

From: [Scrogum, Joy Joann](#)
To: [Moore, Meredith Kaye](#); [Guth, David Christian](#); [Samaras, Zach](#); [Feher, Savannah](#)
Cc: [White, Morgan](#); [Varney, Peter W](#)
Subject: Some notes on activity zones and possible study aspects--RE: Waste Audit - Fall 2022 or beyond?
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 5:34:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[Waste Audit Activity Zone Summary.docx](#)

Thanks for letting us know your availability, Meredith!

Because it's been a little while since we discussed the notion of "activity zones," I wanted to send some background info to refresh everyone's memory and facilitate our discussion. The "activity zone" approach is something ISTC developed after [the previous audits done for UIUC](#), and it involves thinking about building types and uses instead of individual buildings. By defining activity zones and choosing 1-3 buildings that represent those zones on campus, the audit data from a particular activity zone can be used to generalize for improvements that might work well in other buildings on campus that would also fall into that activity zone. My colleague Savannah Feher helpfully put together a document (attached) that lists the activity zones defined by other universities ISTC has recently worked with (Northwestern University, UIC, and Missouri State University), along with the number of buildings we audited within each activity zone as part of those studies. The document also includes links to the relevant study reports (save for the Missouri State report, which is not yet publicly available) and page numbers so you can find the sections discussing the definitions of activity zones for those studies.

A few examples from the UIUC campus that might fall into some of the activity zones defined in these other studies include:

- **Administration:** Henry Administration Building, Swanlund Administration (both were previously audited in [Phase 1](#) of the prior study)
- **Academic:** Business Instructional Facility (previously audited in [Phase 2](#)). Other candidates for this activity zone might include Altgeld Hall, the English Building, Lincoln Hall, Gregory Hall, etc.
- **Academic with Lab:** Roger Adams Lab (previously audited in Phase 2). Other candidates for this activity zone might include Chem Annex, Noyes Lab, Loomis Lab, etc.
- **Multi-Activity/Multi-Use/Mixed-Use:** Illini Union, Illini Union Bookstore (previously audited in Phase 2 and 1 respectively). Other candidates might include the ARC, Grainger Engineering Library, etc.
- **Student Housing/Residential:** Lincoln Hall (previously audited in Phase 2). Other candidates might include FAR, PAR, etc.
- If you chose to have a zone for "**Student Housing + Dining**" as Northwestern did, then Ikenberry Commons would be a good example. As you can see from the attachment, **UIC and MSU treated dining spaces as their own activity zone.**
- **Event Space:** Alice Campbell Alumni Center (previously audited in Phase 1). Other obvious candidates for this activity zone could include State Farm Center, Memorial Stadium, KCPA, etc.

- **On the Go:** Spaces like the Main Quad and the Engineering (Bardeen) Quad might be characterized in this way.

This all just to help facilitate consideration of what buildings might be interesting or useful to examine in a subsequent audit. You could potentially choose to define zones similar to those illustrated in the attachment and where possible re-audit a previously examined building plus one that hadn't been examined previously. If that were done it would be important to look at the previous studies and recommendations made for improvement and note whether those recommendations had been implemented, to try to assess the impact of those interventions. Or, you might define activity zones, and if it were possible, choose one representative building/space with the newer three-bin stations and one without to see what differences might exist in terms of the amount of recyclables captured, contamination in the recycling stream, etc. (though we'd want to make sure the three-bin stations had been in place for enough time to allow occupants to get used to them before trying to assess their efficacy). In the previous studies conducted by ISTC we also surveyed building occupants to get a feel for their knowledge of campus waste management systems. I know there has been a lot of effort in subsequent years to raise awareness of proper procedures and materials accepted on campus. It could be interesting to revisit some previously audited spaces and survey building users again to see if "recycling literacy" has improved over time; I think that sort of survey was something Sydney Trimble had expressed some interest in during earlier conversations.

There are lots of possibilities to consider, and Zach, Savannah, and I look forward to speaking with you all!

Best wishes,
Joy

From: Moore, Meredith Kaye <mkm0078@illinois.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 2:29 PM
To: Scrogum, Joy Joann <jscrogum@illinois.edu>; Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>; Samaras, Zach <zsamaras@illinois.edu>; Feher, Savannah <sfeher@illinois.edu>
Cc: White, Morgan <mbwhite@illinois.edu>; Varney, Peter W <pvarney@illinois.edu>
Subject: RE: Waste Audit - Fall 2022 or beyond?

Thanks, Dave and Joy! I look forward to resuming this conversation. Looking back on my notes from our previous meetings, it seems like we were going to discuss with F&S what a realistic activity zone would look like for an audit (e.g., how many buildings and over how many days would be assessed). This could be a good starting point for our upcoming meeting.

I can make any of the dates work that you listed below, Joy.

Thanks!
Meredith

“There are a lot of dreamers – dreaming is very important, but it’s really the dreamer and the doer. You’ve got to be the doer.” –Will Steger

MEREDITH MOORE

Sustainability Programs Manager

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From: Scrogum, Joy Joann <jscrogum@illinois.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 3:31 PM
To: Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>; Samaras, Zach <zsamaras@illinois.edu>; Feher, Savannah <sfeher@illinois.edu>
Cc: White, Morgan <mbwhite@illinois.edu>; Moore, Meredith Kaye <mkm0078@illinois.edu>; Varney, Peter W <pvarney@illinois.edu>
Subject: RE: Waste Audit - Fall 2022 or beyond?

Hello, Dave; it’s great to hear that UIUC is still considering additional waste audits and that you may have funding to support this effort!

ISTC is not specifically replacing April, at least not in the near term. However, our remaining staff members who work on zero waste efforts (myself, Zach Samaras, and Savannah Feher) would be happy to speak with you about what you’d like to accomplish. Looking at our calendars for the week of the 25th, we would be available for a call on the following days/times:

- Monday, 7/25, any time between 1 and 3 PM
- Wednesday, 7/27, between 8:30 and 10 AM
- Thursday, 7/28, between 2 and 4 PM
- Friday, 7/29, any time between 8:30 and 4 PM

Let me know which day and time works best for your team and I can send out an Outlook calendar invitation.

Based on my notes, it looks as if April had sent you a description of the activity zone approach we’ve taken with other universities, though I’m not clear if you had decided to follow that activity zone approach or not, and if you had discussed definition of zones on the UIUC campus. It also seems as if there was a desire to revisit buildings audited during “phase 2” of the previous building waste characterization study that ISTC worked on, as well as some new target buildings both with and

without the new three-bin stations, though I'm not sure you had settled on a specific list of buildings yet. In general, I believe you're interested in getting a clearer picture of contamination in the recycling stream as well as understanding the amount of recyclables going to landfill. I anticipate discussing all of this during our call, as well as timing based on ISTC's current projects and capacity.

We look forward to speaking with you,
Joy

JOY SCROGUM

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From: Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 6:27 PM

To: Scrogum, Joy Joann <jscrogum@illinois.edu>

Cc: White, Morgan <mbwhite@illinois.edu>; Moore, Meredith Kaye <mkm0078@illinois.edu>; Varney, Peter W <pvarney@illinois.edu>; Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>; istc-zerowaste@illinois.edu

Subject: FW: Waste Audit - Fall 2022 or beyond?

Joy,

When you return from vacation, please let me know if there is another team member stepping into April's role for Fall 2022.

Best regards,

Dave

DAVID C. GUTH

Senior Associate Director for Facilities and Operations

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From: Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 6:22 PM
To: Janssen, April Lynn <alj5@illinois.edu>
Cc: Scrogum, Joy Joann <jscrogum@illinois.edu>; Moore, Meredith Kaye <mkm0078@illinois.edu>; Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>; Varney, Peter W <pvarney@illinois.edu>; White, Morgan <mbwhite@illinois.edu>
Subject: RE: Waste Audit - Fall 2022 or beyond?

April,

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you, and we appreciate your follow up. As you may already know, there has been conversation with Coca-Cola about a robust partnership in order to improve the capture rate of recyclable materials on campus.

There is a strong possibility that Coke can help fund or fully fund a waste audit study with ISTC. We would like to set up a meeting as soon as possible. I am out next week on vacation, but would like to see if we all can meet the week after next.

I hope you are having a great summer and we look forward to discussing what the study cost and scope would look like.

Best regards,

Dave

DAVID C. GUTH

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From: Janssen, April Lynn <alj5@illinois.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 11:39 AM
To: Moore, Meredith Kaye <mkm0078@illinois.edu>; Guth, David Christian <dcguth@illinois.edu>
Cc: Scrogum, Joy Joann <jscrogum@illinois.edu>
Subject: Waste Audit - Fall 2022 or beyond?

Hi Meredith, Hi David,

We wanted to reach out one last time about a Fall 2022 waste audit. Whether this is still on your radar, or not so much if SSC funding deadlines have passed, or if this is tabled until 2023, please do keep us updated as to what you are thinking. We acknowledge Sydney was a pillar of support in this area, and has now moved on, so capacity may be constrained.

Hope these summer months are easier your workloads!

Best,

April

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