

Further indicative of the program's success, an estimated 40% of city residents participated in this recycling. By recycling much of its solid waste, Oregon has increased the life expectancies of its landfills, adding another benefit.

Acknowledging these solutions as the most practical, most logical and most easily implemented, I propose that American colleges and universities can and should serve as examples of effective waste management. Since education in the matter is the prerequisite for such an effort, what better place to begin than an institution of higher learning?

Also, because the college community is relatively small and centralized and because various campus service organizations, sororities and fraternities should be willing to support the effort, a college is an ideal place to start.

With the future businessmen, workers, environmentalists and political leaders working together for effective waste management in college, perhaps these students will carry the efforts into the wider community as proudly as they carry their degrees.

How can a college promote effective waste management?

Recycling is the key. As the easiest, most efficient method of reducing waste that is a relatively simple process -- unlike waste-to-energy methan, recycling is the obvious solution. With little effort, students can contribute to a cause that will surely benefit the entire community.

With the money saved by recycling, the students may reap even more benefits through extra programs, improved facilities, or even lower college expenses. Of course, such financial benefits would be determined by the college administration, but the possibilities are enormous.

Perhaps the extra money could be used for school beautification, distributed to helpful campus organizations, used to fund cultural events, donated to charitable cause...the rewards are endless, the effort painless.

Recycling would not call for drastic alteration of college lifestyle. By labeling garbage cans: GLASS, CANS, PAPER and by enlisting student cooperation, the separation of garbage would be taken care of without a great deal of hassle.

The only procedure remaining would be collection, and campus

organizations surely would be glad to help here.

To illustrate the probably success of this effort, I refer to a non-profit recycling company in Boulder, Colo., known as Eco-Cycle. The organization funds itself from the money made from recycling and powers itself through volunteer work.

Eco-Cycle provides each household with twice-a-month collection on a voluntary basis. The company collects newspapers, corrugated cardboard, glass, high-quality paper, tires, used motor oil, appliances, radios, televisions,

Imagine the enormous amount of recyclable waste from a college campus. The number of aluminum cans and glass beverage bottles thrown away by students is tremendous.

Would it not be logical as well as profitable to ask a student to put those cans and bottles in designated canisters and cash in on recycling benefits?

And consider the many publications, advertisements and fliers that circulate on campus grounds. Does it not make sense to recycle this paper and use it again?

Of course, it all makes perfectly good sense.

But why hasn't anything been done?

clothing, and scrap metals for recycling.

In 1976, Eco-Cycle collected 15% of Boulder's recyclable waste. In addition, much of the work is done by volunteers. Said about the success of this volunteer support was: "One thing is certain, the collection system works."

Organizations sign up eight months in advance to help with collection. Additionally, Eco-Cycle is able to give something back to the community by supporting community organizations. In one instance, Eco-Cycle bought uniforms for an entire high school marching band.

People simply are not aware of the problem.

When people are educated, progress follows; and even when

progress brings certain problems, the knowledge of these problems brings about growth.

The objective of colleges and universities is not only to educate, to provide students with knowledge, but also to inspire students with the capacity for growth.

By recycling, colleges like Elon will be giving more than just garbage a second chance.

