



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.

Towson University



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Higher Education
Member since July 2009

Management and Leadership

Environmental Team

TU's Sustainability initiatives are managed by the Office of Sustainability, the President's Climate Committee (ACUPCC), and the Office of Civic Engagement. The Office of Sustainability is comprised of a Sustainability Manager, and a student Intern. The ACUPCC committee is composed of students, faculty and staff. Led by the Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, the committee meets once a month to guide the fulfillment of the university's PCC initiatives. The third entity that provides leadership on sustainability at Towson is the Office of Civic Engagement which organizes an Environmental Conference each year.

Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

Towson University's (TU) Adopt-A-Campus cleanup program invites individuals and groups to adopt one of eight designated campus areas and pledge to keep it clean. Program participants collect trash in their area on organized cleanup dates and are encouraged to remove litter from the area when passing by.

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

Move Out Sale: Towson will be hosting a move out sale at the end of the Spring 2013 semester. Students will be able to donate unwanted goods such as

clothes and furniture, and the goods can be purchased by other students or community members. The unsold goods will be donated to charity.

Recycling

Towson University continues to operate its recycling in a single stream format. In addition to basic aluminum, metal cans, plastic, glass, paper and cardboard, TU also recycles electronics, batteries, printer cartridges, and light bulbs. In 2012, the University recycled 18 percent of the 3,778 tons of waste generated.

Electronics Recycling Drop-Off Day: Towson University hosted an electronics drop off day on March 29, 2013. The University collected 2.9 tons of material from TU and community members.

Composting

In fall 2011, the university expanded its composting program to all major dining halls on campus. The expanded collection system covers all major dining halls on campus. Last year Towson diverted 100 tons of organics from the waste stream.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

Since 2008, Towson has completed the following energy efficiency projects:

- *TU completed an \$8 million Energy Services Contractor (ESCO) project to increase the energy efficiency of campus lighting in 2012. The project will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 10,000 tons annually and save more than \$1 million in energy costs each year.*
- *In late 2010, the lighting fixtures on the east canopy of the Enrollment Services building were replaced with high-efficiency LED fixtures. The new lighting consumes 70 percent less energy than the previous fixtures.*
- *The Campus Utility Plant Addition, completed in 2009, has expanded the production and distribution of heating, cooling and electricity on campus. The efficiencies gained from buildings being connected to the plant are expected to reduce the university's cooling power consumption significantly.*
- *The University has engaged the services of a Curtailment Services Provider (CSP) to enroll in demand side management programs with the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland (PJM) regional transmission organization. These programs provide cost incentives, usually based on wholesale market rates,*

for voluntary electrical load reduction during periods of high electrical demand in the regional area.

- *The university built two LEED Gold certified buildings—The College of Liberal Arts and West Village Commons. All future buildings will be built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standard or better.*
- *In 2011, the University received an estimated 7 percent of its purchased electricity from renewable sources as part of Maryland’s Renewable Portfolio Standard.*

Transportation

Employee Commute

TU offers a number of alternative transportation programs to provide students and employees with green alternatives to their commute. Our carpooling program enables employees to connect with individuals who live near them to make carpooling convenient and easy to set up. Our off-campus shuttle buses service more than 28 apartment complexes located within 15 miles of the University, and our dedicated Penn Station shuttle provides easy public transportation access to and from campus.

TU is incentivizing employees to use alternative transportation options by offering the low-cost Zipcar car sharing service, subsidizing public transportation passes, providing four free parking passes each semester to individuals who agree to use alternative transportation to get to campus, and offering a guaranteed ride home service whereby students and employees who use alternative transportation are provided with free car rentals or taxi vouchers when they need to get home immediately in the case of an emergency. For more information on TU's alternative transportation, go to www.towson.edu/parking

Fleet Vehicles

The campus fleet contains five electric and hybrid vehicles. Shuttle buses, increased parking costs, and a car share have been expanded to reduce emissions from commuting. In 2013 TU installed 18 electric vehicle charging stations in its parking garages.

Water

Stormwater Management and Site Design

The University has created a storm water master plan and is installing storm water vaults on campus. In addition, recent construction projects have included substantial improvements in storm water, including the replenishment

of the Towson Run stream as part of the Towsontown Garage addition and the installation of native landscaping at the Child Care Center and College of Liberal Arts (CLA). In addition, the CLA building has a green roof, with 50 percent planted material to aid in managing stormwater runoff.

Green Building

LEED Silver

In 2007, TU committed to building all new construction projects to the US Green Building Council's LEED Silver certification standards. New residence halls in the West Village complex have been built to LEED Silver standards. Future projects slated for LEED certification include the Public Safety Building and the Tiger Arena.

LEED Gold

In 2012, Towson completed two LEED Gold certified buildings: College of Liberal Arts and West Village Commons.

Profile Updated March 2015



Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

