

Sustainability Office Newsletter

Republic Services

VOL. 2 ISSUE 4 JANUARY 2024

Over winter break, CSB and SJU made the switch to Republic Waste Services. This new, blue, recycling crew offers the campus community a fresh start on recycling and disposing the right way! Review resources on the Sustainability and Republic websites. Look for new recycling and waste signage that will be posted around campus. Recycling only works if YOU do it right!

Quick Tips

- 1. No plastic bags in recycling ever.
- 2. Recycling is comingled. Closely read signage for what can be recycled:
 - a. Plastics #1, #2, and #5 (with lids attached). Look for chasing arrows.
- 3. Ensure recycling is **empty** and reasonably **clean/dry**.
- 4. When in doubt, throw it out in the trash

Remember, specialized recycling for plastic film, batteries, and electronics are offered at the Swap Shops on both campuses (CSB Mary Commons 120 and SJU Quad 116).

Republic Recycling- BLUE lid and recycling symbol



Republic Waste- BLACK lid with NO recycling symbol



Greenhouse Harvest

The Full Circle Greenhouse has produced three successful harvests. Fresh chard, kale, turnips, lettuce, radishes, parsley, and arugula have been sold to the Refectory at SJU, students, staff, and faculty. Keep an eye out for future sales on the bulletin and Sustainability Instagram.



Community Kitchen

Our Community Kitchen team has been doing tremendous work creating meaningful connections with the communities they serve. At Too Much Talent (TMT) and Promise Neighborhood (after-school programs in Saint Cloud), they were able to serve 41 adults and 267 children. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, supportive dining staff at

Community Kitcher volunteer sign-up

CSB, and cordial partners, Community Kitchen was able to feed 308 people while diverting hundreds of pounds of food waste.





New Ice Melt Product

On behalf of Saint John's Grounds, we are excited to partner with the Sustainability team to try out a new ice melt product called ENTRY this winter. ENTRY is the first and currently only liquid ice melt to receive the Green Seal Certificate for environmental safety. The benefits we hope to see from this product are:

- Reduced adhesion of snow and ice to hard surfaces, reducing the need for calcium-chloride based granular ice melt and sand.
- ENTRY has a neutral PH, which mitigates surface damage and extends the life of building floors and other indoor materials.
- The neutral PH also has no effect on surrounding grass/plant material that can easily be affected and even killed by traditional ice melts.

We are starting out on a small scale, but the hope is to use this product on a larger scale- being applied on some or all paths, roads, and parking lots on campus. The traditional sand or salt/sand mix we currently use does work; however, the sand does not degrade and needs to be swept up in the spring which takes a ton of time and labor. Ice melt that does not get used to break down ice ends up in our landscaped areas, buildings, and of course our lakes and streams. If we can successfully use a non-chloride-based product moving forward or reduce our use it would have tremendous positive affects on our landscape and continue to keep everyone safe in the winter. We look forward to documenting

more results with more use of the material and will provide a follow up article in spring, hopefully with some results!

BY TONY WEBBER,
SJU GROUNDS DIRECTOR

The Safer Choice

Entry is chloride-free and urea-free, melting snow and ice without harming the environment. No contaminated drinking water. No toxic runoff. No oxygen cutoff for fish and aquatic plants. Entry is safe for you and the planet.

Sustainability Initiative Success



We had a rewarding Fall Semester with our sustainability initiatives! We were able to expand our composting program by adding 5 total bins around the two campuses and began collecting compost from McGlynn's, Sexton Dining, and coffee grounds from the Schu and Clemens Perk. We applaud all students and employees who compost and encourage those who don't to start today! Continue dropping off your

batteries, plastic film, and institution owned supplies and the Sustainability Office staff will ensure they are reused, donated or recycled properly. We are excited to see what spring semester brings!

Ride the Link!

Every time you ride the Link between CSB and SJU, you avoid additional carbon emissions. Save your gas money, reduce your carbon footprint and ride the Link!

Students emit **6.3x** as much **CO2e** when choosing **personal vehicles** over the **Link**



