



April 20, 2023

Greetings!

The Evergreen State College (Evergreen) is pleased to submit this Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) report. Evergreen was established with sustainability in mind and a strong commitment to environmental education. Since 1971, we have been intentional about our two campuses, being mindful of the built and natural environment, and constantly improving. Examples of our ongoing efforts include:

- Secured \$2.5 million in energy efficiency grants to upgrade the campus's steam heating and distribution systems and HVAC systems, reducing energy consumption by 10 percent;
- Converted House of Welcome from steam to electric hot water heating system;
- Retrofitted large cooling tower system with VFD's and new water filtration system;
- Built and manage LEED gold-certified buildings on our Olympia campus;
- Responsibly protecting our 1,000-acre forest and beach shores along Eld Inlet;
- Generating 35,000 kWh of solar power on an annual basis;
- Purchasing 100% green power for both campuses;
- Maintaining a master plan that guides the college's sustainability and facilities management efforts;
- Installing electric vehicle charging stations;
- Pursuing bulkhead removal project partnership to enhance salmon habitat;
- Recycling glass, paper, plastic, metals, and shipping boxes; and
- Composting food waste in the cafeteria.

Sustainable values are also woven into our business practices and academics. Our students have an active and engaged Clean Energy Committee that supports the creation of models for climate solutions through collaborative on-campus research. And Evergreen's Master of Environmental Studies program teaches graduates to be creative, critical thinkers with the research skills required for professional environmental work. The Olympia campus serves as a living learning laboratory for our students to immerse themselves in study and exploration.

In recent years, Evergreen established two new centers – the Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership and Transformational Change developing social and sustainable businesses, entrepreneurial, and leadership skills, as well as the Center for Climate Action and Sustainability which focuses on just and equitable solutions to the climate crisis and a hub where students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding community can come together in search of new ideas and solutions. The two centers continue to collaborate on climate change, sustainability, business, public policy, and more throughout Evergreen's curriculum and beyond.

I am proud to support the college's dedicated students, staff, and faculty who are continuously learning, adapting, improving, and implementing new sustainability practices on our campuses and in the classroom every year. Evergreen is making great strides to become a carbon-neutral and zero-waste college. To learn more, visit [evergreen.edu](https://evergreen.edu). Please also feel free to reach out to me at [carmichaelj@evergreen.edu](mailto:carmichaelj@evergreen.edu).

Sincerely,

John Carmichael, PhD  
President

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