

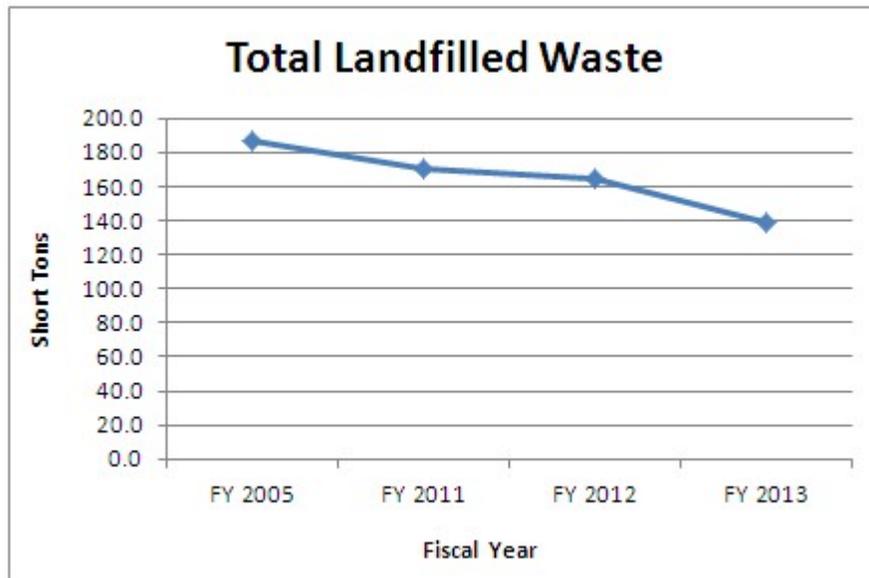


GMC Waste Report FY 2013

The sustainability office has compiled Green Mountain College's waste figures for FY 2013. These figures are based on several data sources including Casella Resource Solutions, Good Point Recycling, and internal sustainability office data collection efforts. Results show that GMC has far exceeded the sustainability office's annual goal of increasing the waste diversion rate by 3%. The two-year waste plan, approved by the Campus Sustainability Council, calls for an increase of over 3% each year so that the College will be on track to achieve a 50% waste diversion rate by 2020, a critical goal for the *Sustainability 2020* strategic plan.

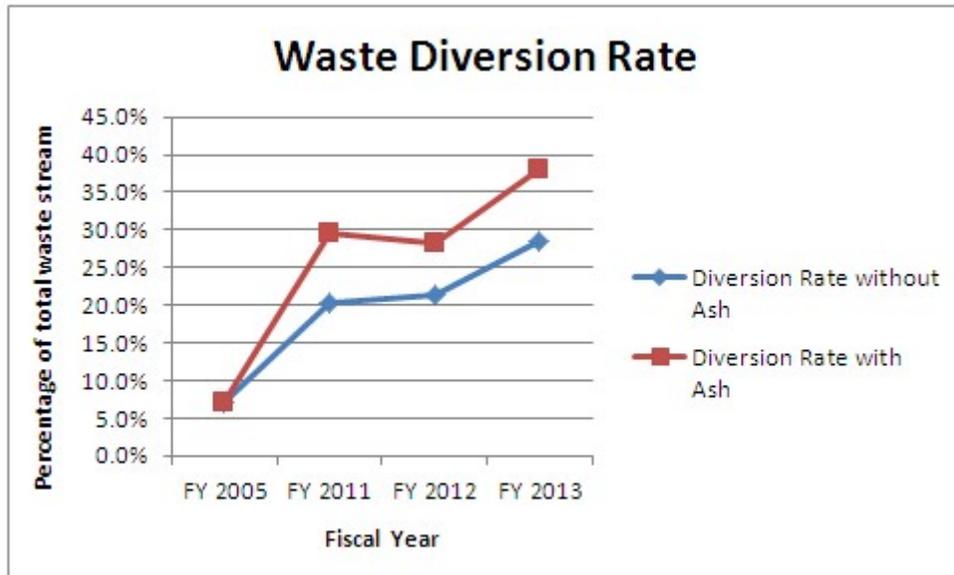
The following items highlight the achievements in FY 2013:

- Total landfilled waste in FY13 fell by 26 tons since FY12 (a total of 139 short tons for the year), continuing a downward trend over the last several years¹



¹ Renovation waste from the Bentley house is not included in this report since that data could not be acquired from the contractor. The sustainability office does not believe these numbers would change the overall diversion rate significantly given that the contractor estimated that 50% of it had been diverted.

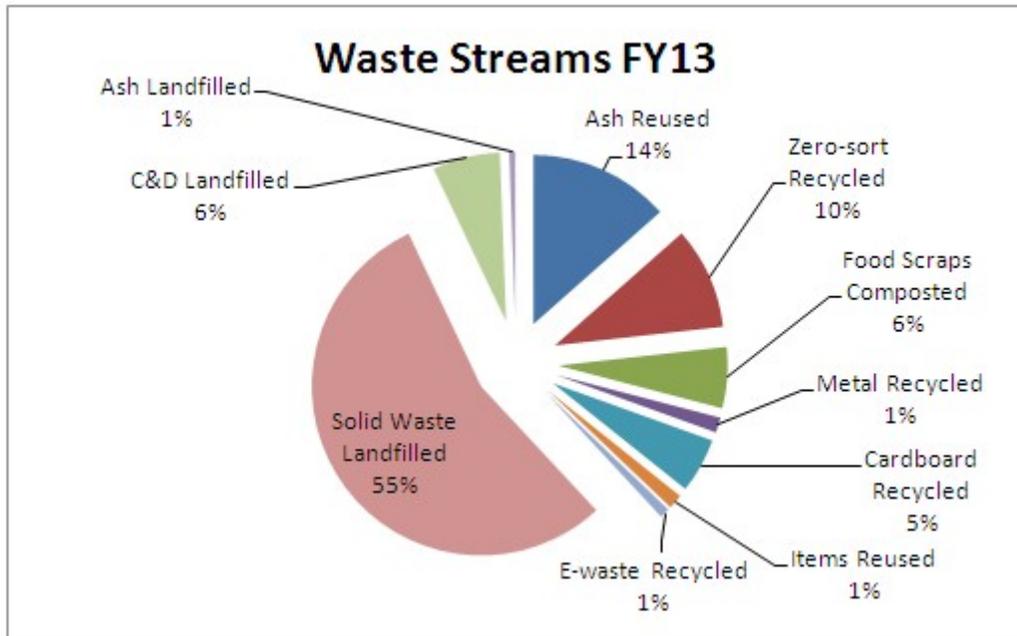
- College-wide waste diversion rates increased from 28.3% in FY12 to 38.1% in FY13, despite an 8.4% drop in Killington’s diversion rate. See below for how this percentage has increased over time².



- College-wide Zero-Sort recycling tonnage increased from 16 in FY12 to 22 in FY13, indicating that the new Zero Sort program, the bike recycling trailer, and the concerted effort to raise the salience of recycling on campus are beginning to yield high returns

² All numbers in this report have been normed to FY13 based on changes in ash methodology and new information from Casella confirming past and present weights for metal recycling. Ash from the biomass plant used by a local farmer comprises a significant percentage of the diversion rate, but has not changed the overall trend. For the FY13 inventory, the sustainability office used a more reliable, but higher estimate of ash content (1% of weight of chips) than in the past based on Biomass Energy Resource Center figures for grade B bole chips.

- Overall, the four available waste inventories from the last eight years show a steady positive trend as most waste diversion categories have increased as a percentage of the waste stream. The following graph shows the relevant contribution of each category in FY13.



Notable opportunities for improvement include the following items. Those that have been examined in the two-year waste plan have corresponding percentages indicating the **additional** portion of the total waste stream they could account for if realized to their full potential:

- Divert a portion of the material that is disposed of in the “furniture box” (such as construction debris, furniture, and other large items) by working with facilities to cover the trailer, and build a woodshed to collect usable scrap wood (3.6% additional possible)
- Continue to strengthen recycling, composting, and re-use programs run by the sustainability office (16.9% additional possible)
- Work with Killington to help them boost recycling rates.
- Develop creative ways to change consumption behavior of students, staff, and faculty (9% additional possible)