



Waste Reduction at Alameda County

Alameda County Sustainability

Climate Corps Bay Area

Project Descriptions

While at Alameda County I worked to increase the amount of compostable and recyclable material diverted from the landfill, thereby reducing greenhouse gases emitted.

1: Increase Infrastructure

- Completed site assessments, waste audits, and interviews to understand facility needs
- Designed new waste enclosures
- Coordinated program implementation with building occupants, janitorial staff, and waste haulers to balance the needs of each stakeholder and create individual plans for each site
- Added new indoor and outdoor bins, signs, and stickers

2: Outreach

- Trained many different stakeholders in Alameda County facilities on how to correctly sort waste into compost and recycling bins and why it is important to do so (stakeholders included janitors, employees from numerous agencies, incarcerated youth, and members of the public)
- Created outreach materials such as signs and stickers
- Developed teaching materials for youth and janitorial staff



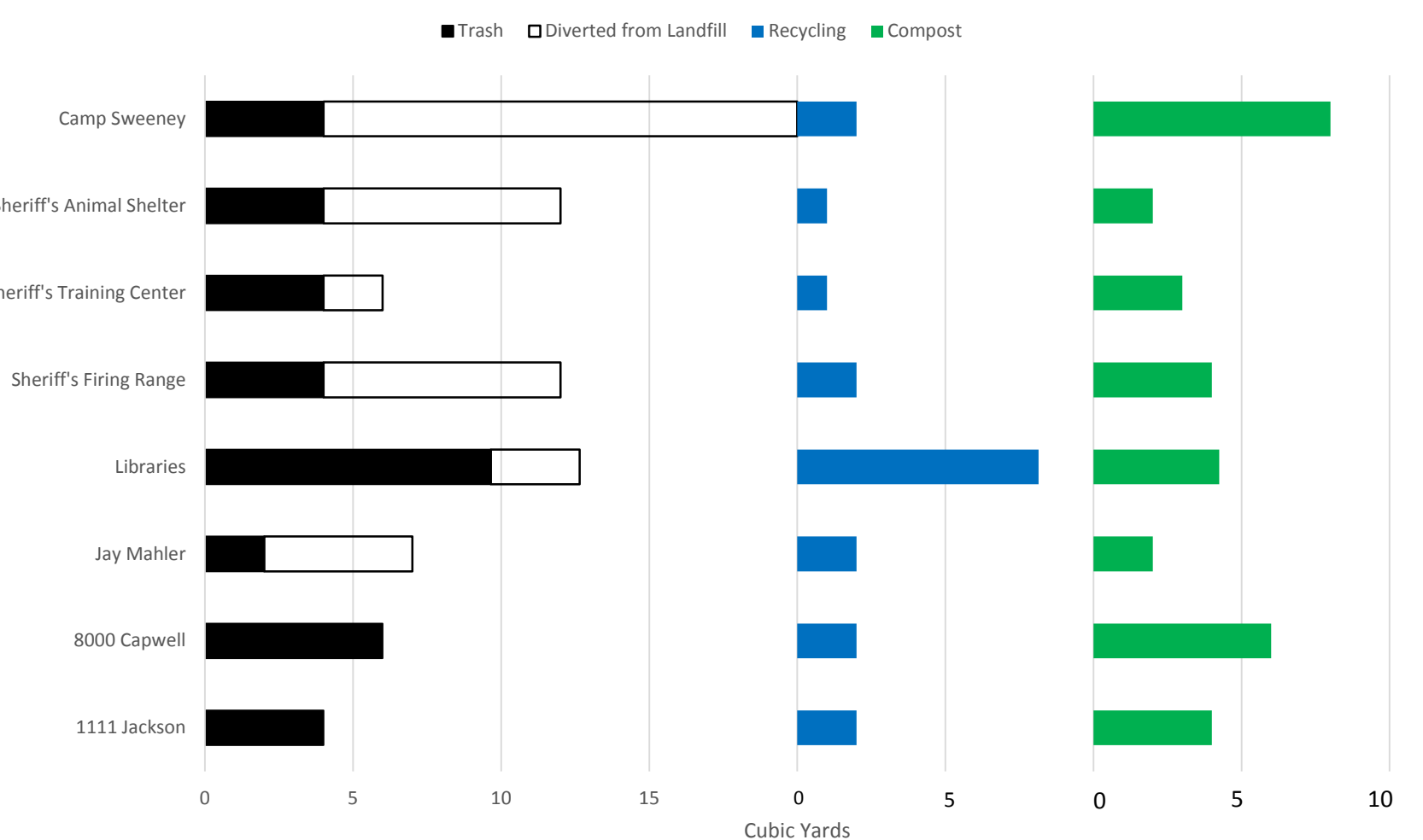
Achievements

1: Increase Infrastructure

- Rolled out the program to a projected 14 new buildings
- Refreshed 6 additional buildings

2: Outreach

- Trained over 125 people
- Conducted outreach at over 10 different buildings



Lessons Learned

Successful Strategies

1. Have patience
2. Ask questions
3. Don't be afraid of a few mistakes

Recommendations for Improvement / Program Expansion

1. Roll out to every building
2. Train every employee so contamination decreases
3. Get waste sorting in onboarding in every agency/department

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I graduated from Mills College with a B.A. in Political, Legal, and Economic Analysis I would like to continue to work in the sustainability field, working on community engagement.

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