Green Lab Program: Newsletter

Hey Everyone!

The Green team would like to thank you all for all your contributions and efforts to making our labs more environmentally friendly. We've been working hard to implement new programs to help reduce and recycle the waste the builds up in our labs.

One of our **brand-new programs** we're rolling out is our **Fisher pipette tip box recycling**! We've purchased some recycling boxes that will take **any brand** that is clean, dry, and without any tips.

We rolled these out May 14th and in one week accumulated over 83 boxes! You can find them in R2, 2nd floor, by Smyth lab Trex box and in R4, 2nd floor (across from B2305, by the centrifuge).

Thank you for continuing to collect the Styrofoam* and plastics for our on-going programs!
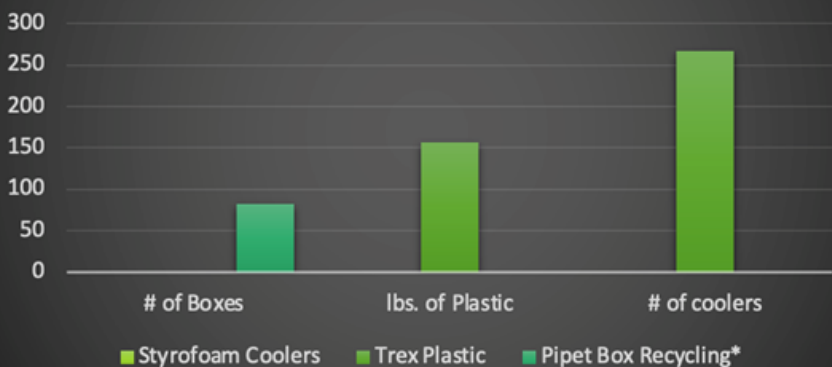
*Reminder that the Styrofoam you need to **remove all stickers, tape, and labels. Also make sure it is only white** foam not food grade (egg cartons, takeout containers, etc.) *

What to do with those annoying gel packets that are taking up lab space?

We've done the research and even if your bags don't have the recycling symbol on them, they are considered non-toxic but not drain safe.

Allow the gel to thaw, cut open the bags, dispose of the gel in the trash, rinse and allow to dry, and dispose in the Trex box.

Recycling Program Progress Report

Bar chart with y-axis from 0 to 300 (intervals of 50). Categories: # of Boxes (~83), lbs. of Plastic (~155), # of coolers (~265). Legend: Styrofoam Coolers, Trex Plastic, Pipet Box Recycling*

Current Challenge: Recycling Pipet tip boxes

What it is:

Program by Fisher Scientific that delivers paid postage collection boxes for a fee and recycles them when shipped back.

How to participate:

Find your Fisher pipette tip box recycling near you and drop them off! It's that easy!

*Reminder that the Styrofoam you need to **remove all stickers, tape, and labels. Also make sure it is only** foam not food grade (egg cartons, takeout containers, etc.) *

Want to be a part of the Green Team and help make our FBRI campus environmentally friendly? Do you have any ideas/suggestions of ways to reduce waste or be more energy efficient in the lab? We would like to hear from you!
Send us an email at: greenteam@vtc.vt.edu

The Green Team is also happy to announce have our own website!
Visit https://fbri.vtc.vt.edu/about/green-labs.html for more information about making your lab more sustainable!