

Waste Diversion



What can be donated?

- Carpet
- Conference clothing, pens, notebooks, bags, water bottles, and other giveaways
- Metal Items
- Vinyl, foam core, and corrugated signage
- Other approved items

The Georgia World Congress Center Authority (GWCCA) in conjunction with the official food service operator, Levy Restaurants, donates leftover pre-consumer meals, and other food items through partnerships with its local food banks such as the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Additionally other smaller, donatable waste streams are collected on an event-by-event basis. We work with Freeman, GES, United, and other exhibitor-appointed contractors to capture materials that we donate to area non-profits.

What is single-stream recycling?

- Clean office paper
- Empty glass bottles
- Pamphlets, brochures, magazines, newspaper, etc.
- Empty plastic bottles and containers (# 1- 6)
- Empty aluminum cans and bottles
- Paperboard
- Cardboard boxes

GWCCA has a dedicated wood recycling program. We have pallet recycling at A1 dock and outside of the B5 exhibit hall in addition to the M.A.R.S.H.

What goes in the landfill?

- Styrofoam packaging
- Soiled Visqueen/plastic film
- Plastic/foil food and utensil wrappers
- Miscellaneous plastic items
- Straws
- Condiment packages

The Do's and Dont's

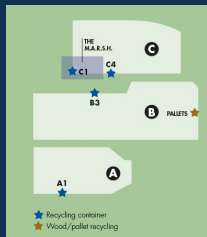
Key Terms

Compost: a mixture of various decaying organic substances (food, liquids, napkins, paper towels, paper products, wax paper, compostable products, etc.) used for fertilizing soil. Food disposed in a landfill quickly rots and becomes a significant source of methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more potent than carbon dioxide. As a result, diversion of food waste from landfills can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Compostable materials include all organics and compostable food service products. Back-of-house composting is performed in all GWCCA kitchen areas with weights recorded after every event. Front-of-house composting is performed at select locations on the GWCCA campus to encourage those who come to our facilities to better understand our waste diversion practices.

Sustainability: the quality of not being harmful to the environment or depleting natural resources and thereby supporting long-term ecological balance.

Waste Diversion: the act of redirecting materials and resources that otherwise would end up in a landfill or incinerator.

Single-Stream Recycling: requires no presorting of recyclable materials. Plastics, paper, and glass are all dumped in the same container, then sorted, and separated at the recycling facility.



VISIT THE M.A.R.S.H.

Our waste diversion area on the docks is now known as the M.A.R.S.H. – Materials and Recyclables to be Sustainably Handled. This is the area where cardboard, compost, pallets, and other materials that will be diverted from landfills get staged before being separated into their respective waste streams. Please read through the pamphlet and learn more about our waste diversion efforts.

For more information, please contact:

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gwcca.org/sustainability