

INTOUCH

with Recycling

University shop leads the way in recycling efforts

The use of recycled paper is merely one of the environmentally aware facets that make the University print shop unique. The shop is currently implementing many new programs that aid in recycling and environmental consciousness.

Most print shops don't like to use recycled papers for printing because the recycled paper used to be of much poorer quality. The recycled paper of the past was considered OK for copying but not for printing.

The University print shop prints many of the newspapers for the campus. It prints all the campus mail, class packets, and handbooks.

The papers it stocks are 100 percent unbleached and unfortunately imported from Germany. It may seem silly to import paper because it is a waste to use oil to ship it here, however, the print shop wants to make a statement. The import of this paper shows that 100 percent unbleached papers are important to use and should be made in the United States.

The mills in the United States have found there is a large market for unbleached recycled papers and are going to start producing it when the current stock runs out. The print shop will start ordering its paper from the mill in the United States when this takes place.

Much of the printing industry has been very reluctant to make the shift to using recycled papers, but this position is changing as the recycled paper qualities improve.

When a piece of paper is made for the first time (a virgin piece), the fibers that make up the paper are long. This gives the paper a firming quality. As papers are recycled over and over again, however, the paper can become quite limp.

This paper can be difficult to work with. It may have trouble going through a printer or copier, and get stuck. New technology has improved this problem. "Recycled paper is 100 percent better than it was in the 70s," said print shop director Wayne Merritt.

Acceptance by the production people as well as the end users is increasing toward the use of recycled papers.

One of the University print shops' programs is designed to cut down on the number of pieces for campus mail. A single mailing to all of the departments and offices is about a 4,600-piece print job.

The print shop now urges the mailers to send only three copies to each department instead of a stack. This allows them to put the memos up on bulletin



University print shop lead binderman Al Thorn works on the shops bailer, a machine that bails trimmings to be sent to a recycler. Photo by Anthony Forney

boards rather than on everyone's desk, which reduces the number of the mailings to 600.

Although this program is catching on and getting more response, unfortunately there remain a few who do not agree with the plan. They still believe their memo is of the greatest importance and needs to be delivered to everyone's desk.

Another current program was created to cut down on the number of pages printed for class packets. Professors are told their class packets will be printed on both sides unless they specifically request that they only be printed on one side.

Some professors insist on printing on only one side, allowing students to take additional notes on the back sides, but the majority of professors do allow the printing on both sides.

In the future, when the paper is no longer shipped from Germany, the price of recycled paper will drop and class packets will be available at lower prices.

The print shop has invested in a bailer that bails up the trimmings from the machines into 125 lb. bails. These bails are much easier than large unsorted barrels to take to a recycling outlet.

The print shop has also just purchased a labeling machine, which prints the addresses right on to the outgoing mail. In the past, the shop had to print up labels to put on the pieces. All of you recycling buffs know that a piece of paper cannot ever be recycled after it has a sticker or label on it.

This machine costs almost \$11,000 and does not increase the efficiency of the shop one bit. It is merely another way that the shop is attempting to be environmentally conscious.

The biggest new project the print shop has is the purchase of a \$250,000 machine that electronically takes orders. Currently, when a customer orders a print

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Sociology senior Jami Tuma has gotten involved with recycling and educating the younger generation through a class offered by the University. Photo by Anthony Forney

Class gives students chance to teach

Concerned students are taking the time out of their busy schedules to teach the younger generation how to make an environmental difference.

Jamie Tuma, a senior in sociology, is one concerned student who has gotten involved with recycling and educating the younger generation through a class offered by the University.

At Roosevelt Middle School, Tuma works with children in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, teaching them how to be earth conscious. The class is an ecology program called Conservation and Recycling, put on by the Planning, Public Policy and Management Department.

"I believe that people in our society weren't

raised to recycle," Tuma said, "Many were brought up on the idea of a trash compactor or the simple concept of throwing it away in the garbage can. A lot of parents today do not realize what really can be done with recycling, that's why teaching these kids is so valuable," he said.

Tuma said he tries to concentrate on the recycling aspect of the ecology program because it is a process the kids can bring home with them and teach their parents.

"Many of the kids realized that their parents were not buying earth conscious packaging," Tuma said.

Tuma said the class enables the children to

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