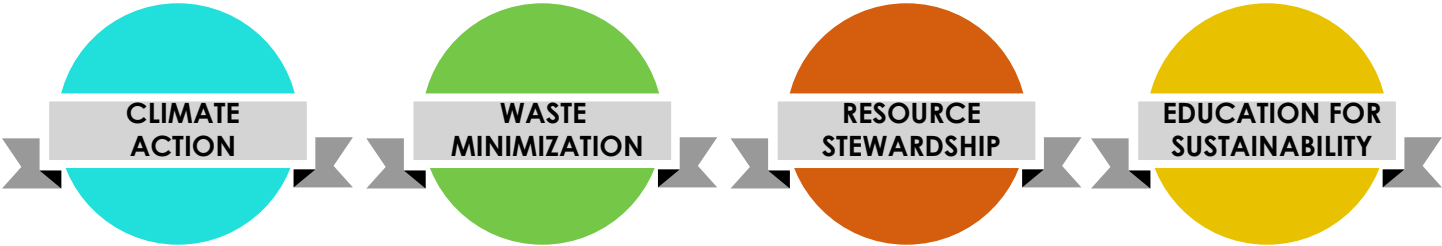


# Florida State University Sustainability Strategic Plan

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# GOAL 1

## CLIMATE ACTION: Reduce greenhouse gas footprint through energy conservation and efficiency

Global climate change is no longer a far-away concern, but a pressing issue for all. Florida State University is in a unique position to take an ambitious approach to mitigating our local footprint, at the same time saving the university money and serving as stewards of responsible energy management at the same time. Though the majority of campus operations occurs behind the scenes and out of sight, the importance of these practices cannot be overemphasized. Conscious planning and operational choices – from the systems in place to heat and cool our buildings, to the future growth and development of our campus – can be enhanced to reflect our commitment to reducing our environmental impact.

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### Strategies & Actions

#### A. Planning & Design

- Incorporate sustainability best practices into Campus Master Plan
- Increase number of LEED accredited buildings

#### B. Operations

- Complete annual campus-wide greenhouse gas inventory
- Reduce campus energy use per square foot
- Align purchasing policies with Energy Star standards
- Align maintenance policies so that building systems perform as efficiently as possible
- Implement Green Labs program
- Increase use of electric powered landscaping equipment

#### C. Transportation

- Administer transportation survey to determine baseline for campus to/from travel and set target for future reductions
- Reduce number of vehicles in campus fleet
- Increase purchase of electric vehicles
- Increase number of electric vehicle charging stations
- Reduce parking footprint
- Increase utilization of sustainable transportation options
  - Expand FSU bus system to build ridership
- Re-establish "No Idling" policy and programming
- Renew FSU's designation as a *Bicycle Friendly University*

#### D. Offset / mitigate campus energy use

- Increase amount of solar power purchased from COT
- Increase vegetation footprint

# GOAL 2

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION: Maximize 3Rs principles**

An innovative and comprehensive waste reduction program is integral to addressing the amount of material that flows from campus to the landfill. Source reduction and waste diversion practices save natural and financial resources, as well as engage the entire campus community in contributing to a tangible goal.

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### Strategies & Actions

#### **A. REDUCE the amount of material generated on campus**

- Increase digitization of paper documents
- Increase number of departments utilizing DocuSign e-signature solution
- Reset all campus printers to double-sided printing
- Implement just-in-time purchasing of Maintenance and laboratory supplies
- Increase use of e-textbooks
- Reduce the use of plastic bags at points-of-sale

#### **B. Identify opportunities for REUSE**

- Create surplus office supply store
- Increase amount of concrete material utilized in small-scale landscape projects
- Expand Chuck it for Charity program to include new community partners
- Develop comprehensive "Choose to Reuse" campaign
- Increase number of Surplus items transferred and/or sold

#### **C. Increase RECYCLING opportunities across campus**

- Standardize recycling bins and collection sites
- Develop new recycling education signage
- Develop a composting program for food waste and yard debris
- Develop tracking system for all waste streams

# GOAL 3

## **RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP: Expand commitment to best practices that prioritize the protection of the North Florida ecosystem**

Florida State University is situated among one of North America's richest biodiversity hotspots, a region threatened by variety of external stressors. Responsible planning and management strategies of the natural resources on and around campus through conservation practices employ a holistic approach based on our relationship with the surrounding environment. Protecting and enhancing the quality of natural resources minimizes our impact and improves the quality of life of our community.

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### Strategies & Actions

#### **A. Reduce domestic water use 5% by 2023**

- Standardize low-flow/high-efficiency fixtures
- Increase number of water catchment systems
- Increase use of drought-tolerant landscaping

#### **B. Reduce bottled water consumption**

- Increase number of hydration stations
- Phase out use of program funds for bottled water purchases (except in case of emergency)
- Increase available water station options at campus events

#### **C. Increase conservation efforts**

- Increase use of passive storm water filtration systems (bio-swales, rain gardens)
- Increase pollinator and bird friendly landscapes
- Apply for Tree Campus USA certification
- Develop Campus Urban Forest Master Plan (align with COT)
- Apply for Campus Arboretum accreditation
- Reduce use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides

#### **D. Increase environmentally-responsible practices in campus dining operations**

- Increase percentage of local and regionally sourced food
- Expand Food Recovery Network donation program
- Reduce overall food waste through Lean Path program

#### **E. Promote sustainable alternatives in the procurement of goods and services**

- Develop green purchasing policy
- Identify competitive pricing for "green" products
- Work with vendors to flag Environmentally Preferable Products (EPPs) in online ordering sites
- Create a life-cycle analysis tool for campus purchasing agents

# GOAL 4

## **EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY: Ensure all students have access to sustainability-related learning experiences**

Educating students is the primary function of our institution. By training future leaders, scholars, workers, and professionals, we are uniquely positioned to prepare students to understand and address sustainability challenges. Sustainability also provides a scope for the creation of innovative, interdisciplinary, and collaborative educational experiences. These efforts will help develop successful graduates that are prepared for the 21<sup>st</sup> century careers.

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### Strategies & Actions

#### **A. Curriculum**

- Develop undergraduate Sustainability Minor or Certificate
- Denote sustainability-related courses in the course catalog
- Develop Campus as Living Lab program to link the operational and academic aspects of the university
- Develop sustainability course development resources and workshops for faculty

#### **B. Research**

- Partner with Office of Research/UROP to host sustainability research symposia
- Develop seed funding program for sustainability-related research projects
- Explore opportunities for a sustainability research center/institute

#### **C. Outreach**

- Increase the number and diversity of students engaged in sustainability programs
- Create a sustainability leadership workshop for students
- Include sustainability education in Orientation, Residence Life, and Greek Life programming
- Increase number of certified Green Offices
- Develop sustainability section for New Employee Training

#### **D. Engagement**

- Develop campus-community sustainability internship program
- Develop sustainability HR certificate series
- Engage community members and alumni in supporting sustainability initiatives
- Include sustainability as part of the next University capital campaign to secure funding for high-impact student experiences

#### **E. Communications**

- Develop a multi-stakeholder strategic communications plan to share information and resources

#### **F. Education**

- Create specialized behavior campaigns (energy conservation, recycling, etc)

