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> Ecological Issues ARC5423 Fall Semester 2012

The following are Items that have eliminated waste or turned waste into food. We have constructed four items in total:

- Bar Table with Wine Storage Angele
- Bathroom Shelf and Storage Angele
- Shading System Tatinia
- Writing Desk Tatinia

Bar Table/Wine Storage

Concept:

For this project I used a collection of items of waste such as some bricks that were found at a demolition site, wood plank part of a TV stand found at the side of the road and some Canadian pennies. The Canadian penny is no longer being produced. There will come a time when they will no longer be in circulation – therefore they are soon to be waste.

- Old bricks from a demolition site
- Canadian pennies
- Wood top from old TV Stand



Bar Table/Wine Storage

Process:

- Unscrewed top of TV stand to use as table top for bar/wine storage.
- Soaked some pennies, not all, in vinegar and salt and wiped them shiney.
- Laid out the pennies was going to do a pattern but preferred the random look.
- Glued pennies down to wood plank with Krazy glue.
- Cleaned bricks and arranged them in various ways to create a base for the table.
- Table top balances on top with sufficient stability from brick base.



Bar Table/Wine Storage

Final Product:

This final product is a collection of items where all the material except for the pennies were items that were going to be thrown out; bricks from the demolition site and TV stand at the side of the road. By combining all these materials of waste they have created a wonderful Bar Table/Wine Storage for our dining room.







Bar Table/Wine Storage

Lessons Learned:

- I decided to not mortar the bricks as I did not have the means to do so at this point; however, it is definitely something I will consider. As for now it provides flexibility to arrange them differently, and the bricks are heavy enough to provide sufficient stability without the mortar.
- I also learned that the Krazy glue is probably not the best glue for this project and would recommend Gorilla Glue which I realized further into the project.



Bathroom Shelf/Storage

Concept:

For this project I decided to use the rest of the TV stand that I did not use for the Bar/Wine storage product to provide more storage in our bathroom, as we really lack it. Yes I made sure not to WASTE the TV stand!

- TV stand found on side of road.
- Wall brackets and screws.





Bathroom Shelf/Storage

Process:

- Take apart TV stand.
- Cut down two loose wood planks to suit depth and width sizes for shelves needed.
- Mount brackets on wall.
- Secure large storage unit to wall and wall brackets.
- Add shelving above storage unit.



Bathroom Shelf/Storage

Final Product:

The TV stand is a great source for shelving and storage in the bathroom.

I was not able to fasten it to the wall for this project due to lack of tools; however I plan to finish it when my parents come to visit and bring what I need to get it fastened.



"Waste not, want

Bathroom Shelf/Storage

Lessons Learned:

Having learned now how to turn waste into 'food', I've decided to use the TV stand for my office in the meantime. I've turned the stand upside down and it works perfect!

I lack a lot of space in my office (as you can see in the picture above) therefore this works great for storage and book shelves for now until I use it for the bathroom.



Before

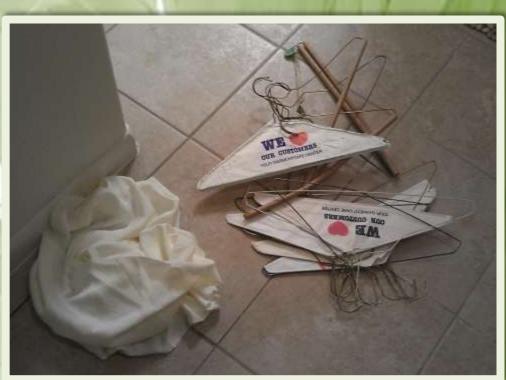


Shading System

Concept:

I got a hold of some old metal wire hangers that were headed for File 13. I also found some leftover textiles, including a perforated vinyl sheet that was starting to yellow. With these items of waste I decided to construct a sun shade device.

- Hanger Wires that are no longer being used
- Old fabric, ribbon and vinyl



Shading System

Process:

 Bent the hangers to shape the frame of the shading system.

 Connected the hangers together with metal wire and industrial epoxy.

Adhered & trimmed textiles to frame.





Shading System

Final Product:

Materials that were once waste have now become food for a shading system for my balcony door. The system can also be used for a window. Scraps from the textiles can be used to stuff pillows, cushions, or even toys!



Shading System

Lessons Learned:

 Metal doesn't easily stick to a lot of things, regardless of what the adhesive label says

 Skinny metal wires have rotational forces at their points of connection which tend to break the connections

 Metal wires have a much heavier gage than one would initially expect



Writing Desk

Concept:

Several years ago in undergrad one studio required us to create these Plexiglas layers of various areas of Italy. One frame that was leftover in my parents garage and slated for destruction, was of the Uffizi Gallery. I thought this would be a good opportunity to rescue it and incorporate it into a practical architectural application that was modern and functional. I also wanted to incorporate plastic bags since they are often excessively abundant in landfills and oceans.

- Plastic bags
- Cardboard rolls left over from the plotter
- Old Etched Plexiglas
- Leftover shelving



Writing Desk

Process:

- Created ropes out of the plastic bags and tied the tubes together for support.
- Cleaned the Plexiglas
- Explored tube support configurations and balancing for shelving support



Writing Desk

Final Product:

Five tubes produce asymmetrical design. Shelving supported by tubes, which are also connected by plastic rope. Plexiglas rests on edges of shelving.





Writing Desk

Lessons Learned:

- Plexiglas scratches show easily on dark backgrounds.
- When adding a center load, you have to offset or cantilever the side supports out so that the weight is balanced when the final load is applied.
- When braiding plastic bags, twostrand loops work best!



The technological achievements of our society today have the unintended side effect of creating a world that over produces and creates mountains of waste. Waste is a serious matter because it is a major factor in the depletion of this planet's resources.

What we've learned from this project is that not enough time is taken to think through how materials could be used and recycled into other reliable source items. We need conscious efforts from everyone to put an end to waste and begin to live sustainable lives, not only to save the environment but also to promote a healthier social, physical and psychological quality of human life. Focusing on the environment is also an important step in erasing greed, ignorance and complacency from our lives and replacing those negative influences with a deep appreciation for the good we can get from all materials and resources — if we exercise responsible stewardship over them.

