A.P.E.S. Personal Solid Waste Inventory

We Are the Sum of Our Throughputs

Project Deliverables Overview:

- 1. Three photos: Three photos on your top page:
 - A. One showing your SWAG bag(s) in fairly full-frame;
 - B. One glamour-shot showing you holding your SWAG bag(s); and
 - C. One photo showing ALL of your SWAG bag items displayed neatly on your driveway, patio, porch, or flooring, -somewhat similar to the way Peter Menzel presents his photographs in the book Material World: A Global Family Portrait.
- 2. Your daily personal solid waste inventories in tables below
- 3. A Tally of your inventoried throughputs, using the Tally Sheets below.
- 4. Responses to the discussion questions.

Purpose:

The purpose of this project is for students to inventory all solid waste* items used in a **seven-day period**. (*items which would enter the "waste-stream" or be recycled in some manner.) In doing this assignment, it is my hope that you are as *honest and thorough as possible*, while realizing that this assignment requires a certain effort level and perhaps a particular focus to detail that can sometimes drive one a bit *crazy*.

However small or seemingly insignificant we think a given "throughput" or "piece of trash" might be, the fact remains that from an interdisciplinary and integrated accounting perspective, essentially every product that we use in our lives has certain costs and an ecological footprint associated with it.

Quantifying these costs and footprints is challenging and probably not something that most human beings give thought to. Such footprint and ecological wake quantifying efforts may also represent great opportunities for coexisting and sustainably living in the long run. As Glenn Close states near the end of the documentary "Home", it is too late to be pessimistic, for there are too many signs that people are working together to bring about positive change and increasing the quality of life for all of the world's people.

Procedure: All students are to:	
Keep <u>a running inventory</u> of their s starting on	olid wastes throughout the week,
STEPS	, and running through the end of the day on
1. Take 2 Trash hars to some a	S VOUE CIMAC have and waste some to alread a

- One smaller one you will carry during the day for items used during the day, to be transferred to larger one to be kept at home.
- 2. All students are to store all "finished" throughputs in one or more **SWAG bags**Your SWAG bag(s) will be kept at your home/dorm room. Therefore, the nature
 of this assignment should be clearly and effectively communicated with all family
 members/roommates/dorm parents etc. Having done this, it will be difficult to

have a case in which "someone" threw out your "valuable throughput collection", -thinking that your SWAG was merely "regular trash" instead of an environmental science assignment upon which your letter grade in the course could depend. **Note: items that will serve as bacteria/fungi breeding grounds should NOT be SWAG-bagged. (you can record them but do not keep them)

- 3. Each day you should tally your items in the tables below
- 4. A <u>final tally of the number of items in each major material category</u> (paper, paperboard/cardboard, plastic, aluminum, Styrofoam, mixed metals, glass, etc. being tabulated at the end of this time period.)
- 5. Take 3 photographs and insert in lab.
- 6. Reflect on the assignment:
 - a. Answer the discussion questions.
 - b. Decide if there is one type of waste you would like to educate others about and create a "Trashion Fashion" project. Keep these items aside before discarding the rest in the proper bins!

Personal Solid Waste Inventory

* items to be noted but do not need to go in bag

PLASTIC To the landfill	PLASTIC- (recyclable= has a number on hard surface)	PAPER	ALUMINUM/ METAL & GLASS	OTHER
packaging (non-food)	1-beverage bottles	(pages) Magazines/ catalogs	cans	wipes /cotton balls/ Q tips
food wrappers	clam shells (berry and to go)	printed/ worksheets or lined paper	lids	to go cups (paper lined with plastic too)
to go containers (no numbers of Styrofoam= 6)	2 –beverage bottles/ shampoos etc.	(pages) newspaper	beverage bottles	food scraps and tea bags that could have been composted *
straws	5 Yogurt tubs	junk mail envelopes		disposable 1 use items (wrapping paper, etc.)
lids		Store receipts		
plastic utensils		cardboard boxes		

plastic bags	estimated toilet paper square use *	
disposable 1 use items (pens, *razors, etc.)	non- composted paper towels and napkins *	

DAY 2 =

DAY 2 =				
PLASTIC	PLASTIC-	PAPER	ALUMINUM/	OTHER
To the landfill	(recyclable= has		METAL	
	a number on			
	hard surface)		& GLASS	
packaging	1-beverage	(pages)	cans	wipes
(non-food)	bottles	Magazines/		Chergina (1994), 19942 500 7
		catalogs		
food	clam shells	printed/	lids	to go cups
wrappers	(berry and to go)	worksheets or		(paper lined
		lined paper		with plastic
				too)
to go	2 –beverage	(pages)	beverage	food scraps
containers (no	bottles/	newspaper	bottles	and tea bags
numbers of	shampoos etc.			that could
Styrofoam= 6)				have been
				composted *
straws	5 Yogurt tubs	junk mail		other
		envelopes		disposable 1
				use items
		2		(wrapping
lids				paper, etc.)
1105		Store		
		receipts		
plastic				
utensils		cardboard		
		boxes		
plastic		estimated		
bags	٧	toilet paper		
		square use *		
disposable		non-		
1 use items		composted		
(pens, *razors,		paper towels and napkins *		
etc.)		and naphins		

DAY 3 =

DAT 3 =				
PLASTIC To the landfill	PLASTIC- (recyclable= has	PAPER	ALUMINUM/ METAL	OTHER
	a number on hard surface)		& GLASS	
packaging (non-food)	1-beverage bottles	(pages) Magazines/ catalogs	cans	wipes
food wrappers	clam shells (berry and to go)	printed/ worksheets or lined paper	lids	to go cups (paper lined with plastic too)
to go containers (no numbers of Styrofoam= 6)	2 -beverage bottles/ shampoos etc.	(pages) newspaper	beverage bottles	food scraps and tea bags that could have been composted *
straws	5 Yogurt tubs	junk mail envelopes		other disposable 1 use items (wrapping
lids		Store receipts		paper, etc.)
plastic utensils		cardboard boxes		
plastic bags		estimated toilet paper square use *		
disposable 1 use items (pens, *razors, etc.)		non- composted paper towels and napkins *		

DAY 4 =

DAT4 =				
PLASTIC To the landfill	PLASTIC- (recyclable= has a number on hard surface)	PAPER	ALUMINUM/ METAL & GLASS	OTHER
packaging (non-food)	1-beverage bottles	(pages) Magazines/ catalogs	cans	wipes
food wrappers	clam shells (berry and to go)	printed/	lids	to go cups (paper lined with plastic too)
to go containers (no numbers of Styrofoam= 6)	2 -beverage bottles/ shampoos etc.	(pages) newspaper	beverage bottles	food scraps and tea bags that could have been composted *
straws	5 Yogurt tubs	junk mail envelopes		other disposable 1 use items (wrapping
lids		Store receipts		paper, etc.)
plastic utensils		cardboard boxes		
plastic bags		estimated toilet paper square use *		
disposable 1 use items (pens, *razors, etc.)		non- composted paper towels and napkins *		

			and the same of th	
DAY 5 =		PAPER	ALUMINUM/	OTHER
PLASTIC	PLASTIC-	PAPER	METAL	
To the landfill	(recyclable= has			\
of other believes size analysis	a number on		& GLASS	
	hard surface)	(nogos)	cans	wipes
packaging	1-beverage	(pages)		
(non-food)	bottles	Magazines/		
		catalogs	lids	to go cups
food	clam shells	printed/		(paper lined
wrappers	(berry and to go)	worksheets or		with plastic
		lined paper		too)
<u></u>		(=====)	beverage	food scraps
to go	2 –beverage	(pages)	bottles	and tea bags
containers (no	bottles/	newspaper	Domes	that could
numbers of	shampoos etc.			have been
Styrofoam= 6)				composted *
straws	5 Yogurt tubs	junk mail		other
Straws	J roguit tubs	envelopes	A A	disposable 1
		Cirvelopes		use items
				(wrapping
				paper, etc.)
lids		Store		paper, etc.)
		receipts		
plastic				
utensils		cardboard		
ateriono		boxes		
plastic	*	estimated		
bags		toilet paper		
		square use *		
disposable		non-		
1 use items		composted		
(pens, *razors,		paper towels		
etc.)		and napkins *		
Other				
			L	1

DAY 6 =

PLASTIC	PLASTIC-	PAPER	AL HARIAMINA	
To the landfill	(recyclable= has	I ALEK	ALUMINUM/ METAL	OTHER
	a number on			
	hard surface)	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	& GLASS	
packaging	1-beverage	(pages)	cans	wipes
(non-food)	bottles	Magazines/		wpcs
		catalogs		
food	clam shells	printed/	lids	to go cups
wrappers	(berry and to go)	worksheets or		(paper lined
		lined paper		with plastic
				too)
to go	2 -beverage	(pages)	beverage	food scraps
containers (no numbers of	bottles/	newspaper	bottles	and tea bags
V.3.V.3.V.3.V.3.V.3.V.3.V.3.V.3.V.3.E.V. = V.	shampoos etc.			that could
Styrofoam= 6)				have been
straws	5 Vaguet tubo	iumle moil		composted *
Straws	5 Yegurt tubs	junk mail envelopes		other
		crivelopes		disposable 1 use items
				(wrapping
				paper, etc.)
lids		Store		
		receipts		
plastic				
utensils		cardboard		
		boxes		
plastic		estimated		
bags		toilet paper square use *		
disposable		non-		
1 use items		composted		
(pens, *razors,		paper towels		
etc.)		and napkins *		
Other				
	*			

DAY 7 =			ALUMINUM/	OTHER
PLASTIC	PLASTIC-	PAPER	METAL	
To the landfill	(recyclable= has		MEIVE	
	a number on		224 400	
	hard surface)		& GLASS	wipes
packaging	1-beverage	(pages)	cans	Wipes
(non-food)	bottles	Magazines/		
	,	catalogs		
food	clam shells	printed/	lids	to go cups
wrappers	(berry and to go)	worksheets or		(paper lined
		lined paper		with plastic
				too)
to go	2 -beverage	(pages)	beverage	food scraps
containers (no	bottles/	newspaper	bottles	and tea bags
numbers of	shampoos etc.			that could
Styrofoam= 6)				have been
				composted *
straws	5 Yogurt tubs	junk mail		other
		envelopes		disposable 1
				use items
				(wrapping
lids				paper, etc.)
ilus		Store		
		receipts		
plastic				
utensils		cardboard		
	,	boxes	AND INCOME CONTRACTOR	
plastic		estimated		
bags		toilet paper		
dianasahla		square use *		
disposable 1 use items		non-		
(pens, *razors,		composted		
etc.)		paper towels		
Other		and napkins *		
-				

PLASTIC To the landfill	S = of items in each		
	(recyclable= has a number on hard surface)	ALUMINUM/ METAL	OTHER

Grand <u>Totals</u> : Total Throughputs (Solid Waste Items) for the 1 week inventory period: = Items.
Total Throughputs (Solid Waste Items) for 1 year: (~52 wks./yr) = Items.
Discussion Questions:

1. What 2 specific items did you find that you used the most (besides TP)? Is it something that you could do without or use less of? What are alternatives to get the service you needed with less throughput?

2. What items did you find surprising in your Swag bag—in other words you didn't think about them in your waste stream as much. What items would you like to educate other students about in a trashion fashion project?

3.	If you did this project including your whole family how do you think it would differ,
	explain. Are there times of year when your throughput changes? Why?

4. Did you alter your choices about foods eaten and/or items purchased/used during the last seven days, due to the type or amount packaging, - or due to the nature of the assignment itself? -Describe how your choices were modified during this assignment.

INSERT PHOTOS HERE:

- 1. My full Swag bag
- 2. ME and my Swag bag
- 3. The contents of my swag bag after 1 week.