Alvin Gibson
Manager, Recycling & Waste Management Operations
Building & Landscape Maintenance
Facilities Management

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Alvin Gibson takes recycling seriously, he admits with a smile - sometimes too seriously. Alvin and his crew manage one of the daily tasks that is mostly unseen and unnoticed on campus, but if left undone would shortly lead to big problems. He is the manager of the recycling and waste management unit.

It’s not just trash anymore. Yes, Alvin’s crew of drivers still empty giant dumpsters across the campus before most of us are awake. But the job of waste management in 2014 includes recycling every possible sheet of paper, every bottle and an ever-growing amount of recyclable construction debris and other materials. Alvin is keenly aware of his role in adding to the recycling numbers reported by the university and in reducing the university’s carbon footprint.

In addition to his commitment to sustainability, Alvin is also committed to keeping the campus clean. He drives around campus on a regular basis, making sure that the areas around dumpsters and other potential gathering places for trash and debris are kept tidy. This job gets much more challenging during football season, when tens of thousands of fans visit the campus, leaving their waste behind. Game day is just an extra-long work day for the four-person Recycling & Waste Management Unit.

Supervisor William Guididas, says, “Alvin is totally dedicated to his job. He consistently takes that extra step to make sure that his customers’ needs are met.”

Alvin has lived in the Beltsville area all his life, except for a stint in the military in Germany. He describes himself as a religious person, a Jehovah’s Witness. Alvin is a lifelong Washington Redskins football fan and of course a fan of the Maryland Terrapins. He is proud of his family, which includes four grown children and two grandchildren.
Sandra Dykes, Associate Director, General Services notes,

“Alvin really prides himself on developing and nurturing good working relationships with his customers and co-workers. I give him a lot of credit for our achievement in diverting over 75% of the waste stream from the landfill for the past 2 years. Alvin has worked closely with Campus and Capital Projects Project Managers to change the culture, and establish new expectations and procedures for collecting Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste. The C&D waste was the big hurdle we needed to jump to get to 75% and we’ve done it thanks to Alvin and his crew. Just last year alone we collected over 750 tons of C&D waste which was taken to a local facility for material re-use.”