Since 2009, Western Michigan University’s Office for Sustainability has handed out approximately 4,000 EcoMugs per year to incoming students. By doing so, it helps reduce disposable cup use on campus and stimulates sustainable behaviors among students.

In the Fall of 2014, the Office for Sustainability provided an option for an EcoJug. The EcoJug is 17 ounces, instead of 15 ounces for the EcoMug, and is primarily for cold beverages.

Part of the EcoMug program is to get local businesses to provide discounts to students who use their EcoMug or EcoJug. This summer, we will continue to work with current participants to make sure everything is going well. A few of our current participants indicate they are not seeing many EcoMug users. The concerns are mainly from downtown businesses. We are brainstorming ways to better our promotional techniques so students know where they can use their EcoMugs and EcoJugs.

We are also continuing to search for new participants as well as sponsors. This will require promotion to different businesses along with exploring various businesses that would be interested in sponsoring.

In the Student Sustainability Survey that was introduced in March 2015, there were questions regarding the number of people who use or do not use their EcoMug/EcoJug and why. We received numerous responses as to why they do not use their mug/jug including it was too small, they use a better quality mug, its too hard to clean, and the lid was leaky. Some students also noted that they used their mugs a lot when they were in the dorm. With these comments, we will be able to brainstorm ways to improve the EcoMug program.
Laura Darrah approved this change and the hall staff will now distribute the EcoMugs and EcoJugs to the incoming students in fall of 2015.

A training manual has been created for the hall staff. The manual explains the distribution process and the perks of the EcoMugs and EcoJugs. We may aim for a training session where the EcoMug Coordinator will explain the process to the hall staff.

We will still distribute EcoMugs and EcoJugs at the flagpoles for the classroom tours and at Buster’s Buffet. There needs to be a discussion about moving into Miller Auditorium for Buster’s Buffet for a better Internet connection.

To better reach the incoming students, Residence Life will distribute the EcoMugs and EcoJugs in the residence halls when the students pick up their keys.

This will allow us to make sure we are reaching all the students and reduce the number of events we must attend during Fall Welcome.

**Inventory:**
- EcoMugs: 340
- EcoJugs: 730