



SUMMARY

Busch Systems executed a waste audit at the offices of Suite Success in Barrie Ontario in April of 2018. Suite Success offers professional meeting, event and office spaces to businesses and the public. The goal of the audit was to establish the diversion and contamination rates as well as stream composition in their employee kitchen, two event rooms, and tenant office spaces.

Over the course of five days prior to the audit, Suite Success collected and stored mixed recyclables and organics for the audit team to sort through. The material was sorted and weighed and the information gathered was used to get a better understanding of the composition of material generated at Suite Success.

The total amount of waste, mixed recyclables and organics generated at Suite Success during the audit was 59.1 lbs. The amount of recycled materials was 10.6 lbs, which made for an overall diversion rate of 18% for the sample period.

QUICK FACTS



Office Suites



Barrie, ON



April 2018



Waste, Mixed Recycling, Paper & Occasionally Organics

If an organics stream were standardized throughout, Suite Success' diversion rate would increase from **18%** to **76%**!

KEY FINDINGS

Of the refuse that was audited, waste represents 76%; mixed recycling (cans, plastic, bottles and glass) represents 13%, and paper represents 11%. Within the waste stream, 65% was organic material. The total contamination rate was observed to be 5.6%, with the biggest offender being the cans and bottles stream with a 44% contamination rate.

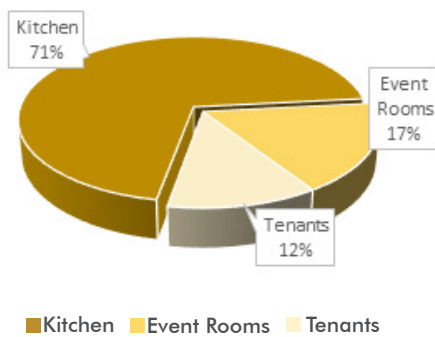
In the kitchen of Suite Success, waste, mixed recycling and paper is collected. If an organics stream were added to this area, the lunch room would have a diversion rate of 72% (up from 7%), bringing the total office diversion rate to 76% (up from 18%)!

The composition study of the stored materials showed that 29% of the material discarded was contaminated. A breakdown of the contaminated materials showed that 51% was soiled paper, 37% was cups, 7% waste food waste, 3% aluminum foil and 2% was labels.

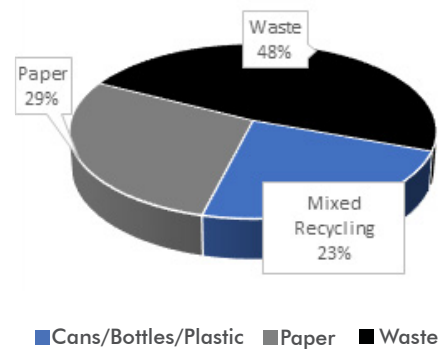


FACTS & FIGURES

Graph 1: Waste Generation by Division



Graph 2: Stream Weight Breakdown



Division	Weight (lbs)	Percent (%)	Diversion (lbs)	Diversion Rate (%)
Kitchen	41.7	71	2.8	6.7
Event Rooms	10.3	18	1.8	17.5
Tenants	7.1	11	6.0	84.5
TOTAL	59.1	100	10.6	18

Table 1: Summary Information for Suite Success

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Implement an organic collection program office-wide that captures and removes organic materials from the waste stream.
2. Consider sourcing biodegradable, or fully recyclable, napkins, toilet paper and event refreshments/food packaging to reduce plastic packaging.
3. Standardize signage, labelling and consistency throughout the building to improve recycling education.
4. Promote and encourage a reduction in waste generation. Consider “waste free” days, no plastic water bottles, and no disposable coffee cups.

For the full waste audit visit: https://www.buschsystems.com/resource-center/pdfs/case-studies/buschSystems_2018_suiteSuccess_wasteAudit.pdf