



COVID Cant Stop the Progress!

What is the Sustainability Champions Program?

Peer-to-Peer education network

Designed to amplify sustainability programs and messaging

Learning sessions

Advocacy training

Idea sharing

Discussion based

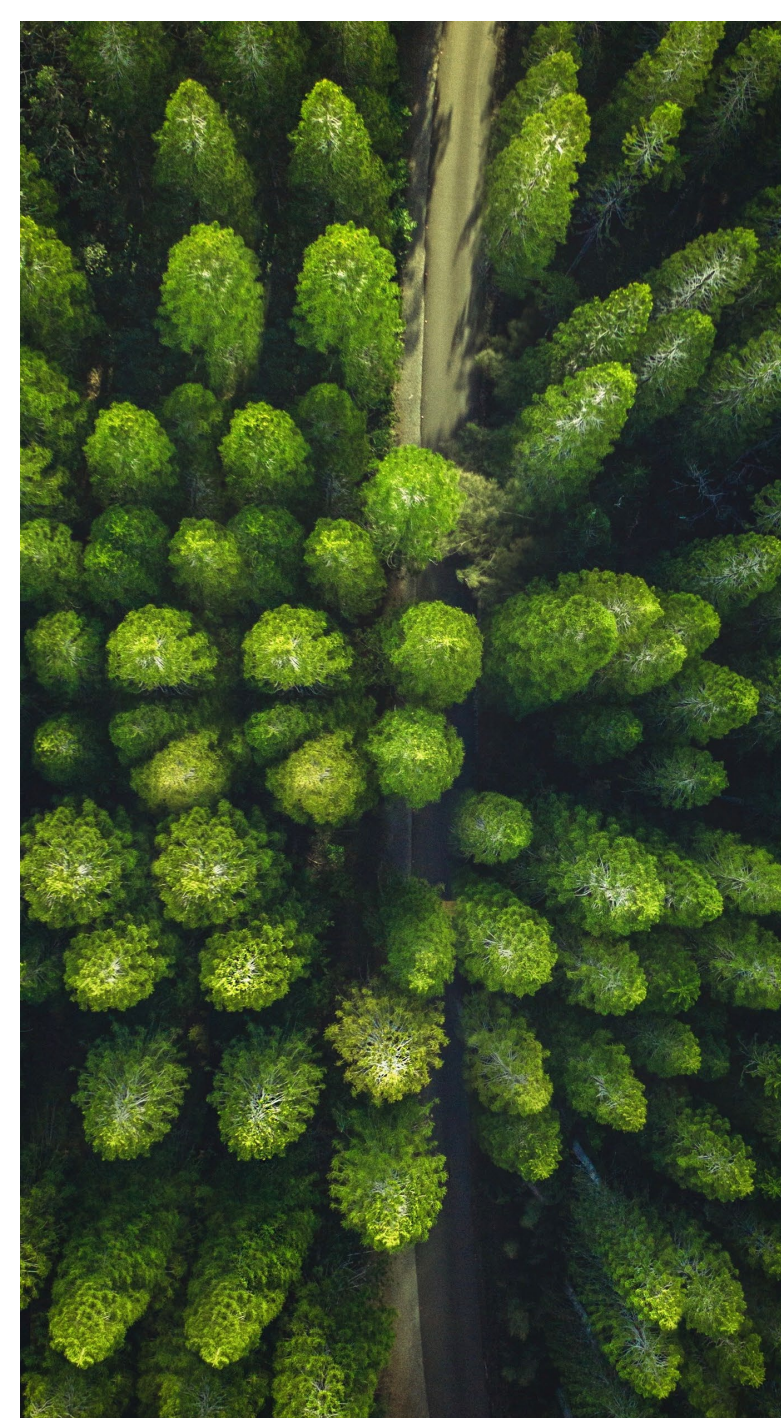
Concise, teachable takeaway messages

Report back (written or verbal)

Recognition

Recruit new Champions





Sustainability Overview

Structure of Sustainability Organization at ESF

Sustainability vision

NYS Center for Sustainable Materials Management

ESF Northern/Southern Properties

Ratings and rankings

Marshall LEED



Energy

Safety on campus

NYPA green energy procurement

Large Scale Renewable Energy (LSRE)

Geothermal for Moon Library

Portfolio of energy conservation measures



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

\$126,000 in National Grid funding secured for “make ready” costs

Close to being able to apply for \$72,000 of NYSERDA funding

Goal

4 dual port chargers in Block D

2 dual port chargers by Baker

1 dual port charger by Physical Plant

2 single port and 1 dual port charger by Walters

Total: 18 charge ports

Hope to have installed before March 2021

Cheapest pricing in the region (by far)

Research – Background



Sustainability is central to mission and vision of The College

Reflected in academics – teaching and research

AASHE STARS –Sustainability Tracking and Assessment

Credit AC-9 Research and Scholarship

Number of staff who conduct research

Number of staff who conduct “sustainability research”



Research - Survey

“research and scholarship that explicitly addresses the concept of sustainability, furthers our understanding of the interdependence of ecological and social/economic systems, or has a primary and explicit focus on a major sustainability challenge”

Last surveyed in 2011

- 54% conducted Sustainability Research

Resurveyed in 2020

- 44 Respondents, about 1/3 of faculty
- 88% conduct Sustainability Research
- Wide range of topics
- Willing to share



Research - Select Topics



Commuting and bike use

Renewable Energy

Climate change adaptation

Urban sustainability

Sustainable forest management

Sustainable fisheries

Green buildings

American Chestnut restoration

Life cycle assessment

Life cycle assessment

Human/wildlife interactions

Ecosystem services

Habitat restoration

Social-ecological systems

Carbon footprinting

Bioplastics

Research - Purpose



Highlight and share some of the great sustainability research ongoing at ESF.

Spark interest and keep people informed about potential collaborators, synergies, etc.

Share via campus sustainability networks.

Generate ideas on using campus a living lab.

Applied research unique to ESF that can help make campus shine.

Actualize that concept by implementing unique sustainable systems that can serve as demonstration, teaching and research.

Research - Example



SUNY-ESF Gateway Center
Land Use & Site Ecology

ESF Gateway Center...

- LEED Platinum new construction
- District, natural gas/biomass, CHP
- Unique green roof

Collaborators...

- Sustainable Energy Management
- Construction Management
- Environmental Forest Biology
- Landscape Architecture
- Sustainability Division
- Energy Management and Utilities
- Facilities Planning Design and Construction





ESF Diversion Goal (by 2025)

90%

Diversion (from landfill and incineration)



Baseline Materials Assessment

Green NY Report
(April 2018-March 2019)

66%

Landfill/Incineration

23%

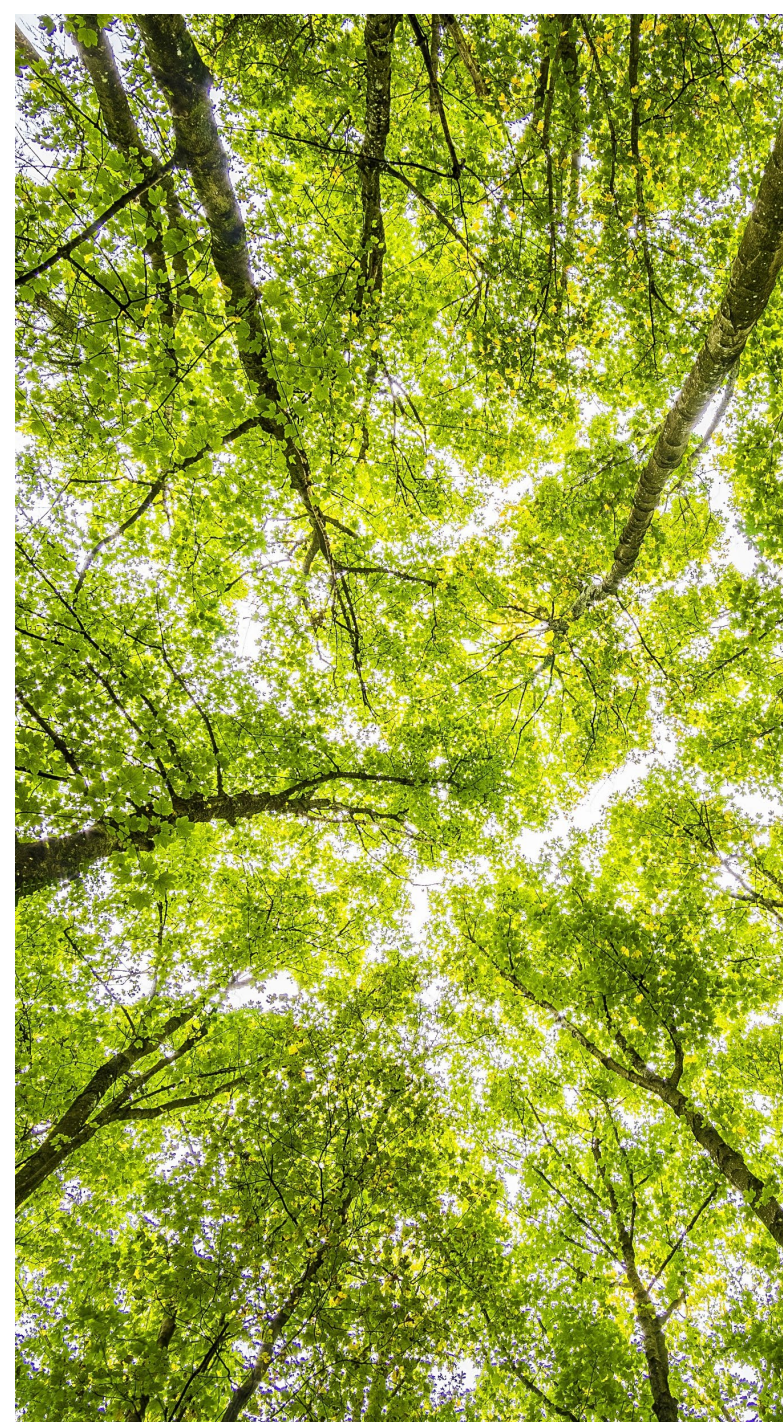
Recycling

Includes scrap metals, e-waste, batteries, motor oil and kitchen grease

11%

Compost

Includes food materials and yard debris

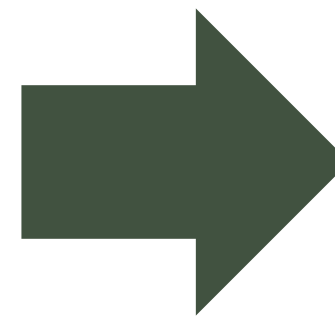
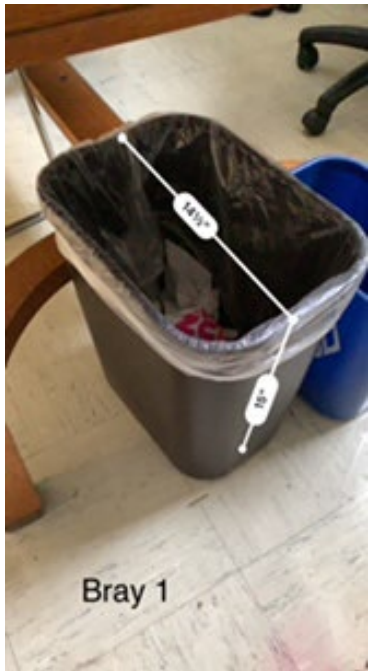
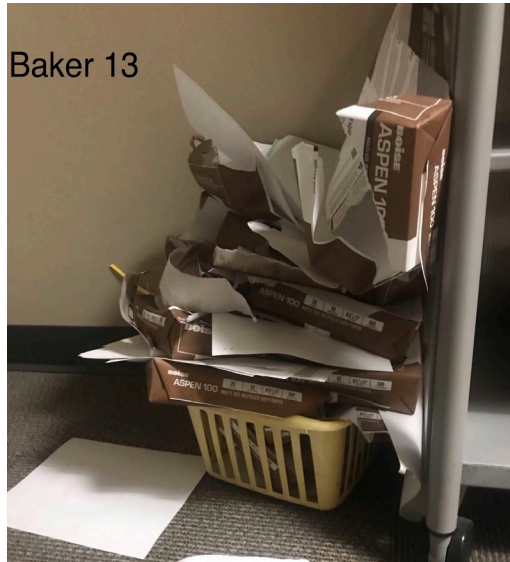
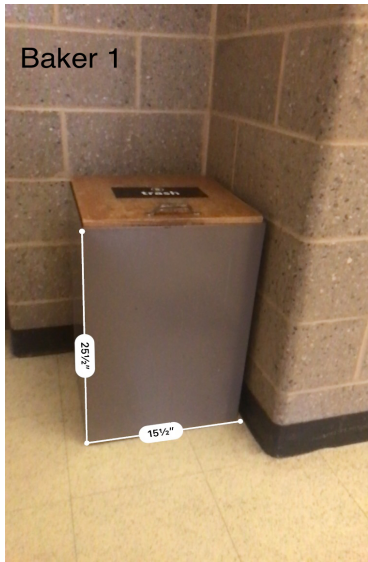


Baseline Material Assessment

ESF

34%

Diversion Rate



Current Materials Assessment

Green NY Report
(April 2019-March 2020)

52%

Landfill/Incineration

39%

Recycling

Includes scrap metals, e-waste, batteries, motor oil and kitchen grease

9%

Compost

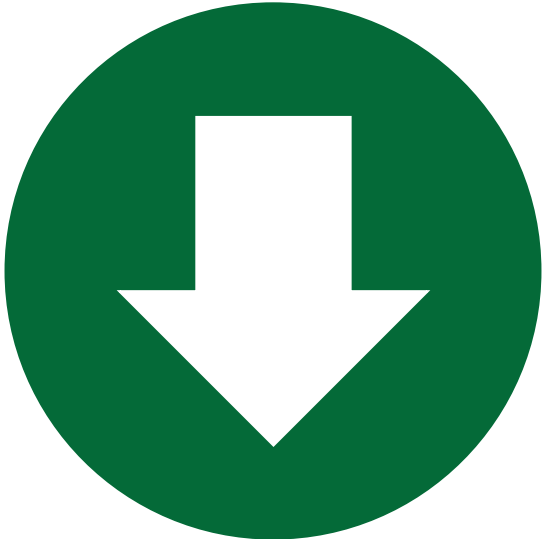
Includes food materials and yard debris



Current Materials Assessment

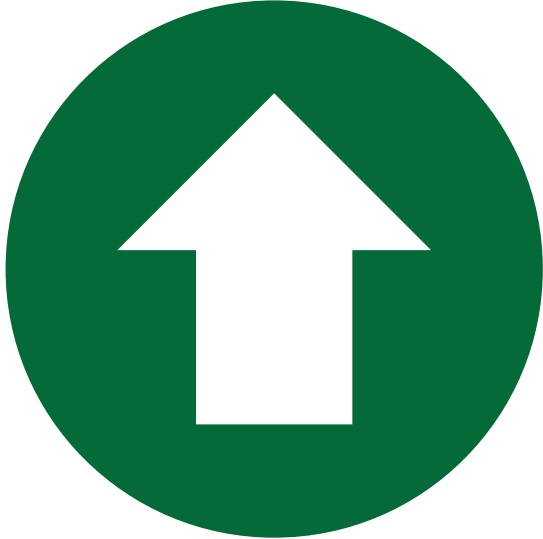


Trash



34%

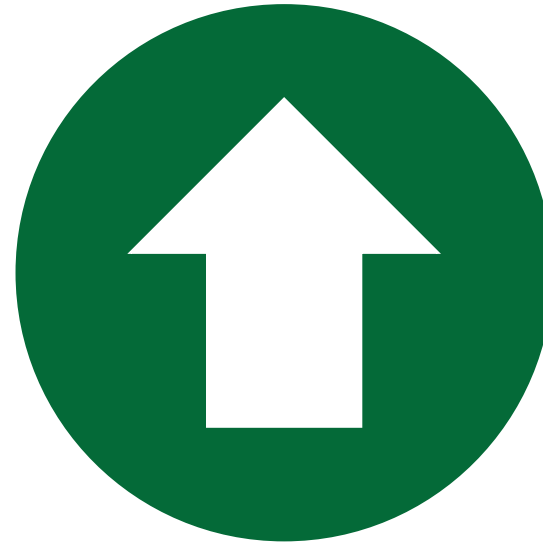
Recycling



46%

Current Materials Assessment

Diversion



14%



Current Material Assessment

ESF

48%

Diversion Rate





Celebrate the Good!!!

Awarded 2020 Recycling Leadership Award: Educational Institution

By NYS Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling
(NYSAR3)

Entire system overhaul

Success is thanks to campus and operational staff's willingness to change, challenge themselves and try something new!

Champion idea implemented!! Converted bathroom trash to compost (paper towels)

Lets keep
building!!!!



Reusable Menstrual Products

NYSAR3 College Council Grant for \$5,000

Purchased 235 reusable menstrual cups

2 sizes, 4 colors

Available to students, staff and faculty for free

Take pre survey and post survey

Pair sustainability with financial accessibility

Normalize conversations and fight stigmatization

Since Friday, 58 cups have been reserved/distributed and 109 interest surveys completed



Materials Working Group

ESF signed Break Free From Plastic Pledge in February 2020

Create a task force to develop road map to plastic free campus

Eliminate/replace all non-essential, compostable single use disposable plastics on campus

Identify and implement reusable alternatives

Create collection and management system for essential single use products



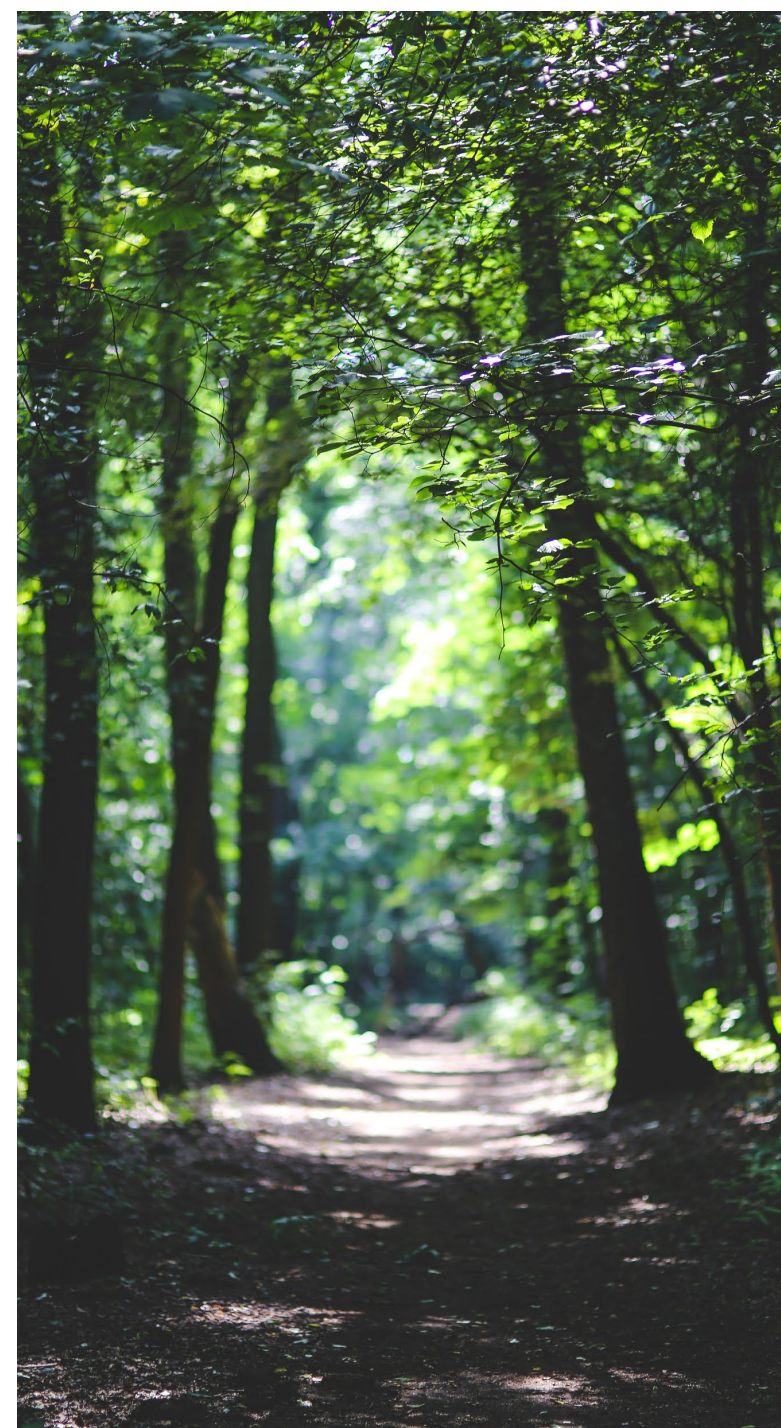
Materials Working Group

Sound exciting??! Join the Materials Working Group!!

Students, faculty and staff

First Task: identifying all single use plastics on campus

First Meeting: sometime in early November



Get Involved

Green Campus Initiative – Compost Cab & Workshops

USA's SustainabiliTEAM – ESF EcoChallenge

ESF Campus Garden

Tree Planting (tentatively October 29)

Join Materials Working Group



Key Takeaways

Understand Sustainability structure and vision at ESF

Our diversion rate has increased by 14% since campus-wide process changes

Free reusable menstrual cups are available

Materials Working Group forming to help shift campus away from single use plastics



Spread the word!!



Reporting Back

3 surveys completed after February session

Champions engaged 6 people beyond direct attendees

People wished for easier paper towel compost options

Appreciated learning about reusable plates/cutlery

Future session ideas:

- Pairing sustainability with health

- Targeted zero waste workshops for offices and how to make zero waste work within student lifestyles