ABOUT SALISBURY UNIVERSITY
Salisbury University, with a student population of approximately 8,600 students, includes students, faculty and staff on its University Sustainability Committee. The committee meets bimonthly to review progress on their Climate Action Plan, promote environmentally sound management practices on campus, and incorporate sustainability in instruction.

ACHIEVEMENTS

• Campus-wide energy conservation measures are expected to generate savings of more than $5.3 million by 2021. Geothermal systems installed in three residence halls on campus have demonstrated a 26% annual energy savings over traditionally heated and cooled campus buildings. Through careful energy management and the improved energy efficiency of their 10 new LEED-certified construction and renovation projects, campus emissions per 1000 square feet of building has decreased by 34%.

• The installation of low-flow plumbing fixtures and an Energy Star laundry upgrade has yielded an annual reduction of more than 11 million gallons of water.

• Food waste from the dining hall is composted into a soil enhancement product used by area farmers and the University’s Horticulture Department. The effort helps keep some 300 tons out of local landfills annually and has allowed the University to attain a 50% recycling rate for the first time since the program began in 1990.

• The increase in recycling is also due to increased student involvement and participation in the national RecycleMania competition. The Student Government Association, Smart Growth Club, and Gulls Going Green all promote sustainability through various events such as Earth Week and Campus Sustainability Day. Students with environmental interests are also able to study and reside together through Salisbury’s Living Learning Community Green Floor. Finally, graduates wear caps and gowns made from recycled plastic bottles and are given the option to recycle them again after the ceremony.

The Maryland Green Registry Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have shown a strong commitment to the implementation of sustainable practices, the demonstration of measurable results, and the continual improvement of environmental performance.