Recycling Sorting Game Talking Points

Follow the Tabling 101 guidelines. If you’re doing this in a lounge or common area rather than during chapter, think about what makes passersby want to engage in a tabling activity. Combine these strategies with one of the following prompts (or a variation) to draw people to your table. The prompt should be attention-grabbing, but should also relate specifically to the outreach.

Prompts:
- “Are you curious about what Wake Forest recycles?”
- “Do you want to test your recycling IQ and win a sticker?”
- To a group: “Challenge your friend(s) to our recycling quiz!”
- Anything else that works!

Once they’re at the table:
- “Your job is to place these items in the correct area on the board based on whether or not they belong in the recycling bin at Wake Forest.”
- To a group: “This is definitely a group activity. You can work together.”

After they’ve completed the quiz:
- Show them the correct answers
- Provide explanations when necessary – THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART!
  - Cereal boxes can be placed in the paper recycling bins, but the plastic bag must be thrown out
  - Cardboard is recyclable. Please flatten large boxes and place them next to the paper recycling bins.
  - Aluminum cans be perpetually recycled and remade into more aluminum cans.
  - Beverage cups and orange juice/milk cartons are not recyclable because of the waxy coating. Any beverage cup that holds liquid is going to have a lining.
  - Styrofoam is a petroleum-based product and is the worst option for the environment.
  - Pizza boxes are tricky. Boxes contaminated with grease are not recyclable. However, if the top is clean, you can tear that off and recycle it.
- Give them a sticker if they’d like one
- “If you’d like to learn more, you can visit sustainability.wfu.edu or email sustainability@wfu.edu with any questions.”
FAQ's:
If you do not know the answer to a question, ask for their email and let them know you’ll get back to them with an answer. You can also point them to the Office of Sustainability website and email address:
   Sustainability.wfu.edu / sustainability@wfu.edu

Q: What number plastics are recyclable at Wake?
   Wake Forest currently accepts #1-6 plastics. However, the higher the number, the greater the chance that the item won’t actually be recycled, so if you must purchase plastics, aim for #1 and #2. If a plastic item says “compostable,” it is NOT recyclable.

Q: Are napkins and paper towels recyclable?
   No, but nearly all are compostable.

Q: What about plastic bags?
   Plastic bags should not be placed in the plastic recycling bins on campus, as they can damage the sorting equipment at recycling collection facilities. However, most grocery stores have collection bins where you can recycle your plastic bags. Or better yet, invest in a reusable shopping bag and bring it with you whenever you go shopping.
Where does it go?
Can you sort out what is collected for recycling at Wake Forest versus what should be sent to the landfill?

Recycle  
- Napkins
- Cereal box
- Can
- Paper towel
- Paper cups
- Aluminum cans
- Water bottles
- Sugar cubes
- Glass bottles

Landfill
- Plastic bag
- Juice carton
- Plastic cup
- Plastic lid
- Pizza box
- Paper coffee cup
“Tabling,” or staffing an interactive event with the purpose of educating and engaging the university community, is an important part of our outreach and behavior change efforts. Your enthusiastic participation in these outreach events is essential to the success of any behavior change campaign. It is important to have fun at these events, but also to take this job seriously. Below are some basic tips for effective tabling.

Do:
- Stand behind the table or slightly in front of the table.
- Invite passers-by to join you at the table. Greet them and ask if they are interested in participating.
- Use clear and concise communication. Take a few minutes to practice your pitch so that you are prepared to deliver a short, accurate summary to every person who comes to the table. It’s often best to begin with a question as your prompt.
- Smile and exhibit a positive attitude. Sustainability is fun, tabling is fun, and people want to join other people who are having fun.
- Thank participants for their time and suggest at least one more way they can get involved with campus sustainability (e.g. mention that they can find more info on the office’s website, invite them to sign up to get more information delivered to their inbox, or mention an upcoming lecture or event).

Don’t:
- Be late for your shift. Your colleagues are counting on you.
- Sit behind the table. We usually don’t even have chairs, so this shouldn’t be a temptation.
- Read, play on your phone, or dig through your bag. This makes it look like you are disinterested, bored, or unapproachable, which prevents people from wanting to talk to you. You will also miss out on opportunities to invite people to join you at the table.
- Mumble or insult participants. This is not the place for inside jokes, sarcasm, or vagueness.
- Give inaccurate information. If you don’t know the answer to a question, take the person’s email address and let them know that you or someone from the office will get back to them.