

February 25, 2020

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)  
2401 Walnut Street  
Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Sustainability Colleagues,

Northern Arizona University (NAU) is pleased to submit this year's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating Systems (STARS) report to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). At NAU, we are proud of our many initiatives across our statewide campuses, including an updated Climate Action Plan, a Sustainable Ambassadors Program, an Energy Mentors Program, and Green Office certifications.

The updated Climate Action Plan's goals are to achieve carbon neutrality, foster community resilience by merging with the city's *Climate Action and Adaptation Plan*, and create a living lab concept to continue promoting a culture of sustainability at NAU.

Over the last three years, NAU's Energy Mentor program has grown to more than 263 trained members and 141 current mentors. Our Green Office Certification Program features 23 certified offices. In addition to our environmental degree programs, many academic majors incorporate sustainability components.

Other initiatives we are proud to include a composting agreement with the City of Flagstaff that helps the city divert waste from its landfill and reduce CO2 emissions. It also provides educational opportunities for students. NAU composts more than 300,000 pounds of food waste per year, helping to keep more than 250 metric tons of CO2 from entering the atmosphere. NAU is conducting a fleet audit with the goal of transitioning to electric vehicles where possible. We are also in the midst of implementing a chemical-free cleaning agent initiative called Lotus Water, with the goal of reducing environmental and human consequences. These are some examples of recent initiatives. I believe you will be impressed to see the advances NAU has made in sustainability.

We are pleased to be a part of this report and for our programs to be included in your database of groundbreaking sustainable initiatives for campuses around the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to showcase our efforts through the STARS report.

Sincerely,



Rita Hartung Cheng  
President