

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM

Part I- General Information:

Name of Student Organization	UAP 3354 - Introduction to Environmental Policy & Planning
Contact/Responsible Person	Bailey Hackley, Emily Cummings, Camryn Cappel, Jireh Clarrington, Blake Wallace
Contact Office Held/Title	Bailey Hackley
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Contact Telephone Number	(571)-520-0662

Part II- Project Cost Information

Estimated Cost of this Proposal	\$16, 100	See III.C. below
Estimated Savings -	TBD	See III.D. below
Net Cost of this Proposal =	\$16, 100	

Part III- Supporting Information

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

The goal of this RFP aims to decrease the amount of container waste entirely throughout university-specific dining halls while encouraging students/faculty to become more aware of the many multifaceted ways that consumers contribute to waste through the expansion of the existing Ozzi reusable-to-go container program. This RFP is proposing the incorporation of 15,000 different size reusable-to-go containers from G.E.T. Enterprises in West End, Owens, Hokie Grill, and Turner Place. These containers will be different in size than the containers already used in the dining halls as they are intended to be used for all food items served in campus dining centers including drinks, snacks, desserts, soups, and any other item that would require a different container than the ones that are already in use. This proposal will provide for 1,300 single entrée containers (26 cases), 1,300 three-compartment entrée containers (26 cases), and 500 soup containers (5 cases). The purpose of this proposal is to minimize on-campus waste, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and eventually subsidize the use of the current non reusable-to-go containers in the dining halls. Ultimately, this initiative will come to save the university money through the purchase of a finite set of containers while also reducing the contracts to outside vendors.

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

According to Virginia Tech's Sustainability Plan, the university has committed to minimizing waste and reaching a 50% recycle rate by 2020 but, there is not a specific quantitative measurement for decreasing the amount of waste. By switching to 100% reusable-to-go containers in all of the university dining halls, Virginia Tech will work toward their first goal of becoming a leader in campus sustainability. This can occur through the use of reusable plastic containers that can be returned, washed, and used repeatedly by students, faculty, and staff. The use of these containers also improve Virginia Tech's percentage of trayless meals and aid in the increased introduction of reusable containers as indicated under the goals of section eight. The containers are also long lasting and are normally only replaced after long use and the onset of discoloration to the container.

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

To implement G.E.T.'s reusable takeout containers into the R2G program Virginia Tech would need an estimated total of 3,100 new food containers. The total cost for these containers is estimated to be \$10, 000.

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.

Ultimately yes. The acquisition of reusable-to-go containers throughout all of the dining halls would require a one-time purchase of the containers. The use of the reusable-to-go containers will save the university from buying the current takeout containers that are used. The current compostable containers used by the university come from the manufacturer StalkMarket in Portland, Oregon. The university currently pays around \$82,500 for compostable entree containers only, assuming roughly 100,000 are used annually. Students are charged 25 cents for every compostable container used, whether entree size or not, which is included in the purchased food. Even with this charge, the university still spends roughly \$57,500 for the entree containers as a whole. So with the purchase of reusable containers, speaking only for entree containers, the university would be saving roughly \$36,000 each year with the purchase of reusable to-go containers.

E. Is this funding request for a One-Time need or an Ongoing need (please check one)?

One-time

Ongoing

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

Coca-Cola has assisted in the past with the purchase of Ozzi products for the purpose of this RFP an application can be submitted to ascertain their interest in further financial assistance should the need arise. PepsiCo is also a company who has worked with the university in the past and they provide environmental grants to universities which could provide funding for this proposal should it be necessary.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM (Continued)

Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers

Bailey Hackley, UAP 3354 Environmental Policy and Planning

Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization)

Date

Anthony Purcell

Reviewed By (Name of Appropriate University Official)

Date

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

Date

**STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE FUNDING PROPOSAL
CONTACT LIST**

In the preparation of your Green RFP form, we encourage student organizations to seek input and guidance from the following list of university employees. These individuals are familiar with the form and the process. They can address the feasibility of your proposal, can provide a technical review, and can evaluate the cost & potential savings.

Area of Expertise	Name	Title	Email Address
Energy Management	Ruben Avagyan	Campus Energy Manager	rubena@vt.edu
Facilities: Housing & Residence Life	Todd Pignataro	Associate Director of Facilities	ptodd@vt.edu
Facilities: Buildings & Grounds Water Bottle Refill Stations	Jim McDaniel	Project Coordinator	jmcdani@vt.edu
Exterior Lighting	Bob Dellinger	Assoc. Director, Utilities	rdelling@vt.edu
Student Engagement & Campus Life	Eric Margiotta	Association Director	margiotta@vt.edu
Dining Services	Anthony Purcell	Assistant Director	purcella@vt.edu
Alternative Transport (Bike, Bus, Walk, etc.)	Jeri Baker	Director, Parking & Transportation	jab518@vt.edu
Landscape Architect	Bob Massengale	Site Planner	rnmassen@vt.edu
Hahn Horticulture Garden	Scott Douglas	Director/Instructor	dsd1@vt.edu
Recycling	Denny Cochrane	Sustainability Program Manager	denniscc@vt.edu
Miscellaneous	Karlee Siepierski	Campus Sustainability Planner	Skarlee3@vt.edu