



To whom it may concern,

Cascadia College has with a deep commitment to accessible education and sustainability as part of the greater Seattle community, and we affirm these commitments in our 2021 STARS report. Cascadia serves its community through integrated learning outcomes that connect our campus with social equity and climate justice initiatives that promote critical thinking and prepares our students to navigate the global challenges of tomorrow.

Environmental sustainability is one of Cascadia's core values. It is weaved into our programs like the Sustainable Practices bachelor's degree, resources such as our campus grounds, and activities like our purchasing practices and staff engagement. The dual connection to equity and inclusion affirms our efforts to support students and the community, and be a part of training the next generation of leaders in our area.

Cascadia is particularly proud of our grounds and its ability to serve as a living laboratory for a large variety of class engagement and activity including:

- A campus Food Forest that integrates edibles and education with unique plantings
- A 58-acre restored wetland with native habitat restoration and active learning opportunities
- We practice low mowing, pollinator friendly landscaping, leading our co-located campus to more wildlife friendly areas
- Our campus is certified with Bee Campus USA, as a Certified Wildlife Habitat, and with Salmon Safe, to protect our region's most important species ecologically
- Excess fruit and vegetables from campus gardens are harvested, then donated to our campus food pantry, the Kodiak Cave, for their work in addressing food scarcity.

Through our education and on-campus integration, classes can engage with waste management learning activities, climate, and social justice discussions. Students, staff, and faculty have varied opportunities to engage with sustainable practices through our campus sustainability committee.

At Cascadia, sustainability is not just a goal or target, but rather a culture within all areas of our campus – and we are committed to growing our efforts moving forward. We appreciate the opportunity that the STARS report affords us to be able to share our practices.

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