



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, energy, and water.

<https://sustainability.wisc.edu/greenfund/>

“The UW Green Fund helps students translate their sustainable infrastructure ideas into a reality by facilitating connections with staff. As a result, campus buildings have a lower operating cost and environmental impact.”

Ian Aley
Green Fund Program Manager

Solid Waste

Background

- The West Madison Agricultural Research Station (WMARS) processes food waste from campus.
- Plastics and metals contaminate food waste and cause issues for WMARS.
- Office of Sustainability staff convened conversations with UW's compost stakeholders to find solutions.
- FP&M may shift compost processing to a biodigester. A "depackaging" system at this facility could filter out contaminants on the front end of the process.
- This will help the UW divert waste from the landfill.



Contamination found in UW Compost

Existing Green Fund Project

Clean the Stream | Memorial Union Terrace

- \$1,740 Green Fund investment in Fall 2017
- Iffat Bhuiyan, the president of Wisconsin Union, proposed that the Terrace:
 - Introduce compost collection,
 - Install shadowboxes to visually cue patrons to properly dispose of waste, and
 - Work with procurement to source compostable and reusable packaging.
- This builds off of an Office of Sustainability supported Clean the Stream pilot project at Union South.
- The intervention supports ambitious waste reduction goals set by the Union for 2018



Iffat Bhuiyan, Green Fund recipient:
Clean the Stream Memorial Union

Projects in Process

Compost Stewards | Academic Buildings

- A team of students is preparing a proposal to collect compost in offices in partnership with:
 - The Office of Sustainability Green Office student intern team,
 - Rethink: a campus student organization,
 - Waste and recycling staff, and
 - Custodial staff.



Shadowboxes visually cue proper waste sorting.

Energy

Background

- Office of Sustainability staff and students are taking a course through the Midwest Renewable Energy Association called “Solar Development for Institutions.” Participation includes access to
 - An extensive library of written resources,
 - Technical assistance, and
 - Peer-to-peer support from 13 other Midwestern universities.



Green house cooling system installation

Existing Green Fund Project

Energy Efficient Green House Cooling System | Leopold Residence Hall

- \$3,450 Green Fund investment in Spring 2017
- Outcomes of project include:
 - An improved learning environment,
 - Over the 20-year lifespan of the project, the following reductions:
 - 37,500 kWh of energy
 - \$1,448 of utility costs
 - 21.6 tons of CO2 emissions



Class in Leopold green house

Projects in Process

Solar Thermal

- The SERF / Nick redesign team is working with a team of students to explore the possibility of heating the pool and showers with solar thermal as a Green Fund project.

Lighting Efficiency

- Transportation services expressed interest in LED lighting retrofits in its parking garages.
- Housing is interested in adding sensors to outdoor lights at Tripp and Adam Residence Halls.



Rooftop solar thermal at DeJope residence hall

Water

Existing Green Fund Project

Low Flow Toilet Retrofit | Tripp Residence Hall

- \$10,600 Green Fund investment in Fall 2017
- Will replace 42 toilets that use 3.5 gallons per flush (gpf) for ones that use only 1.6 gpf
- Annual, this retrofit will:
 - \$37,000 in operating costs,
 - 6,180,000 gallons of water, and
 - 21.2 metric tons of GHG emissions.
- A building specific water meter will display water usage and savings.

Projects in Process

Mobile Outdoor Water Bottle Refilling Station

- A student is interested in applying to the Green Fund to purchase a mobile outdoor water bottle refilling station. This would reduce waste generated by events such as Housing Move-In and Move-Out.



Johnny Uelmen, Green Fund recipient: low flow toilet retrofit Tripp Residence Hall



A mobile outdoor water bottle refilling station