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UNC Hospitals Medical Center Waste Stream Review

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Major Waste Stream Components at UNC Hospitals Medical Center

- Municipal Waste
  * 'White Bag' waste, office trash and non-regulated waste
- Regulated Medical Waste
  * 'Red Bag' waste – blood/body fluids, sharps, defined
- Recycling
  * aluminum/steel cans, glass, paper, cardboard etc.
- Confidential Document Destruction
  * medical records, protected health information
- Construction Waste
  * excess building materials, renovation debris
- Food Waste Composting
  * kitchen scraps, uneaten patient meals
- Radioactive Waste
  * Chemo agents, isotopes
- Specialty Waste
  * pharmacy waste, batteries, lighting, e-waste

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Waste Stream Utilization by Type

	FY 14 Total				
	Dollars	% Total	Tons	% Total	Pounds
Municipal Waste Stream (Republic)	$220,840	29%	2,909	52%	5,818,280
Regulated Medical Waste (Stericycle)	$149,804	19%	326	6%	652,046
Recycling (Orange Recycling Services)	$216,632	28%	465	8%	929,900
Confidential Document Destruction (Cintas)	$110,241	14%	1,121	20%	2,241,367
Construction Waste (DDS - David's Dumpster Service)	$76,201	10%	773	14%	1,546,560
Food Composting (Brooks Contractor)	$0	0%	277	5%	553,320
Total (excluding Specialty Waste removal)	$773,718	100%	5,871	100%	11,741,473

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On-site Capacity

- Municipal Waste Compactors:
  - Anderson Dock – 20 yard; exchanged daily (7 days/week)
  - Neurosciences Dock – 20 yard; exchanged every other day
  - NC Cancer Hospital Dock – 20 yard; exchanged weekly
- Regulated Medical Waste:
  - Refrigerated Semi-Trailer – 53 footer; exchanged twice/week
  - Refrigerated holding room (NCCH) – pick-up twice/week
- Cardboard Compactor:
  - Anderson Dock – 20 yard; exchanged twice/week
- Construction Waste
  - 3 20-yard open top dumpsters; exchanged as needed

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Maximizing Waste Stream Efficiency is Necessary

- On-going education at the individual level to ensure proper segregation and use of white bag, red bag, shredding and recycling
- Every two months UNCH discards the weight of the space shuttle
- One of those space shuttles is diverted every six months through recycling, shredding and composting

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Current and Future initiatives targeting waste reduction

- MEDWorld – out-dated/out-moded medical equipment and supplies for second and third world; nearly $10M sent
- Continue to expand recycling program; space and cost
  - Eliminating plastics in favor of compostables in Food Service; also focus on re-usables for Patient Meals (where possible)
  - Eliminating Styrofoam where possible in patient care areas
- Considering and evaluating on-site processing system for waste – sterilize and grind waste; inert/clean landfill material
- Improved system for collection and transfer of waste material; re-useable Regulated Medical Waste containers
- Individual responsibility for waste stream use/segregation

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Contracting Summary

- UNC Hospitals has single waste management contract with Stericycle
  - First year of three year renewal
  - One consolidated monthly invoice
  - Stericycle holds all individual vendor agreements for MW, RMW, CDD and RCY
- Currently evaluating expansion of waste management contract to system
  - Leverage buying power
  - Consolidate vendor relationships
  - Achieve cost reduction