

UGA Athletic Association

Sustainability and Recycling Strategic Game Plan

MAY 2010

GO DAWGS GO **GREEN!**



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I. INTRODUCTION

The University of Georgia Athletic Association (Association) is charged with creating a strategic plan to enhance the conservation of resources and develop a short/long term sustainability program. We will be proactive and conservative in the conservation of natural, physical, and financial resources. In addition, researching and implementing “best practices” in intercollegiate athletics will ensure that the Association will continue to be one of the premier intercollegiate athletic departments in the country.



II. MISSION / VISION

Mission

- The mission of the **University of Georgia Athletic Association Recycling Program** is to create, implement, and monitor an environmental sustainability plan that focuses on the following areas:
 - Rethink (Education/Awareness)
 - Recycle
 - Reuse
 - Reduce
 - Conserve

Vision

- To pursue a model for an environmentally friendly and healthy atmosphere that ensures student-athletes, staff members, alumni, and fans a positive experience for many years. While we will focus on the athletic fields, buildings, and venues; we will be focus on purchasing and energy conservation.



III. LEADERSHIP DIRECTIVE



President Michael Adams

"...Each of us can play a role in reducing the amount of waste that ends up in local landfills by participating fully in UGA's recycling program..." **A Guide to Recycling Programs at UGA.**



Damon Evans, Athletic Director

Welfare of the University: Our actions and decisions should seek to collectively better the University and the University community, including alumni, administration, faculty, and students. **UGA Athletic Association 1 of 7 Guiding Principles**



Kevin Kirsche, Director of UGA Office of Sustainability

"Partnerships with the UGA Athletic Association cost-effectively conserve valuable natural resources while preserving the University's cultural legacy. Together we can envision, implement and effectively communicate to thousands of visitors to UGA a model for healthy living on campus and beyond."



IV. INITIATIVES

I. Ongoing Initiatives

Recycling & Waste Reduction

- Game Day Recycling Program (Football/Basketball/Baseball)
 1. Pilot Program set for 2010 Football Season
- Cardboard Recycling
- Inkjet cartridges, batteries, & personal cell phone recycling are available on campus
- Offices (Staff) and Locker Rooms (Student-Athletes) have direct access to recycling bins (paper, plastic, bottles, and cans)
- Equestrian Program sends ½ ton of horse bedding to the UGA Compost facility each month

Green Cleaning

- 60% of the Athletic Buildings are currently cleaned with “Green Cleaning” Products. Goal by 2011 to have 100% buildings to use “Green Clean” products.

Water Conservation

- Most of the Athletic Fields are irrigated with harvested (well, irrigation pond, cistern) water
- Athletic Facility restrooms have water conservation signage in clear site as a reminder
- Low flow fixtures are installed in all new and replacement plumbing systems

Products for Athletic Facilities

- Athletic Fields are painted with environmentally friendly paint

II. Proposed Initiatives

Recycling & Waste Reduction

- Sanford Stadium Interior Recycling on Game Days

Green Building

- Pursue Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Certification on new Athletic Construction

Printing Services

- Set all copiers to print double sided

Energy Conservation

- Replace all light bulbs with LED light bulbs
 - Longer Lasting, Cost Efficient, Mercury Free, and Energy Efficient.
- Require Weekend “Black-Outs”
 - Turn off and Unplug all non-essential electronic devices
 - Computers, printers, microwaves, TV’s, DVD’s, Coffee Pots, Etc.



Compost Grass and Hedge Clippings

- Collect and send grass, leaf and limb debris/clippings to the UGA bio-conversion facility

V. GOALS

1. Establish a departmental wide Committee on Sustainability comprised of Student-Athletes and Staff to coordinate, communicate, and promote existing and new sustainability initiatives.
2. Create a page on Georgiadogs.com to highlight and communicate sustainability efforts.
3. Work closely with the UGA Office of Sustainability and the Athens-Clarke County Recycling Office to stay conscious and abreast of “best practices”.
4. Collaborate with athletic departments across the SEC and NCAA to continue to develop energy, water, and waste reduction programs.
5. Establish benchmarks in all areas (Recycling and Waste management) so that the Athletic Association can record and report progress to campus and community stake holders.
6. Implement a fiscal blueprint plan to follow and ensure that resources are used responsibly and conscientiously.



VI. BENCHMARKS

1. **Reduce** Athletic Association consumption of energy by 20% and water by 30%.
2. **Divert** waste stream from landfills by 50%.
3. **Recycle** 100% of bottles/cans consumed in any athletic facility.
4. **Calculate** the Athletic Association carbon footprint and implement a strategy to reduce carbon emissions from Athletic Facilities.
5. **Reuse or resale** 10% of used/unused athletic equipment/apparel to promote fiscal responsibility so that the Association can do its part to save the environment.



VII. SUMMARY

The University of Georgia Athletic Association strives to create an environment that promotes sustainability and waste reduction. Through effective implementation and support of sustainability initiatives, the Association will provide direct and positive solutions toward reaching its Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles of enriching the lives of Student-Athletes, Staff, Alumni, Fans and the Athens Community.

