Nitrile Glove Recycling Overview

5.20.2016

Status: Nitrile glove recycling has been able to be expanded this year because Kimberly Clark has agreed to pay for the transportation of gloves if it is done one semi-trailer at a time. The enable this to happen a campus storage trailer was needed. Procurement services agreed to purchase a trailer for any department that wants to participate as long as the gloves are purchased through iBUY. The trailer was purchased and has been placed behind the Physical Plant Services Building. All gloves from Campus Dining are now being recycled and the program is being rolled out to labs. Glove recycling is being promoted to campus labs by Right Cycle, which is the recycling arm of Kimberly Clark. Glove recycling will also be part of the iSEE Certified Green Lab Program, which is expected to launch next year. Nitrile gloves are purchased through Fisher Scientific, a vendor of lab materials and equipment.

Contacts:

Morgan Johnston – is the Associate Director of Sustainability at Facilities & Services. She was instrumental in facilitating the placement of the storage trailer. She also serves as a liaison with iSEE, who will be running the Certified Green Office Program. mbjohnst@illinois.edu

Olivia Webb – Sustainability Programs Coordinator at iSEE. Olivia just started her role at iSEE but she might become a key participant in the program once the Certified Green Office Program begins. owebb2@illinois.edu

Marcy Wright – Sourcing and Contract Administrator at OBFS. Marcy was instrumental in garnering the financial support from the Strategic Procurement Division to purchase the storage trailer. mmbowers@uillinois.edu

Sheila Anderson – Safety Specialist at Fisher Scientific and the campus contact for nitrile glove purchases. Sheila.anderson@thermofisher.com

Jonathan McClintock – Jonathan is the contact at RightCycle and should be called to coordinate expansion of the program and shipping once the trailer is full. Jonathan.L.McClintock@kcc.com

Michael Olinger – Housing Food Stores Operations Manager for UIUC. Michael has been the champion to expand glove recycling in all Campus Dining kitchens. molinger@illinois.edu

Thurman Etchison – Assistant Director of Dining, Facilities and Equipment at UIUC. Thurman has helped coordinate the logistics of glove recycling in the kitchens. etchisn@illinois.edu

Joe Pickowitz – Environmental Engineer at ISTC. Joe has made himself available to transport an occasional Gaylord of gloves from a lab building to the storage trailer. His assistance will not be needed on gloves coming from Campus Dining. pickowit@illinois.edu

What’s Next? – The glove recycling program looks prime for expansion. Several inquiries have been made by campus units to participate including the Division of Research Safety and Vet Med. Logistical issues will need to be worked out as the program expands. Campus Dining has agreed to take their gloves to the storage trailer and Kimberly Clark has agreed to pay the shipping costs of the trailer’s contents to their facility. However when it comes to participating lab buildings, the logistical details are not as clear. ISTC has agreed to assist with occasionally moving a Gaylord from a lab building to the storage trailer, but as the programs grows, this assistance might not be sustainable without additional support. Also the effects of the Certified Green Labs Program add some uncertainty to the glove recycling program. If that program substantially increases the demand for bins and logistical assistance, iSEE or F&S might have to provide additional support to keep the program going.

At the moment the trailer is about half full. It can hold about 20 gaylords of gloves.