

**Skidmore College
Campus Sustainability Plan**

2015-2025

**Submitted by the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee of the
Institutional Policy and Planning Committee**

February 2015

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Chittenden Falls micro hydro facility

Campus Sustainability Plan

Submitted by the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS) of the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee

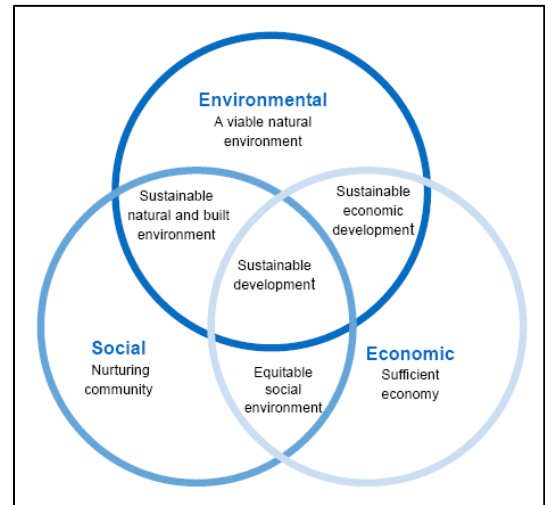
So many of our most pressing societal issues today are rooted, at least in part, in sustainability, and it is increasingly clear that economic stability, social justice, and environmental remediation and protection are intimately linked. In conversations related to population growth, declining resource availability, water pollution, air pollution, public health and disease, and, of course, climate change, there is a tangible sense of urgency to forge new ways of thinking and doing. Colleges and universities have an essential role to play in helping our future leaders learn to analyze and articulate the issues around sustainability and to develop new paradigms for how we interact with the world.

In our institutional strategic plan, *Engaged Liberal Learning: The Plan for Skidmore College, 2005-2015*, we rightly identify sustainability considerations as central to informed responsible citizenship. Motivated by this plan and the awareness of students, faculty, staff, and administrators, Skidmore has made significant strides in reducing our environmental footprint as an institution and enhancing curricular and co-curricular educational offerings around sustainability. We include a more thorough review of that progress below, but, in short, we have much to celebrate, and a major motivation for undertaking a sustainability plan is to quantify, make visible, and recognize our achievements. Prospective students and parents, potential hires, alumni, potential donors, members of the broader community, and current students, faculty, and staff increasingly seek discernible evidence of our sustainability efforts. The *Campus Sustainability Plan* will also help us incorporate sustainability more comprehensively and intentionally into the College's planning and practice.

Definition of Sustainability

Recognizing environmental limits, and sharing the ethic that present actions should not “compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,”* the Skidmore College community embraces both the concept and practice of sustainability. We endeavor to enact environmentally responsible practices, grounded in economic and social equity, and through our actions to have a positive impact on our community and our planet.

Skidmore’s primary mission is education, and the College’s greatest impacts and achievements will be realized as consequences of the lives our graduates lead. As part of an ever-growing population on a finite planet, we are confronted with an increasingly urgent need to address the resulting environmental constraints and social challenges. Institutional adoption of sustainable practices, informed by an understanding of the complex, interconnected nature of living systems and their physical environment, provides the opportunity for each Skidmore community member to become educated and personally involved in addressing these challenges, and empowered with techniques and strategies that they might apply to make positive changes beyond Skidmore.



We invite Skidmore community members to engage in mindful consideration of their individual and collective ecological, economic and social impacts, to examine their values, and to collaborate in demonstrating their values and principles through action. Teaching, learning and living in accordance with the tenet of sustainability fosters broad education and civic engagement of our community members, and prepares our students to be informed, active citizens and leaders in realizing sustainable futures. The health and wellbeing of future generations is dependent upon their success.

**Brundtland Commission*

Focus Areas and Goals

As an outgrowth of this definition, we propose that the *Campus Sustainability Plan* include five key focus areas: Energy, Food, Waste, Lands and Grounds, and Engagement. To establish specific goals for each focus area, working groups of the CSS used a baseline year of 2000 and undertook significant research to develop challenging yet reasonable goals that we aim to achieve by 2025. These working groups are composed of members of the CSS as well as key stakeholders outside of the subcommittee. For example, food goals were set by and supported by members of Dining Services, and energy goals were set and supported by critical members of Facilities Services. This work was done with recognition of our limited resources and the other major institutional initiatives the College hopes to advance over the next decade. As a result of our collective efforts over the past decade, we are well on our way to meeting all of our goals as indicated by the tracking dials in the following section, and an overall visual summary of our goals can be found in Appendix 1.



Skidmore's solar array

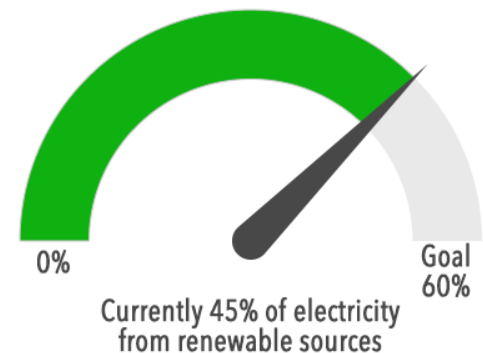
Focus Area 1: Energy

The extraction, transportation, and use of our various energy sources have major environmental, social, and economic impacts, and are a major source of our institutional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As a result, Skidmore has already implemented numerous small-scale and large-scale projects that improve our energy efficiency, shift us toward a more renewable energy portfolio, and decrease our GHG emissions. In addition, we have launched many initiatives that help promote the behavioral changes that are equally important to reducing our energy consumption.



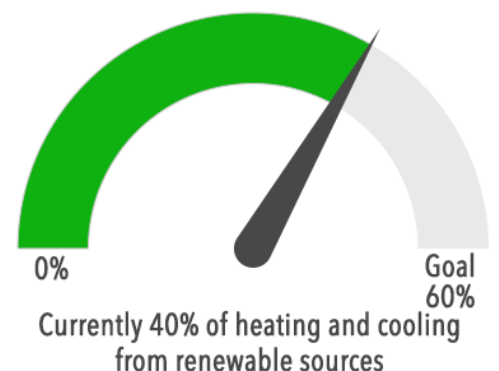
Goal 1: 60% of our electricity from renewable sources

We aim to produce 60% of our electricity from renewable sources, excluding nuclear power, by 2025. We currently meet approximately 12% of our electricity demand with our 2.1 MW solar array and another 18% with our micro-hydro project in Chittenden Falls, New York. In addition, approximately 15% of our electricity demand is met with hydropower and other renewable sources through our major electricity provider, bringing our total renewable energy sources to 45%. While achieving another 15% may seem like an easily attainable goal, net metering regulations, rapidly changing energy markets, and potential growth at Skidmore make this a challenging, yet reasonable, goal.



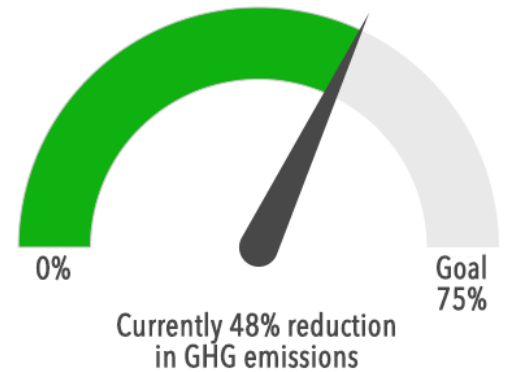
Goal 2: 60% of our heating and cooling from renewable sources

Currently 40% of our square footage is heated and cooled with geothermal energy, making us a national leader among college campuses in utilizing geothermal technology. In addition, our innovative district distribution approach and the national recognition we've received in various trade magazines and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education has made us a "go to" resource on geothermal energy systems. With current plans to install another geothermal system beginning potentially Summer 2015, we believe we can eventually heat and cool 60% of our square footage with geothermal energy.



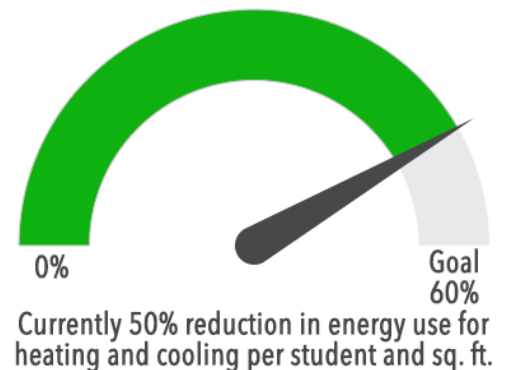
Goal 3: 75% reduction in our GHG emissions

We are including Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions in our calculation of this goal. Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions that are owned and controlled by the College, whereas Scope 2 includes indirect emissions resulting from the generation of purchased energy like electricity. We completed our most recent GHG inventory in 2013, and we show a 48% decrease in our GHG emissions from 2000 to 2013. The 2013 GHG inventory was done prior to our major solar and micro-hydro projects, and we anticipate that these projects will give us a significant push toward our reduction goal. In addition, when we formalize a stewardship plan for our forested lands, we will be able to receive credit for these resources as a carbon sink, hence helping us achieve our overall GHG reduction goal. Finally, significant progress on behavioral changes will also be important for this goal.



Goal 4: 60% reduction in energy use for heating and cooling per student and square foot

As one measure of energy efficiency, we are aiming to reduce our heating and cooling demand (MMBTU) per student and square foot on campus. Since 2000, we have actually reduced heating and cooling per student by 43% (from 75 MMBTU/student in 2000 to 43 MMBTU/student in 2013). Similarly, we have reduced heating and cooling per square foot by approximately 50% (from 0.12 MMBTU/sq. ft. in 2000 to 0.06 MMBTU/sq. ft. in 2013). With continued improvements in infrastructure, along with policy and behavioral changes, we anticipate meeting this goal.



Goal 5: Maintain electricity use per student and square foot

As another measure of energy efficiency, we are aiming to maintain electricity use (kWh) per student and square foot on campus. We have managed to maintain electricity use per student (approximately 9,500 kWh/student) and electricity use per square foot (approximately 14.5 kWh/sq. ft.) since 2000, which is impressive considering the increased use of electronic devices, instruments, and technology across campus. Our goal of maintaining these current rates of electricity use will require us to continue to improve our energy efficiencies on campus.

Current Practices

To reduce our energy use, we have implemented many measures including:

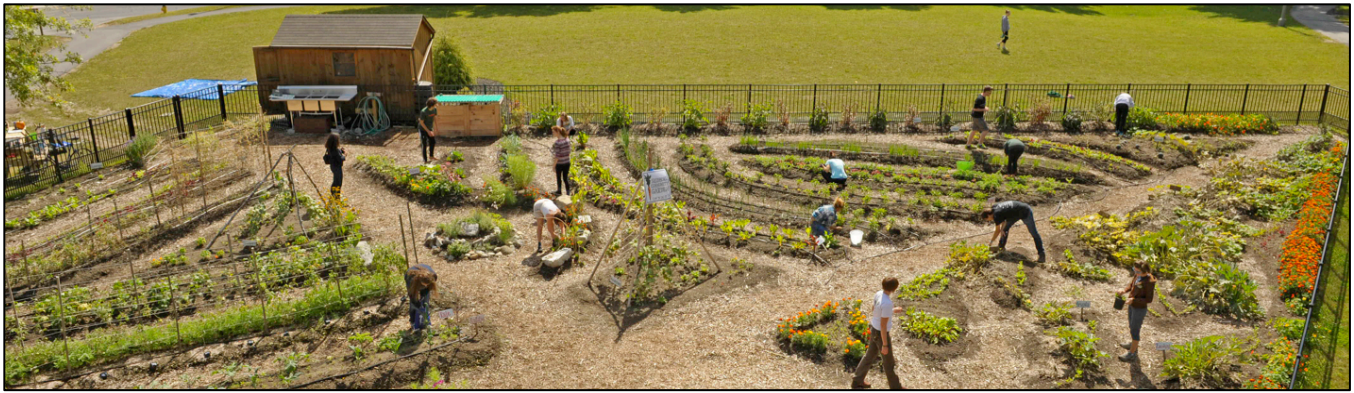
- our innovative district geothermal systems which received the 2012 Best Campus Sustainability Case Study Award from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education;
- a 2.1 MW photovoltaic array;
- a 4 MWh micro-hydro agreement;
- five solar thermal projects, including four on residence halls and one on our horse stables;
- independent energy-efficient boilers;
- heat-recovery wheels that capture heat from air in the building and reuse it before the air is exhausted to the outdoors;
- compact fluorescent, induction, and LED lighting;
- energy-efficient transformers and motors;
- motion and occupancy sensors;

- the purchase of energy-efficient campus vehicles;
- a no-SUV policy for rental vehicles used by Admissions staff;
- anti-idling policy for campus fleet and equipment;
- cold water wash and building temperature policies;
- public transportation and carpooling programs;
- window and insulation upgrades;
- an energy/building management system;
- electric vehicle charging station;
- campus-wide temperature policy;
- BikeMORE bike share program;
- completion of the perimeter path for improved sustainable mobility;
- Skidmore Unplugged and other S-Reps initiatives; and
- signage and campaigns to encourage energy reduction.

Future Steps

While future steps will, in many ways, be influenced by grant and incentive dollars and new, innovative partnerships, possible strategies for meeting Goals 1-3 might include:

- develop additional renewable energy projects, possibly including a second micro-hydro project and additional geothermal;
- implement individual building metering with connection to a common, comprehensive dashboard;
- additional lighting retrofits;
- revisit the campus-wide temperature policy; and
- create policies that increase the utilization of spaces and equipment across campus; and develop additional campaigns, programs, and training to promote behavioral changes.



Students working in the Skidmore Community Garden

Focus Area 2: Food

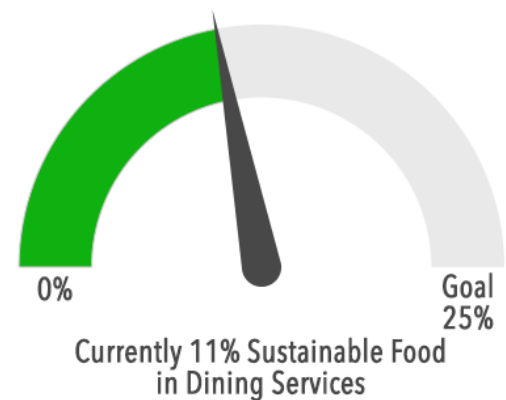
Skidmore purchases a large amount of food, and this provides us with leverage to influence food distribution and other components of the food supply system. Food production, processing, and distribution methods are integrally connected to both ecosystem health and human health. Dining Services is already engaged in many initiatives to advance more sustainable food purchasing and is open to exploring additional opportunities to reduce our GHG emissions, promote fresh and healthy foods, and support local sustainable agriculture, fair labor, and the humane treatment of animals. The goal and framework in this section of the *Campus Sustainability Plan* will guide the College as we continue to improve the sustainability of our Dining Services.



Goal: 25% Sustainable Food in Dining Services

In 2025, at least 25% of total food purchases at Skidmore College will meet the institution’s Sustainable Food metrics. Sustainable Food is primarily defined by the following criteria:

- **Local and Community-Based:** These foods can be traced to farms and businesses that are locally owned and operated (within 150 miles). Sourcing local and community based foods supports the local economy and builds community relations. Foods travel fewer miles to reach consumers. Seasonal foods, when fresh, often have a higher nutrient content.
- **Fair:** Individuals involved in food production, distribution, preparation--and other parts of the food system—work in safe and fair conditions; receive a living wage; are ensured the right to organize and the right to a grievance process; and have equal opportunity for employment. Fair food builds community capacity and ensures and promotes socially just practices in the food system.
- **Ecologically Sound:** Farms, businesses, and other operations involved with food production practice environmental stewardship that conserves biodiversity and preserves natural resources, including energy, wildlife, water, air, and soil. Production practices should minimize toxic substances as well as direct and indirect petroleum inputs.



- **Humane:** Animals can express natural behavior in a low-stress environment and are raised with no hormones or unnecessary medication.

Foods that contain ingredients that have been proven harmful to human health or are produced under egregious labor conditions will not be considered Sustainable Food.

(adopted from the Real Food Calculator, 2014)

Skidmore has the ability to amend the above criteria if the CSS agrees upon specific, well-informed amendment proposals. The food sector is dynamic; new providers continuously enter regional markets, emergent research provides new information and perspectives about food, food safety, and growing practices, and unique regional characteristics provide opportunities that national metric systems, such as the guidelines we are suggesting above, may not capture. These facts challenge the practicality for Skidmore to rely exclusively on one broad, nationally focused food metric system to track and analyze our sustainable food achievements. The intent of the amendments is not to devalue or minimize the impact of the above criteria. Rather, amendments provide Skidmore with the opportunity to interrogate and respond to emerging information and quickly make changes to the institution's Sustainable Food criteria when necessary. Amendments provide academically rigorous learning opportunities as they allow students to challenge specific criteria or barriers within the criteria above, and develop creative solutions that will allow the College to move forward in our sustainable food goals.

Current Practices

To encourage more sustainable food systems, Skidmore has already:

- established partnerships with local farms to supply food for the dining hall;
- invited Saratoga Apple to offer a farmer's market in Case Center on Friday afternoons;
- launched a community supported agriculture initiative, increasing access to local food for Skidmore students, staff, and faculty;
- initiated a small herb garden that provides the dining hall with fresh herbs;
- increased vegetarian and vegan options in the dining hall;
- partnered with the Skidmore Community Garden to purchase and serve all food grown on campus;
- incorporated local NYS beef from Buckley Farms, Kilcoyne Farms, and sustainable seafood from Sea to Table into dining hall meals;
- started purchasing local vegetables that have been flash frozen, providing local produce that can be used year-round;
- purchased fair trade, organic and rainforest certified coffee for the Dining Hall and the Atrium Café;
- increased local milk purchases through Battenkill and Stewart's;
- increased local ice cream purchases through Stewart's and Byrne Dairy;
- started purchasing local sausage and local apples;
- increased the number of local businesses we purchase from, including Saratoga Peanut Butter, Saratoga Sweets, Saratoga Juice Bar, Saratoga Salsa, Cindy Sint's Sushi;
- provided numerous locally sourced menu options for catering events (Slow food Movement, Scribner events, Skidmore Sustainability Office); and
- received the Marine Stewardship Council Chain of Custody Certification.

Future Steps

The Food Working Group identified several strategies that may be implemented over the next ten years to achieve 25% Sustainable Food by 2025. These include:

- hire a student intern to work 12 months a year to accurately track and measure Sustainable Food purchasing;
- continue conversations and networking to better understand sustainable food criteria and identify new sustainable food possibilities;
- continue to monitor Sustainable Food purchasing within each food area (produce, baked goods, dairy, meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, grocery, beverages) to inform decisions that strategically alter food-purchasing habits for the most efficient and opportunistic increase in Skidmore's Sustainable Food expenditures; and
- create formal and informal positions to allow students to participate in the ongoing process to improve Sustainable Food sourcing in Skidmore Dining Services.



Students composting in the Northwoods Village

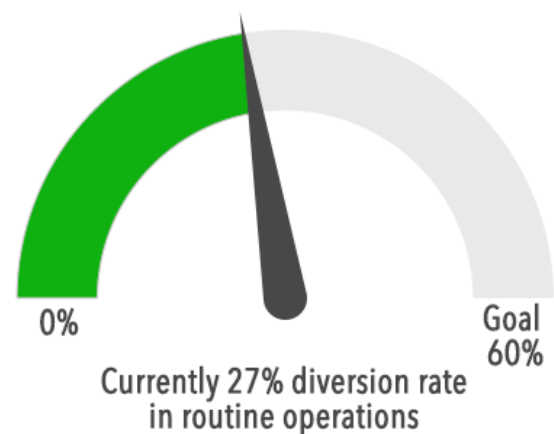
Focus Area 3: Waste

Waste reduction is broad in scope in that it affects all offices and operations across campus, as well as the surrounding community and environment. With over 2,500 students and 1,100 staff and faculty, Skidmore produces general municipal solid waste, hazardous materials, as well as compost and recyclables. Currently, several projects on campus are advancing waste reduction initiatives, including the installation of additional water refill stations across campus, expansion of the residential composting program, and the planning of an institutional composting facility. With such a large waste stream and many stakeholders, there are numerous opportunities for improvements. The goals outlined below aim to make improvements in different areas of the college.



Goal 1: 60% diversion rate in routine operations

Skidmore defines its diversion rate as the amount of material reused, repurposed, or recycled instead of sent to the landfill. The waste stream of routine operations includes municipal solid waste (MSW), biohazardous and hazardous waste, and year-round containers and demolition, as opposed to special projects. Diverted materials from routine operations include zero-sort recycling, manure from the Van Lennep Riding Center, composted coffee grounds from the Dining Hall and food scraps from North Woods & Sussman apartments, and electronics recycling. While achieving a 60% diversion may seem like a challenging goal, we have already seen significant progress during FY15 thanks to the new zero sort program and continued outreach and education efforts.



Goal 2: 50% diversion rate for special projects

Skidmore will partner with contractors to reuse, repurpose, or recycle material collected during construction, demolition, and renovation projects. Skidmore will engage stakeholders in conversation to identify recyclable and reusable materials and to determine financial implications. Although Skidmore has diverted material collected during special projects for several years now, a baseline for this goal will be developed in 2015 and will be used to track progress and identify opportunities for improvement.

Current Practices

To reduce our waste, Skidmore has:

- transitioned to a zero-sort recycling program in September 2013 with Casella Resource Solutions;
- required monthly data reports and bi-annual waste audits in our waste contract to better understand progress made and areas in need of improvement;
- completed an overhaul of indoor and outdoor recycling bins, including signage and locations;
- strengthened our recycling program to include electronics, furniture, and asphalt;
- implemented a Give+Go program to capture used goods that students leave behind at the end of the year so they can be donated to a local nonprofit to be reused or resold;
- collected appliances and furniture from construction and renovation projects and worked with a nonprofit to donate them to domestic and international schools and relief efforts;
- installed 18 water bottle refill stations around campus to encourage the use of reusable bottles, saving over 222,000 plastic bottles from entering the waste stream;
- started using the Papercut Print Management system in the Library to reduce the amount of waste paper through print jobs;
- approved annual updates of the College Catalog to be done on-line only;
- transitioned to online applications in Admissions and the Study Abroad Office, and the Registrar's Office converted to a paperless system;
- trained Dining Services employees to properly peel and cut food to reduce pre-consumer food waste;
- encouraged the use of tasting plates to sample dishes in the Dining Hall instead of large plates;
- offered food preparation and storage lessons to students living in apartments to reduce food waste;
- revised our purchasing policy to encourage the purchase of some goods with higher recycled content;
- initiated a pilot compost project that is now evolving into a larger composting system; and
- created a student-run organization FEEDMore to divert pre-consumer food to local organizations in need.

Future Steps

Possible strategies for meeting Goals 1 and 2 include:

- create a quantitative assessment system of food waste on campus;
- conduct food waste audits and collect data to determine the feasibility of composting food scraps;
- construct an institutional composting facility to collect manure, coffee grounds, and landscaping waste;
- quantify food diverted from FEEDMore;
- incorporate resource management language in contracts and ensure contractors are following recycling guidelines;
- continue outreach and education about waste management and recycling among Skidmore community members with trainings, educational campaigns, and print and/or electronic materials;
- investigate feasibility of reusable containers on campus; and
- provide avenues for students to borrow or sell items to fellow or incoming students to reduce the amount of new items purchased, as well as ways for students to donate unwanted items to local organizations.



The Red Trail boardwalk, built by students, faculty, and staff

Focus Area 4: Lands and Grounds

Skidmore currently owns over 1000 acres of land that is distributed across multiple properties with different identities. The North Woods, which is adjacent to the developed portion of campus, is used both by the College for teaching and research and by the Saratoga community for education and recreation. Off campus parcels include the Denton Road property, site of Skidmore's solar farm, and several wooded properties to the north and west of campus. The campus master plan, *The 2007 Campus Plan: A Vision for the Future*, itself due for revision soon, outlines some of the potential future development that could be undertaken on the main campus and adjacent areas.



Goal: Create a comprehensive lands management plan for our lands and grounds

Current uses of Skidmore lands include teaching, research, renewable energy generation, and recreation. Some parcels are already governed by guiding documents (the Campus Master Plan, the North Woods Stewardship plan, and legal agreements with the town of Greenfield regarding the Denton Road parcel). However, to the best of our knowledge, Skidmore does not have formal plans for much of its undeveloped land. Many Skidmore parcels are used by the broader community, including the North Woods, soccer fields in Greenfield, the polo fields leased to the Saratoga Polo Association, and land near the Van Lennep Riding Center. Current external pressures on Skidmore lands include the proposed Saratoga Greenbelt and access to mountain biking on NY DEC land north of the Van Lennep Riding Center.

During the period covered by this *Campus Sustainability Plan* we will develop a comprehensive land management plan for our lands and grounds. This includes determining what information we have about the parcels, incorporating existing plans and practices, and developing new plans as needed. Developing a formal stewardship plan will allow us to count at least some of our lands as carbon sinks, hence contributing to our goal of reducing our GHG emissions.

Current Practices

To encourage and practice better stewardship of our land, Skidmore has:

- developed and implemented a stewardship plan for the North Woods which includes funding for students to act as North Woods Stewards to oversee the conservation, education, and outreach;

- formed the Skidmore Student Conservation Corps to partner with regional conservation areas on outreach and education;
- developed a community garden on campus to feed and educate the campus community;
- created an aesthetically beautiful, biologically diverse, and functionally effective bioretention pond for storm water management in Sussman Village; and
- engaged in groundskeeping practices that work towards eradication of non-native species on campus, use of native species in new landscaping projects; and minimizing the use of water, pesticides, and herbicides.

Future Steps

To develop a comprehensive land management plan for our lands and grounds, we will:

- develop additional maps of Skidmore properties where needed;
- provide input to the campus master plan, although we recognize that the development of a new campus master plan is outside the purview of the CSS;
- engage various stakeholders in conversations about the recreational, academic, and operational potential of Skidmore's wooded parcels;
- create stewardship plans for Skidmore's wooded parcels; and
- enhance student engagement, possibly in partnership with other organizations, to implement the recommendations put forth in our stewardship plan.



Faculty and staff gather for Bike to Work Day

Focus Area 5: Engagement

To be successful in our sustainability ventures we must ensure that our community holds a deep understanding of sustainability, and that collectively we are aware of the progress already achieved on campus and beyond. We must strive to be recognized as an institution that values and practices sustainability in our daily operations and decision-making. To accomplish this, we must continue to offer new educational opportunities as well as increase our communication efforts in order to promote the sustainability work accomplished throughout campus and in the greater community. The steps outlined below will allow Skidmore to assess and track sustainability literacy and perceptions both on and off campus, helping the College understand the level of community engagement in sustainability at Skidmore.



Goal: Make sustainability an essential feature of Skidmore's identity and a value that is integrated into all aspects of the College

Through our sustainability efforts on campus, Skidmore community members should develop a better understanding of sustainability and the intimate links between the environment, our economy, and society. Through increased involvement and improved communication efforts around each project and initiative, our community members should have a better understanding of our efforts and the multi-faceted impacts they have on the world. Through this increased understanding and visibility, sustainability will become a part of our daily decision-making, and Skidmore will be more broadly recognized as a leader and resource on sustainability.

Current Practices

To enhance the education of our community and advance sustainability at Skidmore and beyond, Skidmore has:

- created and maintained the Sustainability Representative program on campus;
- expanded student, faculty, and staff leadership opportunities in sustainability;
- increased the visibility of sustainability through various articles published on Skidmore's homepage, the Communications page, and the Sustainability Bulletin;
- increased course offerings that incorporate sustainability (we now have over 200 courses, with approximately 60 offered per semester, in 28 departments and programs by 75 different faculty members);

- approved a major in Environmental Studies that has grown from one graduate in the spring of 2002 to 40+ graduates in the class of 2014;
- increased the number of on-campus internships focused on sustainability, the number and diversity of domestic and study-abroad opportunities incorporating sustainability, and summer support for research and internship opportunities focused on sustainability; and
- offered numerous lectures, residencies, workshops, films, field trips, and travel seminars during the academic year and summer that focus, at least in part, on sustainability.

Future Steps

To ensure sustainability is an essential feature of Skidmore's identity, we will:

- design and implement creative communication materials for the College's sustainability projects and initiatives;
- improve communication efforts that highlight our campus sustainability initiatives by developing informative campus signage;
- complete annual progress reports that track progress toward the College's sustainability goals;
- increase Skidmore's presence in local, regional, and national publications;
- develop an online campus sustainability map that illustrates the sustainability initiatives and programs across campus;
- conduct campus sustainability surveys to identify sustainability literacy among our community members; and
- conduct sustainability surveys within the greater community to identify the perception of Skidmore and its relationship to sustainability.

Impacts

The implementation of the *Campus Sustainability Plan* will foster an environment where sustainability is a prominent consideration in our decision-making and a more visible mainstay in our community, and the benefits will be felt here on campus and more broadly. Our sustainability work will continue to reduce our ecological footprint as an institution, position us as a resource for other organizations, enhance the educational experience of our students, and raise our profile to prospective students. The CSS recognizes that some of the goals outlined in this plan, such as our food goal, will require investments that yield benefits like improved food quality rather than a financial return. Other goals however, like our energy goals, will likely save the institution money over time. As has been the case to date, we'll evaluate the practicality of each future project within the context of our limited resources as a College.

It is also important to recognize that Skidmore's unique approach to sustainability could serve as a differentiating characteristic for the College. While most of our peer and aspirant institutions have developed some sort of sustainability plan, many plans rely on purchasing carbon offsets. Skidmore's plan is not only fairly aggressive in comparison to most, but we continue to implement truly innovative projects that reduce the impacts of our own operations. From trayless dining to leveraging existing, underutilized regional resources such as our micro-hydro facility, Skidmore is modeling the depth and breadth of projects necessary to foster tangible change and is establishing itself as a leader in sustainability.

Tracking and Assessing the *Campus Sustainability Plan*

Moving forward, the working groups that have developed the goals of this plan will begin to act on their recommendations, and in conjunction with the CSS, will produce an annual progress report. Each progress report will summarize the efforts and achievements from the past year, and will evaluate the College's progress toward each goal. The CSS will conduct a mid-point evaluation in 2020 to make any necessary adjustments to the sustainability goals set in this plan (e.g. if we've already met a goal, perhaps we want to set another goal, or if changing markets make a goal unreachable, we may consider reducing our target). We also recognize that there are other goals and projects that we will inevitably undertake over the next ten years, and we will include a category of "other" in our annual progress reports to capture these efforts.

To date, Skidmore has made important advances in sustainability, and we have much to celebrate as a community. Given the pressing needs of the world, however, we have more work to do. We hope the Skidmore of 2025 more fully embraces its role as an innovator and leader in sustainability and gains confidence in the ways we communicate and make visible our sustainability efforts. It is an exciting time to be at the College, and we look forward to a future full of collaborative work around sustainability.

Endorsed by President's Cabinet on February 16, 2015.

Endorsed by the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC) on February 27, 2015.

Presented to the Skidmore College Board of Trustees on May 15, 2015.

Appendix 1

Skidmore College Campus Sustainability Plan Goals for 2025



Goal 1: 60% of our electricity from renewable sources

- Currently 45% of our electricity from renewable sources

Goal 2: 60% of our heating and cooling from renewable sources

- Currently 40% of heating and cooling from renewable sources

Goal 3: 75% reduction in our GHG emissions

- Currently 48% reduction in GHG emissions

Goal 4: 60% reduction in energy use for heating and cooling per student and square foot

- Currently 50% reduction in energy use for heating and cooling per student and square foot

Goal 5: Maintain electricity use per student and square foot



Goal: 25% Sustainable Food in Dining Services

- Currently 11% Sustainable Food in Dining Services



Goal 1: 60% diversion rate in routine operations

- Currently 27% diversion rate in routine operations

Goal 2: 50% diversion rate for special projects



Goal: Create a comprehensive lands management plan for our lands and grounds



Goal: Make sustainability an essential feature of Skidmore's identity and a value that is integrated into all aspects of the College