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Project Information
Project Name: Zero Waste Event at State Farm Center
Project Topic: Food & Waste
Project Summary: The Climate Action Plan includes a commitment to adopt a Zero Waste Policy campus. Campus is working toward Zero Waste with the report done by Marcus Ricci last year, waste characterization audits through the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, and hiring a Zero Waste Coordinator under the Waste Management Coordinator, Tracy Osby.  However, ultimately the only way to really achieve Zero Waste is by getting behavior change in individuals.  To quickly communicate about these efforts and spread the word about our efforts, we would like to partner with the recently formed Division of Intercollegiate Athletics (DIA) green team to host a Zero Waste Event at the State Farm Center. We would like to start with a medium sized event, and we have begun discussions with representatives from the State Farm Center and the DIA green team.  A preliminary estimate of costs includes:

1.  Signage for 70 bins = 280 laminated pages plus tape = $400
2.  Tee shirts for 70 voluteers at $15 per shirt = $1050
3.  Blue bin liners 6 cases @ $50 = $300
4.  Pay for a coordinator of the program = 40 @ $20 = $800
5.  Can and bottle "grabbers" for the volunteers 30 @ $3 = $90
Student Involvement: Not only will this event impact huge numbers of students through the planned event itself, it also will be led primarily by student volunteers. This event requires a significant number of volunteers, close to 70.  We have been talking with local Zero Waste advocate, Bart Bartels, to develop this proposal, and he has spoken with representatives from Students for Environmental ConcernS (SECS).  Student volunteers will be asked to design the t-shirt, give input to the event signs, and personally communicate before, during, and after the event. Students will be standing at each trash and recycling receptacle during the event to help keep the landfill waste to an absolute minimum during the event. After the event, many of the materials will be available to reuse at future events. This program is intended to kick start additional zero waste events on campus and in the community.
Timeframe: As soon as funds are available, an event will be scheduled this spring.
Budget: $2,500