Wells College Grant Recipient Reports on Success of Outdoor Dual Bins

By Marian Brown, director Center for Sustainability and the Environment Wells College

AURORA, NY - Wells College received a grant from the NYSAR³ College Council to purchase outdoor recycling containers. Before this, we had only outdoor trash containers, so people wanting to recycle materials had to go inside a building to do so.

These new double split-stream containers have been very well received on campus – we have placed them alongside main pedestrian pathways, so they are very visible. Because of the way we collect and manage our landfill waste/recycling collections, I cannot provide actual weights of diverted recyclables, but I CAN say that we now collect 100% more recyclables outdoors than we did before (which was zero!). J

Everybody comments on the sleek look of these containers from Max-R. These neatly match our campus design standards for inside bins, which utilize gray/black landfill trash containers and blue recycling containers.

The planned outdoor placement of these bins - in fully ex-



posed outdoor settings, not under building overhangs – posed a challenge keeping the two sided tops on when the wind blows. We did need to field-retrofit the bins with readily releasable hold-down mechanisms so to keep the tops in place. The company is addressing this issue.

