



SOLID WASTE WORKSHEET

Here are several mathematical challenges to help you and your students calculate the impact of changing the solid waste stream at your school.

Step 1: Calculate Recycling Rate to tell you the percent of solid waste stream you are currently diverting from the landfill.

- Information Needed
 - The size of both the trash and recycling containers at your school.
 - The weekly schedule for when each container is serviced.

	Size (CY)	X Frequency (Pickups/Week)	= Subtotal CY/Week	Percent (Sub/Total)
Trash				
Recycling				
Total Solid Waste				100%

Step 2: Calculate Per Capita Solid Waste Rate to tell you how many pounds of solid waste everyone in the school produces.

- Information Needed
 - The total solid waste rate (CY/Week) from the above table.
 - The number of students (and adults, if possible) in the school.

Total Solid Waste Rate (CY/Week)	X 250 (lbs./CY)	= Total (lbs./Week)	/ Students (and adults)	= Pounds / Person / Week

EXAMPLE:

Jefferson Park Elementary School started out with a 4 CY cardboard-only recycling container and a 6 CY trash container. By initiating a commingled recycling program supported by the Student Council, Jefferson Park was able to dramatically improve their recycling rate while staying under the average solid waste rate for TUSD Elementary Schools.



Step 1: Calculate Recycling Rate:

Baseline (FY 02):

	Size (CY)	X Frequency (Pickups/Week)	= Subtotal (CY/Week)	Percent (Sub/Total)
Trash	6 CY	3X/wk	18 CY/wk	82%
Recycling	4 CY	1X/wk	4 CY/wk	18%
Total Solid Waste			22 CY/wk	100%

After starting commingled recycling 8/20/03:

	Size (CY)	X Frequency (Pickups/Week)	= Subtotal (CY/Week)	Percent (Sub/Total)
Trash	6 CY	2X/wk	12 CY/wk	50%
Recycling	6 CY	2X/wk	12 CY/wk	50%
Total Solid Waste			24 CY/wk	100%

Step 2: Calculating Per Capita Solid Waste Rate:

Baseline (FY 02):

Total Solid Waste Rate (CY/Week)	X 250 (lbs./CY)	= Total (lbs./Week)	/ Students (and adults)	= Pounds / Person / Week
22 CY/wk	X 250	5,500	519	10.6

After starting commingled recycling 8/20/03:

Total Solid Waste Rate (CY/Week)	X 250 (lbs./CY)	= Total (lbs./Week)	/ Students (and adults)	= Pounds / Person / Week
24 CY/wk	X 250	6,000	519	11.6

For additional information or if you have questions, contact TUSD Energy Projects Manager Tina Cook at (520) 225-4673.