



*Let's Recycle Better, Together.*

# BACK OF HOUSE: WASTE COLLECTIONS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5TH  
1:00 TO 2:15 PM EST.



# Today's Panelists



**Clare Miflin**

*Principal, ThinkWoven*  
*Executive Director, Center*  
*for Zero Waste Design*



**Ayodeji Oluwalana**

*Waste Reduction & Recycling*  
*Program Manager*  
Penn State University



**Kerstin Mayer**

*Sustainability &*  
*Diversion Advisor*  
Busch Systems

# Join the Discussion

From your toolbar:



Share your experience & opinions

Look for links to resources

Type direct questions for panelists

# Waste is a design flaw.




The Center for Zero Waste Design is a nonprofit that advocates for a future without trash.

We adapt the strategies within the Zero Waste Design Guidelines to the context of other cities, expand the database of case studies, and develop research and policy tools for designing cities and buildings for zero waste.



ThinkWoven consults with entities managing existing buildings and campuses; design teams for new developments; and municipalities, to ensure systems are designed to reduce and better manage waste, and to achieve TRUE Zero Waste certification.

# HOW DID AN ARCHITECT GET INTO ZERO WASTE DESIGN?



How does a 21 gallon organics bin fit into this building's waste system?



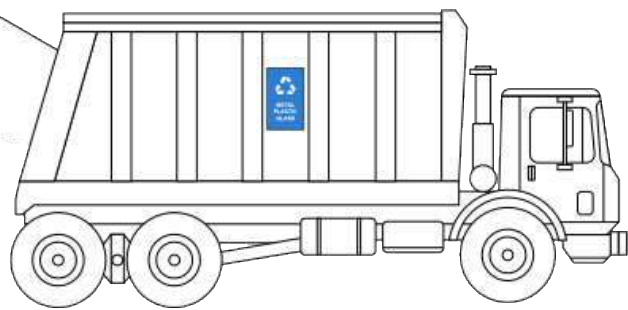
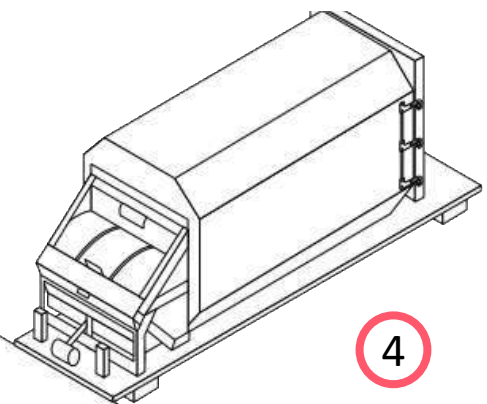
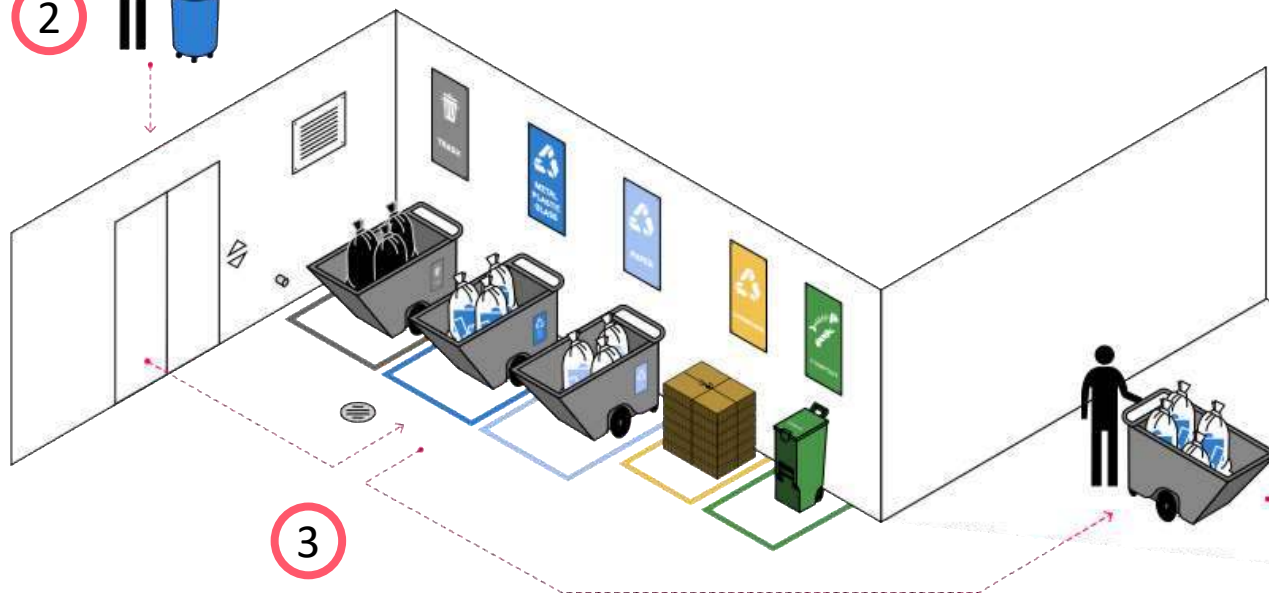
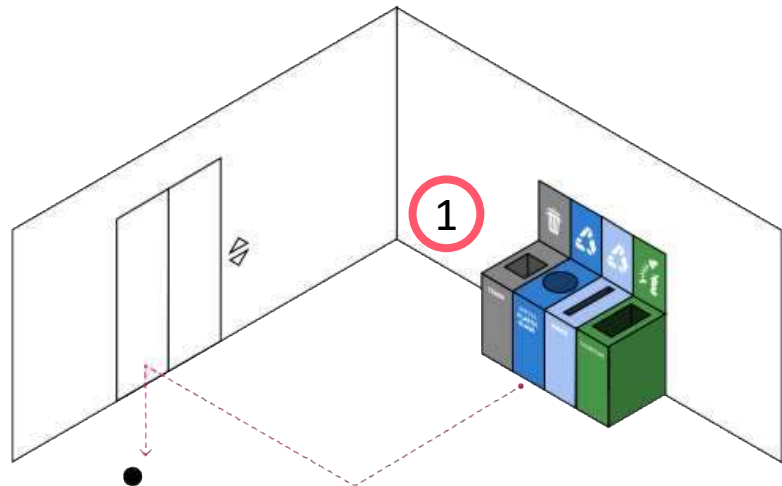


# Zero Waste

# Design Guidelines

Design Strategies and Case Studies for a Zero Waste City

# WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING



## 1. Plan for tenant disposal and separation

- Waste stream types and quantities
- Location of waste stations
- Types of bins
- Signage

## 2. Plan for movement of recyclables and waste to central storage

- Responsibility
- Frequency
- Transport containers
- Route

## 3. Plan for waste storage

- Calculate area required
- Volume reduction equipment
- Location
- Layout of storage space
- Accessibility
- Time restrictions

## 4. Plan for collection

If bags on curb:

- Designated area, size and location

If set out containers:

- Designated area, size and location
- Staffing to return containers
- Area to wash containers

If compactor containers:

- Collection vehicle access
- Ceiling height



# sanitation

## Review:

- Requirements for waste separation – recycling, food scraps
- Minimum square footage requirements
- Any other local requirements for waste handling or storage

## Commercial Organics Requirements

Certain New York City businesses are required under **Local Law 146 of 2013** to separate their organic waste (food scraps, food-soiled paper, and plant waste).

If your business meets the minimum requirements outlined below, you must comply with the NYC Commercial Organics Rules.

### Food Services

These rules apply to restaurants, delis, coffee shops, and cafeterias if they:

- Occupy a floor area of at least 7,000 square feet, or, when combined with all food services in the same building or location, at least 8,000 square feet
- Are part of a chain with two or more NYC locations with a combined floor area of at least 8,000 square feet
- Are located within a hotel that has at least 100 guest rooms



## Waste Diversion Rate Calculator

Calculate your waste diversion: convert volume to weight (.XLS)

[sfe\\_zw\\_volume\\_to\\_weight\\_calculator.xls](#)

### Compliance and regulations



Recycling and composting requirements for businesses



State Law SB 1383: Food recovery requirements



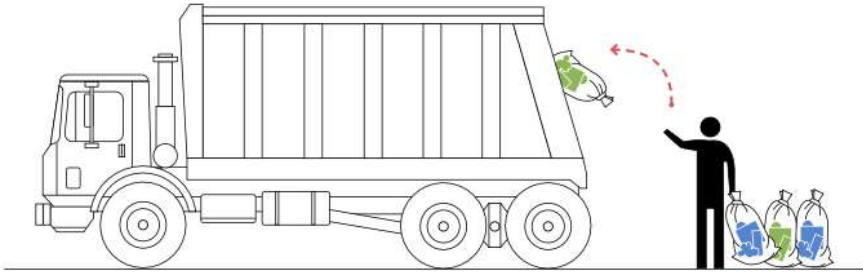
Construction & Demolition debris recovery law



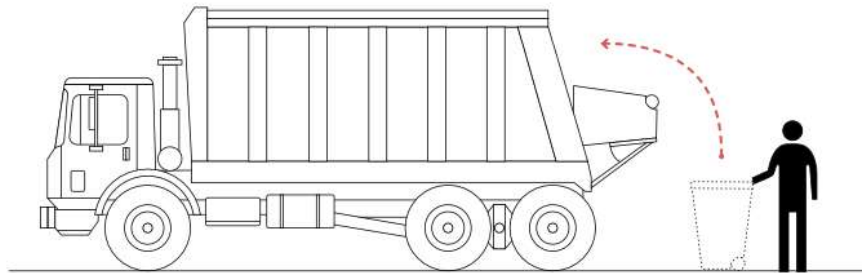
Refuse Separation Law for large refuse generators



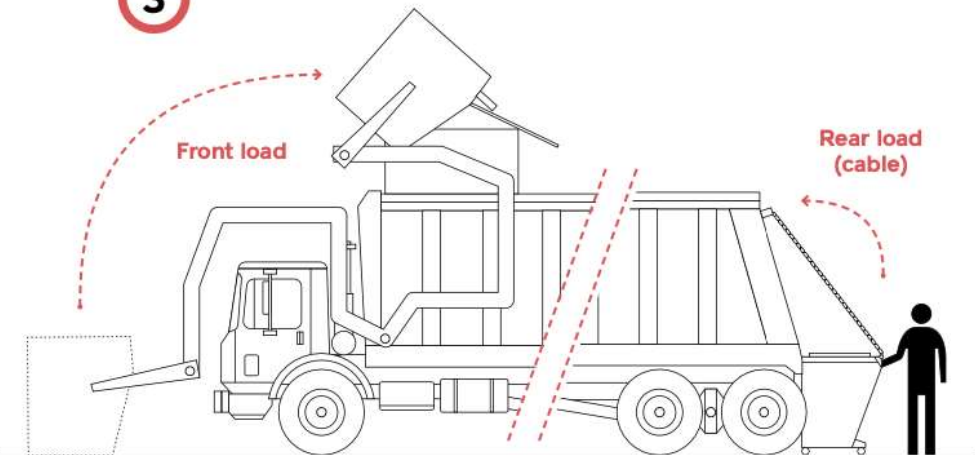
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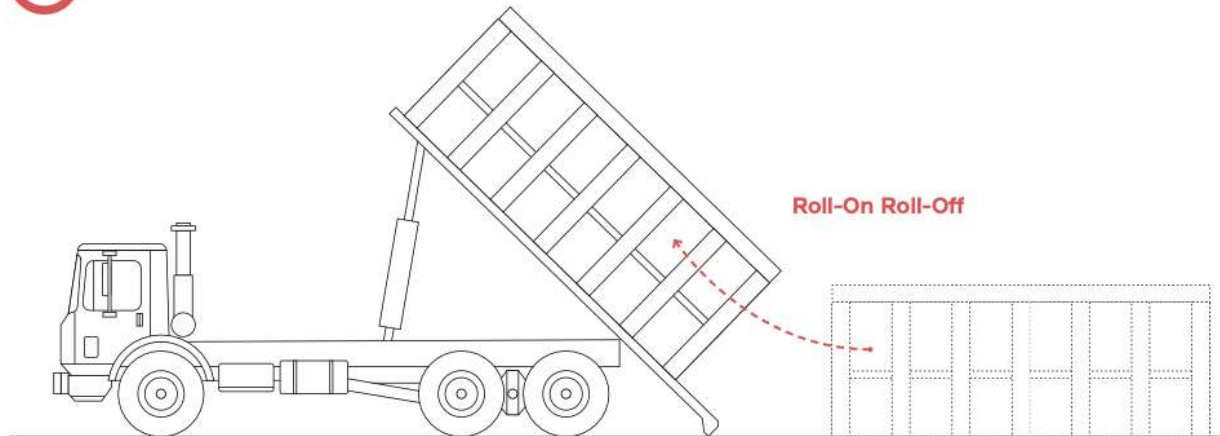
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3



4



### Considerations

- Container/bag types
- Ease and accuracy of waste tracking
- Space requirements
- Truck access requirements





Think Woven

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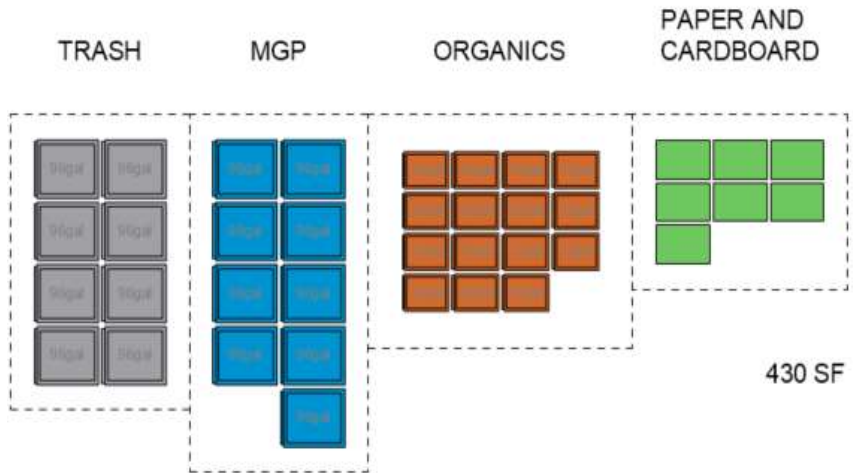




# 3. ESTIMATE WASTE GENERATION: Waste Volumes, Types and Compaction Equipment

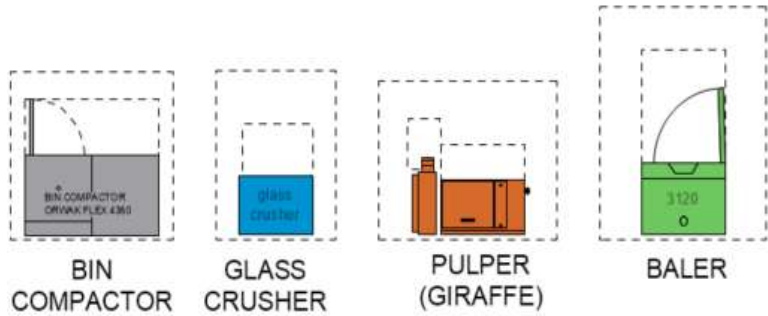
## 2-DAY COMPACTED

Compacted Waste - All



430 SF

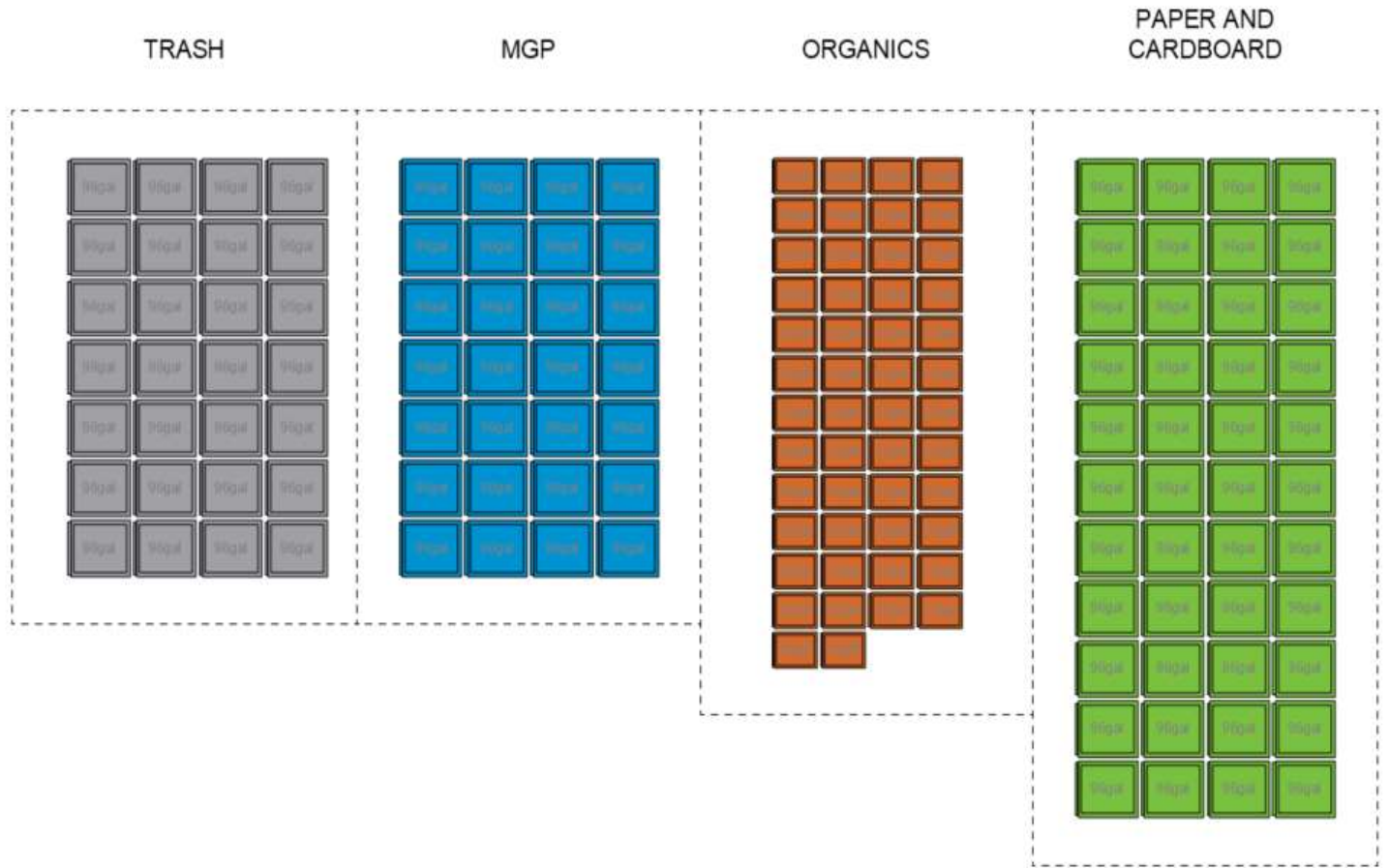
### Equipment



230 SF

## 2-DAY UNCOMPACTED

Uncompacted Waste - All



1740 SF



# 2. PLAN FOR MOVEMENT: Transport Containers and Door and Corridor Widths and transport methods - tugs



### Bin on Dolly

Used for transport within building (normally by custodial staff), and sometimes for disposal locations (for example, in a kitchen)

SIZE	TYPICAL DIMENSIONS		FOOTPRINT
	DIAMETER	HEIGHT	
32 gallon	22"	28"	2.6 SF
44 gallon	24"	32"	3.1 SF
55 gallon	27"	35"	4.0 SF



### Hamper Bin

Used for transport and storage

SIZE	TYPICAL DIMENSIONS		FOOTPRINT
	DIAMETER	HEIGHT	
8 cu ft	36"	26"	7 SF
16 cu ft	44"	30"	9 SF
20 cu ft	49"	33"	11 SF



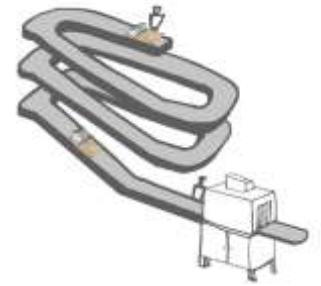
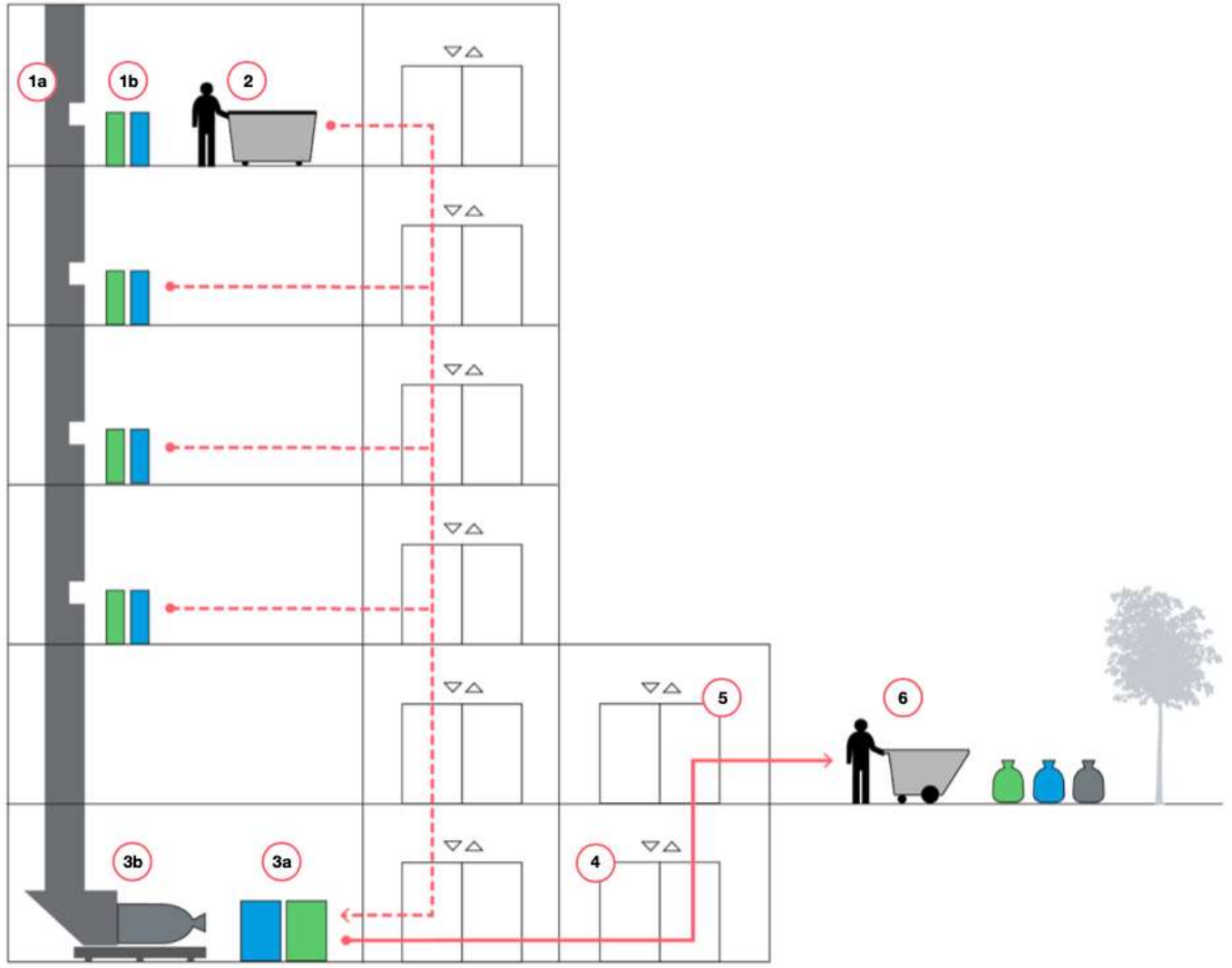
### Tilt Truck

Used for transport, contents can be tipped out

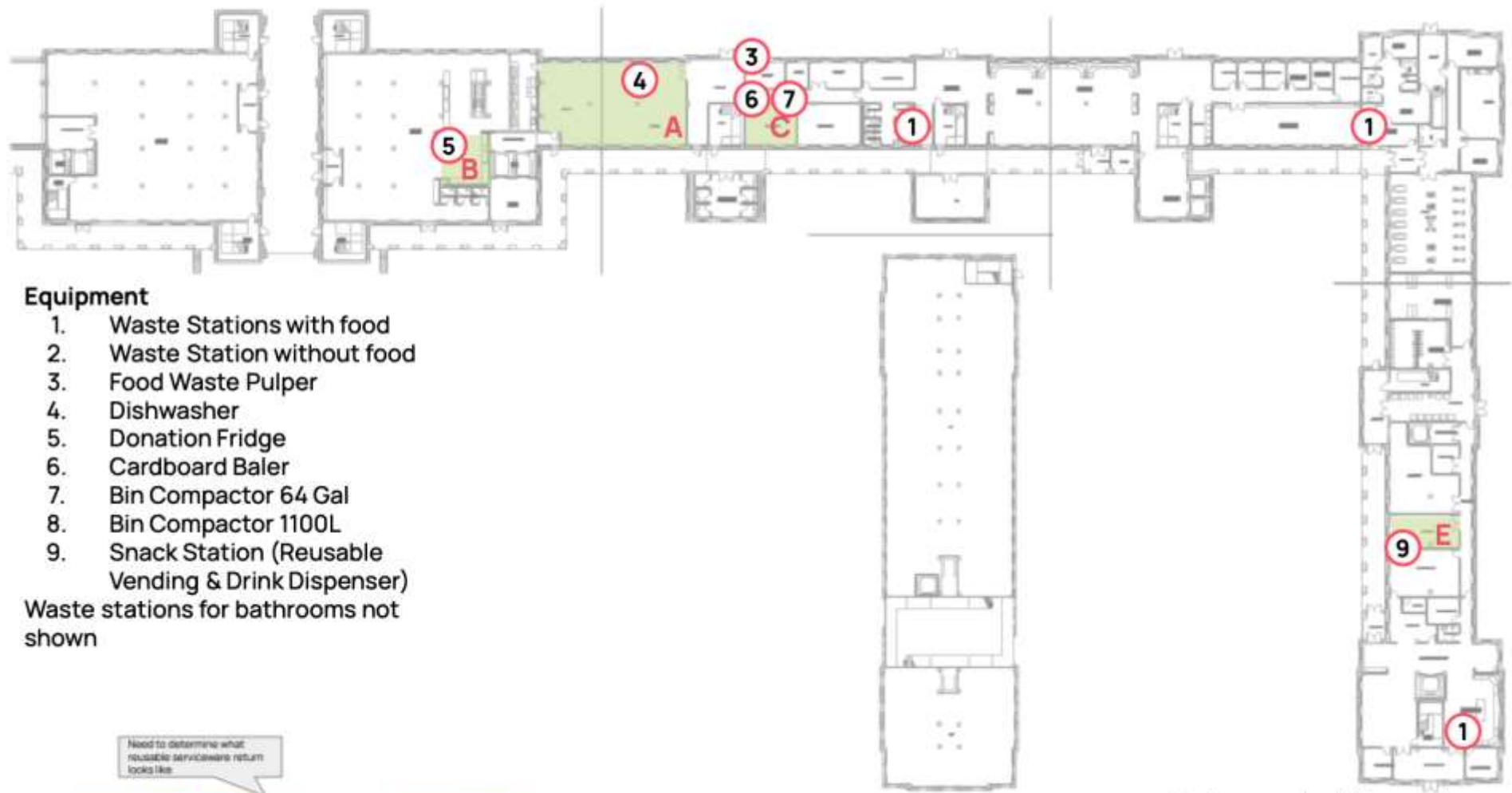
SIZE	TYPICAL DIMENSIONS			FOOTPRINT
	LENGTH	WIDTH	HEIGHT	
1/4 cu yd	65"	30"	39"	14 SF
1 cu yd	73"	33"	44"	17 SF
1 1/4 cu yd	80"	40"	48"	27 SF



## 2. PLAN FOR MOVEMENT: Vertical Movement: Chutes, Elevators, Lifts / Dumb Waiters and Conveyors



# EXAMPLE PROJECT: Waste Disposal and Equipment Locations



## Equipment

- 1. Waste Stations with food
- 2. Waste Station without food
- 3. Food Waste Pulper
- 4. Dishwasher
- 5. Donation Fridge
- 6. Cardboard Baler
- 7. Bin Compactor 64 Gal
- 8. Bin Compactor 1100L
- 9. Snack Station (Reusable Vending & Drink Dispenser)

Waste stations for bathrooms not shown

Need to determine what reusable serveware return looks like



① Locations where food may be eaten



② Locations where there is no food being eaten

\*restroom waste stations not shown

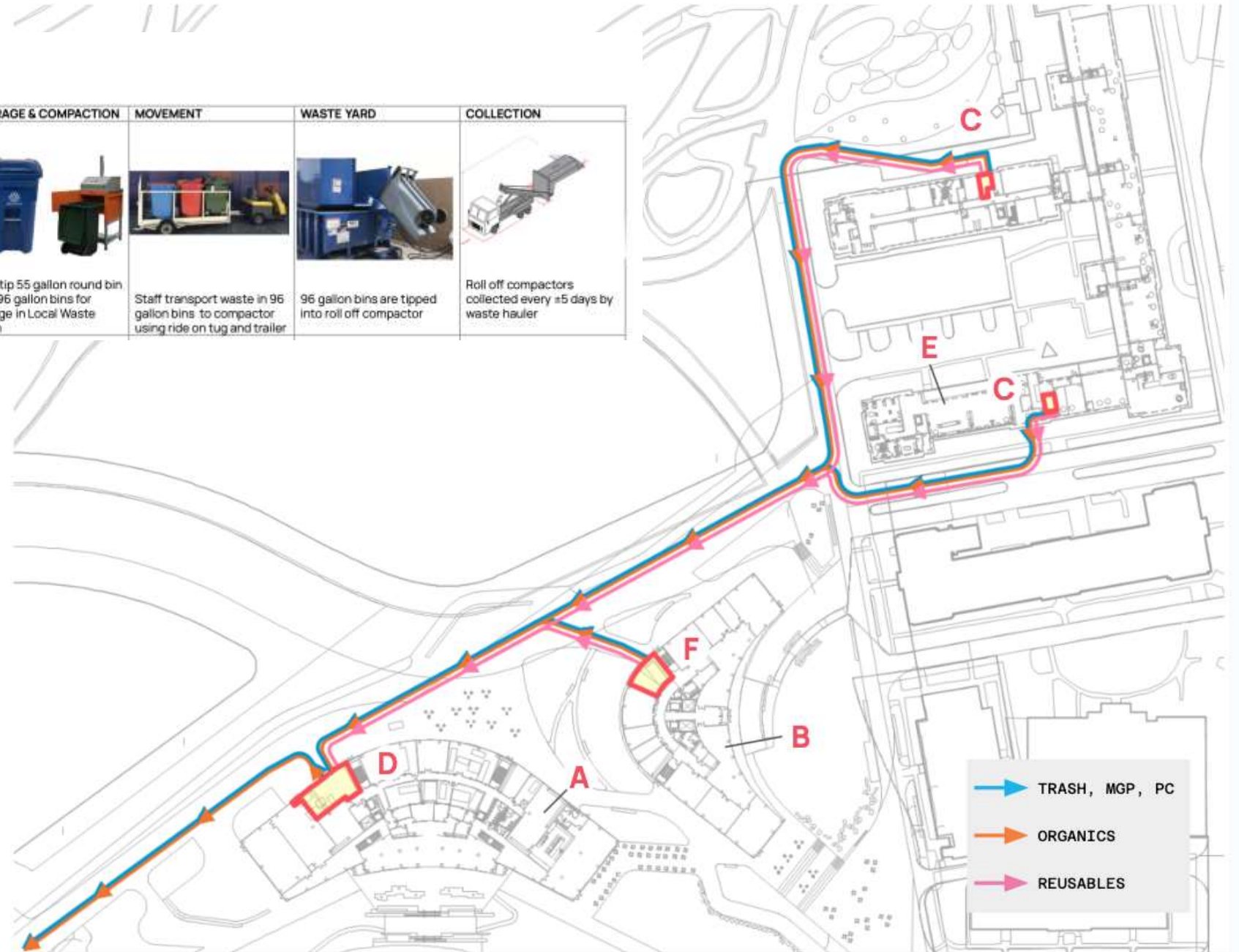


# Waste Flow

	DISPOSAL	MOVEMENT	STORAGE & COMPACTION	MOVEMENT	WASTE YARD	COLLECTION
MGP Recycling Trash	 Recycling Station	 Staff tip / put bag of recycling into a dolly with 55 gallon round bin	 Staff tip 55 gallon round bin into 96 gallon bins for storage in Local Waste Room	 Staff transport waste in 96 gallon bins to compactor using ride on tug and trailer	 96 gallon bins are tipped into roll off compactor	 Roll off compactors collected every 15 days by waste hauler

## Areas required for waste storage

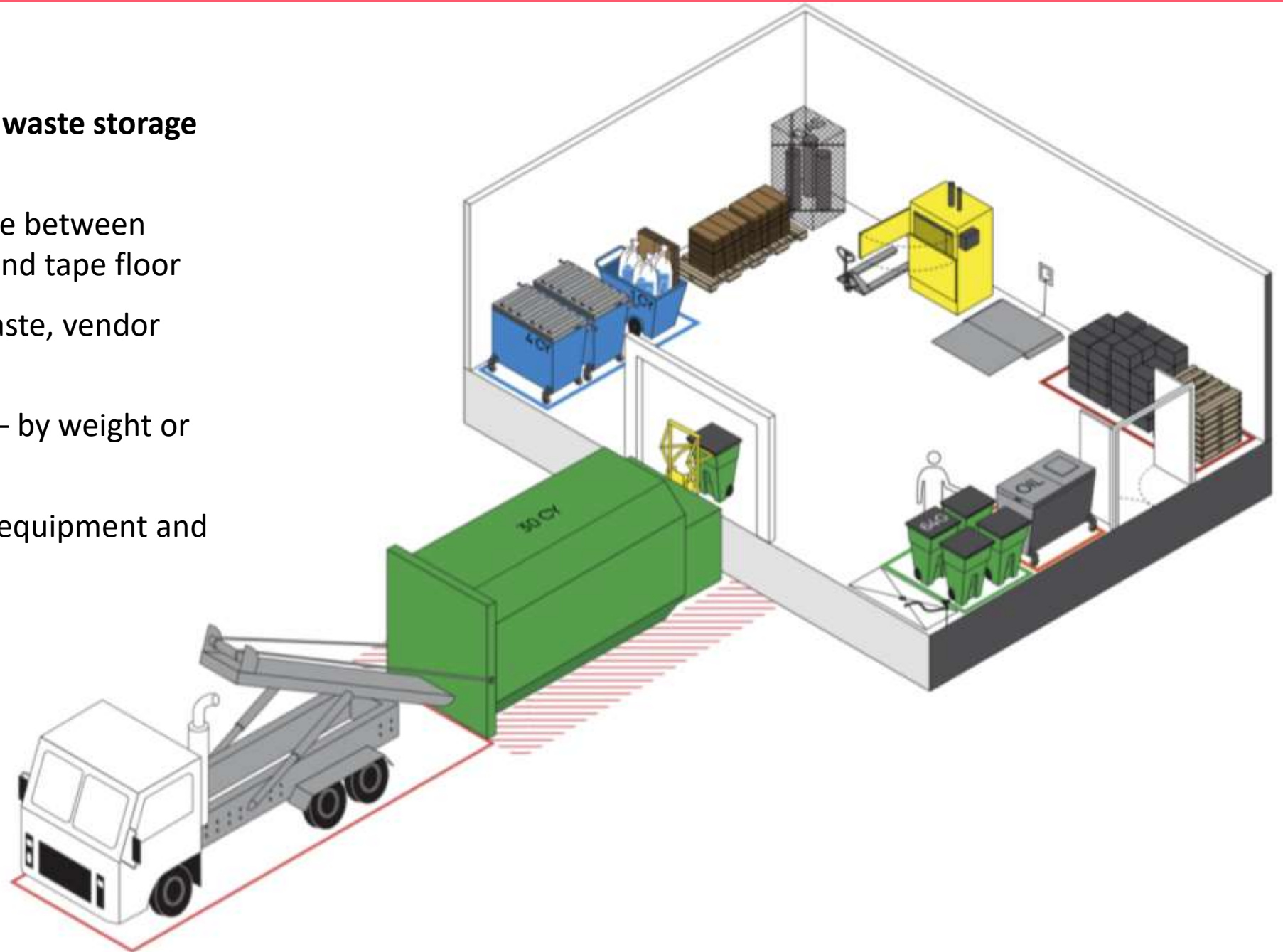
C: North Waste Room	1 day uncompacted waste	172
F: South Waste Room	1 day uncompacted waste	305
D: Central loading dock	2 days compacted waste	1182





### Review requirements for waste storage room:

- Space for waste storage between collections – allocate and tape floor
- Space for regulated waste, vendor take back
- Means to track waste – by weight or by volume
- Space for compaction equipment and utility requirements
- Consider work flow



## 2. PLAN FOR WASTE STORAGE: Compaction Equipment



Bin Compactor



Food Waste Pulper



Glass Crusher



Food Waste Dehydrator







Floor plan with waste stations highlighted in red

Centralized Waste Stations



Waste tracking

# Zero Waste Design Guidelines Case Study: EATALY



FOH

BACK OF HOUSE – BINS & DISPOSAL PROCEDURE			
Bin Style	Bag (Color)	Image	Disposal Procedure
Cambro (or any small container)	No bag required		When full empty into nearest toter.
Slim Jim	Green		When full, pull bag & empty into toter in waste storage area.
32g Toter	No bag required		When full take to loading dock compost storage area. Return with empty toter. Note: If no empty toters are available notify John.

Housekeeping standard operating procedure for managing organic waste.



BOH



Above: Signage for staff

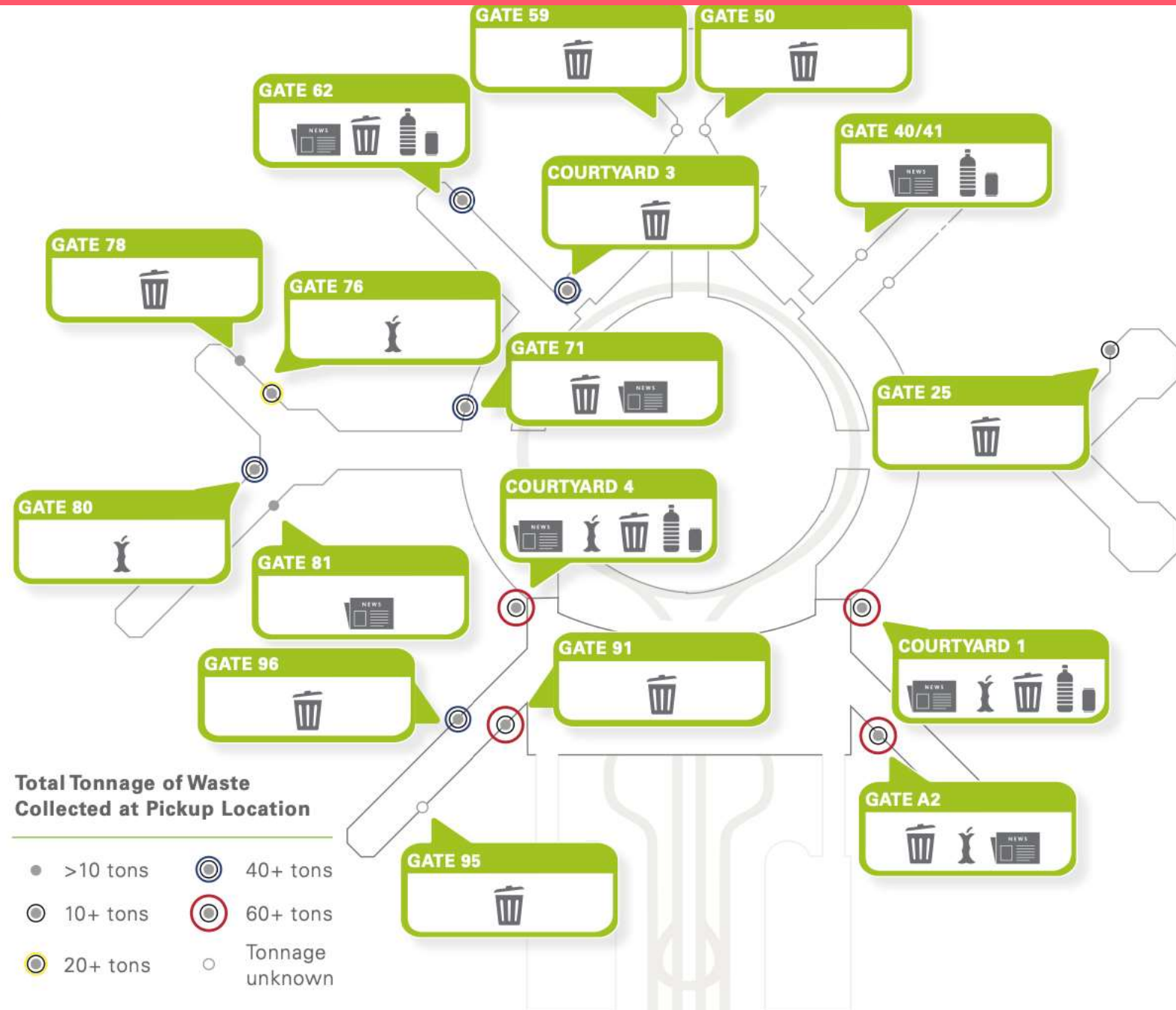
Left: Back of house recycling storage area with bins in marked locations



## Airport Study

17 pick up locations

- 2 for all four waste types,
- 8 were trash only.



## University Campus

- Dishwashers not sufficient to use reusable dishes in cafeteria
- Waste station didn't fit bins, holes all the same shape
- No space to store containers by collection location
- Designated collection location on a sloped street

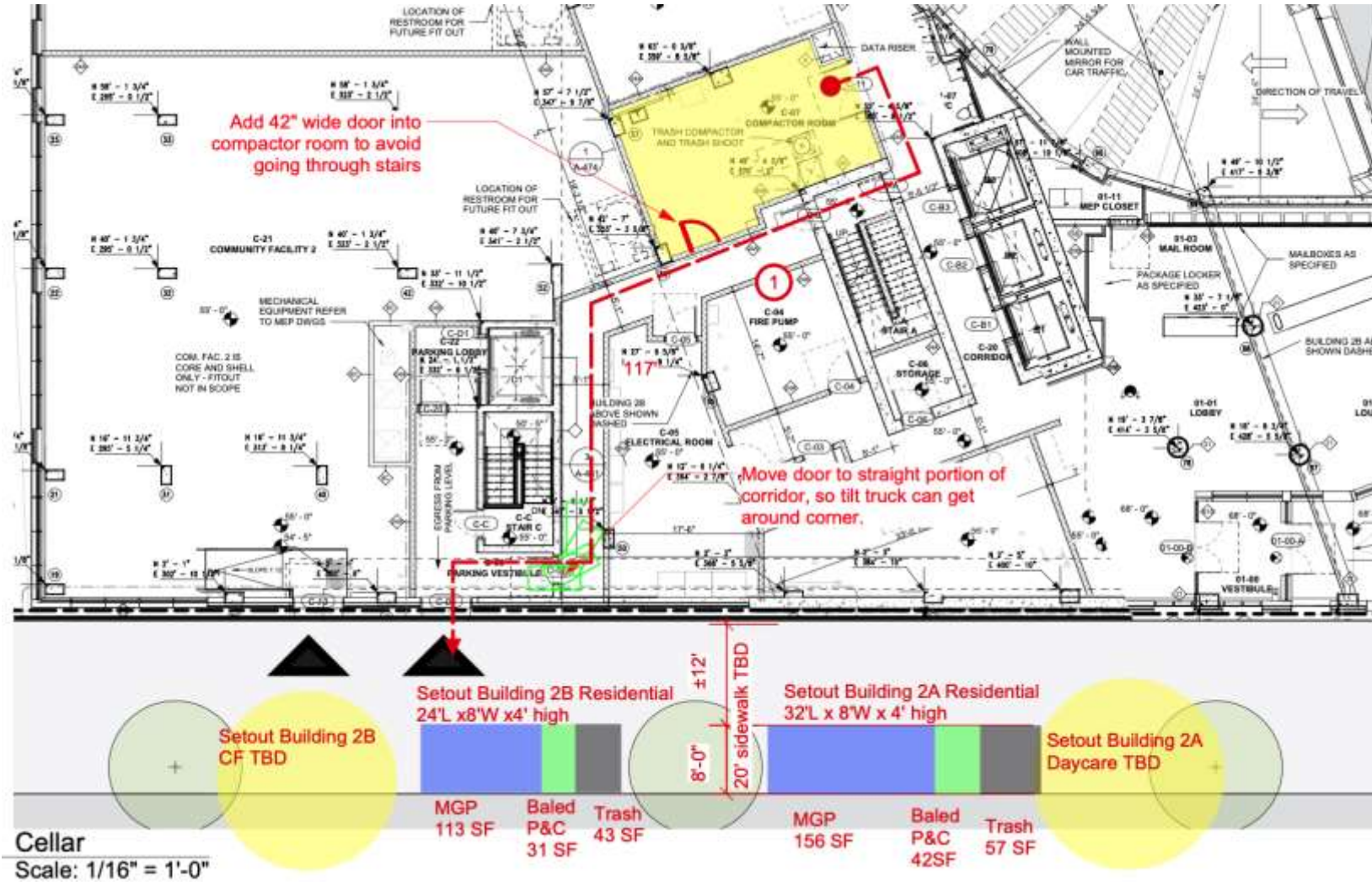




## Multifamily Building in NYC

Route from compactor room to set out location had issues:

- Went through an exit stair
- Door position at the corner didn't allow a 1 CY tilt truck to get through it





# Waste is a design flaw.



Contact:

[Clare@ThinkWoven.com](mailto:Clare@ThinkWoven.com)

[CenterForZeroWasteDesign.Org](http://CenterForZeroWasteDesign.Org)

[ThinkWoven.Com](http://ThinkWoven.Com)

**Think**

**Woven**

# Live Poll #1

**Has your organization studied waste generation patterns to “right-size” or redesign the collection system?** *(check all that apply)*

- Yes – to adjust placement/ capacity of F-O-H bins
- Yes – to adjust custodial service arrangement of F-O-H bins (frequency, etc.)
- Yes – to change how waste transported to dumpsters (equipment, chutes, etc.)
- Yes - to change BOH dumpster / compactor arrangement (capacity, type of containers)
- Changed frequency of hauler service
- Other *(share details in the chat)*
- Not in recent past

# Back of House : Waste Collections (Penn State University Case Study)

Ayodeji Oluwalana (TRUE Advisor)

Waste Reduction & Recycling Program Manager



**PennState**  
Physical Plant





# We Are Penn State (Overview of Penn State)

- Land-grant University, founded in 1855
- 24 campuses spread across the State
- Main Campus – University Park (State College, PA)
- R-1 institution (\$1.337B in annual research expenditures)
- Global leader in research, education, and community
- Nearly 88,000 Students and 28,774 Faculty/Staff



# Penn State Waste Reduction and Recycling Program

- Located in Office of Physical Plant (Facilities dept.)
- Waste Management Operations
  - Custodians manages indoor waste
  - Solid waste crew haul both recycling and trash (self-haul)
- Program Goals





# Our Approach



Key concept in achieving waste reduction, robust recycling and contamination reduction

*“willingness to see a situation more fully, to recognize that we are interrelated, to acknowledge that there are often multiple interventions to a problem, and to champion interventions that may not be popular”*

- The Systems Orientation: From Curiosity to Courage



# Some Program Initiatives and Successes

- GIS Mapping of all Indoor Waste Stations
- Development of Custodial Sustainability Team
- Rebranding of Signage to Reduce Contamination
- Compost Facility Upgrade
  - static aerated pile system
  - \$3 million upgrade through student fee board support
- Beaver Stadium Game Day Waste Management
  - Zero waste President Suite Initiative
  - Bowl cleanup diversion program
  - Pom-pom collection program
  - Tailgate ambassador initiative – fan engagement
- Strategic Engagement with University's Pouring Rights Sponsor (PepsiCo)

**PennState Physical Plant**  
Office of Physical Plant  
Physical Plant Building  
University Park, PA 16802-1116

## Custodial Sustainability Team Charter

*Custodial Operations*

**Goal:** Promote and implement sustainable practices within custodial operations by minimizing the environmental impact of custodial operations while enhancing the cleanliness and sustainability of campus facilities.

**Sponsor:** Manager, Waste Reduction & Recycling Program

**Leader:** Ayo Oluwalana, Waste Reduction and Recycling Program Manager

**INDOOR WASTE STATIONS**

Select a Building: Chemistry Building | Select a Floor: 1st Floor | Waste Type: CLEAR, GLASS, FOOD WASTE, PAPER, PLASTIC, METAL, LIQUID

To report an issue with an indoor waste station please call GPP Work Reception Center at 814-865-4731 or contact a custodial operations supervisor.

**FIRST SHIFT**  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Supervisor: William King  
W: 814-865-4731  
E: wking@psu.edu

**SECOND SHIFT**  
4:30 PM - 1:00 AM  
Supervisor: Josh Brown  
W: 814-865-4731  
E: jbrown@psu.edu

**THIRD SHIFT**  
12:00 PM - 8:00 AM  
Supervisor: Rich VanAllen  
W: 814-865-4731  
E: rvanallen@psu.edu

Compost may be accepted up to 3 times per week. Recycling may be accepted up to 2 times per week. Trash is accepted 5 times per week.

For general inquiries about composting and recycling at Penn State please email [recycling@psu.edu](mailto:recycling@psu.edu).

Recycling, Composting and Waste at Penn State Website

**WASTE**

Single Use Items  
Energy Drinks  
Energy Jugs

Plastic  
Glass  
Paper  
Metal  
Liquids

Chemistry Building

Building Name	Quantity
Building Number	000000
Floor	1
Room Number	1010
Food Waste	1
Paper	1
Plastic	1
Metal	1
Liquid	1

1/1



# Overview of Custodial Operations – Main campus

- 430 custodial staff
- Manages 300 buildings (14.5 million GSF)
  - academic, athletic, administrative
- 14 districts -
  - 264 1st shift 147 2nd shift, 19 3rd shift
- Responsible for general cleaning and waste removal
  - Manages only central and common spaces waste stations
  - No office space waste removal
  - Tipping Frequency depends on building
    - up to 3x compost/week, 2x recycle/week, 1x trash/week
- “Blue” Cleaning Guide/Manual



## Blue Cleaning Guidelines

Cleaning for Health &  
Environment

Penn State Office of Physical Plant



# Empowering Custodians for a Successful Waste Reduction and Recycling Program



**PennState**  
Physical Plant



# Why Empower Custodians?



Critical to any successful waste diversion initiatives



Strategic allies to engage in creating solutions that works



Vast and broad knowledge of what will work and what will not work



Increased sense of ownership in waste diversion program





# Training/Engagement



Annual Summer  
Town Hall Meetings



Custodial New  
Employee  
Orientation Training



Custodial  
Sustainability team



Guest Lecture  
Opportunities



Recycling Center  
Tours





# Challenges.....

- Potential Union Issues
- Lack of understanding of proper sorting process

# Opportunities .....

- Enhanced continuous custodial engagement and recognition





# Lessons Learned and Advice

## Lessons .....

- Continuous training is very important
- Building custodial ownership leads to positive outcomes
- Adaptability is key in large and diverse facilities

## Advice.....

- Foster strong relationships with your custodial teams.
- Be transparent about challenges and involve all stakeholders in solutions.





# Questions!!!

Ayodeji Oluwalana  
Waste Reduction and Recycling Program Manager  
152D Physical Plant Building  
aio5189@psu.edu



**PennState**  
Physical Plant

## Share Your Experience:

1. Beyond general training, how do you engage custodians on recycling / waste issues?
2. How has input from custodians been used to improve your recycling & waste collections?

**Type responses into the Chat**





# Optimizing Indoor Bin Features for Operational Efficiency

Enhancing Ergonomics, Fire Safety, and Program Optimization

# Why Indoor Bin Selection Matters







# **Key Indoor Bin Features for Operational Efficiency**

# Capacity







# Portability





# Portability



# Lid Type

## Hinged Lids





# Lid Type



# The Role of Color, Signage and Openings







# Ergonomic Considerations

# Accessibility





# Liners





# Fire Safety



# Fire Safety

- Materials Compliance
- Placement
- Specialized Bins







# Best Practices for Indoor Bin Selection

## Conduct a Needs Assessment:

- Evaluate waste streams, foot traffic, and custodial capacity.

## Collaborate with Stakeholders:

- Engage custodial teams in the selection process to ensure practicality and satisfaction.

## Pilot Testing:

- Test bin designs in a small area before rolling out facility-wide.

## Aesthetic vs. Operational Priorities:

- Leadership or architects may prioritize aesthetics, but operational functionality should not be sacrificed.
- With research, you can find bins that balance aesthetics and performance.





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Penn State University



**Kerstin Mayer**

*Sustainability &*  
*Diversion Advisor*  
Busch Systems

## Today's Program Online



- Recording
- Presentation slides
- Resources

*Link will be emailed in coming days*

## Archive of Past Programs



- Centralized office collections
- K-12 waste reduction
- Rebuilding confidence in recycling

**+ More**



**Visit: <https://www.buschsystems.com> > Resources > Webinars**

# Report on Indoor Diversion Practices

Insights into trends & lessons learned with:

- Centralized collections from offices & classrooms
- Deskside mini-bins
- Bin standardization
- + **More!**

Find report online:



The image shows the cover of a report titled "Indoor Waste &amp; Diversion Practices at Colleges &amp; Universities". The cover has a dark blue header with the text "Final Report - Free to Download!". Below this, the title is in large green and white font. The subtitle reads "Trends &amp; lessons learned for bin standardization, centralized collections &amp; other practices." and the date is "Summary Report October 2024". On the right side of the cover, there is a photograph of three recycling bins (blue, green, and black) with icons for "RECYCLABLES", "COMPOST", and "WASTE". At the bottom, it says "A collaboration between:" followed by logos for BUSCH SYSTEMS, aashe, NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION, and CURC. There is also a logo for "GIVING WASTE THE ZERO WASTE TREATMENT".



# Next Up:

## RECYCLING AND LITTER PREVENTION IN PARKS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 5TH  
1:00 TO 2:00PM EST.



### Case study presentations:

1. Dolores Park, San Francisco Rec & Parks
2. City of Austin, Parks & Rec. Dept.

*Scan to register:*





## 2025 Webinar Series

# Alternative Framing of Waste Reduction and Diversion

Presentations From:



Visit: <http://curc3r.org>

# Thank you to our Panelists!



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