

## FCPS Responses to Questions for Staff from December 5<sup>th</sup> JET Waste Reduction/Recycling Subcommittee

- **Who within FCPS is the best point person for waste?**
  - Scott Larson, Coordinator of Plant Operations, with support from Get2Green on recycling/waste reduction efforts led by school teams and managing recycling email inquiries. Information about recycling in FCPS and recycling/waste data is available on the [Get2Green website](#). [SALarson@fcps.edu](mailto:SA Larson@fcps.edu)
- **Who is the person responsible for waste at Fairfax County facilities/operations?**
  - Charlie Forbes, Chief Recycling, Compliance, and Planning  
Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program  
(703) 324-5226
- **Status of the focus groups/survey related to communicating about recycling in the county?**
  - N/A
- **Status of the 5-year review of waste management for the county? Are there any projects geared specifically toward reducing waste generated by the county facilities and operations/schools?**
  - [Straws were removed from middle and high school cafeterias](#) at the beginning of the 2019-20 school year. Straws are available for students requiring them for medical reasons.
  - [Policy 8542 Environmental Stewardship](#) states that “Local recycled-content and rapidly renewable materials will be used in new schools and renovations when readily available”
- **What are the primary goals related to waste management in the county/FCPS?**
  - FCPS is committed to capturing and recycling as much recyclable materials as possible through our single stream recycling program which is detailed in Regulation 8541
- **Are there any related to waste reduction?**
  - Nothing currently in place
- **What programs are planned/in progress related to waste reduction? Composting? Others?**
  - In spring 2020, Get2Green is hosting a Rethink Recycling incentive program focused on reducing waste. Student-led teams can complete a waste stream audit of their school then create an action plan based on their audit. Schools will be provided with recycling bins and posters to implement their action plan. This is the third year this program is being offered.
  - 66 FCPS schools have [food sharing programs](#) where unopened and sealed food items that students do not eat are diverted from the waste stream and donated to local homeless shelters and food banks. Schools that choose to have food sharing programs must submit a MOU for Donation of Student School Meal Leftovers to Local Food Banks to the FCPS Office of Food and Nutrition Services and maintain a weekly log of the donated food.

- 44 schools have a compost program managed at the school level.
- Some schools participate in other waste reduction programs such as the Trex Challenge for plastic film or Crayola ColorCycle for diverting markers from the waste stream.
- **What is the current recycling policy in the schools and at county?**
  - [Regulation 8541 Recycling Requirements for all FCPS Facilities](#) details requirements for “all FCPS facilities to recycle to the maximum extent possible.”
  - [Policy 8542 Environmental Stewardship](#) states that “Schools and centers will have mandatory recycling programs for paper products, cans, bottles, and fluorescent light bulbs. Construction waste materials will be separated and Policy 8542.1 Page 3 recycled.”