

WALAILAK UNIVERSITY



SDG

REPORT 2023-2024



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

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- Implementing Waste Tracking Systems for Waste Reduction at Walailak University
- Sustainable Waste Management Practices at WU
- WU's Sustainable Initiatives: Reducing Plastic Waste and the Use of Single-use Items





Implementing Waste Tracking Systems for Waste Reduction at Walailak University



To achieve sustainable waste management practice, in 2023, Walailak University (WU) implemented guidelines to drive and execute waste tracking systems to reduce waste volume generated within the whole university. Several processes were involved.

The process of tracking and measuring waste at its source is a method to foster understanding and awareness among students, staff, and personnel within the university. It underscores the importance of waste reduction and promotes categorized waste disposal. Currently, WU employs various colored bins, totaling 4 types, for segregating different types of waste as follows:

Green bins for biodegradable waste that naturally decomposes over a short period of time,

Dark Blue bins for general waste that is difficult to decompose, not cost-effective to recycle, and non-toxic,

Yellow bins for recyclable waste that can be recycled and reused, even if it's a material that is difficult to decompose.

Red bins for hazardous waste contaminated with chemicals or pathogens that pose risks to health and the environment.

The process of tracking and measuring waste at middle points involves collecting and arranging each type of waste appropriately at designated waste collection points equipped with tightly sealed lids for efficiency. Waste collection vehicles operate to collect and record the weight of waste at each point, with different time intervals and routes for optimal collection efficiency.



The process of tracking and measuring waste at final disposal points involves waste sorting at waste disposal facilities. This includes tracking waste quantity and assessing the types of waste, namely (1) Recyclable waste, which comprises organic waste for animal feed and composting, while the remaining portion is sold for income generation for the university, and (2) Disposal waste, which encompasses waste that cannot be further utilized and is disposed of through landfilling.





Sustainable Waste Management Practices at Walailak University

The action of Walailak University (WU) towards responsible consumption and production has various way, especially, waste management. WU adheres to the principle of continuous integrated waste management, with the goal of managing waste sustainably, considering economic, social, and environmental

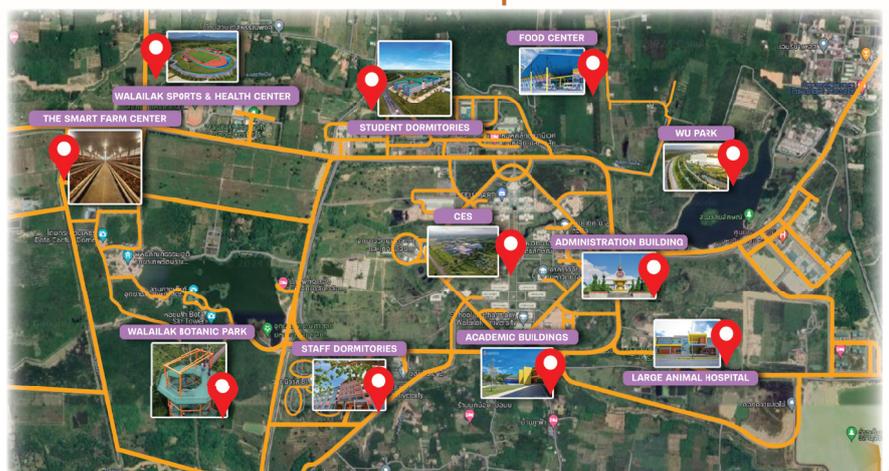
aspects. Additionally, the university has a waste management program responsible for handling all waste on campus, except for hazardous waste generated from laboratories due to their high toxicity, heavy metal contamination, and infection, so it is stored by The Center for Scientific and Technological Equipment (CSE) and exported for disposal by external companies.

Currently, WU has a process of sorting, tracking, and measuring waste from its source, starting from consumers by using various colored bins for separating different types of waste. Then, each type of waste is managed differently to ensure proper suitability according to health and environmental standards, thus preventing environmental problems; the university categorizes waste into two type s: recycled waste (organic and inorganic waste) and landfill waste.



According to the amount of waste monitoring data from the whole university for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023, it is found that the quantity of each type of waste varies. Throughout the year 2023, the university had a total waste quantity of 841.73 tons, or 2.31 tons per day. This included recyclable waste, amounting to 774.12 tons per year, which accounts for 91.97% of the total waste, and landfill waste, amounting to 67.61 tons per year, which accounts for 8.03% of the total waste. The total waste quantity per university population (15,158 individuals) is calculated to be 0.06 kilograms per person per day. This quantity trended downwards from the years 2021 and 2022.

THE WASTE TRACKING SYSTEM for the amount of waste from all sources on campus 2023



— waste collection route

📍 waste collection point



The sorting and tracking of waste mentioned above not only facilitate convenient disposal but also aid in waste reduction. Separating recyclable waste from other types reduces the remaining waste for disposal, resulting in reduced waste disposal budgets. This helps preserve the environment, reducing pollution globally. Additionally, it aids in energy and resource conservation. Furthermore, certain recyclable waste types can be sold, generating income for the university.



WU's Sustainable Initiatives: Reducing Plastic Waste and the Use of Single-use Items



WALAILAK UNIVERSITY
SDGs MOVE



WALAILAK UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENT



POLICY ON SINGLE-USE PLASTIC WASTE AND DISPOSABLE ITEM REDUCTION

SDG 2023



<https://shorturl.at/HvAcl>

Furthermore, WU prioritizes waste management by emphasizing waste reduction at the source as the foremost approach. When waste is inevitably generated, the university seeks to find ways to reuse or repurpose it, ensuring that disposal remains a last resort. The ongoing campaigns, such as "Reject Plastic Bags" and "Bring a Cloth Bag for Your Medicine," extend this commitment to the entire university community, including staff and patients at WU Hospital, reinforcing the message to reduce plastic usage.

In conclusion, the activities driven by WU's policy not only raise awareness but also instill the principles of zero-waste living, advocating the 7Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse, Refill, Repair, and Return. These initiatives aim to minimize waste production within the university and extend these practices to the wider community, fostering a waste-free society. Through these collective efforts, WU is actively working to preserve the environment and build a more sustainable future for all.

The excessive use of plastic and disposable items has become a significant environmental crisis, prompting an urgent need for action. Walailak University (WU) is committed to addressing this issue through its policy aimed at reducing plastic waste and single-use disposables on campus. Originally drafted as a guideline in 2019, this policy has been continually revised to meet current needs and challenges. By implementing strategic activities and engaging all stakeholders—including students, staff, and the broader community—the university strives to create a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

To achieve these goals, WU has initiated several campaigns targeting students, staff, and food and beverage operators on the campus grounds. These initiatives encourage the reduction of waste generation through practical measures, such as using refillable water bottles instead of single-use plastic bottles, and opting for cloth bags or baskets over plastic bags. The university has also requested stores to cease providing single-use plastic bags, with exceptions made for ready-to-eat food, where recyclable materials, bioplastic bags, or paper bags are preferred. Additionally, the university urges the discontinuation of foam containers and breakable plastic bags with handles. These collective efforts have already led to a significant reduction in plastic bag usage on campus.

LET'S SAY NO PLASTIC AND FOAM

