UIS Green Projects Application

Full Project Proposal- **Step 2**

To complete your Full Project Proposal, **download this word document and type all answers** to the questions below. Save your completed word document along with any supporting documentation (excel spreadsheet of budgeted itemized items, letters of support, and so on) as new files. Supporting files in Word (.docx) format should be attached to the end of this application in order to create only one Word document. Supporting files in all other formats (pdf, excel, PP) may be submitted as separate documents.

Once completed and saved to your device, return to the Green Projects website at <http://www.uis.edu/greenprojects/get-involved/>

Click the hyperlink titled, *“****Submit your completed UIS Green Project Proposal****”*

This can be found under **Step 2** of the “Submit a Green Project Proposal” section.

You will be redirected to an external WebQ. Upload your completed application along with any supporting documentation by the deadline found in the “**Timeline**” section of the Green Projects website.

**NOTE: Please do not submit this application unless you have been formally invited to do so by the UIS Green Fee Committee.**

If you have any questions regarding the application or submission process, please contact us at [greenprojects@uis.edu](mailto:greenprojects@uis.edu).

**Project Name:** UIS Townhouse and Apartments Recycling Project

**Contact Information:**

Project Team

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Name* | *UIS Student/Faculty/Staff & Department (or Office)* | *UIS Email* | *Phone #* |
| Meghan Kelly | UIS Student | [mkell23@uis.edu](mailto:mkell23@uis.edu) | (224) 735-9852 |
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Organization/Affiliation:

**Project Information:**

*Provide a brief description of the project, its goals, and the desired outcomes:*

I propose spending funds on giving each townhouse and apartment unit on university property a recycle bin. There are currently recycle bins provided to each of the dorms where the underclassmen are more likely to live, but not in the townhouses or apartments where upperclassmen live. The size of the recycle bins should be similar to those provided in the dorms; 6 gallons recycle bins should be sufficient for the purpose of consistency. Students will need to take out the recycle bins (once full) to the larger recycle bins in the laundry room and to maintain the integrity of the bin, they will be liable for any damages to the bins. This should not be a problem as it is an expansion of the project that put recycle bins in the dorms.

I would also like to provide educational materials at the same time that the residents arrive on campus. The educational materials should not cost anything except for time. To go along with the theme of sustainability, I think it would be best to send the materials out over email to save paper. The email should contain information on how to recycle as well as some information on how recycling is beneficial. I think it would also be a good idea for students to understand how recycling is done at UIS. There is a perception among students that UIS ends up throwing away recyclables, but it is simply not true. It is up to the university to prevent these myths from spreading and ensuring that students are confident in their ability to make a difference by recycling.

The desired outcomes of this project include:

* Provide students with recycle bins
* Increase recycling among upperclassmen
* Educate students on the importance of recycling

Encourage lasting habits around recycling and sustainability

*How will this project improve sustainability at UIS?*

This project relates to the discussion around bounded rationality. When people are presented directly with problems, people will be more likely to pay attention to it and make a reasonable decision. While there are currently larger recycle bins in the laundry rooms of each court, it is generally out of the way of everyday life. Generally, college students do their laundry once a week or every two weeks. This means that at most students are confronted with recycling bins meant to be used by them residentially once a week or every two weeks. Sustainability is something that is supposed to be long term, not short term. The lack of recycle bins in the townhouses and apartments create some disconnect between the expectations of recycling as a personal responsibility and decision. The consistency provided by this project will help create a long-term shift in the students’ ideas around sustainability. Recycling itself is an important part of sustainability since it increases the lifecycle of an otherwise single use item. There would be less energy put towards making new plastics or mining for aluminum containers. Regeneration and repurposing are becoming increasing more important as resources are dwindling and technological solutions are running out.

*Please indicate how this project will involve or impact students. What role will students play in the project?*

Students will be given one recycle bin per residential unit. Mainly students will benefit by receiving a place to put any recyclables before putting them in the recycle bins in the laundry rooms. As previously discussed, there is a disconnect in the availability to recycle bins in the underclassmen residence and the upperclassmen residence. Having a recycle bin directly in an apartment or townhouse will significantly reduce recyclables going into the garbage and allow for better management of recycling by students. With the provided educational materials, students will have the tools necessary to continue recycling in the future and expect recycling in every residence that they will live in after college. In addition to residential recycling, the knowledge and experience can be applied to recycling in public spaces as well.

*Where will the project be located? Do you need special permissions to enact the project at this site? If so, please explain and attach a letter of support to your application. If you are not sure, let us know! We can help.*

I propose every residential unit in the following living spaces be provided with a recycle bin: Clover, Bluebell, Larkspur, Pennyroyal, Marigold, Trillium, Foxglove, and Sunflower courts. The number of residential units are broken down as followed:

West campus townhouse units: 94

Pennyroyal: 24

Marigold: 24

Trillium: 23

Foxglove: 23

East campus apartment units: 109

Bluebell: 24

Larkspur: 32

Clover: 23

Sunflower: 30

Total residential units: 203

*Other than the project team, who will hold stake in the project? Please list other individuals, groups, or departments indirectly or directly affected by this project. This includes any funding entities (immediate, future, ongoing, etc.) and any entities that will be benefiting from this project. Communication with affected departments is encouraged ahead of time. List the names of who you spoke with and their comments.*

I have been in contact with the Department of Residence Life through Eric Kappelmann, but do not have official approval. On-campus students will be impacted and encouraged to participate. All funding will be through the green fee committee.

*Have you applied for funding from the Student Green Fee previously? If so, for what project?*

No

**Scope, Schedule, and Budget verification**

*Do you have a plan for project implementation? Describe the key steps of the project.*

1. Gain approval from the department of residence life for implementation of program- end of February
2. Find a company and an official cost of the recycle bins- end of April
3. Order the recycle bins- spring to summer
4. Put the recycle bins in each unit- early fall before residents arrive
5. Email educational materials on recycling to each resident in every unit on campus- first day of classes and continuing each year of the project

*List all budget items for which funding will be required. Include the cost for each item requested. Please be as detailed as possible, to the best of your ability. If you know where you would like to purchase materials from, please list the contact information of the retailer(s) below, along with the URL addresses to each item you will be requiring. If you need suggestions for how and where to purchase materials, please contact the Student Sustainability Projects Coordinators by email.*

Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Pack-Bins-Stackable-Recycling-Container/dp/B08WJNS1G2/ref=sr_1_5?dchild=1&keywords=Recycling%2BRules&qid=1635104519&s=storageorganization&sr=1-5&th=1>

Pack of 10 6 gallon recycle bins: $114.90

Minimum packs necessary: 21 (total bins: 210)

$2,412.90

Realistic (considering replacements) packs necessary: 25 (total bins: 250)

$2,872.50

These estimates do not include shipping or tax.

I would personally recommend ordering the more realistic amount of 250 bins. This amount should cover the cost of any replacements in the near future (about 5 years). I had investigated a number of wholesale sites, but none seemed to as accommodating or reputable as Amazon. While Amazon does not have the most sustainable reputation as a whole, it is the most dependable when it comes to product consistency and quality.

*Will this project require ongoing funding? Do you have a plan for supporting the project in order to cover replacement, operation, or renewal costs?*

250 recycle bins should cover any replacements for the near future.

*Every project must be publicized! Where would you like to see information about this project reported?*

Social media for the Department of Residence Life and the green fee committee, the UIS website