

## STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE FUNDING PROPOSAL

**Part I- General Information:**

<b>Name of Student Organization</b>	Honors Residential College Committee on Service and Sustainability
<b>Contact/Responsible Person</b>	<b>Adam Osborne</b>
<b>Contact Office Held/Title</b>	<b>Sustainability Subcommittee Chair</b>
<b>Contact Email Address</b>	<b>adam06@vt.edu</b>
<b>Contact Telephone Number</b>	<b>757-947-5353</b>

**Part II- Project Cost Information**

Estimated Cost of this Proposal  See III.C. below

Estimated Savings -  See III.D. below

**Net Cost of this Proposal =**

**Part III- Supporting Information**

A. Please describe your sustainability initiative and attach supporting documentation.

The initiative of the Honors Residential College Committee on Service and Sustainability proposes a paper recycling program to be implemented in the Honors Residential College at East Ambler Johnston, as well as in several other dorms randomly selected across the campus. By running this pilot program throughout several dorms on campus, we hope to see an increase in the amount of paper recycled across the Virginia Tech campus. As large paper recycling bins have been allocated by the university to be placed next to waste receptacles outside of the dorms, our proposal is for the distribution of small individual paper recycling bins for every dorm room within East Ambler Johnston and several other random dorm buildings across campus.

B. How does this initiative help to achieve the goals of the Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment Resolution and Sustainability Plan?

This initiative would help to achieve the goals of the Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment Resolution and Sustainability Plan by encouraging students to recycle paper within their dorms. Our belief is that the current blue recycling bins in the individual dorm rooms allow students to recycle aluminum and plastic, yet most paper will go straight into a trash can as most student would probably not separate paper and plastic recyclables within the blue bin. By providing a separate paper recycling bin within the dorm room, students would be more likely to recycle paper than if they had to separate in within the blue bins. The bins should be made of a plastic material (similar to that of the current blue bins) with a height and width proportional to the blue bins, yet with smaller length of several inches in order to save space within the dorm rooms.

C. What is the cost of your proposal? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your cost estimate.

The cost of this proposal should roughly be placed at \$1500.00. The cost for the proposal stems from the cost of the individual bins for the dorm rooms (aforementioned in the previous section), with production cost for each bin estimated at roughly \$4.15 plus shipping.

D. Will your proposal produce cost savings for the University? If so, how much? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your savings estimate.

The proposal for individual paper recycling bins within dorm rooms will produce cost savings for the university. We believe that these bins will adamantly motivate students to recycle paper into the dorm designated paper recycling receptacles outside of the dorms. Diverting paper materials from general waste disposal into paper recycling will save the university money in trash collection tipping fees, which total \$51.00 per ton of trash versus \$0.00 per ton for recycling paper. This will save the university money in the long run, although an estimate cannot be calculated for the estimated saving line in Part II of this form. This proposal will also increase the entire net amount of material recycled on the Virginia Tech campus on a yearly basis. Coupled with the Outdoor Mixed Paper Recycling Container Green RFP, estimate an increase in the amount of mixed paper recycling by 10%, with simple payback less than two years.

E. Is this funding request an Ongoing or One-Time change (**please check one**)?

**One-time**

Ongoing

If ongoing funding is requested please explain how the initiative and resource needs may change in future years.

F. Is funding available for this request from another source? If yes, describe the funding (source, amount, etc.)

Yes, funding is also available to this proposal from Virginia Tech Housing and Residence Life. The group is willing to fund a certain amount of this proposal based on the total funding allotted for this proposal per request.

**Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers**

Adam Osborne

Oct 24, 2011

Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization)

(Date)

Dennis C. Cochrane, Sustainability Program Manager, Office of Energy and Sustainability

Nov 9, 2011

Reviewed By (Name of Office of Energy and Sustainability Representative)

(Date)