

# SUSTAINING OUR SUCCESS



Our commitment to a sustainable world comes directly from our Catholic, Marianist values of social justice and care for creation. That's why our sustainability plan takes into account sustainable environmental practices, sustainable social systems and the economics that support both.

Yes, we have already diverted more than 800 tons from landfills. Now — if we want to continue toward a more sustainable campus — we need to work together for greater change.

This brochure is a resource to help you become involved in one of the most important transformations in our school's history.

Let's move from shared values to collective action.

Thank you for your help,

Kurt Hoffmann  
Environmental Sustainability Manager

## ////// THE 300 POUND CANARY IN A COAL MINE.

### ENERGY

Our electricity provider uses coal for about 92 percent of the electricity they generate. And the University of Dayton spends \$10 million every year on energy. By conserving electricity, we are good stewards who have a positive impact on public health.

One big plus? We use natural gas to create steam to heat our buildings. This is a much cleaner and efficient fuel, but it's still a fossil fuel.

How can you help? Conserve.



### TIPS

- Buy two power strips. Put everything that doesn't need to be on constantly — like cell phone chargers — on one strip. Put everything that needs constant power — like your alarm clock — on the other. When leaving your room, turn off the non-essential strip. When leaving for a weekend or holiday break, turn off both. Exception: Your refrigerator should always be left plugged in unless it is empty and the door is left open.
- Even in sleep mode, your computer still uses energy. Shut it down.
- The same goes for your other electronics. If they're plugged in, they're drawing power. This "vampire power" makes up to 5 percent of the electricity used in a home.
- Set your thermostat at 74 in the summer and 68 in the winter. Avoid using space heaters like you avoid parking tickets. Space heaters are terribly inefficient and are prohibited without prior approval from facilities management. If your work space becomes too warm or too cold, place a work order with facilities management. You might uncover an unknown problem.
- Get in the habit of turning lights off every time you leave a room.
- Don't double up. Every extra mini-fridge, Wii, etc., uses energy.
- Turn off all electronics at the end of the workday.
- Try biking, walking or car-pooling to work.

## THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

During a campus forum, students reported that one of the biggest barriers to saving energy was not knowing how much they were using.

Thus, the greenhouse effect was born. Now students in the UD neighborhood receive a monthly statement detailing their energy use, how it compares to the historical use and how they compare to others. The statements include tips for how to bring energy use down.

That's community conservation.

## IT STARTS WITH A RIPPLE.

### Water

We use 16 billion gallons of water every year, and most of it is used to heat our buildings with steam. The less heat we waste, the less steam we need to create. The same principle applies to the hot water used in sinks and showers.

We're lucky. Dayton is home to some of the country's best underground water resources. But we still need to conserve. Protecting the health of our groundwater is crucial to the environment.

If you're interested in the water resources of our area, check out our Rivers Institute at [rivers.udayton.edu](http://rivers.udayton.edu).



### TIPS

- A shower uses approximately two gallons of water per minute. Keep it short.
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Only run your dishwasher when it's full.
- Don't leave the water running if you're washing dishes by hand. Use the sink stopper.
- Keep water in the fridge instead of running the faucet until the water is cold.

## ////// **DON'T BE TRASHY.**

### **Waste**

We've doubled our recycling since 2005 (more than 425 tons in 2011), but we need to recycle and compost more as we continue to reduce our waste footprint. You can make a big difference. Here's how:



### **TIPS**

- Recycle. Use the recycling bins for all commingled recycling. All types of paper, plastic, cans and bottles can be put in the same bin, but please remove caps and discard all liquids.
- Think before you print. If you decide you need to, do it double sided.
- Only get your food "to go" if you're truly on the go. The greenest choice is washable ware.
- Carry a reusable mug, water bottle and bag with you to avoid single-use.
- Eat at UD. Dining facilities has one of the best recycling and composting programs in the nation.
- Don't recycle broken electronics, electronics components, scrap metal, CFL bulbs, batteries or ink/toner cartridges in commingle bins. Email [udrecycles@udayton.edu](mailto:udrecycles@udayton.edu) to arrange drop-off or pick-up.
- Some things still need to go in the trash. Anything with food or grease on it, single-use items (like disposable coffee cups, Styrofoam take-out containers and tissues), broken mirrors, dishes and mugs, food packaging (like candy bar wrappers), clothes hangers, pots, pans and other household metal should be placed in the trash.
- Have hazardous waste? Clearly you don't recycle that. Call environmental health, safety and risk management at 937-229-4503
- See a problem with waste collection in your area? Contact the office of sustainability.

## ////// **EAT YOUR GREEN.**

### **Food and Dining**

When eating in one of UD's dining facilities (or at one of the many restaurants near campus), follow these pointers for "greening" your plate.



#### **TIPS**

- Choose vegetarian options. The production of meat generates a lot of carbon pollution. Not ready to go vegetarian? Try it once or twice a week.
- Fair Trade: Fair Trade designation means that the farmers who grew this food have been paid a fair price for it, meaning less poverty and insecurity for their families.
- Eat Local. Eat Seasonal. Why are local foods more sustainable? In a word: transportation. Produce is seasonal, and foods that are out-of-season must be shipped great distances. That apple you ate in February? It could've been picked in New Zealand. Learn about foods grown in Ohio and when they are in season to dramatically green your plate.

## ////// **THE ORIGINAL ALTERNATIVES**

### **Transportation**

One of the more obvious ways we can become more sustainable is to drive less. Emissions are responsible for many problems, from climate change to asthma and respiratory illnesses. How can we reduce our transportation impact and still get out of the house?

#### **TIPS**

- Walk instead of ride. All campus locations, along with many local entertainment options, are within walking distance.
- Buckle up with a friend. Talk to your friends and try to combine your tasks into one trip. If you're planning a longer trip, use the ride board in KU.

- Cover miles in minutes. A bike greatly extends the range you can travel without a car. Don't have one? Check one out from the RecPlex.
- UD students can take a free shuttle to nearby restaurants, merchants and services on Saturdays.
- Get on the bus. Dayton has an extensive public transportation infrastructure.

## //////////////////// **MINOR CHANGES CAN MAKE A MAJOR DIFFERENCE.**

### **Academic Programs**

Wondering if there's a way to incorporate sustainable concepts into your studies? You can.

The Sustainability, Energy and Environment Initiative ([udayton.edu/artssciences/see/](http://udayton.edu/artssciences/see/)) is an interdisciplinary minor open to students from any major — from mechanical engineering to music.

We also offer a master's degree in renewable and clean energy ([udayton.edu/engineering/cleanenergy\\_grad/](http://udayton.edu/engineering/cleanenergy_grad/)).

## //////////////////// **HAVE SOME GOOD, CLEAN FUN.**

### **Getting Involved**

Creating a sustainable campus is a community effort. Here are a few examples of the opportunities available to you; contact the office of sustainability for more information.

- Sustainability Club.
- Marianist Environmental Education Center — [meec.udayton.edu](http://meec.udayton.edu).
- Engineers in Technical Humanitarian Opportunities of Service-Learning (ETHOS) — [udayton.edu/engineering/ethos/](http://udayton.edu/engineering/ethos/).
- Environmental Sustainability Week — [udayton.edu/artssciences/see/](http://udayton.edu/artssciences/see/).
- SEE Special Interest Houses — [udayton.edu/artssciences/see/](http://udayton.edu/artssciences/see/).

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[green.udayton.edu](http://green.udayton.edu)

[facilities.udayton.edu](http://facilities.udayton.edu)

[udayton.edu/publicsafety/](http://udayton.edu/publicsafety/)

[udrecycles@udayton.edu](mailto:udrecycles@udayton.edu)

[see@udayton.edu](mailto:see@udayton.edu)

[ourohio.org/index.php?page=whats-in-season](http://ourohio.org/index.php?page=whats-in-season)

[metroparks.org/GetOutside/cycling.aspx](http://metroparks.org/GetOutside/cycling.aspx)

[i-riderta.org/](http://i-riderta.org/)