

A Badger's Guide to Sustainability at UW–Madison

At the University of Wisconsin–Madison, sustainability is an integral part of the institution's educational, research, and service missions. It has a place in our classrooms and residence halls, in our facilities projects and dining halls, and in our laboratories and outreach. Sustainability integrates environmental, economic, and social concerns to create a livable, just, and equitable world now and in the future.

The Office of Sustainability

[The Office of Sustainability \(OS\)](#) is the primary hub for sustainability at UW-Madison. The OS administers programs, hosts events, and promotes green practices across campus.

INTERN PROGRAM

Our year-long [paid internship](#) is available to undergraduate students from any background with a passion for sustainability.

GREEN FUND

[The Green Fund](#) supports student-initiated projects that reduce the environmental footprint and operating costs of on-campus facilities in the areas of waste, water, and energy.

STAY CONNECTED

Visit sustainability.wisc.edu for resources, information on our green certification programs, and the latest sustainability news. Then, sign up for the [newsletter](#) and check out the [jobs page](#)!



2019 HIGHLIGHTS



Office of Sustainability interns piloted the [Compost Stewards program](#), implemented in tandem with the [Green Office certification program](#). The Compost Stewards program aims to increase composting practices on campus through education and logistical support.



With the support of the Green Fund, University Housing and student group HELIOS placed 132 [solar panels](#) on top of Gordon Dining & Event Center. The solar panels will produce over 42,000 kW of energy on average over the course of a year. View the [live dashboard](#)!



In August 2019, UW–Madison submitted its first [Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System \(STARS\) report](#), including a comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory. The university's Silver rating enables UW-Madison to highlight achievements, identify opportunities for improvement, and set a baseline for future performance goals.

Where Does Your Waste Go?

MULTI-STREAM RECYCLING

UW-Madison separates [recyclable material](#) into three streams: office paper, mixed paper, and glass/plastic/metal, which we send to vendors to be processed. Where multi-stream recycling is not available, all recyclables go into the same bin.



COMPOST

UW-Madison collects food waste from all residence halls and dining halls on campus for its [composting program](#). Every dorm has compost available in either the trash room or kitchen.



LANDFILL

When in doubt, throw it out! Do not try to recycle or compost items about which you are unsure. It's better to avoid contaminating the compost and recycling streams. Learn about how to [Recycle Right](#) on campus.



Academics

UW–Madison offers an array of environmental and sustainability-related educational opportunities. Please view the [Academics page](#) on the OS website for more resources.

OVER 90%
of our academic
departments offer
sustainability-related
courses

DEGREE PROGRAMS

Undergraduate

- [Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies](#)
 - Environmental Studies
 - Sustainability Certificate
- [Engineering for Energy Sustainability Certificate](#)

Graduate

- [Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies](#)
- [Energy Analysis and Policy](#)
- [Business, Environment, and Social Responsibility](#)

Social Sustainability

Social sustainability means supporting our communities and the people in them by cultivating shared wellbeing, understanding [externalities](#), developing equitable practices, and preserving natural resources for all.

- [Bias Reporting](#)
- [Diversity Inventory Program \(DIP\)](#)
- [Division of Diversity, Equity & Educational Achievement \(DDEEA\)](#)
- [Gender and Sexuality Campus Center](#)
- [Gender Neutral Restrooms Map](#)
- [The Morgridge Center for Public Service](#)
- [Multicultural Student Center \(MSC\)](#)
- [UW-Madison Civic Action Plan](#)

GET INVOLVED WITH **STUDENT ORGS**



ON CAMPUS

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Food Access and Equity

- [Campus Food Shed](#)
- [Eagle Heights Gardens](#)
- [Farmers Markets](#)
- [F.H. King Student Org](#)
- [Greenhouse Learning Community](#)
- [The Open Seat](#)
- [Slow Food UW](#)

Energy

- [Focus on Energy Freebie](#)
- [Gordon Solar Dashboard](#)
- [Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center](#)
- [HELIOS](#)
- [MG&E Energy-Saving Tips](#)
- [Wisconsin Energy Institute](#)
- [WiscWind](#)

Water

- [Madison Water Utility](#)
- [University Housing Water Conservation](#)
- [Water@UW](#)
- [Water Resources Institute](#)
- [Water Sustainability](#)
- [Where Does Our Water Go?](#)

Health and Wellness

- [Gardens and Natural Areas](#)
- [UHS](#)
- [UWell](#)
- [University Recreation & Wellbeing \(RecSports\)](#)
- [Wisconsin Hoofers](#)

Buildings and Grounds

- [Campus Planning and Landscape Architecture](#)
- [Cultural Landscapes Project](#)
- [Green Roofs](#)
- [University Housing Buildings](#)
- [Wisconsin Unions](#)

Transportation

- [BCycle deal for UW-Madison](#)
- [Bicycle Air & Repair Stations](#)
- [Bus Routes](#)
- [Red Bike Program](#)
- [SAFEwalk](#)
- [University Bicycle Resource Center](#)