

IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Creating Environmental Stewards Group

Group 2

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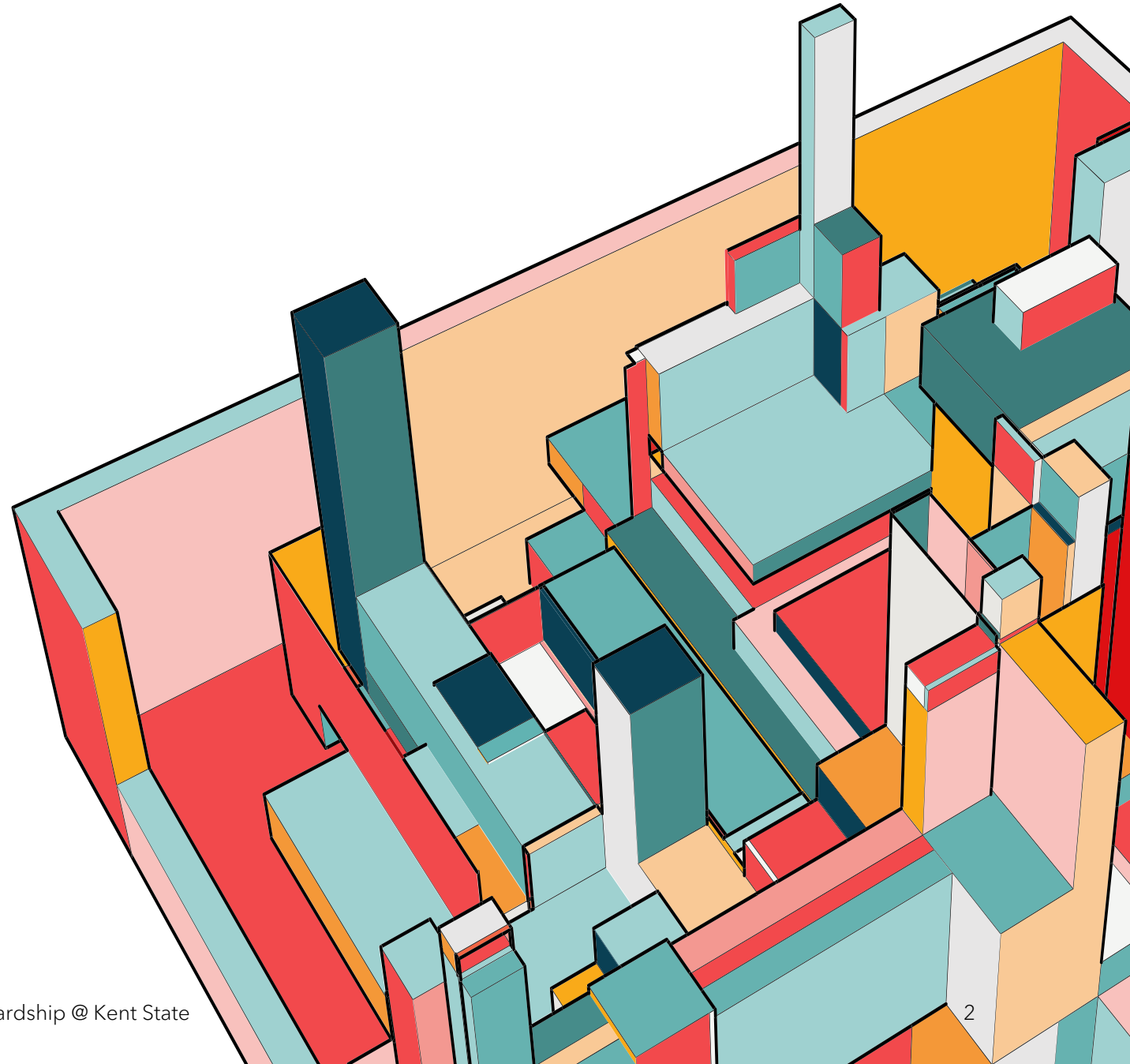


CESG

**Creating Environmental
Stewards Group**

ABOUT US

At Creating Environmental Stewards Group (CESG) we work hard to design educational solutions to sustainability issues. Our team of instructional designers will work together with university staff and community members to implement a program that reflects the unique needs and values of Kent State.



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

LEGACY

Established in 1910 as a teacher training institution. Today, students can choose from more than 280 majors and minors.

A WIDE COMMUNITY

More than 25,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

MISSION-DRIVEN

Transform lives and communities through the power of discovery, learning and creative expression in an inclusive environment.

SUSTAINABILITY

A commitment to implementing transformational sustainability practices into the university's facilities, planning processes, operations, natural environment, and culture.

CHALLENGES @ KSU

FALSE PERCEPTIONS

A 2017 Kent State University survey found that 95% of respondents identified themselves as recyclers, but the campus recycling rate is only 36% ("Sustainability: How many," n.d.).

LACK OF DATA

Kent State University reported that they do not assess sustainability literacy for their students ("STARS: Kent State University," n.d.).

INCORRECT DISPOSAL

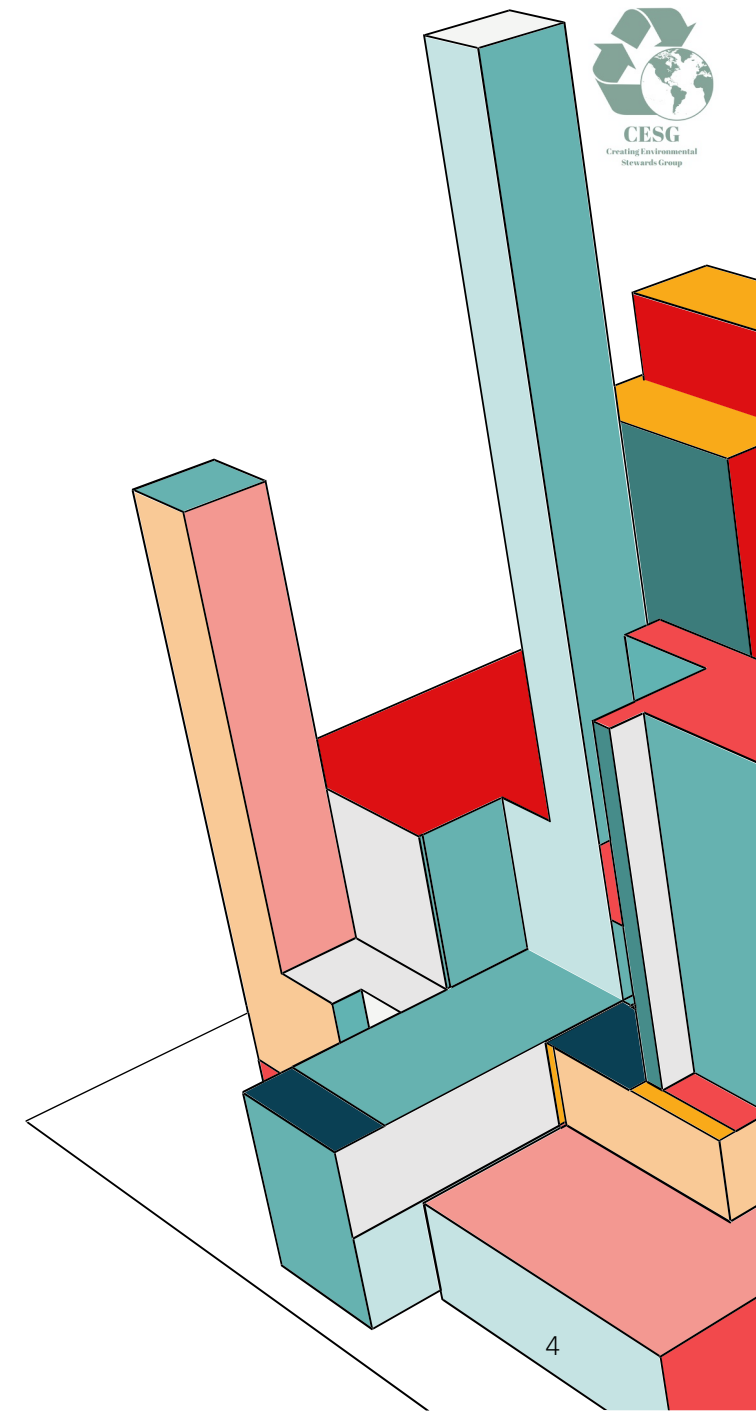
Recent campus waste audits identified plastic bottles, paper, and cardboard are the top three recyclables ending up in the trash ("Sustainability: Changes in recycling," n.d.).

POOR RECYCLING RATES

The 2022 campaign for the Campus Race to Zero Waste showed a decrease in the recycling rate during the eight-week competition to 18.775%, with only 3.441 pounds of recyclables collected per person ("Categories," n.d., para 6).

CLARITY/CHANGING RULES

Changes to university recycling criteria in which plastics labeled #1 - #7 are no longer accepted and instead only accept plastic bottles and jugs ("Sustainability: Changes in recycling," n.d.).





OUR FOCUS

CESG is committed to addressing the needs and realities facing KSU, to craft a solution that will empower community members to become environmental stewards.

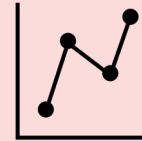
OUR FOCUS



Foster informed
decision-making.



Drive personal
accountability and
stewardship.



Provide
meaningful impact
data.

WHAT WORKS WITH TEAMWORK

Pros

- Open discussions were encouraged
- Each team member's input and feedback were evaluated before a decision was made
- Team members were engaged and enthusiastic about participating
- Assessed multiple perspectives to determine the best solutions

Cons

- Buy-in is needed for each member for collaboration to work
- Potential to be more costly and timely to obtain each member's ideas and feedback.
- Potential for productivity to be impacted due to evaluating each idea before a decision is made.

BUILDING A GREAT SOLUTION

Design and Collaboration

Research

- Gathering and presenting relevant background data to the team.
- Focusing research efforts on revealing the instructional challenge at-hand.

Planning

- Early meetings to determine project focus and key objectives.
 - Shared workspaces
- Multiple meetings per week

Tools

- Zoom
- Google Docs
- SmartSheet
- Google Calendar

OUR SOLUTION

Phase 1: Survey the KSU Community

Create and conduct a survey to identify gaps in knowledge regarding recycling on campus.

Phase 2: Training Course

Design and deploy a course for all KSU community members.

Phase 2.5: Updates

Semi-annual updates to the course are also included in the training course delivery phase.

Phase 3: Comparative Study

Create and conduct a post-deployment comparative study to determine the recycling knowledge of KSU community members.

OUR SOLUTION: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals

- KSU community members will understand the importance of recycling and sustainability
- Increase the recycling rate at KSU
- Decrease the amount of recyclables thrown into the trash

Objectives

- KSU community members will understand how waste habits contribute to their environmental impact
- KSU community members will be able to correctly identify and dispose of recyclable materials in their waste output.

OUR SOLUTION: COMPETENCIES

1. Differentiate between recyclable materials and dispose of them in the correct manner.
2. Evaluate the environmental impacts of proper and improper waste disposal.

OUR SOLUTION: ASSESSING PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

Gamification + Knowledge Checks

Integrated into each learning module.

Incentives

Participants will be given a certificate of environmental stewardship after completing the course.

Adaptive Learning

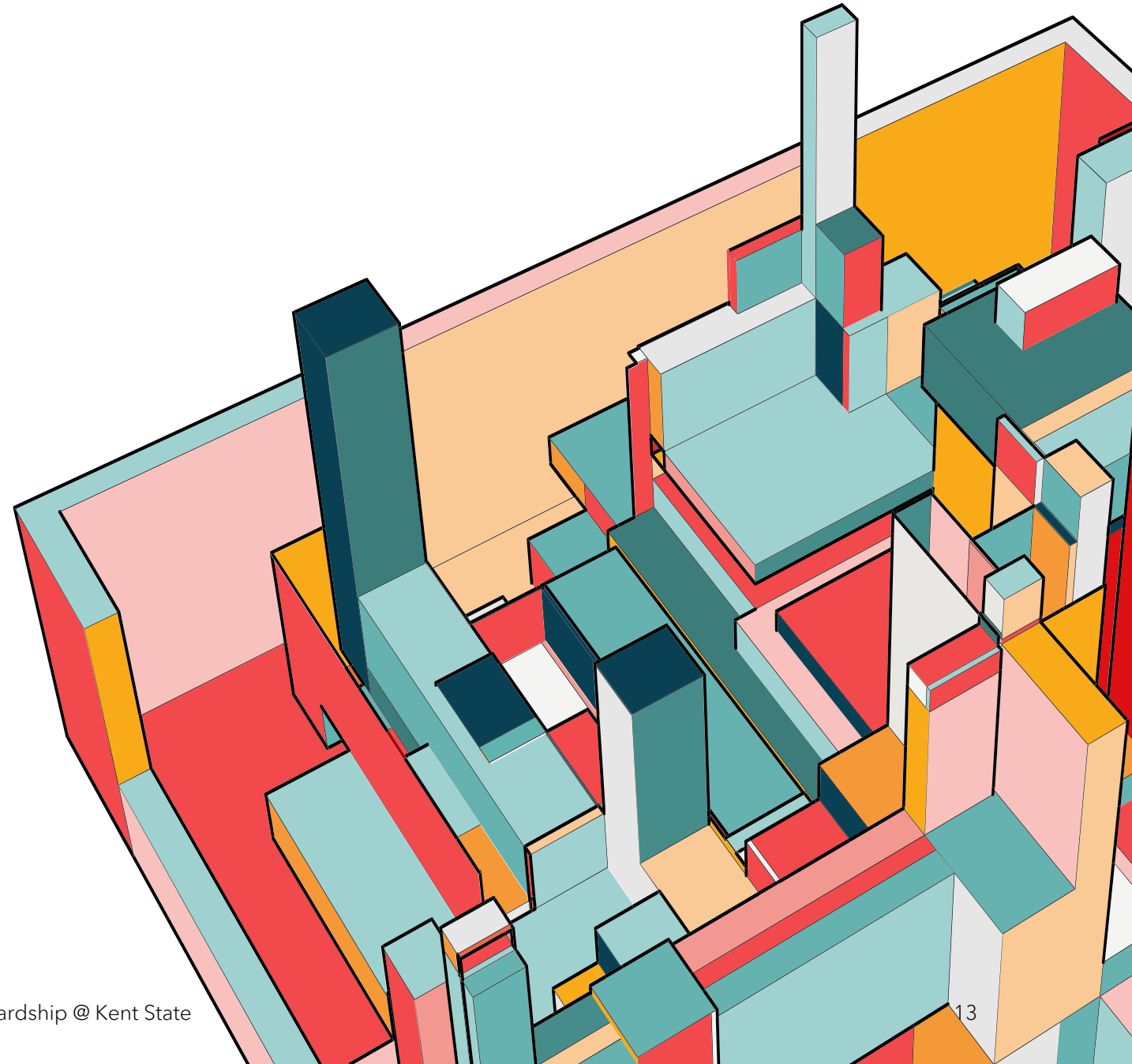
Poor performance on module assessments will prompt supplemental learning activities for participants.

Comparative Data

Our comparative study will allow us to gauge the effectiveness of the training course.

OUR SOLUTION: BUILT FOR KSU

- Instructional problem stems from a lack of knowledge or understanding.
- Course will bridge those gaps and provide the information and tools necessary to impact change.
- Research and studies before and after to gauge effectiveness and allow us to adapt.



THANK YOU



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