5-1-2008

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University of Dayton, Ohio

Moving Out Tons of Trash

05.01.2008 | Students, Service and Giving, Campus and Community  At the end of every school year, University of Dayton students leave behind more than 100 tons of unwanted furniture, household items, non-perishable food and clothing as they move out of residence halls and the student neighborhood.

But this year, the University has made changes to give students the opportunity to donate unwanted items instead of throwing them away, according to Joel Brand, environmental sustainability coordinator for the University. The donations will benefit the University of Dayton Summer Appalachia Program, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, Goodwill and Salvation Army.

As of April 30, more than 2,300 pounds of items had been donated, Brand said.

"As opposed to years past, when most things found their way to a dumpster, this year food, clothing and household items are being collected for donation to charities and service clubs," Brand said.

Donations are being accepted in the lobbies of residence halls and other locations in the student neighborhood. Goodwill and Salvation Army trucks and collection boxes have been placed at several campus locations near Virginia W. Kettering and Stuart halls, Marycrest and Founders halls and residential parking lots.

Brand said he hopes students will take advantage of the opportunity so that there will be "a significant reduction in the amount of items sent to landfills, a raised awareness of the importance of recycling and re-using items and reduced costs. I think the charitable organizations will benefit from the student donations," he added.

"This is just one of the many efforts being made by the UD community to make the University more sustainable and that we build on it in the future," Brand said.

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