Employee Orientation Sustainability at ESF







Agenda

- ESF snapshot
- Meet the sustainability team
- Key program overview
- Spotlight: Zero waste & circularity
- Resources for you
- Questions & discussion



SUNY ESF Snapshot

- SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
 - Main campus: Syracuse, NY
 - Regional campuses (25,000 acres)
 - Wanakena

State University of New York College of

- Newcomb
- Warrensburg
- Tully & Lafayette Road
- Thousand Islands
- ~2,200 students (undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D.)
- 27 undergraduate programs and 49 graduate programs
 - All focused on the environment







AASHE STARS Platinum



Princeton Review Top Green Colleges



NYSAR3 2020 Recycling Leadership Award



Second Nature & Climate Neutrality



Sierra Club's Cool Schools



Reforming Energy Vision Campus Challenge





AASHE STARS

- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education: Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System
 - AASHE STARS
- Transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges & universities to measure their sustainability performance
 - Academics, engagement, operations, buildings, planning, innovation
- ESF is 1 of 11 institutions (of 1,095 registered) to achieve highest ranking of STARS Platinum



Office of Sustainability Team



Michael Amadori Energy Manager



Lexi Chipules Campus Facility Wellness Manager



Delaney Demro

Sustainability Planning & Institutional Alignment Manager



Sue Fassler

Director of Sustainable Operations [Director of Sustainability]



Office of Sustainability Team



Mark Lichtenstein

Executive Operating Officer [Chief Sustainability Officer]



Rochelle Strassner

Sustainability Outreach and Engagement Manager



< GreenNY: State Purchasing and Operations

GreenNY Purchasing Requirements and Tools

State agencies and authorities are required to procure products and services that meet GreenNY specifications.



SECTIONS

Approved Specifications

Tentatively Approved Specifications

Find Green Products

Approved Specifications

The green procurement lists and specifications of commodities, services, and technology are for use by state agencies during a procurement. The specifications identify product criteria that will:

- Reduce or eliminate the health and environmental risks from the use or release of toxic substances;
- Minimize the risks of the discharge of pollutants into the environment;
- Minimize the volume and toxicity of packaging;
- Maximize the use of recycled content and sustainably managed renewable resources; and
- . Provide other environmental and health benefite



SUNY COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND FORESTRY ADMINISTRATION POLICY LIBRARY

Green Purchasing and Break Free From Plastic Policy

Mark Lichtenstein

November 2021

November 2021

Responsible Executive: Responsible Office: Latest Review / Revision-



POLICY STATEMENT

This policy applies to all consumable and durable products and electronics purchased by SUNY ESF. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the responsible executive. It is the responsibility of all purchasers at the College to abide by this policy, to the greatest extent practicable. This policy outlines environmentally preferred sustainability criteria for commonly purchased consumable items and electronics.

REASON FOR POLICY

The materials, supplies, equipment, and furniture used in a building all impact indoor air quality, and thus contribute to the overall health of building occupants. The products that are purchased, consumed and removed from campus also contribute to climate change. The environmental impact of consumable products can be reduced by purchasing materials that have been salvaged, contain recycled content, are durable (rather than designed for single or short-term use), are rapidly renewable, contain certified wood, or are manufactured locally.

SUNY ESF has committed to reducing the environmental impact of the materials and supplies it uses on campus through adopting the Post Landfill Action Network's (PLAN) Break Free From Plastic Pledge, setting zero waste goals and now through establishing specific sustainable purchasing criteria, building upon New York State's EO 4 Approved Purchasing Specifications. This policy clarifies product selection and purchasing criteria needed to meet the requirements for the aforementioned Pledge, NYS's Executive Order 4 Approved Purchasing Specifications and LEED v4.1 O+M MR Prerequisite Purchasing Policy certification/recertification.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to:

✓ President ✓ Vice Presidents ✓ Deans, Directors & Department Heads ✓ Area Managers & Supervisors

Page 1 of 8

Minimize the risks of the discharge of pollutants into the environment; Minimize the volume and toxicity of packaging; Maximize the use of recycled content and sustainably managed renewable resources; Provide other environmental and health henefits WS OGS, 2019, Retrieved on 08/10/19, at: https://ogs.ny.gav/greenny/executive-order-4-approved-specifications)

As part of EO 4, New York State's Office of General Services provides a detailed list of green purchasing specifications for many materials. Specifications do not exist for every consumable or durable commodity, however; specifications are continually created and adopted by NYS. In most cases these specifications, applicable to all New York State agencies, also align with LEED v4.1 criterion. Purchasers at the College should strive to meet both GreenNY and LEED v4.1 criteria. However, if these standards are not in alignment purchasers should abide by GreenNY standards (linked above). Purchasers must always be in compliance with the College's Break Free From Plastics Pledge.

Purchasers procuring products and commodities that are not covered by NYS EO4 specifications must strive to ensure that they are covered by one or more of the following 3rd party certifications:

- GreenSeal
- UL EcoLogo
- ENERGY STAR
- Forest Stewardship Council
- EPA Safer Choice
- USDA Certified BioBased
- Biodegradable Products Institute
- Cradle to Cradle

Purchasers procuring products and commodities that are not covered by NYS EQ4 specifications or the previously mentioned 3rd party certifications must strive to ensure that they are covered by the following ESF Purchasing Guidelines.:

- Product is made from recycled content
- Minimal, recyclable and/or compostable packaging
- Product is easily reusable/durable
- Uses replaceable/refillable parts.
- Break Free From Plastic Pledge Criteria

The following single use items are no longer able to be purchased with State funding for use on College property or for College events. Members of the campus community who purchase these items with their own funds should avoid bringing them to campus to the greatest extent practicable.

- Single-use plastic utensils;
- Single-use plastic straws and stirrers;
- · Single-use plastic food service ware (cups, plates, bowls, trays, sauce dishes, lids etc.);
- Single-use plastic clamshells and to-go containers
- All polystyrene (Styrofoam and similar) food service products;
- Single-use plastic-lined cups and bowls (coffee cups, soup bowls, snack boats etc.); · Single-use plastic-wrapped condiments, sauces, and seasonings (butter, jelly, peanut butter,
 - creamers, sugars, salt, pepper etc.);

- · Individually-packaged items with bulk alternatives (napkins, oyster crackers, mints, toothpicks etc.):
- Individually wrapped fresh baked goods;
- Single-use hot beverage packets unnecessarily packaged in plastic (K-cups, plastic wrapped tea bags, etc.);
- Plastic shopping bags;
- Plastic-wrapped giveaways.

Exemptions:

- Pre-packaged plastic wrapped retail items (chip bags, granola bar wrappers, candy bar wrappers, toiletries etc.);
- Plastic trash and recycling bags;
- · Plastic wrap for use during food prep (this does not refer to individually wrapped food items, as noted above):
- Plastic and polystyrene (Styrofoam) packing material from incoming orders;
- Plastic packaging from external caterers;
- Single-use plastics used in academic setting (lab equipment etc.);
- · Single-use plastics necessary for health and safety purposes (medical plastics etc.)

Single use paper items coated in plastic are not a viable substitute for the products listed in above. Members of the campus community are encouraged to use durable, reusable and washable items to replace single use items. Single use compostable products are able to be purchased with State dollars and used on ESF's campuses. However, they must be certified by the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI). In all instances, reusable alternatives should be favored over single-use compostable items.

Accessibility is important to maintain; therefore, if you need an accommodation exempting you from this portion of the Policy, please contact the Responsible Party. Point of purchase (Café's and catering companies etc.) should make these single use items available upon request for those that require a reasonable accommodation

Food and Beverage Criteria

Food and beverage purchases shall meet the following criteria:

- Sustainable agriculture. The food or beverage must be labeled USDA Organic, Food Alliance Certified, Rainforest Alliance Certified, Protected Harvest Certified, Fair Trade, or Marine Stewardship Council's Blue Eco-Label, or labeled with the European Community Organic Production logo in accordance with Regulations (EC) No. 834/2007 and (EC) No. 889/2008.
- · Local sourcing. The food or beverage must contain raw materials harvested and produced within 100 miles (160 kilometers) of the site.

Policy Implementation

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The GreenNY specs do not recommend specific products for purchase. The NYS eMarketplace designates items on State contract that meet EO4 specifications, but this list is not exhaustive nor particularly easy to filter and search.

This Policy and Appendix aim to 1) increase awareness of the EO4 specifications/mandate, 2) comply with the College's Break Free from Plastic Pledge, 3) comply with LEED v.4 O+M requirements and 4)











Trash



Styrofoam



Wrappers Plastic Bags



Chip & snack bags



Plastic and coated (shiny) paper plates & cups



Plastics (see recycling and compost fliers for exceptions)



Non-compostable Take-Out Items



Zero Waste ESF

Recycling

- Newspapers
- Magazines
- 📅 Cardboard
- Cans
 - Glass jars & bottles
 - Plastic bottles & jugs
- Milk & juice cartons
- 🔄 Stackable plastic dairy tubs

Zero Waste ESF



Zero Waste ESF

















ESF

SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE

SCAN TO SIGN

THE PLEDGE

As a member of the ESF community, I am committed to being an environmental champion by engaging in sustainable practices while on campus, at work, and at home. As I take this pledge, I promise to continually educate myself about environmental issues and engage others in empathetic dialogue about sustainable practices. While we recognize and celebrate the importance of advocating for large-scale, industry-wide and societal change, every small step and individual action we take to integrate sustainability into our daily lives contributes to our collective efforts to improve our world and society as a whole.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

 I pledge to take energy-conscious steps to help increase energy efficiency and decrease energy consumption.
 I commit to continuously educating myself about energy conservation and using techniques to reduce my carbon footprint.

HOW TO KEEP THE SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE

- Use natural light and supplement it with task lighting when needed
- Replace incandescent and fluorescent lightbulbs with LEDs
- If you have a roommate, share appliances and electronics
- Turn off lights and unplug devices, chargers, and appliances when not in use
- Set your thermostat near 68° in the winter and near 76° in the summer
- Choose ENERGY STAR' appliances when buying new
 Buy carbon affsets to reduce the net emissions from your energy use

WATER CONSERVATION

I pledge to learn and share water-wise practices such as being conscious of water use and preventing the introduction of pollutants into natural waterways. In doing so, I commit to acting as a water steward to protect and ensure safe water access for both humans and wildlife.

HOW TO KEEP THE SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE

- Take shorter showers
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth or shaving
- Repair leaks or report them for maintenance
- Carry a reusable water bottle with you and use refill stations
- Run the dishwasher and washing machines only when you have full loads
- Water plants only during the cool parts of the day Install faucet aerators and water-efficient shower heads

MATERIALS AND ZERO WASTE

I pledge to rethink my consumption habits and will strive to reduce my reliance on material goods. In doing so, I commit to reducing the amount of waste generate and to diverting what I can through reuse, recycling, and composting. I will strive to continuously educate myself; consider both the tangible and indirect impacts of the products I use; and champion civic engagement to build a more relianer materials economy.

I pledge to account for the impact of my daily commute and

HOW TO KEEP THE SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE

- Think reuse first avoid making purchases when possible
- Rethink the materials you use and challenge yourself to rethink what you actually need If you must make a purchase, buy items sourced ethically and made locally;
- prioritize those that can be readily reused, recycled, or composted
- Reuse what you can and donate or sell what you no longer need
- Purchase products with minimal packaging, both in store and online
- Repair items instead of replacing them
- Recycle and compost materials following your local guidelines

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

HOW TO KEEP THE SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE

- Walk or bike to your destination at least once a week







Sustainable Event Certification Guide

ESF

Office of Sustainability



Platinum Sustainable Event ESF

Zero Waste Infrastructure	Notes	Resources	Points	Achieved	Description
ZW-1: Trash bins have the trash guidelines displayed on or near the bin	Please contact Lauren LaTray to request bins if they not already in the event space	<u>Guidelines</u> Contact: <u>Lauren LaTray</u>	1	*	
ZW-2: Recycling bins are available next to trash and/or compost bins in the event space <u>and</u> have the recycling guidelines displayed on or near the bin	Please contact Lauren LaTray to request bins if not already in the event space	<u>Guidelines</u> Contact: <u>Lauren LaTray</u>	1	Ŧ	
ZW-3: Compost bins are available next to the trash and/or recycling bins in the event space <u>and</u> have the composting guidelines displayed on or near the bin	Select <u>NA</u> if food or drinks will not be served at the event and/or if no compositable materials (e.g., plant material, napkins, compositable take-out containers, etc.) will be present during the event Please contact Lauren LaTray to request bins if not already in the event space	<u>Guidelines</u> Contact: <u>Lauren LaTray</u>	1		
ZW-4: Discarded materials (waste) will be sorted by This requires that <u>labelled</u> trash, recycling <u>and</u> compost are provided for waste sorting at the disposal station or outside of the event space/"back of house". Select <u>ane</u> below:	Select <u>No</u> if only trash will be available in the event space	<u>Guidelines</u>			
	Contact the Office of Sustainability if you need help finding student volunteers/ assistants	Contact: Office of Sustainability	2	•	
Caterers should be briefed on ESF's recycling and	Contact the Office of Sustainability if you need help finding student volunteers/assistants or would like assistance providing information to the caterer	Contact: <u>Office of</u> <u>Sustainability</u>	2	÷	
ZW-5: A waste audit will be performed after the event to document proper materials management practices and identify areas of improvement for future events Select <u>one</u> below:	Select <u>No</u> if only trash bins will be available in the event space Send your results (waste audit worksheet) to the Office of Sustainability upon completion Contact Sue Fassler for guidance and assistance.	Contact: <u>Office of</u> <u>Sustainability</u> Contact: <u>Sue Fassler</u>			
ZW-5a: <u>Simplified waste audit</u> - Sort and <u>count</u> the number of contaminants (missorted items)	See the Past-Events Waste Audits Guide for instructions on how to perform a simplified waste audit safely	Post-Event Waste Audits Word PDF	1	Ŧ	Please share results with the <u>Office of</u> <u>Sustainability</u>
ZW-5b: <u>Standard waste audit</u> - Sort and <u>weigh</u> the contaminants (missorted items)	See the Past-Events Waste Audits Guide for instructions on how to perform a standard waste audit safely	Post-Event Waste Audits Word PDF	2	Ţ	Please share results with the <u>Office of</u> <u>Sustainability</u>
ZW-i: We plan to implement additional measures the support ESF's zero waste goals at the event not included in this checklist.	Please review items in other categories to avoid duplication. <u>Please describe the practice(s) in the Description</u> column.	ESF's Zero Waste Goals	1	Ŧ	Please describe the additional practice(s, here to receive innovation point





Sustainability Ambassadors

Program Overview & Resources

Office of Sustainability





17 Ambassadors!!



State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry

ESF SUNY ESF Campus Sustainability Tour



Explore the sustainable features across SUNY ESF's Syracuse Campus

Sustainability Division, SUNY ESI January 19, 2022

TinyURL.com/ESFSustainabilityTour

d ...

Mighty Oak Energy Dashboard

ATRIUS

State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry



Electricity

4

Steam

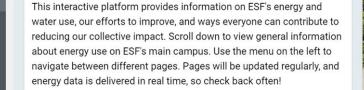
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Water

0

Natural Gas

Mighty Oak Energy Dashboard







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Main Campus Snapshot / Last 30 days

4.4m kWh

Practicing What We Teach

ESF is committed to the responsible use of energy, water and other resources, transitioning to renewable energy, and reducing our environmental impact and greenhouse gas emissions. These sustainability goals are closely related to ESF's educational, research and outreach mission, and our daily choices can play a critical role in greening our campus.

Main Campus Snapshot / Last 12 months



Social Media

Follow ESF Sustainability on social media!



Facebook @ESFSustainability





@ESFSustainability

ESF Engage too!

Key Sustainability Programs

- **Green Purchasing & Break Free From Plastic Policy**
 - **Green Purchasing Guide**
- **Reusable containers**

tate University of New York College of nvironmental Science and Forestr

- Trailhead (Spring 2023), Newcomb & Ranger School
- **Reusable menstrual cups and pads**
- **Reusable plate program**
- Mini bins and compost
- Waste audits
- Class collaboration
- Centennial Hall move out program
- **SUNY Plastics Elimination Work Group**







Key Sustainability Programs

- EV charging stations
- Sustainability Pledge
- Student clubs and employment
- Sustainability Ambassadors
- Green Event Certification
- Mighty Oak Energy Dashboard
- Combined heat & power plant (Gateway Center lower level)
- Bee Campus USA
- Student garden
- LEED and WELL







AN THE QR CODE, VISIT TINYURL.COM/FLOWREALE: OR EMAIL SCFASSLE@ESF.EDU <text>

PLASTIC, GLASS & METAL BOTTLES, CANS, JARS, JUGS, CARTONS, TUBS

DO NOT BAG



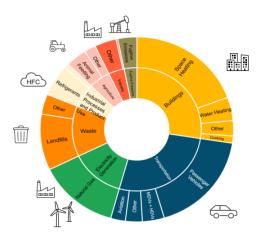
Looking Forward

- Pursuing TRUE Precertification
 - \circ Zero waste program
- Sustainability Action Plan
- Zero Waste Action Plan
- RFP for Virtual Surplus Property Exchange
- National Wildlife Federation Plastic Reduction Partner Certification
- Completely revamped sustainability website
- Green Office and Green Lab Guide and Certification programs



Zero Waste & Circularity



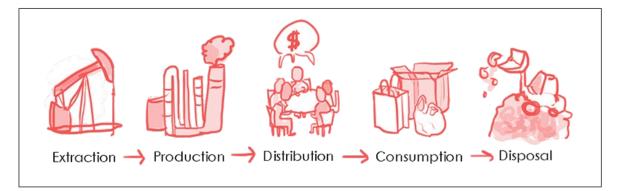


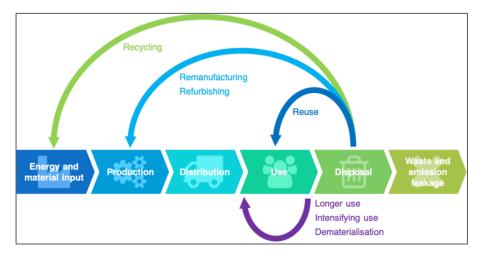
Current estimated GHG emissions by sector (CLCPA Draft Scoping Plan)

"Typical" Climate Change

- Transportation, buildings, renewable energy, open space and agriculture/food
 - More, more, more!
- Expensive transition
- Waste emissions = disposal

Linear vs Circular











Case "for" Consumption

- 42% national emissions = entire product lifecycle
 - NYS: 12% of emissions from waste = landfill, combustion, wastewater
- NYS: > 70% of municipal waste = discarded products and packaging (CLCPA)
- Fossil fuel companies = "<u>Titans of Plastic</u>"
 - Plastics manufacturing estimated to account >¹/₃ growth in oil demand by 2030 and 50% by 2050 (IEA)
 - US plastics industry emits GHG at the same rate as 116 coal-fired power plants (Beyond Plastics)





Case "for" Consumption

- Believe in climate change not necessary
 - Waste can be seen and changed at the individual level
- Environmental justice
- Reuse is a job creator (Finger Lakes Reuse)
- 1% "stuff" bought is still used 6 months after purchase (Story of Stuff)
- Consumption is currently celebrated and encouraged
 - To question it is taboo
 - This is starting to change!





Zero Waste & Circularity Goals





90% DIVERSION FROM LANDFILL AND

INCINERATION

By 2025 | 2018 baseline

Zero Waste Goals & Progress



90% REDUCTION IN MATERIAL SENT TO LANDFILL & INCINERATION By 2025 | 2018 baseline

SYRACUSE CAMPUS: 50.42% DIVERSION

2022 to date | Compared to 34% in 2018

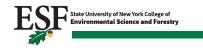
30%* REDUCTION IN MATERIAL TO LANDFILL & INCINERATION

2022 to date | Compared to 2018 baseline (estimated weight)









Resources

- Sustainability website
- ESF AASHE STARS Platinum report
- Sustainable Events Program (Guide and Form)
- Virtual Sustainability <u>Tour</u>
- Reusable Plate Program (<u>Policy</u>, <u>Calendar</u>, <u>Request Form</u>, <u>Return</u>
 <u>Form</u>)
- Green Purchasing & Break Free From Plastic Policy
- Green Purchasing <u>Guide</u>
- Sustainability <u>Ambassadors</u>
- Sustainability <u>Pledge</u>
- Reusable menstrual product <u>request</u>
- Mighty Oak Energy <u>Dashboard</u>
- Sustainability Project Proposal form



Let's talk!

Sue: <u>scfassle@esf.edu</u> General: <u>sustainability@esf.edu</u>