



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Mayor Mallory's School Recycling Program Nets 13.5 Tons

Walnut Hills recycles the most; Clark recycles the most per student

Cincinnati – Mayor Mark Mallory announced that his Pilot Recycling Program collected over 27,500 pounds of recyclables in 6 Cincinnati Public High Schools, surpassing the program's goal of 15,000 pounds by over 50%. The pilot program was developed by the Mayor's Young Professional Kitchen Cabinet (YPKC) in partnership with Rumpke Recycling to reduce the amount of garbage produced by CPS High Schools and to illustrate the need for a permanent recycling program. As part of the program, Mayor Mallory challenged the schools to compete to see which school could collect the most recyclable with the winner receiving a \$500 prize.

"I want to congratulate all the students and teachers who participated and especially those at Walnut Hills and Clark Montessori for their great achievement. They have made the program a success at every level," Mayor Mallory said. "That is the equivalent to 4 fewer killer whales or 4.5 fewer Lincoln Navigators worth of garbage sent to the landfill. It shows the significant difference that putting recycling into our schools can have on our city's environment."

Standing in front of a huge pile of recycling at the Rumpke MRF (Material Recovery Facility), Mayor Mallory presented checks to Youth Council members from the winning schools. The Mayor and Jeff Rumpke, Vice President of Rumpke Recycling presented a \$500 check to students from Walnut Hills for recycling the most total materials (7,350 lbs). The Mayor and Steve Stevenson from A-Unified, a demolition and scarp metal company, presented a check to students from Clark Montessori for recycling the most material per student (7.8 lbs). The prize money will be used for an environmentally-friendly "green" project or program at the school.

"Rumpke Recycling and A-Unified deserve a lot of credit for stepping up and showing leadership in our community," Mayor Mallory said. "Rumpke donated their services for this entire program. True community leader like Rumpke show the difference that we can make in our community."

"One of the many benefits resulting from this recycling challenge is that it demonstrates that recycling is possible, it's available, and it's easy. Recycling does not have to just happen during competitions like this one, but it can easily become a way of life," said Eric Villegas of Chair of the Health and Environment of the YPKC.

For their efforts, the Greater Cincinnati Earth Coalition awarded the YPKC Health and Environment Committee the “Government” award for best project at the Earth Day Celebration at Sawyer Point.

The pilot program ran from March 5 through May 29 at 6 CPS High Schools, Aiken, Clark, Hughes, Taft, Walnut, and Withrow. In order to increase awareness of the importance of recycling and participation in the program, Mayor Mallory visited several schools during the program for interactive discussions with student leaders. Each school increased its recycling efforts after the Mayor’s visit.

Several member of the Mayor’s Youth Council attended the press conference representing their schools. Members of the Mayor’s Youth Council worked with mentors from the Mayor’s YPKC to develop ideas and strategies to promote the recycling program and increase their schools recycling efforts.

Cincinnati Public Schools Pilot Program			
School	Pilot Total	Weight	lbs/Student
Walnut Hills	TOTAL	7350	5.81
Aiken	TOTAL	5810	6.71
Clark	TOTAL	5360	7.8
Withrow	TOTAL	3840	3.04
Taft	TOTAL	2790	4.25
Hughes	TOTAL	2410	1.84
TOTAL		27560	

Dates of the program 3/5-5/29
Goal weight 15,000 lbs
Collected weight 27,560 lbs

Media Notes:

- Original Press Conference about Pilot Recycling Program occurred on 3/5/07; file footage may be available to accompany this story.
- Photos from the event will be distributed later this evening.

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