Questions and Answers

Q: What are some of the benefits of the minibin system?

A: The new minibin is designed so that users are more aware of their solid waste output. By emptying your own minibin and recycling container, you know exactly how much you are recycling and how much you are throwing away.

Q. Will the new minibin system be an inconvenience?

A. The minibin system is something that is quickly becoming a standard in many institutions across the country partly because of its convenience. All you have to do is seek out central bins to dispose of your waste. These bins are located in areas that you are already likely to visit in the course of your workday, such as the kitchen/break room, conference rooms, and other common areas. You clean your minibins the same way you would a coffee mug. Custodial takes care of everything else.

Q. Why no bag liners?

A. Bag liners are just another form of waste. ETSU will eliminate the need to throw away tens of thousands of bag liners per year when we switch to the minibin system. If you wish to use your own liner for the minibins, an average sized grocery bag should suffice.



What is the new "minibin" system?

ETSU's new solid waste and recycling initiative



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Why Minibins?

Minibins are designed to reduce the amount of waste that the university contributes to the landfill and to increase our campus recycling rate. They have been successful in a variety of institutions, including banks, hospitals, government buildings, and colleges and universities all over the nation.



How it will work

Most offices at ETSU utilize square, black plastic or metal waste bins. These bins will still be in place, however, they will be repurposed as recycling containers. All recyclable material will now go into these bins. Those offices that do not currently have these containers will be provided one. A small black hip, referred to as a "minibin" will then be fitted to the edge of each new recycling container. This is where landfill waste will go. Liners will no longer be provided, thus reducing a substantial amount of waste from throwing away liners alone. Cleaning the minibins will be easy. Simply use a damp paper towel and wipe it out.



Central Bins

Central bins are located in convenient areas so that you may empty your waste and recycling when your bins are full. The bins will consist of landfill, paper, and non-paper mixed recycling. Please refer to the flyer above your waste disposal stations for info on accepted recyclables.

Save Money and Reduce Waste



The minibin system is a way to cut costs as well as to reduce the amount of waste the university produces. Other institutions report increasing their recycling rate by 30 percent. This system will also support efficiency of custodial staff, allowing staff to direct their collection efforts to tasks more essential to the health of the university.