Green Your Office

Breakfast Meeting
2014 SIERRA CLUB COOLEST SCHOOLS

Congratulations Huskies!

1. Cal - Irvine
2. American
3. Dickinson
4. Loyola - Chicago
5. Lewis & Clark College
6. Stanford
7. South Florida
8. Green Mountain College
9. UConn
10. Georgia Tech
11. Colorado State
12. George Washington
13. Maryland
14. San Diego
15. UNC at Chapel Hill
16. Cornell
17. Cal - San Diego
18. Middlebury College
19. Harvard
20. Chatham
2014 Green Metric Survey

1. University of Nottingham [UK]
2. College Cork National University of Ireland [Ireland]
3. Nottingham Trent University [UK]
4. Cal Davis [US]
5. University of Oxford [UK]
6. University of Bradford [UK]
7. UConn [US]
8. Universitat fur Bodenkultur Wien [Austria]
9. Cal Berkeley [US]
10. Northeastern [US]
11. University of Limerick [Ireland]
12. UNC Chapel Hill [US]
13. University of Plymouth [UK]
14. Universite de Sherbrooke [Canada]
15. University of Bath [UK]
16. Georgia Tech [US]
17. UMass, Amherst [US]
18. Eindhoven University of Technology [Netherland]
19. University of Szeged [Hungary]
20. University of Bremen [Germany]
Sustainability Progress Report
What is the Green Office Certification Program?

- Survey is designed to understand office behavior
  - in terms of environmental footprint
- Certifications are given on a comparative basis
  - making this mildly competitive
- Winners receive official certificate and space on our website
# Score Calculations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Certified</th>
<th>Score as Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>70% - 90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>50% - 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>25% - 50%</td>
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Why Green Your Office?

- Average person spends 8.8 hours a day at work
- Everything we do has an environmental impact
  - Changing your actions can benefit the environment
- Strong link between environmental and economic benefits
- Health and life quality improvement
- Future Generations

https://tcorpinc.wordpress.com/
Energy Use

- 75% of the electrical use by electronics occurs when they’re turned off
- Invest in some smart power strips

Q12 Are power strips turned off to power down equipment (except the phone) when not in use?

Answered: 30  Skipped: 6

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never
- N/A
- Other (please specify)

Department of Energy

http://www.savinggreens.com
Energy Use

- Fewer devices plugged in - less energy
- Choose appliances that are ENERGY STAR certified
Energy Use

Q13 Is there clear space in front of radiators and vents?
Answered: 30  Skipped: 6

- Furniture/curtains prevent heat from moving around the room
- Reduces heating efficiency
- Closing curtains and shades at night during colder weather prevents heat loss
Energy Use

Q16 Are lights turned off, and natural light used instead whenever possible?

Answered: 30  Skipped: 6

- Task Lighting
- UConn: Goal to have all interior and exterior lighting, including fluorescent lightbulbs, replaced with LED
- Work order requests?

### Energy Comparison

- **60 watt Incandescent**
  - Yearly Operating Cost: $12.92
  - Energy Usage: 60w
  - Brightness (Lumens): 800
  - Bulb Lifetime: 750 Hours

- **14 watt CFL**
  - Yearly Operating Cost: $3.01
  - Energy Usage: 14w
  - Brightness (Lumens): 800
  - Bulb Lifetime: 10,000 Hours

- **12 watt LED**
  - Yearly Operating Cost: $2.58
  - Energy Usage: 12w
  - Brightness (Lumens): 800
  - Bulb Lifetime: 50,000 Hours+

www.energyearth.com
Energy Use

Q17 Are lights turned off in common areas when they are not in use (including at the end of the day)?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 6

- Lighting accounts for roughly 35% of energy usage in U.S offices
- Half of these instances occur automatically but half is conscious decision making
Indoor Air Quality and Human Health

More ways to improve air quality

1. Look for fragrance-free or naturally-scented cleaning products
2. Let in fresh air.
3. Vacuum/mop regularly
4. Walk-off mats (>50%)

NASA research shows that indoor plants like these act as living air purifiers.
Involvement

Examples of potential goals to set

1. Start a successful office composting program
2. Print all documents double-sided
3. Convert the Poland Springs bubbler or other bottled water supply to a filtered tap water system
4. Bring a reusable water bottle or mug to every meeting instead of using a paper or plastic cup
5. Use the newly installed water bottle refilling stations (see next slide)
6. Present a green tip at each staff meeting

If your initiative is great, contact us to feature it on our website
Involvement

Q24 Does your office have a sustainability coordinator (or similar position)? This can be an existing employee.

Answered: 27  Skipped: 9

- Someone who can take the lead on green issues
- Could this be you?
Q26 Does your office participate or plan to participate in a local, regional, national, or international day of action like Bike-to-Work Day, Earth Day, etc.? 

Answered: 27  Skipped: 9
Earth Day Spring Fling 2015

- April 20th, Fairfield Way, 11-2 pm (rain date April 22nd)
- 45 vendors and exhibitors
- Local, zero-waste BBQ
- Live band
Arbor Day

• April 22nd 11 am – 2 pm
• Planting a Franklinia
• $500 Contest winnings and PR Materials
• Collaboration with Facilities and Student Activities
• UCONN flowers
• Tree Cake
• Husky Mascots
Purchasing

- Vendor Code of Conduct
- “UConn will prefer products and services”
  - Conserve resources
  - Save energy
  - Use safer, recycled, recyclable, reusable, energy efficient, carbon-neutral, organic, biodegradable or plant-based materials

Environmental Compliance. It is expected that vendors will comply with all applicable federal and state environmental laws and Executive Orders, including but not limited to Titles 22a and
Purchasing

- Locally-raised animals raised more humanely and sustainably
  - Reduce food transportation miles and carbon emissions.
- Choose poultry
- Shop at Farmers’ Markets on Fairfield Way every week, weather permitting
- Farmers market by EO Smith
Transportation

- American workers spend an average of 47 hours per year commuting through rush hour traffic
- Cars, trucks, buses, trains, and planes account for 32% of the energy consumed in CT (2012 Connecticut Comprehensive Energy Strategy)
Waste

Q55 Does your office properly dispose of special waste, including electronics and hazardous materials such as CFLs, ink cartridges, and rechargeable batteries?

Answered: 27  Skipped: 9

Always

Sometimes

Never

N/A

Take personal E-waste to a drop off location in the Co-op, Library, or Student Union!
Waste

- Mixed recycling
- Coupling bins increases diversion rates
Waste

• The greenest paper is no paper
• Avoid printing
• Print double sided, narrow margins, print preview
• Go electronic whenever possible
Water

Q58 Does your office report any water or plumbing leaks immediately?

Answered: 27  Skipped: 9

- Submit work orders at thefrontdesk.uconn.edu

http://visual.ly/ways-save-water
Water

Q59 Do you discourage bottled water through use of reusable water bottles, water pitchers, or other communal water source?

Answered: 27  Skipped: 9

- Yes
- Somewhat
- No
- I/A

More water saving tips
- Ban the Bottle
- Scrape food waste into compost or trash bin
- Use excess ice/water to water plants

1. Student Union
2. McMahon
3. Buckley
4. Castleman
5. Ellsworth
6. Hale
7. Electrical Shop
8. Facilities
9. Hilltop Center
10. Fieldhouse (1)
11. Fieldhouse (2)
12. Shippee
13. Budds
14. Towers (Fenwick)
15. Young
16. Northwest (Batterson)
17. Whitney
18. North
19. Rome
20. Laurel
Great Innovations

• “We monitor water flow”
  – Benchmarking is first step to reduction

• A few offices mentioned “going paperless”
  – “We have become a paperless office as of fall 2014. We converted over 3000 files from paper to electronic and our file cabinets are now empty.”
  – This reduces clutter, saves money, time, ink

• “Some of our coffee grounds are reused for mulch”
Thank You

1. Feedback - clarifications, comments, questions

2. Incentives - why did you participate?

1. Interested in recertification?