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The University of Connecticut is committed to leadership in campus sustainability, including objective measurement and clear, concise communications about our progress. This report highlights UConn’s performance over the past few years on a wide range of sustainability metrics. We’ve selected certain metrics from the University’s June 2016 responses to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) survey, which was developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS data is not only the standard for self-assessment of sustainability in higher education but also the basis for green campus rankings like the Sierra Club’s Cool Schools survey.

We’re proud of our accomplishments and the recognition UConn received this year:

- In May, UConn accepted a 2016 Green Circle Sustainability Award from the CT DEEP.
- In November, The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that UConn was the #3 overall sustainable campus among 249 colleges and universities rated between 2013 and 2016.
- The university was also cited as a “top performer” in AASHE’s 2016 Sustainable Campus Index for three specific practices: the Vendor Code of Conduct, sustainability-related research, and exemplary student engagement through the UConn@COP program.
- UConn earned a top 10 ranking in both the Sierra Club Cool Schools and GreenMetric World University ratings for the fifth year in a row – one of only two institutions to do so in Cool Schools.

This report also helps us identify strengths and weaknesses and set ambitious, yet realistic, targets for continued improvement. For example, understanding these metrics, and how UConn matches up against peer institutions, was critical this past year to developing a 2020 Vision Plan for Campus Sustainability & Climate Leadership. In 2017, with this new roadmap in hand, UConn looks forward to continued progress and an even more sustainable future!

From the Office of Environmental Policy, our thanks to the countless students, faculty, staff, senior administrators and other stakeholders throughout the University community. You all play a vital role in our success and ongoing efforts to improve.

Best Regards,

Rich Miller
• Electricity & HVAC account for more than 80% of carbon footprint

• 13% decrease in metric tons of eCO2 since 2007, including cold days when natural gas was unavailable

• 18% decrease in metric tons eCO2 when assuming that natural gas was always available

• Overall emissions decreased slightly, despite campus growth and 16 more days in 2015 when natural gas was unavailable
**Renewable Energy Portfolio**

Renewable energy makes up **40%** of purchased power.

**445 KW**

clean/renewable installed at main campus

**Sustainable Transportation**

Electric vehicles and hybrids make up a growing **22%** of UConn’s light duty fleet.

**Electric vehicle charging stations at main campus**
THE HILLSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PARK (HEEP)

Established in 2008 with 64 acres of wetlands and uplands +

101 acres added in 2016 through a conservation agreement with DEEP

NEW LEED GOLD POLICY

All new major construction & renovation projects

23 buildings (2.2 million square feet) LEED registered or certified

Since 2015:

3 buildings LEED Silver certified
3 buildings LEED Silver registered
2 buildings LEED Gold registered

31 buildings retrofitted for ultra-efficient LED since 2015; all buildings and exterior lighting to be LED retrofitted by 2020
## WATER CONSERVATION

### LOW-FLOW FIXTURES RETROFIT TIMELINE

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Aug. - Sept. 2014</td>
<td>74 residential buildings retrofitted with water conserving showerheads and faucets</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014 - 2016</td>
<td>Every academic/administrative building equipped with low-flow faucets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next Steps</td>
<td>Install low-flush toilets in academic, administrative, and residential buildings</td>
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### 74,270,000

Gallons of water recycled/reused after tertiary treatment at UConn’s Reclaimed Water Facility

Avg. daily demand down by **-22%**

Service population up by **+23%**

### 50

Water bottle refilling stations installed across campus

---

**Storrs Campus Water System**

Population vs. Potable Water Daily Demand (in million gallons per day) 2005-2015

Population

Daily Demand (mgd)
Recycling Rates

1,051 Tons

11%

From 2014 Levels

3,022 Tons

20%

From 2014 Levels

Municipal Solid Waste

Recycling Overview

DIVERSION BY CATEGORY

- Mixed Recycling: 39%
- Leaves and Trimmings: 8%
- Surplus Store - Public Sales: 8%
- Foodwaste Reduction: 7%
- Compost Facility: 7%
- Mattresses/Furniture Recycled: 6%
- Repurposed Material: 6%
- Give & Go: 2%
- 0%

MIXED RECYCLING vs. MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE

- Mixed Recycling
- MSW Total

2009: 1,116 Tons
2010: 1,177 Tons
2011: 1,062 Tons
2012: 1,054 Tons
2013: 944 Tons
2014: 1,032 Tons
2015: 3,022 Tons
Local Food Sources

35% of UConn Dining food purchases are local/community based.

100% of fish is locally purchased.

Green Practices

In-kitchen composters in 4 dining halls reduce food waste by 80%.

5 dining halls are Green Restaurant Certified (3 more in progress)

1. Buckley
2. Gelfenbien Commons (Towers)
3. Putnam
4. South Marketplace
5. Whitney
**Green Purchasing**

80%

of cleaning product purchases are Green Seal and/or EcoLogo certified

**EPEAT®**

**Electronic Purchases**

24% 75%

1%

* Electronic Product Environmental Assessment

**Green Investment**

4%

of UConn’s endowment is in green investments

$5,727,288

Sustainability investment funds (e.g., a renewable energy investment fund)

$5,746,257

Sustainable industries (e.g., renewable energy or sustainable forestry)
**Rated STARS Gold in 2016**

**THE COOLEST SCHOOLS 2016**

**TOP 10**
five years in a row!

Ranked #9 in 2016
1 of only 2 schools to rank in the top ten for five consecutive years

**Ranked #2 in 2015**
5th year in a row in the top 10

**Named Tree Campus USA 2013, 2014, 2015**

**Won 2016 GreenCircle Sustainability Award**
Category: Universities
Further Information

1. Learn more about the UConn Office of Environmental Policy: ecohusky.uconn.edu/about
2. Meet the staff & interns: ecohusky.uconn.edu/about/staff; ecohusky.uconn.edu/about/intern
3. Climate Action: ecohusky.uconn.edu/climate
4. Energy: ecohusky.uconn.edu/energy
5. Transportation: ecohusky.uconn.edu/transportation
6. Building & Land: ecohusky.uconn.edu/development
7. Water Conservation: ecohusky.uconn.edu/water
8. Waste Diversion & Recycling: ecohusky.uconn.edu/recycling
9. Sustainable Food & Dining Services: dining.uconn.edu/local-routes
10. Awards & Survey Participation: ecohusky.uconn.edu/progress/awards; ecohusky.uconn.edu/progress/surveys
11. Outreach & Engagement: ecohusky.uconn.edu/engagement/gcan.html
This 2016 SPR would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the OEP’s Sustainability team. Thanks to our exceptional group of 2015-16 sustainability staff, graduate coordinator, and undergraduate interns listed below.

Sustainability Staff
Sarah Munro, Sustainability Program Coordinator

OEP Graduate Coordinator – 2015-16
Eric Grulke (M.Sc. 2016, ENVE)

OEP Interns – 2015-16
Christopher Bruno (B.S. 2016, ARE)
Brianna Church (B.S. 2016, ENVE)
Rose Croog (B.S. 2016, ARE)
Kerrin Kinnear (B.A. 2016, EVST)
Matthew McCann (9th semester, ME)
Jessica Griffin (7th semester, ENVS)
Adrianna Antigiovanni (5th semester, EVST)
Christen Bellucci (5th semester, ENVS/Allied Health)
Ben Breslau (5th semester, EEB)
Hannah Casey (5th semester, EVST)
Katie Main (5th semester, ENVE)
Caroline Anastasia (3rd semester, Chemistry)
Michaela Poppick (3rd semester, EVST)

Please send your comments and suggestions to envpolicy@uconn.edu