLING CONTAINERS

2.01 Recycling bin examples can be found in Appendix A of this design standard.

2.02 ACCEPTABLE MANUFACTURERS

A. CleanRiver® Recycling Solutions

2.03 INTERIOR RECYCLING BINS
A. Approved Type: CleanRiver®, Model XFF25-3.

B. Interior bins have the following specifications:
   1. 3-Streams, each with 25 gallon capacity.
   2. Made from at least 95% recycled material.
   3. Slanted tops.
   4. Display the 3 front labels and side labels.

2.04 EXTERIOR RECYCLING BINS

A. All exterior bin locations shall be approved by the University Architect before placement on campus. All locations shall be made known to FCOR to be displayed on TAMU campus maps.

B. Approved Type: CleanRiver®, Model XD35-3.

C. Exterior bins have the following specifications:
   1. 3-Streams, each with 35 gallon capacity.
   2. Made from at least 95% recycled material.
   3. Curved tops.
   4. Display the 3 front labels and side labels.

2.05 BAGS

A. Clear/transparent bags are to be used in interior and exterior recycling bins to distinguish the difference between waste-to-landfill and recycling.

PART 3 - LABELS

3.01 All labels must be consistent with the university standard, any exceptions must be approved by the University Architect.

3.02 Label examples can be found in Appendix B of this design standard. These labels are solely for demonstration, and can be customized to meet the size of the bin.

3.03 Each department shall be responsible for the costs associated with adding labels that are not already included with the bin. For example, if an office space already has recycling bins, the department can order labels to add to the bin rather than purchasing new bins.

3.04 CleanRiver® 3-stream containers are available with labels already placed. However, individual labels can be purchased through various suppliers, with some providing on-site installation. Acceptable suppliers:
A. Fast Signs.

B. Alpha Graphics.

C. TAMU Graphics Shop.

3.05 Each compartment door on three-stream bins include the approved labelling that identifies the specific commodity collected. Compartments are configured in the following order (left to right):

A. “PLASTIC & ALUMINUM”

B. “LANDFILL”

C. “ALL PAPER”

3.06 End panels include “MAKE A DIFFERENCE” label.
APPENDIX A
APPROVED RECYCLING BINS
Interior Recycling Bins

Appendix A
Approved Recycling Bins
Exterior Recycling Bins

Appendix A
Approved Recycling Bins
APPENDIX B
APPROVED RECYCLING BIN LABELS
Front of container labels:
Side of container labels: