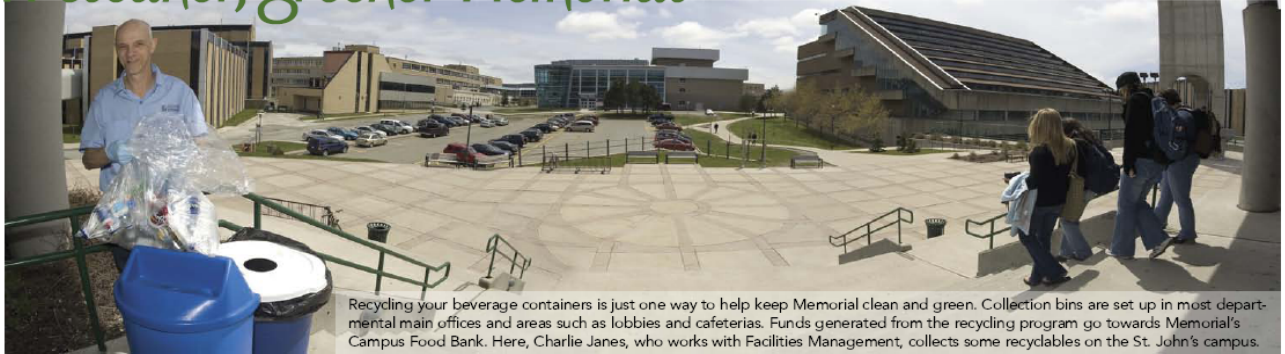


A cleaner, greener Memorial



Recycling your beverage containers is just one way to help keep Memorial clean and green. Collection bins are set up in most departmental main offices and areas such as lobbies and cafeterias. Funds generated from the recycling program go towards Memorial's Campus Food Bank. Here, Charlie Janes, who works with Facilities Management, collects some recyclables on the St. John's campus.

Embarking on paper reduction plan

The newly-created Advisory Committee on Sustainability is working with the university's sustainability co-ordinator to set priorities for and implement sustainability initiatives here at Memorial. The committee held its first meeting in May 2007. The 25-member group includes faculty, staff and students from the St. John's campus, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College and the Marine Institute, as well as a government representative. It will act as a link between the university community and the Sustainability Office, providing advice and recommendations to the sustainability co-ordinator, and helping to determine priorities and to implement green initiatives.

The first major initiative is Reduce Paper Use, a campaign aimed at reducing consumption of forest resources and thereby reducing paper costs.

According to the university's paper supplier, in 2006 the university purchased about 198,000 kilograms – or 40 million sheets of copy paper – at a cost of \$251,000.

"The 2006-07 government contract for paper, of which Memorial is a part, does not include paper containing recycled content, so all of this paper is produced from virgin wood (cutting of trees)," said Toby Rowe, the university's sustainability co-ordinator. "The volume of paper used by Memorial is equivalent to approximately 4,800 trees."

Ms. Rowe said that the Reduce Paper Use campaign will happen in several stages with the first focusing on simple ways for staff and faculty to reduce copy paper consumption, such as by double siding.

"Posters with tips on reducing paper use will be distributed for posting next to printers and copiers, and this information will also be available on the new Memorial Sustainability website," Ms. Rowe explained. (www.mun.ca/facman/sustainability).

In addition, technological solutions will also be implemented. New Xerox WorkCentres are currently being installed in several offices. These machines will be set to default to double-sided copying. Machines installed prior to the decision to default to double-sided copying will be reset when maintenance is required. When printing, individuals can choose to print double-sided through their printer properties or set the computer to default to double-sided printing.

Ms. Rowe noted that several universities across Canada have embarked on similar paper reduction campaigns. For example, the University of British Columbia has reduced its paper use by 14 per cent since 1999.

"Remarkably, it achieved this reduction while it experienced a 24 per cent increase in the student population," she said. "I think our university community is ready to take on the challenge and I look forward to seeing the results over the coming year."

For further information on the paper-use reduction campaign and other sustainability initiatives, go to www.mun.ca/facman/sustainability or contact the Sustainability Office at 737-2637 or sustain@mun.ca.

Reduce Paper Use Tips

- Print and copy double-sided whenever possible. Set photocopiers and printers to default to double-sided.
- Save non-confidential single-sided copies for draft printing on the other side (if printer specifications allow) or for note pads and scrap paper. Set up a tray next to printer/copier for reusable paper.
- Decrease margin width and font size of documents.
- Send documents as e-mails and attachments instead of printing hard copies.
- Edit and proofread on screen by using spell check, grammar check and track changes, instead of printing multiple drafts.
- When placing printing orders, ask for double-sided and order the minimum quantity required.
- Reduce the number of hard copies when possible. If several people need to be hard copied, circulate a single copy instead of printing multiple copies.
- Print only what is needed. Print one section rather than a whole report.

For professors/instructors:

- Ask students to submit work electronically, especially drafts.
- Allow students to submit double-sided work.
- Provide course handouts electronically.

