Welcome to UConn!

We’re taking action on climate change & are committed to preserving our environment for future generations.

This activity book will teach you about UConn’s efforts to reduce its environmental impacts.

“We Are Still In” is a joint declaration of support for climate action, signed by more than 3,750 corporate CEOs, mayors, governors, & college presidents, including UConn’s!
The Office of Sustainability (OS), formerly the Office of Environmental Policy, has been leading UConn’s sustainability efforts since 2002. UConn is consistently recognized as a leader in campus sustainability, ranked in the top 10 nationally by the Sierra Club, & among the greenest in the world by UI’s Green Metric Survey. UConn is also a certified Bee Campus & Tree Campus USA.

Learn about UConn’s sustainability initiatives, & how you can get involved, as you color these pages! You can also follow the Office of Sustainability:
UConn’s 2020 vision for campus sustainability & climate leadership includes ambitious goals for policy & behavioral changes in categories including:

Energy & Buildings

Purchasing

Grounds, Open Space & Conservation Areas

Waste Reduction & Diversion

Outreach & Engagement

Water Resources

Food & Dining

Transportation

Our future is so bright!

*learn more at ecohusky.uconn.edu.*
1. Bioretention Basin collects stormwater runoff to improve water quality

2. Low Flow Faucets conserve water

3. Green Roof saves energy in heating & cooling, reduces stormwater runoff

4. Improves energy-efficiency

5. Pervious Pavers reduce runoff, maintaining stream health

Did You Know? UConn requires that all major construction & renovation projects be certified LEED Gold!
Did you know Agriculture also contributes? Every cow releases the equivalent of 3.36 tons of CO₂ annually.

Energy use in buildings, transportation, & deforestation are major sources of greenhouse gas emissions. Heating, cooling, & powering UConn’s buildings generates over 100,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

Drought, loss of crops & biodiversity will occur in some regions.

Polar land ice melt causes sea levels to rise, potentially flooding coastal cities & island nations.

Oceans absorb atmospheric carbon, which makes them more acidic & harms coral, shellfish & marine ecosystems.

UConn is retrofitting lighting with highly efficient LEDs, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Agricultural waste emits methane as it decomposes, but not at UConn’s compost facility, which produces great fertilizer. Buy some for your garden!

UConn helps towns in CT prepare for & adapt to climate change effects. Students can participate in this effort through Climate Corps.
Have saved UConn more than 790,000 CCF of gas per year.

Steam pipe replacements are an example of the many projects that improve energy efficiency.

Enough to power 527 homes for a year!

Saving nearly $800,000!

How about electricity? UConn and its partners have worked together to save 19.7 million kWh per year since 2016.

Enough to power 1,668 homes each year!

Saving nearly two million dollars!

The SLED (Storrs LED) initiative replaces inefficient lighting with more efficient LED lamps.

Get information on how to save energy & money at home, visit energizect.com!
Across

4) Each year, UConn@COP sends a cohort of undergraduate students to the annual United Nations climate change summit where leaders across the world discuss climate _____________.

6) There are special recycling drop-off locations in the student union, library, and UConn bookstore to leave e-waste such as damaged or discarded ____________ devices.

8) A type of energy from sources that can be replenished within a human’s lifetime. Examples include wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, & hydropower.

10) Our campus dining halls send their ____________ to Quantum Biopower, an anaerobic digestion facility that turns it into energy & fertilizer.

11) On campus, woodland corridors are incorporated into the design to provide linkage between wildlife _____________ fragmented by roads & infrastructure.

12) ____________ is a student group on campus that works to bring awareness about environmental & climate issues & offers engagement opportunities for students.

Down

1) ____________ refill stations, located in buildings across campus, allow students to avoid purchasing bottled water.

2) This program was implemented in UConn Bookstores to encourage reusable bag use while raising money for charity. Ask about it next time you buy a book! (Hint, it’s on the recycling page in this coloring book)

3) Building designs such as low-flow faucets/shower heads & dual flush toilets have helped reduce ________ usage on campus.

5) Did you know that you can get a discount for your coffee at all UConn cafes if you bring a _____________ mug?

7) UConn Cycle Share is a program run by UConn Recreation that allows students to rent bikes as a sustainable mode of ________________.

9) The ___ Campus USA program endorses a set of commitments for creating sustainable habitats for pollinators, which are vital to feeding the planet.
Horsebarn Hill, Dairy Bar & Office of Sustainability

UConn Forest, Fenton River & Nipmuck Trail

Whitney Dining Hall
LEED Gold

Oak Hall
LEED Gold

Stormwater Bioretention Basin

McHugh Hall (LEED Gold) Green Roof

Fairfield Way (Site of Earth Day Spring Fling!)

Horsebarn Hill, Dairy Bar & Office of Sustainability

LEED Silver

Oak Hall
LEED Gold

McHugh Hall (LEED Gold) Green Roof

Fairfield Way (Site of Earth Day Spring Fling!)

UConn Forest, Fenton River & Nipmuck Trail

Whitney Dining Hall
LEED Gold

Oak Hall
LEED Gold

Stormwater Bioretention Basin

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Whitney Dining Hall
LEED Gold
Sustainability Wordsearch

Biodiversity  Bioretention  Carbondioxide  Change  Climate  Cogeneration  Composting  Ecohusky  Emissions  Environment  Farmersmarket  HEEP  Justice  Methane  Raingardens  Recycle  Springvalley  Stormwater  Sustainability
STOP THE DROP
Report Leaks Immediately to Facilities Operations
maintenance.uconn.edu

Ways to Save Water:
- Take shorter showers
- Only wash full loads of laundry
- Reuse your shower towel
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth

UConn uses ~800,000 gal of water per day!

Since 2005, UConn has reduced potable water use per person by 51%

UConn’s state of the art Reclaimed Water Facility reprocesses water from the Wastewater Treatment Plant for use in the Central Utility Plant to make steam for heating & cooling.

Students can take advantage of more than 60 water bottle refill stations on campus.
The Hillside Environmental Education Park (HEEP) is a 165-acre nature preserve full of wildlife & three hiking trails located on the northern edge of campus. Entrances can be found next to C Lot, on Hunting Lodge Rd. & next to the Innovation Partnership Building. Go for a walk & make friends with your neighborhood forest!

Learn more about UConn's trees! Take the campus arboretum tour at uconnarboretum.uconn.edu.

Spot all 8 HEEP animals:
Grey Squirrel, Wood Duck, Swamp Sparrow, Great Horned Owl, White-tailed Deer, Wood Frog, Eastern Painted Turtle, Common Gartersnake
-49% of UConn’s food purchases are local & community-based, or 3rd party verified
-Since 2010, the Spring Valley Student Farm has served as a center for sustainable, organic food production & educational opportunities
-Led by student farmers, it’s open for tours & volunteers during Farm Fridays in the fall & spring

-SOS Food Recovery is a Community Outreach initiative at UConn
-Student volunteers collect food from the UConn cafés & dining halls for donation to the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic, CT

-Quantum Biopower, a company based in Southington, CT, converts UConn’s food waste into energy & fertilizer through anaerobic digestion

-UConn diverts an average of 230 tons of food per year from dining halls!
When a UConn student no longer needs an item, it seems obvious to just throw it away. But where is away?

UConn partners with Willimantic Waste to manage a mixed recycling program & reduce our waste sent to waste-to-energy facilities. Please follow the guidelines at ecohusky.uconn.edu/recycling/guidelines.

Recyclable: waterbottle, newspaper, notebook, milk gallon, envelope and office paper, cardboard, soda can, book, coffee lid; not recyclable: styrofoam, chocolate wrapper, gum, chip bag, receipt, coffee straw and cup

Waste Reduction Tip: When purchasing items at the UConn Bookstore, ask for an Eco-Coin instead of a plastic bag. You can put your purchase in your backpack & donate 5 cents to charity with your coin!

Recycling Tip: For plastic films & bags that aren't recyclable on campus, bring them to the Price Chopper in Downtown Storrs!

Goal: Divert 60% of waste from incineration by 2020
Students can rent a bicycle through the UConn Recreation’s Cycle Share program. Stop by the Adventure Center in the Student Rec Building for more info, or visit: recreation.uconn.edu/cycle-share

Too cold to bike? Try the HuskyGo shuttle service; the bus lines are free to use & reliable. Track the bus using Trans Loc Rider.

Don’t forget to test out your UPass & get free access to most public transit in the entire state of Connecticut!

There are many environmentally friendly ways to get to where you’re going on campus!

UConn has 20 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations on campus!
You can make small choices every day that benefit the environment...

**MOUTH:**
- drinks from reusable coffee mug
- uses the Student Union Green Piece system

**FINGERS:**
- turns off lights & electronics when not in use
- places recyclables in right bins

**CLOTHES:**
- secondhand purchases use less resources
- washed in cold water to save energy, full loads save water

**VOICE & EARS:**
- listens at conferences, panels & lectures
- asks questions
- votes in elections

**LEGs:**
- walks to their environmental literacy GenEd class
- runs to catch the bus to try out a club like Conn PIRG, Outing Club, EcoHusky, or Community Outreach

**FOOT:**
- doesn't step on wildlife when exploring UConn's HEEP trails

**LUNGS:**
- benefit from the presence of plants in the room!

**ANATOMY OF A GREEN STUDENT**