

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS HUSKY FOOTBALL

2008

University of Washington – Recycling & Solid Waste



*Tailgaters before a game at Husky Stadium*



*Stadium vendors collect their food waste for composting*



*A bag of recyclables from our Blue Bag Recycling Outreach program*

## Greening the game

A total of 148.61 tons of waste was generated during the Husky Football 2008 season. Of that total, 103.42 tons were sent to landfill, 37.75 tons were recycled, and 7.44 tons were composted. The percentage of material recycled increased from 26.6% in 2007 to 30.4% in 2008.

Recycling & Solid Waste transitioned stadium recycling program elements to Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) Facilities staff. ICA set up and serviced the recycling totes within the stadium and concourse areas; placed and removed food waste totes at Sodexo concession stands, lemonade stands, and Starbucks tents; and provided oversight and supervision of volunteers who clean the stadium. Prior to each game, Recycling & Solid continued to provide outreach to all vendors participating in food waste collection.

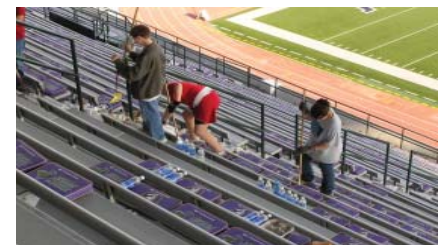
In the parking lots and tailgating areas, Recycling & Solid Waste provided 96-gallon, single-stream recycling totes instead of the 64-gallon cans/bottles totes used in previous years. These larger totes provided greater capacity and increased the amount of recyclables collected from tailgate parties because all recyclables, not just cans/bottles, are permitted in the totes.

The Blue Bag Recycling Outreach program continued this year. All students hired to do the outreach were from campus environmental groups.

In an effort to increase the amount of materials recycled during Sunday cleanup of the parking lots, the cleanup crew collected recyclables off the ground prior to the mechanical sweep of the lots.



*Recycling and trash totes are staged around the parking lots for tailgaters*



*"Picking the bowl" for recyclables during Sunday cleanup of the stadium*

# History

- 2001 Prior to this season only trash cans were provided throughout the tailgate areas. In 2001, Recycling & Solid Waste piloted a program for the collection of cans/bottles throughout the tailgate areas in cardboard containers, which were often not reusable after a game due to weather and other damage.
- 2003 Blue plastic wheeled 64-gallon toters labeled for collection of cans/bottles, dubbed Husky Toters, replaced the cardboard collection containers in the tailgating areas and were added to the entry gates and stadium concourses. The toters provided greater capacity than the cardboard containers that had been used previously and were very durable. Trash cans were still used throughout the tailgate areas.
- 2004 Grey 64-gallon trash toters replaced trash cans in the tailgate areas. Because toters are mechanically emptied by a truck, hours of labor previously needed to dump the trash collected during tailgating were eliminated. Recycling & Solid Waste took over setup of the toters and provided a staff member on game day to address any overflow issues. Recycling & Solid Waste established protocols for “picking the bowl” (collecting recyclables from the seating areas of the stadium during cleanup).
- 2005 Recycling & Solid Waste piloted a food waste collection program at each Starbucks tent, all lemonade stands, select stadium concession stands, and the catering area at Dempsey Indoor Facility.
- 2006 Recycling & Solid Waste piloted the Blue Bag Recycling Outreach program. A team of student outreach staff distributed blue recycling bags to tailgaters to make recycling cans/bottles and cardboard more convenient. The food waste program was expanded to include all stadium concession stands. Lids on 50 of the stadium concourse recycling toters were modified to allow for commingled collection of cans/bottles, newspapers, and game programs.
- 2007 The Blue Bag Recycling Outreach program continued this year. To facilitate movement throughout the parking lots, outreach staff drove an electric utility vehicle with the Dawgycling toter in the back. All stadium recycling toters had modified lids for commingled collection of cans/bottles, newspapers, and game programs. All parking lot trash toters were changed from 64-gallon to 96-gallon size to provide increased capacity.

# Recycling PSAs

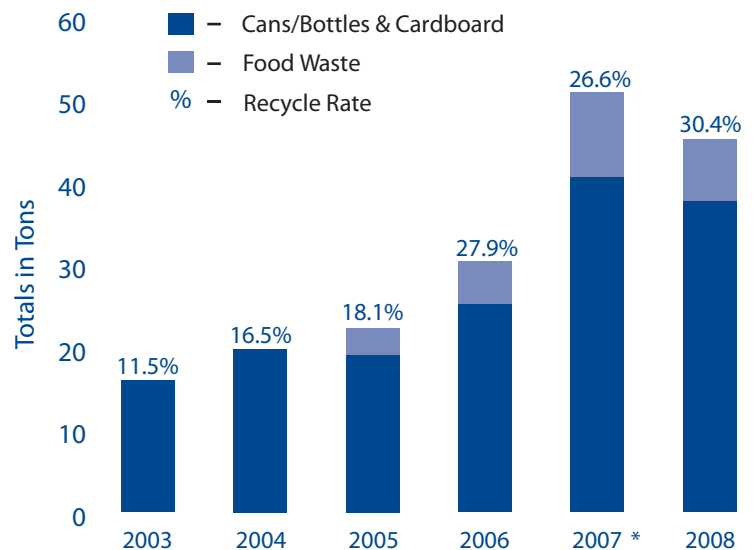
Since 2004, Recycling & Solid Waste has been creating public service announcements that are played on the stadium’s HuskyTron during pre-game activities and the game. The PSAs are designed to increase awareness of recycling opportunities on game day.

# Game-day outreach



Outreach staff distribute blue recycling bags to tailgaters; they travel through the lots with the Dawgycling toter, a fan favorite

# Recyclables collected



\* The 2007 season included the 100th Anniversary of the Apple Cup, which greatly increased overall tonnages