

Mills College Sustainability Survey Results: Fall 2015

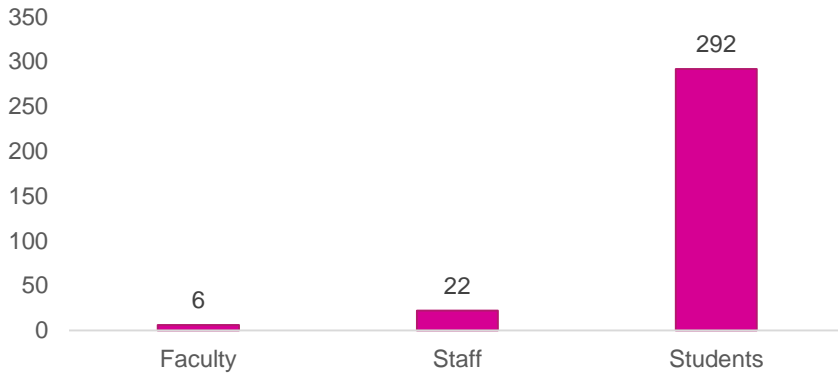
The Mills College Sustainability Survey aims to provide a better understanding of the Mills community's knowledge of, and priorities regarding, campus sustainability. The survey was developed for this inaugural year with the input of members of the Sustainability Committee and other campus sustainability stakeholders. Survey questions will continue to be refined as the survey is implemented annually.

Google Forms was used for survey response collection, and the survey was disseminated via email to all students, faculty, and staff through their respective campus news digests from October 16 – November 13, 2015. Survey responses were not accepted after November 13th. Additional outreach efforts included targeted emails and social media posts. Only Mills community members could respond to the survey, which was enforced by requiring a mills.edu email address to submit the Google Form. Participants were given the option to enter into a drawing for a \$25 Amazon Gift Card by providing their email addresses at the end of the survey. Email addresses were only used for the purpose of selecting and contacting the winner; survey responses remained anonymous.

The survey questions, as they appeared to respondents, are included at the end of this document. Responses to all questions were required to submit the survey, except an optional question allowing the respondent to provide any additional comments. The additional comments are not disclosed in this document, as some of the comments indicate the identity of the survey respondent. For questions regarding the survey and/or its results, please contact Sustainability Coordinator, Nicole Gaetjens, at ngaetjens@mills.edu or (510) 430-3224. More information on Mills sustainability efforts can be found at mills.edu/green.

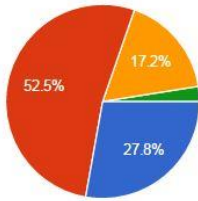
Total Survey Respondents: 320

What is your Mills affiliation?



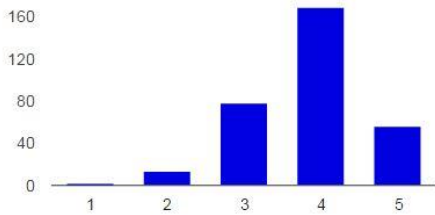
Note that the options of "Alumni" and "Other" were also provided for this survey question. There were no respondents who selected the "Alumni" option, and all respondents selecting the "Other" option identified as both staff and alumni. These respondents were reassigned to the "Staff" category.

How sustainable do you think Mills is compared to other colleges, on average?



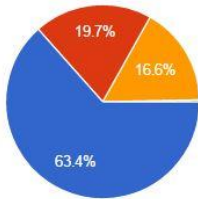
Much more sustainable than other colleges	89	27.8%
More sustainable	168	52.5%
About the same	55	17.2%
Less sustainable	8	2.5%
Much less sustainable	0	0%

What priority do you think Mills assigns to sustainability?



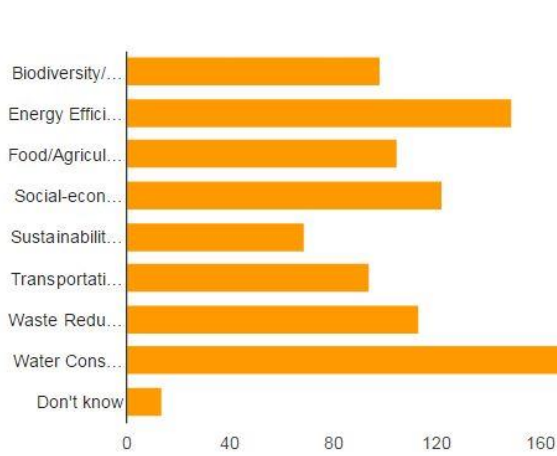
Very low priority: 1	2	0.6%
2	14	4.4%
3	78	24.4%
4	169	52.8%
Very high priority: 5	57	17.8%

How visible do you think Mills makes its sustainability efforts?



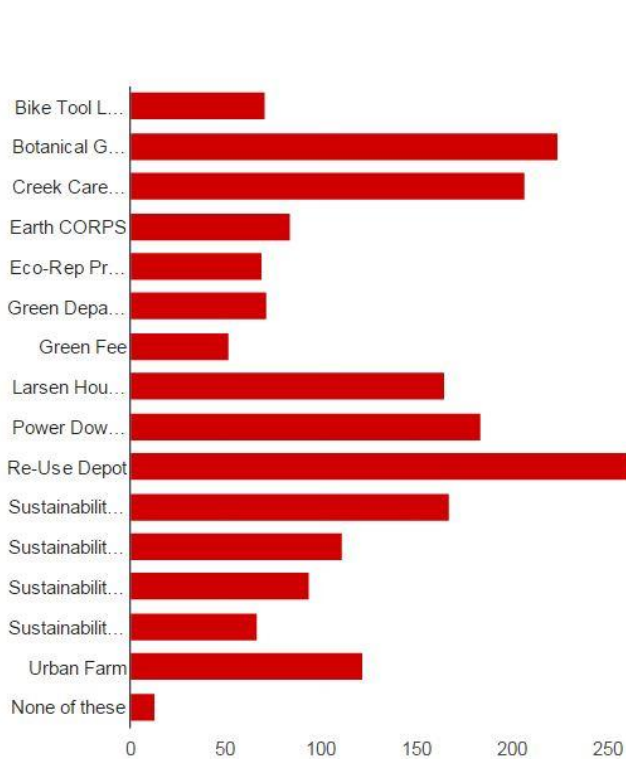
Mills publicizes its sustainability efforts well via email, events, or other means	203	63.4%
I have to search online to learn about Mills sustainability efforts	63	19.7%
I have to ask someone/further investigate to learn about Mills sustainability efforts	53	16.6%
Mills sustainability efforts are very difficult or impossible to learn about	1	0.3%

What areas of campus sustainability should Mills focus most on improving? Select up to 3.



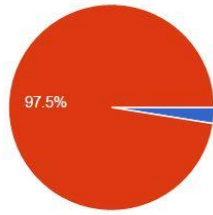
Biodiversity/Native Habitat Restoration	98	30.6%
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy	149	46.6%
Food/Agriculture (e.g. urban farm)	105	32.8%
Social-economic sustainability	122	38.1%
Sustainability curriculum and career development for students	69	21.6%
Transportation (e.g. public transit, shuttle, bikes)	94	29.4%
Waste Reduction (e.g. reduce, reuse, recycle, rot)	113	35.3%
Water Conservation (e.g. drought mitigation)	191	59.7%
Don't know	14	4.4%

Which of the following Mills sustainability initiatives have you heard of? Check all that apply.



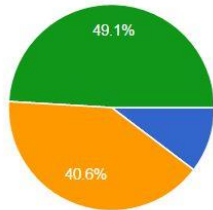
Bike Tool Lending at Library	71	22.2%
Botanical Garden	224	70%
Creek Care Days	207	64.7%
Earth CORPS	84	26.3%
Eco-Rep Program	69	21.6%
Green Department Certification	72	22.5%
Green Fee	52	16.3%
Larsen House Co-Op	165	51.6%
Power Down Days	184	57.5%
Re-Use Depot	263	82.2%
Sustainability Center	167	52.2%
Sustainability Coordinator	111	34.7%
Sustainability Committee	94	29.4%
Sustainability Senator	67	20.9%
Urban Farm	122	38.1%
None of these	13	4.1%

Do you drive an electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid vehicle?



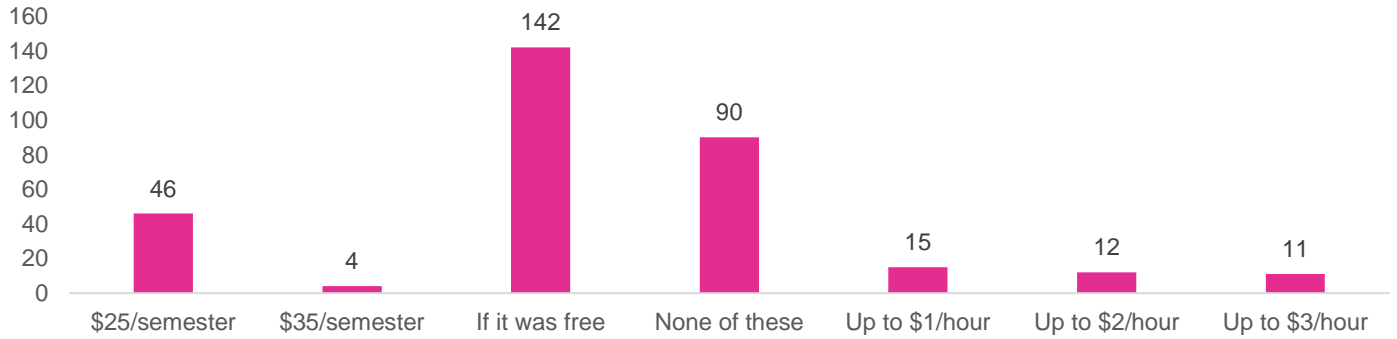
Yes 8 2.5%
No 312 97.5%

Do you use a bicycle on campus?

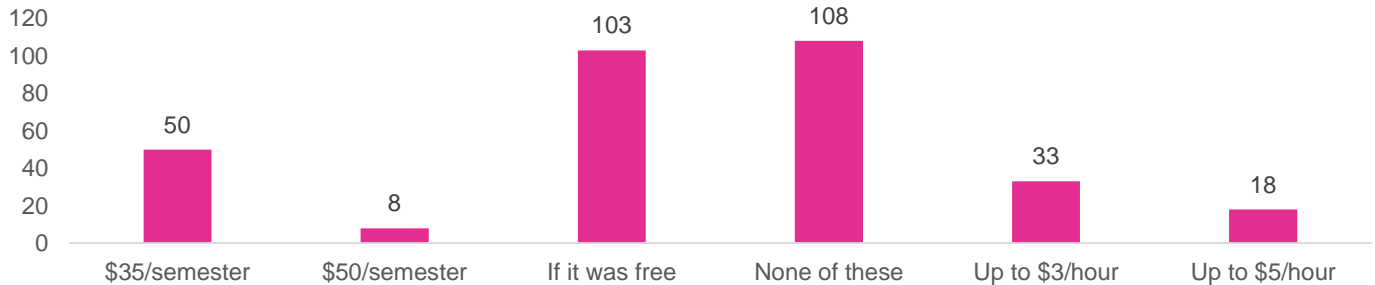


Yes, an electric bicycle (Any type of bicycle that uses electricity, including pedal assist. Mopeds do NOT count, as they do not run on electricity.) 0 0%
Yes, a non-electric bicycle 33 10.3%
No, but I would like to 130 40.6%
No, and I don't want to 157 49.1%

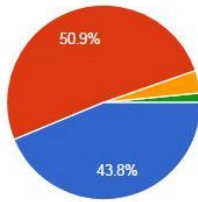
In which of these scenarios would you likely participate in a campus bike share/rental program?



In which of these scenarios would you likely participate in an ELECTRIC PEDAL ASSIST campus bike share/rental program?

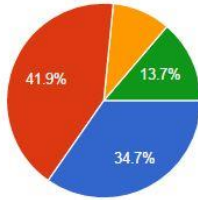


How confident are you in your ability to correctly sort trash, recycling, and compost?



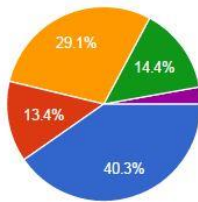
I can sort all or almost all of it correctly	140	43.8%
I can sort the majority, but some items confuse me	163	50.9%
I can sort some things, but it's pretty confusing	12	3.8%
I'm very confused about how to sort	5	1.6%

What do you think about lawns at Mills?



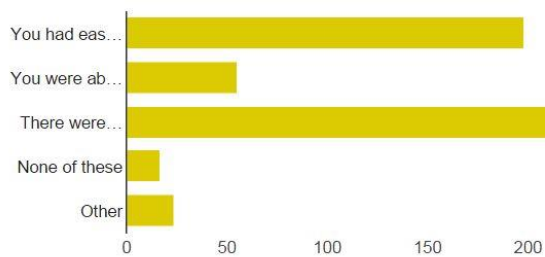
serve an important purpose and should be watered	111	34.7%
should mostly be replaced with drought-tolerant native plants or left unwatered	134	41.9%
should not be watered during a drought for any reason	31	9.7%
should all be replaced with drought-tolerant native plants	44	13.8%

Do you try to shop at local businesses?



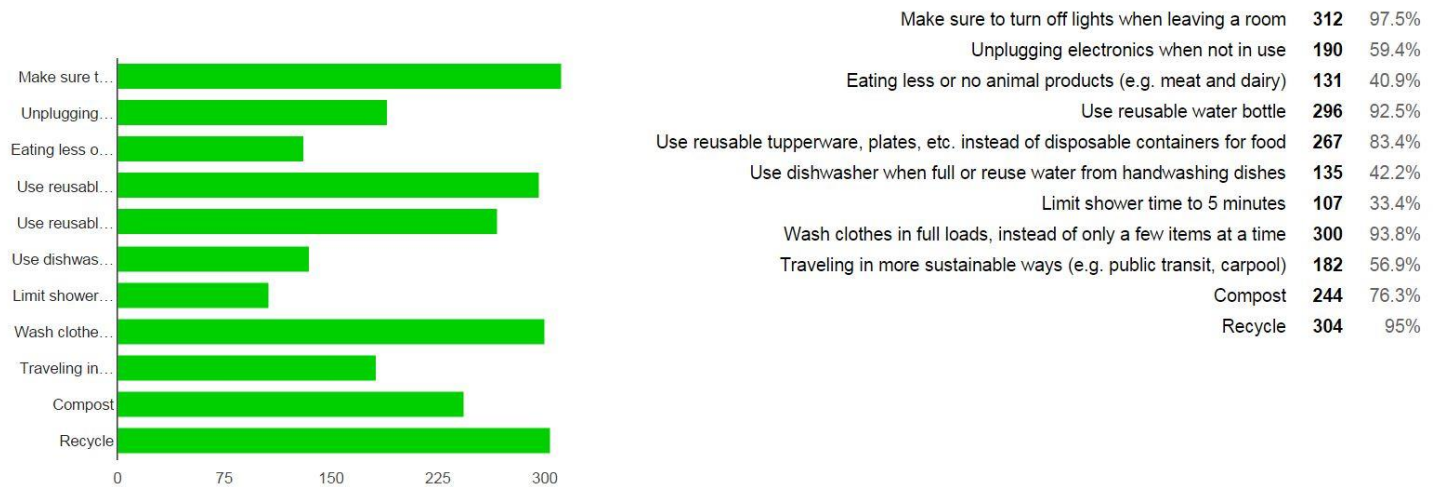
I try to shop at local businesses in Oakland.	129	40.3%
I live outside of Oakland and try to shop locally where I live.	43	13.4%
I'm unable to shop locally due to financial or other constraints, but would if I could.	93	29.1%
I do not have a preference for buying from local businesses vs chain businesses.	46	14.4%
I prefer to shop at chain businesses.	9	2.8%

Would you purchase more from small local businesses if...(check all that apply)



You had easier access to information about what local business are available? (e.g. an online list of local business)	198	62.3%
You were able to speak to local business owners personally about their work (e.g. an on-campus local business fair, guest lecture)	55	17.3%
There were an incentive program, such as a discount for the Mills community, to shop locally	245	77%
None of these	17	5.3%
Other	24	7.5%

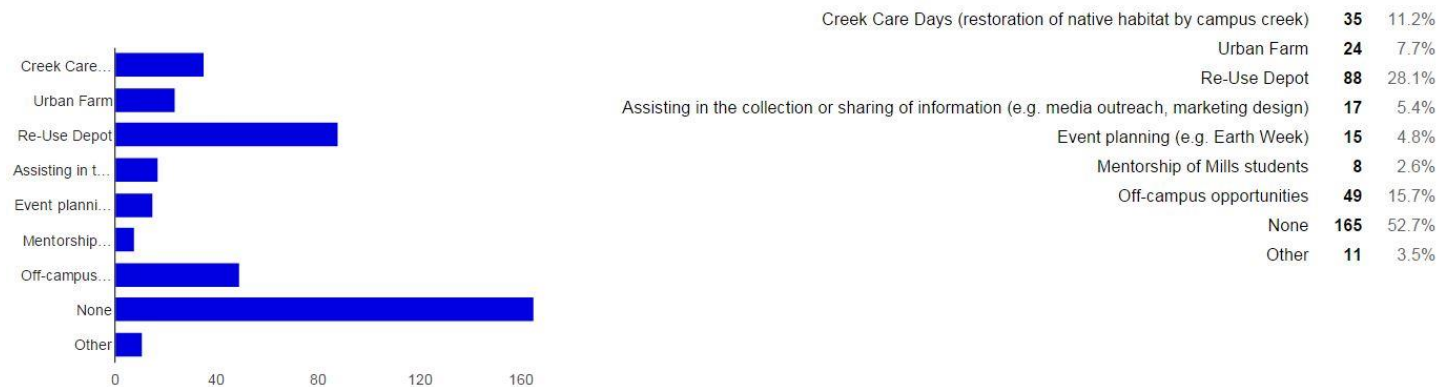
Which of the following sustainable habits do you usually practice? Check all that apply.



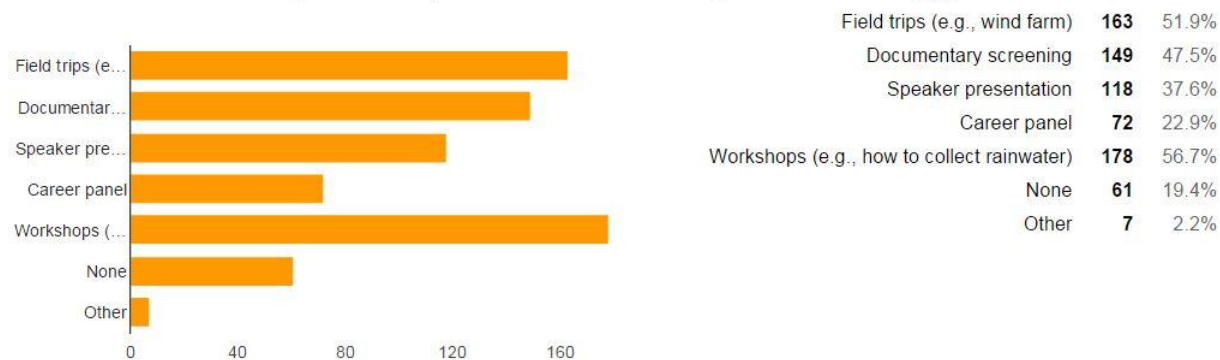
What sorts of sustainability volunteer opportunities are you INTERESTED in? Check all that apply.



What sorts of sustainability volunteer opportunities have you PARTICIPATED in? Check all that apply.



What sorts of sustainability events are you interested in attending? Check all that apply.



Sustainability Survey: Mills College

Filling out this survey by 11/13/15, along with your email address at the bottom, enters you into a raffle for a \$25 Amazon gift card! Only Mills community members may complete this survey. This survey aims to give Mills a better understanding of our community's knowledge of, and priorities regarding, campus sustainability. More information on Mills sustainability efforts can be found at mills.edu/green.

* Required

1. What is your Mills affiliation? *

Mark only one oval.

- Students
- Faculty
- Staff
- Alumni
- Other:

2. How sustainable do you think Mills is compared to other colleges, on average? *

Mark only one oval.

- Much more sustainable than other colleges
- More sustainable
- About the same
- Less sustainable
- Much less sustainable

3. What priority do you think Mills assigns to sustainability? *

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Very low priority	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Very high priority

4. How visible do you think Mills makes its sustainability efforts? *

Mark only one oval.

- Mills publicizes its sustainability efforts well via email, events, or other means
- I have to search online to learn about Mills sustainability efforts
- I have to ask someone/further investigate to learn about Mills sustainability efforts
- Mills sustainability efforts are very difficult or impossible to learn about

5. **What areas of campus sustainability should Mills focus most on improving? Select up to 3. ***

Check all that apply.

- Biodiversity/Native Habitat Restoration
- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Food/Agriculture (e.g. urban farm)
- Social-economic sustainability
- Sustainability curriculum and career development for students
- Transportation (e.g. public transit, shuttle, bikes)
- Waste Reduction (e.g. reduce, reuse, recycle, rot)
- Water Conservation (e.g. drought mitigation)
- Don't know

6. **Which of the following Mills sustainability initiatives have you heard of? Check all that apply. ***

Check all that apply.

- Bike Tool Lending at Library
- Botanical Garden
- Creek Care Days
- Earth CORPS
- Eco-Rep Program
- Green Department Certification
- Green Fee
- Larsen House Co-Op
- Power Down Days
- Re-Use Depot
- Sustainability Center
- Sustainability Coordinator
- Sustainability Committee
- Sustainability Senator
- Urban Farm
- None of these

7. **Do you drive an electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid vehicle? ***

This includes any vehicle that can be plugged in and charged with electricity. Examples include the Chevrolet Volt, Nissan Leaf, and Tesla Model S.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

8. **Do you use a bicycle on campus? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, a non-electric bicycle
- Yes, an electric bicycle (Any type of bicycle that uses electricity, including pedal assist. Mopeds do NOT count, as they do not run on electricity.)
- No, but I would like to
- No, and I don't want to

9. **In which of these scenarios would you likely participate in a campus bike share/rental program? ***

Mark only one oval.

- If it was free
- Up to \$1/hour
- Up to \$2/hour
- Up to \$3/hour
- \$25/semester
- \$35/semester
- None of these
- Other:

10. **In which of these scenarios would you likely participate in an ELECTRIC PEDAL ASSIST campus bike share/rental program? ***

An electric pedal assist bike can turn on a small motor to help you pedal when you're tired or up hills.
Mark only one oval.

- If it was free
- Up to \$3/hour
- Up to \$5/hour
- \$35/semester
- \$50/semester
- None of these
- Other:

11. **How confident are you in your ability to correctly sort trash, recycling, and compost? ***

Mark only one oval.

- I can sort all or almost all of it correctly
- I can sort the majority, but some items confuse me
- I can sort some things, but it's pretty confusing
- I'm very confused about how to sort

12. **What do you think about lawns at Mills? ***

Note that 90-95% of our lawns are watered with non-drinkable water from Lake Aliso.
Mark only one oval.

- serve an important purpose and should be watered
- should mostly be replaced with drought-tolerant native plants or left unwatered
- should not be watered during a drought for any reason
- should all be replaced with drought-tolerant native plants

13. **Do you try to shop at local businesses? ***

Local businesses do not include chain businesses, such as Trader Joe's or Target.
Mark only one oval.

- I try to shop at local businesses in Oakland.
- I live outside of Oakland and try to shop locally where I live.
- I'm unable to shop locally due to financial or other constraints, but would if I could.
- I do not have a preference for buying from local businesses vs chain businesses.
- I prefer to shop at chain businesses.

14. **Would you purchase more from small local businesses if...(check all that apply) ***

Check all that apply.

- You had easier access to information about what local business are available? (e.g. an online list of local business)
- You were able to speak to local business owners personally about their work (e.g. an on-campus local business fair, guest lecture)
- There were an incentive program, such as a discount for the Mills community, to shop locally
- None of these
- Other:

15. **Which of the following sustainable habits do you usually practice? Check all that apply. ***

Check all that apply.

- Make sure to turn off lights when leaving a room
- Unplugging electronics when not in use
- Eating less or no animal products (e.g. meat and dairy)
- Use reusable water bottle
- Use reusable tupperware, plates, etc. instead of disposable containers for food
- Use dishwasher when full or reuse water from handwashing dishes
- Limit shower time to 5 minutes
- Wash clothes in full loads, instead of only a few items at a time
- Traveling in more sustainable ways (e.g. public transit, carpool)
- Compost
- Recycle

16. **What sorts of sustainability volunteer opportunities are you INTERESTED in? Check all that apply. ***

Check all that apply.

- Creek Care Days (restoration of native habitat by campus creek)
- Urban Farm
- Re-Use Depot
- Assisting in the collection or sharing of information (e.g. media outreach, marketing design)
- Event planning (e.g. Earth Week)
- Mentorship of Mills students
- Off-campus opportunities
- None
- Other:

17. **What sorts of sustainability volunteer opportunities have you PARTICIPATED in? Check all that apply. ***

Check all that apply.

- Creek Care Days (restoration of native habitat by campus creek)
- Urban Farm
- Re-Use Depot
- Assisting in the collection or sharing of information (e.g. media outreach, marketing design)
- Event planning (e.g. Earth Week)
- Mentorship of Mills students
- Off-campus opportunities
- None
- Other:

18. **What sorts of sustainability events are you interested in attending? Check all that apply. ***

Check all that apply.

- Field trips (e.g., wind farm)
- Documentary screening
- Speaker presentation
- Career panel
- Workshops (e.g., how to collect rainwater)
- None
- Other:

19. **Any additional comments?**

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20. **If you would like to be entered into the drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift card, please write your email address below.**

Your responses to the questions above will remain anonymous.

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