Maryland Green Registry MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

Salisbury University

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www.salisbury.edu/sustain
Higher Education

Member since July 2009

Management and Leadership

☑ **Environmental Team**

Membership for the University Sustainability Committee (USC) is comprised of students, faculty, and staff. The USC meets on a bimonthly basis and is charged to develop and maintain a sustainability program that promotes the use of environmentally sound development and management practices campuswide and incorporates sustainability into instruction. The USC also serves to advise the President and Executive Staff on sustainability matters and assure that the campus meets the objectives and commitments of the "American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment that was signed by President Janet Dudley-Eshbach and which became effective January 2, 2008. SU also has a faculty sustainability committee and a student government association vice president of sustainability.

☑ **Annual Environmental Goals**

In 2010, the USC developed a comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CAP) which included input from students, faculty and staff and vetted to the campus community. The CAP established a timeframe of 2050 for a net of zero greenhouse gas emissions. The CAP includes goals for target reductions in all areas of campus operations, education and residence life. The annual carbon footprint calculations and 2014 update for the CAP demonstrate that SU is on track for the overall goal of climate neutral in 2050.

☑ **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

In 2012, SU dining services replaced an aging dishwashing system with an energy and water efficient alternative. The new system uses 30% less energy and water than the previous system. In addition, the new system collects, shreds and de-waters food waste making it ideal for composting. Other changes to dining services include: paper napkin and condiment dispensers which reduce waste; replacement of paper coffee cups with reusable ceramic cup; vegan menu selections; fair trade coffee; and local produce.

☑ **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

Salisbury University (SU) has adopted a policy to procure Energy Star certified appliances and products where those exist and where the purchase is financially possible and practical. Paper purchased for campus printing has a minimum of 30% recycled content. Departments are encouraged to purchase green products from Maryland vendors (http://www.salisbury.edu/sustain/programs/greenpurchasing.html).

At commencement, students now wear caps and gowns made from recycled plastic bottles and are given the option to recycle them again after the ceremony.

☑ **Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

Coordinated by the Student Government Association, SU students started a "We Love Salisbury" project which includes mentoring, charitable fundraisers, food drives and neighborhood cleanup projects. The Ward Museum sponsors environmental education projects including: building bat houses, building rainbarrels, birdwatching trips and marsh walks. Faculty in the Biology department are developing a field laboratory to demonstrate Sustainable initiatives including composting, organic gardening and renewable energy. SU Environmental Philosophy students developed and maintain an organic vegetable garden with a self-watering wildlife garden to attract insects and small animals. each year, SU Environmental Psychology students build and install bluebird boxes at Pemberton Historical Park in Salisbury. The University also partners with local organizations such as the Wicomico Environmental Trust to provide sustainable programs on campus and in the community.

The Student Government Association and University Sustainability Committee sponsored an event entitled "Earth Week" which included a recycling competition entitled "Recycle Madness", an environmental film, a smart growth

presentation, and a celebration with educational information from student organizations and student project presentations.

Waste

☑ **Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

The Grounds department is responsible for solid waste and recycling and has developed an effective program to promote recycling and composting, which significantly reduced solid waste numbers over the past few years. In addition, the Housing department developed an education program for student residents encouraging them to transport their belongings in reusable containers instead of cardboard or new packaging. This initiative has significantly reduced solid waste materials during move-in and move-out. The warehouse operations for the campus are under the Support Services department. Support Services operates a surplus furniture and equipment "store" which is available to university departments without cost. In addition, some large or bulk quantity equipment is sent to Terrapin Trader for resale/reuse instead of disposal.

☑ **Recycling**

Salisbury University has established a recycling goal for construction waste from all new construction and major renovation projects of a minimum of 75%. This goal has been met by all projects to date and some have been as high as 100%.

Each year, students participate in the 10-week competition called "RecycleMania" and recycle paper, glass, aluminum, cardboard and plastic. SU students developed their own competition for student organizations called "Recycle Mania" where any recyclable product is eligible. Last year, 7 tons of materials were recycled in the one-day event. Overall, SU's recycling rate has hit an all-time high with 54% or 756 tons of materials.

☑ **Composting**

Since January of 2012, food waste and food-contaminated paper products from dining operations have been collected and delivered to a local composting facility where it is turned into a soil amendment. That process comes "full circle" when SU purchases some of the same compost for use in campus gardens. In FY14, 360 tons of food waste and related products were composted. In addition, 52 tons of yard waste was converted to mulch. These initiatives have limited the amount of solid waste reaching the landfill to 636 tons annually.

☑ **Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction**

SU has worked with the science department to replace toxic chemicals with less toxic or non-toxic alternatives wherever possible. As a result, hazardous waste pickups have been reduced significantly from earlier years. In addition, housekeeping is replacing harsh chemicals with green alternatives. The paint departments have replaced solvent-based paints with water-based alternatives for better indoor air quality and disposal reasons.

Energy

☑ **Energy Efficiency**

In 2008, PEPCO Energy Services completed a campuswide initiative which included replacing tens of thousands of lighting fixtures and bulbs with energy efficient fixtures / bulbs, upgrading/replacing HVAC mechanical equipment in 14 buildings, water conservation retrofits, and sealing building envelopes. The savings for these measures was guaranteed as $331,378 for 2009. The first three years delivered verified savings which were double the guaranteed amount.

A comprehensive housing renovation project was completed for the campus between 2009 and 2014. Under this program, building mechanical systems were upgraded or replaced for improved energy efficiency and geothermal systems were installed in three residence halls (Wicomico Hall, Manokin Hall and Nanticoke Hall) and in a museum in Perdue Hall. The geothermal systems have demonstrated a 29% annual energy savings over a traditional chiller/boiler system which was installed in 2009.

Salisbury University has installed LED lighting fixtures and occupant controls in many campus buildings and exterior LED lighting on buildings, walkways and parking lots. The lighting upgrades were made possible by energy efficiency funding support available through the Delmarva Power Energy Savings Incentive Program.

☑ **Renewable Energy**

Salisbury University installed a solar hot water system in Nanticoke residence hall as a domestic hot water source for the entire building.

SU purchases renewable energy credits (RECs) each year to offset emissions from electricity consumption. A total of 7,900,000 kWh of voluntary RECs were purchased, which equates to 26.5% of the annual electricity

consumption of the campus. In addition, another 3,811,330 kWh of mandatory (RPS) RECs were purchased, which equates to 12.8%. Combined, this represents 39.3% of the annual electricity consumption from renewable sources.

Transportation

☑ **Employee Commute**

In 2012, SU developed an online ride sharing program called Gull Ride which is available to SU students, faculty and staff, to encourage carpooling, shared travel, as well as encouraging walking and cycling companions. The website for the Gull Ride program is http://www.salisbury.edu/sustain/campus/transportation.html#gullride. In addition, SU buses are free for SU staff and faculty who live in nearby communities.

☑ **Efficient Business Travel**

All departments are encouraged to carpool or vanpool to events whenever possible. In addition, all departments now have the ability to teleconference, as needed. Many classes are equipped to record and offer distance learning.

☑ **Fleet Vehicles**

SU has replaced some aging fleet vehicles with 12 hybrid vehicles which posted an average of 34.6 mpg compared to an average of 26.5 for other fleet vehicles. University Police uses two of the hybrids for 18.6 mpg compared to 9.3 in the traditional vehicles they use.

Water

☑ **Water Conservation**

Salisbury University completed a facility-wide low-flow plumbing fixture replacement program and Energy Star laundry upgrade which yielded annual reduction of water consumption of more than 11 million gallons and a significant reduction in demand on our municipal water supply.

☑ **Stormwater Management and Site Design**

SU has reduced many of the areas which were formerly pavement and returned them to grass-covered or landscaped areas. Rainwater collection for all

new buildings is collected such that it does not leave the campus. One approach for this is a collection cistern which holds the rainwater until it can percolate into the soil. Another project utilizes a cistern which holds water for landscape irrigation. However, the more recent models collect water and send it to a rain garden at the building site.

Green Building

☑ **LEED Certified**

☑ **LEED Silver**

1) *Teacher Education and Technology Center (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*
2) *Sea Gull Square (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*
3) *Choptank Hall (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*
4) *Chester Hall (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*

☑ **LEED Gold**

1) *Wicomico Hall (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*
2) *Manokin Hall (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*
3) *Pocomoke Hall (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*
4) *Nanticoke Hall (owned) - under the new Construction rating system*
5) *Perdue Hall (owned) - under the New Construction rating system*

Profile Updated March 2015