

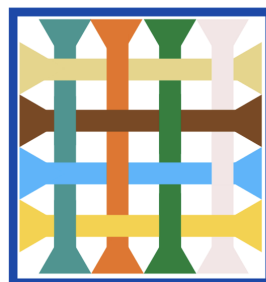
**UNIVERSITY OF
DELAWARE**®

2024

Sustainability Report



Bradie S. Crandall & Chas Fields
*Graduate Student Government
Sustainability Committee*



GSG
Graduate Student Government

AUTHORS

Bradie S. Crandall, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, Co-Chair of the Graduate Student Government Sustainability Committee

Chas Fields, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, Co-Chair of the Graduate Student Government Sustainability Committee

CONTRIBUTORS

Named contributors are lead authors on legislation drafted and passed in accordance with the GSG Sustainability Committee's efforts from 2020 - 2024.

Thomas Benson, Political Science & International Relations

Prasanna Krishnamoorthy, Mechanical Engineering

Hannah-Marie Garcia, Marine Science & Policy

Jessica Belliveau, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering

Shashank Ravichandran, Mathematics

Kelly Tyukody, Physical Therapy

Aly Rae Weinberg, Fashion & Apparel

Walker Skeeter, Geography & Spatial Sciences

Blake Richards, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering

Dongyang Wei, Geography & Spatial Sciences

Daria Blinova, Political Science & International Relations

Sampanna Vikas Mhatre, Material Science & Engineering

Darien Nguyen, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering

PUBLISHER

University of Delaware Graduate Student Government

ENDORSEMENTS

- **University of Delaware Graduate Student Government Sustainability Committee**
 - Bradie S. Crandall, Executive Chair
 - Chas Fields, Legislative Co-chair
 - Blake Richards, Legislative Co-chair
 - Donyang Wei, Member
 - Daria Blinova, Member
 - Sampana Vikas Mhatre, Member
 - Alison Shapiro, Member
 - Pamela Ahern, Member
 - Anshul Rana, Member
 - James Buchen, Member
- **Graduate Student Government President**, Alan Parkes
- **Incoming Graduate Student Government President**, Max Bobbin
- **Graduate Student Association President**, Julia Hatoum
- **Graduate Student Association Sustainability Senator**, Jillian Sternig
- **Delaware Environmental Institute Fellows:**
 - Bradie S. Crandall
 - Ross Klauer
 - Chrity Li
 - Danielle Pratt
 - Mike Powers
 - Jason Geiger
- **Climate Change Hub Fellows:**
 - Bradie S. Crandall
 - Masha Kapitonova
 - Emma Korein
 - Ryan Eagen
- **Climate Change Hub Scholars:**
 - Carley Goedken
 - Keira Auchenbach
 - Alasqa Farley
 - Maya Feinstein
 - Sasha Altman
 - John Blouch
 - Drew Martin
 - Kiera Heavey
 - Zachary Tapper

CONTACT

Bradie S. Crandall (Graduate Student Government Sustainability Committee Executive Chair):
bradie@udel.edu

Chas Fields (Graduate Student Government Sustainability Committee Legislative Chair):
cfields@udel.edu

FUNDING

This report was built entirely on volunteer devotion, passion, and expertise.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There are no conflicts of interest to report.

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sus·tain·a·bil·i·ty

/səˌstānəˈbɪlədē/

Noun

1. Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, while balancing social, economic, and environmental considerations.
2. The key to a better future.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this document is to provide direct policy recommendations to the University of Delaware's Office of Sustainability. This is an effort to accelerate action after the establishment of the Office of Sustainability in Spring 2023. While we fully recognize the difficulty of onboarding a new university office, we hope that the contents of this policy report may help ease the burden and allow for more immediate action.

Within this report, the newly established Office of Sustainability will find recent policy recommendations made by the Graduate Student Government Sustainability Committee. It should be noted that these recommendations do not capture all the environmental challenges faced by the university. However, each recommendation has been supported by the graduate student body through their passage via majority vote by elected representatives in Graduate Student Government. The contents of this report have been endorsed by both graduate and undergraduate student leaders and student organizations. Each of the recommendations contained in this report should be thoughtfully implemented while keeping environmental justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion at the forefront of all efforts.



Net Zero 2030

The impacts of climate change are anticipated to severely affect Delaware with an additional 9-30 days per year above 100 °F (37.7 °C) expected by late-century under a business-as-usual scenario. These increased temperatures will place additional strain upon electric utility providers to meet demand during peak hours, causing power outages that could adversely affect the University of Delaware (UD) and residents of Newark. Rainfall in Delaware is expected to dramatically increase with more frequent and intense heavy rainstorms, which could cause septic system failure that could lead to significant damage to UD campus infrastructure. Coupled with rising sea levels, increased rainstorm frequency could flood the chemical industry along the Delaware River – which is worth nearly \$1 billion and provides a significant amount of financial support to UD.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has set a warming threshold of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels to avoid the most severe of these climate impacts. Anthropogenic emissions have already led to a 1.1 °C warming above the pre-industrial baseline global average surface temperature. In 2008, UD committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. However, the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report demonstrated that net zero by 2050 is not ambitious enough to avoid a 1.5 °C global warming average. Peer universities have established more ambitious emissions targets than UD in line with avoiding 1.5 °C warming. Thus, the graduate student body calls upon the University of Delaware and the newly established Office of Sustainability to commit to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. We offer the policy tools contained within this report to achieve this ambitious, but vital goal.

Land Acknowledgement

This is a living land acknowledgement developed in consultation with tribal leadership of Poutaxet, what is now known as the “Delaware Bay,” including: the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware, the Nanticoke Indian Tribe, and the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation in 2021. We thank these leaders for their generosity.

The University of Delaware occupies lands vital to the web of life for Lenni Lenape and Nanticoke, who share their ancestry, history, and future in this region. [This interactive map](#) shows that the Lewes, Georgetown, Dover, Newark, and Wilmington campuses are located in these Indigenous homelands. UD has financially benefited from this regional occupation as well as from Indigenous territories that were expropriated through the United States land grant system since the institution was established in 1743. We acknowledge that the centuries of harm to Indigenous people and their homelands are beyond repair. Yet, we pledge a sustained commitment to accountability.

We honor that the Nanticoke and Lenni Lenape have lived in harmony with one another and this land since ancient times. The ancestors of the Lenni Lenape, translated as “the Original People,” were farmers and diplomats throughout their homeland, Lenapehoking, which includes present-day New Jersey, most of Delaware, and the eastern parts of New York and Pennsylvania. The ancestral Nanticoke, known as the “Tidewater People” because their livelihood depended upon the bounty of the land, ocean, and rivers, lived along the present-day Delmarva Peninsula. We express our appreciation for ongoing Indigenous stewardship of the ecologies and traditions of this region, despite the centuries of colonial-capitalist plunder.

We commit to learning the stories of all those who have, and have not, survived genocide, ecocide, displacement, slavery, and ongoing occupation. In the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, the Dutch, Swedes, and British established settler colonies in this region, resulting in Indigenous epidemics and warfare. In parallel, the trans-Atlantic slave trade had devastating consequences for people of African descent, Indigenous communities, and their shared kin. European nations and eventually the United States forced some

Nanticoke and Leni Lenape westward and northward. Others never left their homelands or returned from exile when they could. Many survived by forming tribal congregations in Christian churches and controlling segregated Native American public schools in the 1800s and 1900s, while maintaining much of their traditional spirituality. They persist today as the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware, the Nanticoke Indian Tribe, the Nanticoke Leni-Lenape Tribal Nation, the Ramapough Lenape and other continuing tribal communities throughout the eastern seaboard. Other Nanticoke and Leni Lenape form the Delaware Nation in Anadarko, Oklahoma, the Delaware Tribe of Indians in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians in Bowler, Wisconsin, the Munsee-Delaware Nation near St. Thomas, Ontario, the Delaware Nation at Moraviantown near Chatham-Kent, Ontario, and the Delaware of Six Nations near Brantford, Ontario. We will foster right relationships going forward through tangible and actionable institutional steps elaborated in collaboration with tribal leadership. The future viability of the University of Delaware necessitates reparations for Indigenous people. With this living land acknowledgement, UD commits to building relationships with Indigenous people based on respect, relevance, reciprocity, and responsibility to redress centuries of harm.



President Joe Biden

Joseph R. Biden, University of Delaware alumnus and 46th President of the United States, has set the standard for federal environmental sustainability policy. This is best illustrated by the passage of the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, the largest investment into fighting climate change in U.S. history. Upon taking office, President Biden appointed the first White House National Climate Advisor and committed the U.S. to 100% clean energy production and net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Under his leadership the U.S. ratified the Kigali amendment for an 85% reduction in the use of hydrofluorocarbons, a potent greenhouse gas, by 2036. As President Biden's alma mater and home of the Biden Institute along with the Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy & Administration, the University of Delaware should strive to match his administration's ambition towards promoting environmental sustainability.

“This is the decisive decade...This is the decade we must make decisions to avoid the worst consequences of the climate crisis.”

-Joseph R. Biden, 46th President of the United States



Progress Indicators

Each recommendation made in this report has been marked with one of the following progress indicators to provide information on the status of planning and implementation as reported by the UD Sustainability Council or Office of Sustainability:



Effort implemented or actively being implemented



Effort publicly announced, but implementation not yet begun



No current effort publicly announced

“We are like tenant farmers chopping down the fence around our house for fuel when we should be using nature’s inexhaustible sources of energy-sun, wind, and tide.”

-Thomas Edison



Fossil Fuel Divestment

Background:

- The United Nations estimates that because of global carbon emissions, the world will warm by approximately five degrees Fahrenheit by 2100 with devastating climate effects
- Just 100 fossil fuel companies are responsible for the emission of roughly 71% of the world's carbon dioxide
- For reasons both moral and financial, American colleges and universities are among a growing list of institutions that have already committed to divesting some \$40 trillion from coal, gas, and oil stocks
 - This includes University of Delaware comparator peer institutions,¹ and prominent institutions²
- Black Rock's investment experts have concluded that it is increasingly financially irresponsible to invest in the fossil fuel energy sector
 - Over the last five years, the overall market has increased at an annual rate of 16%, but the oil and gas sector has fallen at an annual rate of 3%
 - Investors in clean energy have seen annual return rates of 22% over the same period
- The University of Delaware is increasingly committed to becoming a leader in sustainability (across academics, research, and operations) but has not formally committed to reducing fossil fuels from its investment portfolio

Resolution:

- The University of Delaware's Graduate Student Governments supports the Faculty Senate in respectfully requesting the Board of Trustees Finance Committee bring forth a resolution recommending the Investment Office work with the University of Delaware Sustainability Office to create an official divestment from fossil fuel strategy in 2024 (with the goal of executing full divestment by 2030)

¹ For example, Boston University, Rutgers, University of California system, University of Illinois, University of Maryland, University of Massachusetts, University of Michigan, and the University of Minnesota

² For example, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Georgetown, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Princeton, Stanford, and Yale

Sustainable Campus Lighting

Background:

- By the University of Delaware’s own admission in a UDaily post, there are “daily actions that take a minute or less [to help] reduce resource waste, costs and pollution” pertaining to electricity consumption³
- According to AASHE STARS⁴, UD received low scores in building energy consumption, and building design and construction – both reflecting UD’s Bronze rating awarded to it in 2020⁵
- Approximately 72 percent of UD’s total energy use (FY2007-2019) is from buildings across UD campuses (Figure 1)⁶
- Approximately 44 percent of power used by UD’s buildings and facilities (FY2007-2019) comes from electricity sources, which can be reduced by following Department of Energy suggestions (see Resolution)
- By UD’s own admission, its “largest emission source was purchased electricity” between 2018 and 2019⁷
- UD’s Climate Action Plan (2009) highlighted the persistent issue of lighting efficiency and that there are “additional opportunities to reduce energy in this area”⁸
- In 2012, UD established the “Revolving Energy Efficiency Fund” to support energy efficiency projects across UD campuses, including some lighting upgrades⁹

³ UDaily. 2020. “Flip the Switch.” *University of Delaware* <https://www.udel.edu/udaily/2020/october/flip-the-switch/> accessed 19 January 2021.

⁴ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability Tracking & Rating System (STARS).

⁵ AASHE STARS. 2020. “University of Delaware Reports.” *AASHE STARS*

⁶ University of Delaware. “UD’s Energy Breakdown.” University of Delaware <https://sites.udel.edu/sustainability/energy> accessed 10 January 2021.

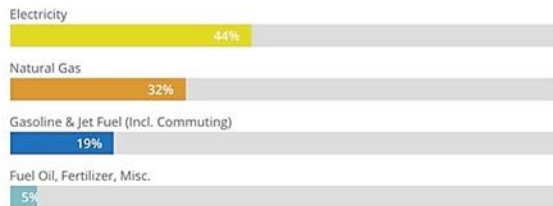
⁷ University of Delaware. 2020. “Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year.” *University of Delaware* https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2015/10/UD-2018-2019-GHG-Inventory-Report_Final-V2.pdf accessed 10 January 2021, p. 3.

⁸ Center for Energy and Environmental Policy (CEEP). 2009. “A Sustainable University of Delaware Climate Action Plan.” *University of Delaware* <https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2018/04/University-of-Delaware-Climate-Action-Plan-sj65oj.pdf> accessed 19 January 2021, p. 5.

⁹ Groh, T. 2012. “Energy Efficiency Fund, Lighting Retrofit Project Reduces UD’s Carbon Footprint, Energy Bill.” *UDaily* <http://www1.udel.edu/udaily/2013/oct/energy-lighting-103112.html> accessed 10 January 2021.

Figure 1. Breakdown of UD Energy Sources and Applications

UD's Energy Breakdown:



Where UD uses energy:



*From FY2007-2019, based on Newark campus greenhouse gas inventory.

Resolution:

- **UD commits to employing sustainable lighting practices across its campuses to enhance energy efficiency, reduce electricity consumption, and save on electricity costs by:**
 - **The adoption of a bi-annual university-wide social media and email informational campaign that promotes energy efficiency (in line with the recommendations outlined in the UDaily article, above) among faculty, students, and staff**
 - **The implementation of occupancy sensors to automatically turn on and off lights needs to become more widespread**
 - **Once in disrepair, old light fixtures and lamps (including streetlights and loading docks) are to be replaced by LED fixtures and lamps**
 - **Old, inefficient windows are to be replaced by energy efficient windows in accordance with ENERGY STAR-certification¹⁰**
 - **Light-colored paint ought to be strongly considered in all future modifications to interior spaces**
 - **Take stronger consideration of passive solar opportunities into account during design and construction of new buildings on UD's campuses**
 - **Increase renewable energy capacity through the development of on- or near-campus facilities, or through the purchase of renewable energy credits**
 - **Collaborate with Newark City Council in the widespread adoption of these recommendations, where applicable and appropriate (e.g. in council-owned and operated buildings, alongside new development strategies, including private property)**

¹⁰ Energy Star. "Residential Windows, Doors and Skylights." *Energy Star* https://www.energystar.gov/products/building_products/residential_windows_doors_and_skylights accessed 1 February 2021. Energy Star is affiliated with the U.S. Green Building Council's standards relating to LEED. For more, see <https://www.usgbc.org/credits/homes/v4-draft/eac9?view=resources>

- UD's Climate Action Plan (2009) noted that “[o]ccupancy sensors should be installed in intermittently used areas such as restrooms and lounges, areas with excessive lighting should be de-lamped, and natural daylight should be used when possible
- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) also provides suggestions for lighting designs, such as:
 - Light quality is as important as quantity
 - Match the amount and quality of light to the performed function
 - Install task lights where needed and reduce ambient light elsewhere
 - Use energy-efficient lighting components, controls, and systems
 - Maximize the use of daylight
 - Incorporate passive solar design techniques
 - Increase and replace windows to improve energy efficiency and reduce the loss of heating and cooling energy
 - Install LED light fixtures for all ceiling- and wall-mounted fixtures
 - Use occupancy sensors for automatically turning on and off lights
 - Use light-colored paint for walls to reflect natural sunlight, thereby minimizing the need for artificial lighting
- The UDaily (2020) article encourages the following:
 - Turning off lights, projectors, equipment, computer screens, etc., whenever faculty, staff, or students leave a room for some time (e.g. hours, overnight) to stop “vampire energy”
 - Lab fume hoods consume a lot of energy and ought to be closed when they are not in active use
 - Windows and doors ought to be closed before faculty, staff, or students leave a room for some time (e.g. hours, overnight)

Campus Building Retrofitting

Background:

- Old buildings across University of Delaware campuses contribute greatly to UD's total energy consumption and toward UD's CO₂ emissions¹¹
- Previous improvements in building efficiency across UD campuses have assisted in the decline of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- UD's current AASHE STARS¹² rating (2020) is Bronze, and improving its energy efficiency by retrofitting old buildings will enhance its AASHE STARS rating¹³
- UD ought to commit to greater environmental action if it intends to meet its carbon neutrality goal of 2050¹⁴
- UD failed to meet its 2020 target of reducing GHG emissions by 20% between 2007-2008 and 2019-2020, with a, nonetheless, successful decline of approximately 16.2%¹⁵
- The Energy Star Building Upgrade Manual, a part of LEED certification standards within the area of Operations and Maintenance, provides several solutions that can assist UD in its pursuit of building retrofitting
- UD's Climate Action Plan stated that UD intended to "establish an environmental standard for new construction and for retrofits of the existing building stock that lowers energy requirements and carbon emissions sufficiently to meet LEED Silver," which is the third best building performance certification by the U.S. Green Buildings Council¹⁶

Resolution:

- UD commits to five broad building retrofitting and energy efficiency practices:

(1) Metering and Monitoring:

¹¹ University of Delaware (UD). 2020. "Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the 2018-2019 Academic Year." *University of Delaware* https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2015/10/UD-2018-2019-GHG-Inventory-Report_Final-V2.pdf accessed 1 February 2021, p. 4.

¹² The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability Tracking & Rating System (STARS)

¹³ Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). "University of Delaware." *Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/* accessed 30 January 2021.

¹⁴ See fn 1, p. 8; UD. B. "Sustainability." *University of Delaware* <https://sites.udel.edu/sustainability/> accessed 1 February 2021.

¹⁵ UD. 2009. "University of Delaware Climate Action Plan." *University of Delaware* cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2018/04/University-of-Delaware-Climate-Action-Plan-sj65oj.pdf accessed 30 January 2021; see fn 4, UD B.

¹⁶ LEED. "Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design." LEED [leed.usgbc.org/leed.html](https://www.usgbc.org/leed.html) accessed 30 January 2021.

- identify the least energy efficient buildings on campus and the sections therein. Building age and maintenance records offer insight
 - Campus buildings without meters should have them installed by 2025
 - Submeters should be installed where possible to allow for more informative measures
 - (Sub)meters should measure each building's electricity, heating, ventilation, and air condition (HVAC) systems
- (2) Energy Load Management**
- Engage in load shedding by monitoring wasteful systems in inefficient buildings (through metering), identify peak demand conflicts, and install automatic controllers or software to reduce system energy use during peaks
 - Promote on-site electricity generation during peak hours to avoid demand charges from service providers to achieve long-term savings
- (3) Appliance Optimization**
- Replace old, inefficient office equipment with Energy Star-certified equipment that is similar in cost and can reduce energy consumption by up to 50%
 - Install Energy Star or third-party power management software onto applicable building-wide computer networks to power-down unused devices and save between \$10 and \$45 per desktop computer annually
- (4) Building Envelope Upgrades**
- Air infiltration: seal observed air leaks in windows, doors, roofs, and walls; calibrate automatic doors to minimize air loss during occupant entries and exits; and install revolving doors, if cost-permissive
 - Windows: install window films (thin layers of polyester, metallic coatings, and adhesives) on existing windows; and replace old windows with spectrally selective glass, low-e systems, or electrochromic windows
 - Roofs: add thermal insulation to the inside of rooftops; and add green roofs (soil layers and vegetation), as in the case of Colburn Laboratory
 - Photovoltaic (PV) Panels: add PV panels to rooftops, where viable
- (5) Ventilation Optimization**
- Add ventilation controllers to monitor and automatically regulate ventilation. Low-occupancy spaces will benefit the most in terms of energy savings, but studies demonstrate that monitors in classrooms have also been shown to be cost-effective
 - Demand-controlled ventilation is most energy efficient in high occupancy areas (e.g. halls, auditoriums, gyms)

Heat Pump Implementation

Background:

- Campus buildings have historically accounted for the majority (64%) of the University of Delaware's (UD) greenhouse gas emissions¹⁷
- Nearly 1/3 of the greenhouse gas emissions from campus buildings result from the burning of oil or natural gas for heating (Figure 2)
- A 75-85% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is achievable using geothermal heat pumps in comparison to natural gas and oil heating¹⁸
- Geothermal heat pumps use the constant temperature of the earth to provide heat to buildings in the winter and remove heat from buildings in the summer (Figure 3)
- Geothermal heat pumps offer a 25-50% savings on heating costs in large buildings in comparison to traditional fossil-based utility systems¹⁹
- The Department of Energy reports a payback period of 5-10 years for geothermal heat pumps²⁰
- Geothermal heat pumps were identified as one of the most cost-effective solutions to reduce campus emissions in UD's 2009 Climate Action Plan²¹
- UD's current AASHE STARS rating (2020) is Bronze and implementing geothermal heat pumps to improve energy efficiency will help enhance this rating²²
- UD ought to commit to greater environmental action if it intends to meet its carbon neutrality goal of 2050
- UD Buildings and Grounds has plans in place to incorporate a sustainability ranking system into all new construction plans
- Multi-sector electrification coupled with renewable electricity production is widely regarded as the most viable pathway to averting climate catastrophe

¹⁷ UD. 2020. "Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the 2018-2019 Academic Year." https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2015/10/UD-2018-2019-GHG-Inventory-Report_Final-V2.pdf accessed 3 November 2022.

¹⁸ Dandelion Energy. "Environmental Benefits of Geothermal Heat Pumps." 21 February 2020. <https://dandelionenergy.com/environmental-benefits-of-geothermal-heat-pumps> accessed 8 November 2022.

¹⁹ Energy Sage. "How much does a geothermal heat pump cost?" 3 May 2022. <https://www.energysage.com/clean-heating-cooling/geothermal-heat-pumps/costs-benefits-geothermal-heat-pumps> accessed 8 November 2022.

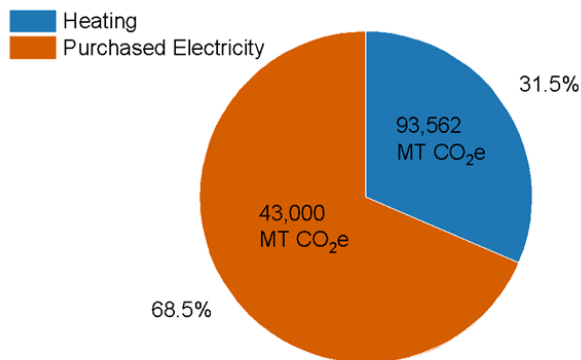
²⁰ Department of Energy. "Geothermal Heat Pumps" <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/geothermal-heat-pumps> accessed 8 November 2022.

²¹ UD. 2009. "University of Delaware Climate Action Plan." *University of Delaware* cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2018/04/University-of-Delaware-Climate-Action-Plan-sj65oj.pdf accessed 3 November 2022.

²² AASHE STARS (n.d.). "University of Delaware." AASHE STARS <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/> accessed 3 November 2022.

- The electrification of utilities with the aid of heat pumps is a critical step to achieving multi-sector electrification

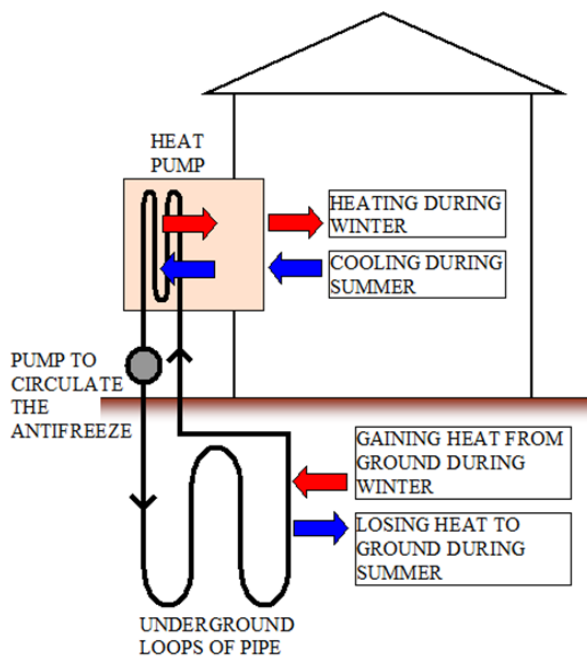
Figure 2. Campus building emissions breakdown (academic year 2021-2022)



*Data provided to Sustainability Council Climate Action Plan Subcommittee by Ted Socha, UD Director of Sustainability, Energy, and Engineering

**Data from 2021 used to project out to 2022

Figure 3. Geothermal heat pump schematic²³



²³ "How Heat Pumps Work" <https://www.real-world-physics-problems.com/how-heat-pumps-work.html> accessed 8 November 2022.

Table 1. Geothermal heat pump techno-economic considerations

| Cost per emissions avoided (USD/MT CO ²) | Initial Cost (USD/kWh) | Annual Savings (USD) |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|
| 14 | 0.097 | 245,000 |

Resolution:

- UD Buildings and Grounds immediately incorporates a requirement for a detailed payback period assessment of technologies to improve energy efficiency in campus buildings to ensure reduced operation costs associated with these technologies are accounted for in decision-making
- Beginning in 2023, all new campus buildings shall be equipped with a heat pump to provide heating and cooling
- Beginning in 2023, previously constructed campus buildings will be retrofitted with heat pumps when their fossil-based HVAC systems reach the end of their life
- The implementation of heat pumps into buildings campus-wide shall be integrated into the updated Climate Action Plan to be put forth by the UD Office of Sustainability

Campus Building Temperature Control



Background:

- Building temperature control provides an opportunity for the University of Delaware (“UD”) to create comfortable environments for faculty, staff, students, and visitors, and can save energy and cut greenhouse gas emissions (Table 2)^{24,25,26,27,28}
- Thermal comfort is often considered more important by occupants than visual and acoustic comfort, and indoor air quality^{29,30}
- During the Summer period, UD sometimes uses excessive cooling that results in many occupants experiencing discomfort and raising energy consumption by resorting to use of personal electric heaters
- It has been demonstrated that a 1 °C increase during Summer in office buildings resulted in a 6.14% reduction in mean energy consumption³¹
- UD’s building heating is primarily sourced from natural gas
- UD’s building temperature control is currently in compliance with the energy codes outlined by the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), but UD needs to revisit the question of comfort by occupants and to further explore ways to reduce energy consumption

²⁴ Zmeureanu, R., and Doramajian, A. 1992. “Thermally Acceptable Temperature Drifts can Reduce the Energy Consumption for Cooling in Office Buildings.” *Building and Environment* 27(4): 469-481

²⁵ Chow, T., and Lam, J. 1992. “Thermal Comfort and Energy Conservation in Commercial Buildings in Hong Kong.” *Architectural Science Review* 35(2): 67-72.

²⁶ Roussac, A., Steinfeld, J., and de Dear, R. 2011. “A Preliminary Evaluation of Two Strategies for Raising Indoor Air Temperature Setpoints in Office Buildings.” *Architectural Science Review* 54: 148-156.

²⁷ Sadineni, Suresh B., and Boehm, Robert F. 2012. “Measurements and Simulations for Peak Electrical Load Reduction in Cooling Dominated Climate.” *Energy* 37(1): 689-697.

²⁸ Sekhar, S. 1995. “Higher Space Temperatures and Better Thermal Comfort – a Tropical Analysis.” *Energy and Buildings* 23(1): 63-70.

²⁹ Yang, L., Yan, H., & Lam, J. 2014. “Thermal Comfort and Building Energy Consumption Implications—a Review.” *Applied Energy* 115: 164-173.

³⁰ Golbazi, M., and Aktas, C. 2018. “Energy Efficiency of Residential Buildings in the US: Improvement Potential Beyond IECC.” *Building and Environment* 142: 278-287.

³¹ ³¹ Yamtraipat, N., Khedari, J., Hirunlabh, J., and Kunchornrat, J. 2006. “Assessment of Thailand indoor set-point impact on energy consumption and environment.” *Energy Policy* 34(7): 765-770.

Table 2. Summary of Energy Savings in Cooled Buildings

| City (climate) | Building Type | Measure | Energy savings |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---|--|
| Hong Kong SAR (subtropical) | Office | Raise SST from 21.5 °C to 25.5 °C (SST = summer set point temperature). | Cooling energy reduced by 29%. |
| Montreal (humid continental) | Office | Raise SST from 24.6 °C to 25.2 °C (during 09:00–15:00) and up to 27 °C (during 15:00–18:00). | Chilled water consumption reduced by 34–40% and energy budget for HVAC by 11%. |
| Singapore (tropical) | Office | Raise SST from 23 °C to 26 °C. | Cooling energy reduced by 13%. |
| Melbourne (oceanic) | Office | Static (raise SST 1 °C higher) and dynamic (adjust SST in direct response to variations in ambient conditions). | HVAC electricity consumption reduced by 6% (static) and 6.3% (dynamic). |
| Las Vegas (subtropical desert) | Home | Raise SST from 23.9 °C to 26.1 °C (during 16:00–19:00). | Peak electrical energy demand reduced by 69%. |

Resolution:

- UD creates a survey for faculty, staff, and students at four separate points between Summer and Spring. This will allow for a representative view of thermal comfort throughout the calendar year and among different seasons
- UD establishes the Anaerobic Digester with support of Newark City Council to combat food waste in Newark and create natural gas to heat UD's campuses and Newark city-operated buildings for where heat pumps are unsuitable

Gas Stove Electrification

Background:

- The hazards associated with air pollutants emitted from gas stoves and ovens have been well reported for many years, consisting of pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and methane gas (CH₄)³²
- Gas stoves are estimated to be responsible for 21-31% of indoor CO air pollution³³
- It's estimated 6.2 million metric tons of CO₂ per year and a methane emission equivalent to 500,000 gas-powered vehicles can be attributed to gas stoves³⁴
- UD maintains gas stoves and ovens within the kitchens of multiple dining centers including, but not limited to Perkins Student Center, the Trabant Food Court, and the Food and Nutrition Education Laboratory
- Electric stoves are generally more affordable than their gas counterparts
- Electric stoves typically offer superior performance for both low heat and high heat applications³⁵

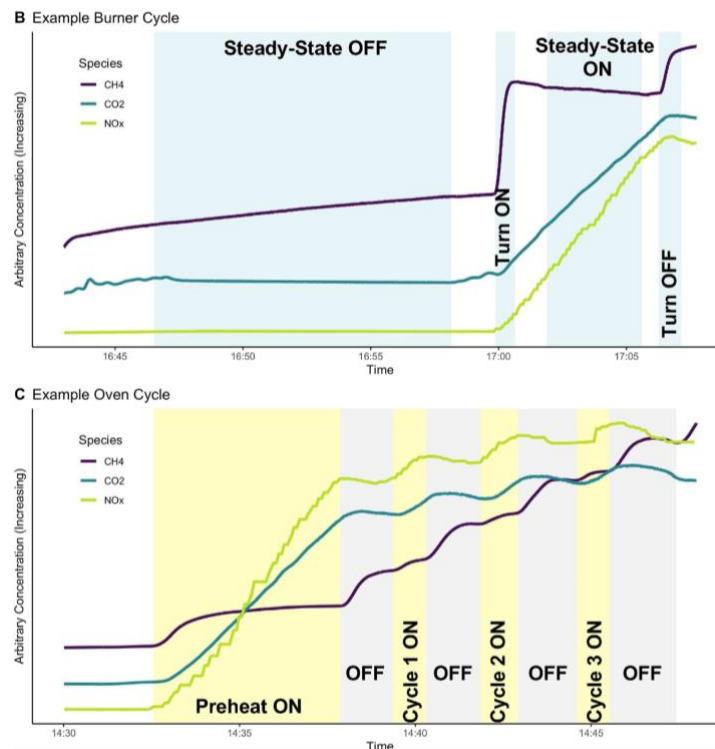
³² E. D. Lebel, C. J. Finnegan, Z. Ouyang, and R. B. Jackson, "Methane and NO_x Emissions from Natural Gas Stoves, Cooktops, and Ovens in Residential Homes," *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, vol. 56, no. 4, pp. 2529–2539, Feb. 2022, doi: 10.1021/acs.est.1c04707.

³³ W. Nicole, "Cooking Up Indoor Air Pollution: Emissions from Natural Gas Stoves," *Environ. Health Perspect.*, vol. 122, no. 1, Jan. 2014, doi: 10.1289/ehp.122-A27.

³⁴ Scott, Tracy "Gas vs. Electric Range: How to Choose" *Nerd Wallet*. 2 Dec. 2020.
<https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/mortgages/gas-vs-electric-range-how-to-choose> accessed 1 March 2023.

³⁵ Hope, Paul "Gas vs. Electric Range: Which is Better?" *Consumer Reports*. 4 Dec. 2022.
<https://www.consumerreports.org/ranges/gas-or-electric-range-which-is-better-a1142956590/> accessed 1 March 2023.

Figure 4. Pollutant Concentrations in the air from gas stoves and ovens in operation³²



Resolution:

- The University of Delaware shall replace all gas stoves and ovens at the end of their life cycle with more energy-efficient electric equivalents, reducing the risk of harm to students and staff, mitigating the environmental impact of dining operations at the university, decreasing stove cost, and improving stove performance
- All food vendors operating within the University of Delaware's facilities shall replace all gas stoves and ovens with energy-efficient electric equivalents at the end of their life cycles
- Any current gas stoves or ovens used on UD campus are equipped with proper ventilation and maintain annual emissions reports

Electrification of Grounds Maintenance

Equipment



Background:

- Gasoline powered leaf blowers emit 11 lbs. of CO₂ per hour leading to 15 million tons of CO₂ emitted per year in the US, with higher rate of production of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbon emissions than cars and trucks due to their engine design^{36,37}
- Particulate matter emissions from gasoline powered leaf blowers are reported to lead to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases yet they are not regulated to the same standard as car engines³⁸
- Gasoline powered leaf blowers produce high noise pollution (80-90 decibels) which require hearing protection for those in the vicinity according to OSHA threshold of 85 decibels^{39,40}
- Electric leaf blowers produce significantly less noise pollution (65-70 decibels) than gasoline powered leaf blowers and reduced emissions leading to more than 100 cities around the nation banning gas powered leaf blowers
- Electric leaf blowers have been shown to have a payback period of less than a year by using electricity for energy as opposed to more expensive gasoline⁴¹
- UD maintains an AASHE STARS, OP-1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions score of 5.55/10.00 with the potential for improvement via reduction of emissions from “Mobile sources including...lawn care equipment...”^{42,43}

³⁶Leaf Blower's Emissions Dirtier than High-Performance Pick-Up Truck's. Edmunds. 2011.

³⁷Gas Powered Leaf Blower Noise and Emissions Factsheet. Quiet Clean PDX. 2019 <https://www.quietcleanpdx.org/leaf-blowers-dangers-pollution/>

³⁸National Emissions from Lawn and Garden Equipment. EPA. 2015. <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/banks.pdf>

³⁹Why Leaf Blower Bans Are On the Rise. Leaf Score. 2022.

⁴⁰Occupational Noise Exposure. OSHA. <https://www.osha.gov/noise/hearing-programs>

⁴¹The Economics of Switching to Battery-Powered Leaf Blowers: A Cost Comparison <https://chasesantacruz.org/gas-vs-battery-power-which-is-more-expensive>

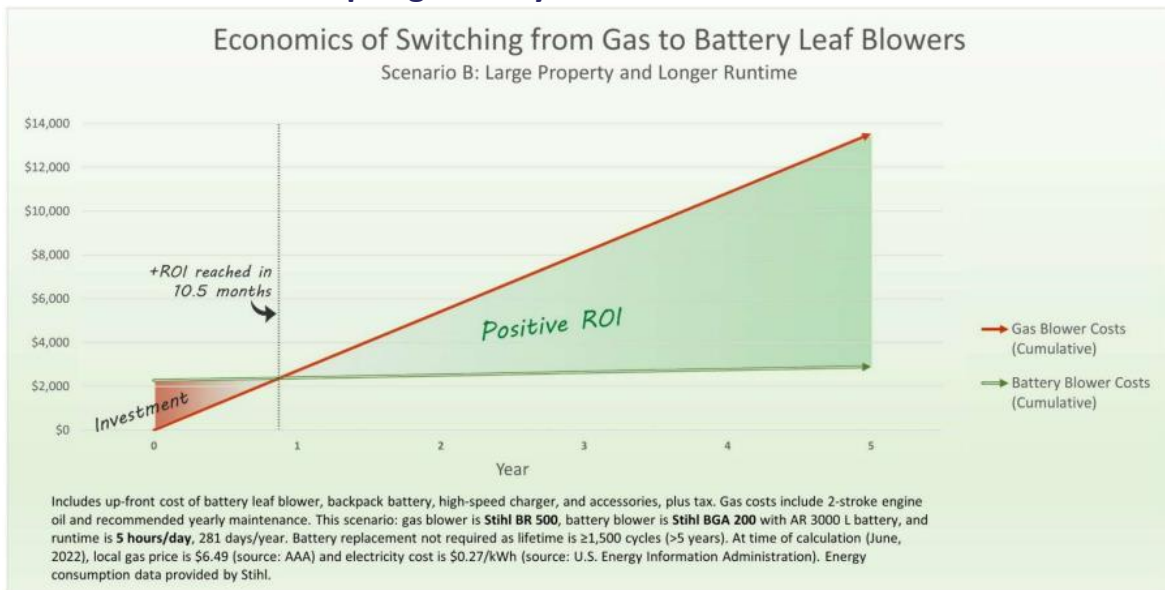
⁴²The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System University of Delaware Report. 2020.

<https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/air-climate/OP-1/>

⁴³Stars Technical manual Version 2.2. AASHE. June 2019. <https://stars.aashe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/STARS-2.2-Technical-Manual.pdf>

Table 3. Emissions Comparison of Gas Leaf Blowers and Gas Vehicles³⁶

| Engine | Non-Methane Hydrocarbons | Nitrous Oxides | Carbon Monoxide |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 2011 Ford Raptor | 0.005 g/min | 0.005 g/min | 0.276 g/min |
| 2012 Fiat 500 | 0.016 g/min | 0.010 g/min | 0.192 g/min |
| Ryobi 4-Stroke Leaf Blower | 0.182 g/min | 0.031 g/min | 3.714 g/min |
| Echo 2-Stroke Leaf Blower | 1.495 g/min | 0.010 g/min | 6.445 g/min |

Figure 5. Economics of Adopting Battery Powered Leaf Blowers over Gas⁴¹**Resolution:**

- UD and the Office of Sustainability immediately works with landscapers to set forth a transition to electric leaf blowers and other handheld lawn care equipment to be completed by 2025 in line with ongoing efforts in Lewes, Delaware
- UD and the Office of Sustainability immediately works toward building a collaborative relationship with the City of Newark for a transition to all-electric powered lawn care equipment
- UD and the Office of Sustainability immediately works toward gathering data to report usage of all gasoline powered lawn equipment and electric lawn equipment by lawn care workers to show progress toward sustainability initiatives and programs

Addition of Smart Charging Study Stations

Background:

- Third places⁴⁴, also known as the communities where students can spend time between their homes (the first place) and schools (the second place) and network with others, are becoming increasingly rare in today's digitalized world
- Outdoor studying benefits the health of the students and, besides the access to oxygen or vitamin D absorption, allows them to "improve calmness and mental clarity, promote relaxation and emotional exuberance, and get a stronger harmony with nature"⁴⁵ and
- Studying outdoors provides many physical and psychological benefits to students including reduced depression and stress, as well as improved creativity and problem-solving skills⁴⁶
- Universities across the US adopt the sustainable strategy to maximize the number of smart benches on their campuses to promote a healthy environment for their students and to optimize energy output for learning purposes⁴⁷
- Such universities as the University of Maryland, Georgetown University, and many others use more than 50% of green power of total electricity use on their campuses to provide services for students⁴⁸
- UD lacks behind these competitive institutions while facing persistent demand for sustainable workspaces that meet the needs of modern students and technologically reliant pedagogy

⁴⁴ Brookings: <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/third-places-as-community-builders/>

⁴⁵ The University of Arizona: <https://www.uagc.edu/blog/studying-outside-vs-inside-the-pros-cons>

⁴⁶ The University of Arizona: <https://www.uagc.edu/blog/studying-outside-vs-inside-the-pros-cons>

⁴⁷ Duke University: <https://researchblog.duke.edu/2017/11/13/dukes-solar-benches-can-charge-your-phone/> and WMU: https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/honors_theses/3102/

⁴⁸ UD Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-top-30-college-university>

Figure 6. Smart Charging Stations (left) and benches (right) for Implementation^{49,50}



Resolution:

- UD adopts the plan to install smart charging stations by 2025 that consist of benches, tables, and solar panels on the rooftop for independent solar power generation. The university pledges to convert 50% of the available outdoors seating on the Morris Library patio to smart charging workstations and 10% of the total number of conventional benches on campus will be replaced with solar benches.

⁴⁹<https://www.bgsu.edu/news/2021/09/bgsu-introduces-new-solar-charging-table-as-eco-friendly-way-to-power-devices-on-campus.html>

⁵⁰<https://seedia.city/mysterious-bench-main-square-boleslawiec/>

Annual Accounting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Background:

- In academic year (AY) 2007-2008, UD put forth a climate action plan for a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020;⁵¹
- Prior to AY 2019-2020, the University of Delaware (UD) contracted Siemens to perform an annual greenhouse gas inventory. Siemens demonstrated that UD failed to meet their climate action plan and no formal greenhouse gas emission accounting had been conducted by the university⁵²
- UD produced 125,078 metric tons of CO₂e during AY 2018-2019 and ought to be held responsible for reducing these greenhouse gas emissions;³³
- In academic year (AY) 2021-2022, the passage of SR-2122-03 supported the creation of an updated climate action plan for UD to strive for net 0 emissions⁵³

SIMAP Information:

SIMAP is a carbon footprinting software platform designed for higher education institutions. Originally created by the University of New Hampshire, it publicly launched for use at other universities as a subscription service in 2017. 194 colleges and universities currently report their emissions on SIMAP.⁵⁴ The use of SIMAP is already being actively explored by the Sustainability Council Climate Action Plan Subcommittee at UD.

Scope 1 emissions are defined by SIMAP as greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the use of stationary fuels.⁵⁵

⁵¹ UD. 2009. "University of Delaware Climate Action Plan." *University of Delaware* cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2018/04/University-of-Delaware-Climate-Action-Plan-sj65oj.pdf accessed 3 November 2022.

⁵² UD. 2020. "Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the 2018-2019 Academic Year." https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2015/10/UD-2018-2019-GHG-Inventory-Report_Final-V2.pdf accessed 3 November 2022.

⁵³ UD Graduate Student Government. "For the Establishment of Net Zero Campus Emissions by 2030" SR-2122-03.

⁵⁴ SIMAP. "Emission Reports" <https://unhsimap.org/public/emissions> accessed 3 November 2022.

⁵⁵ SIMAP. "Carbon References: Scope 1: Stationary Fuels" <https://unhsimap.org/CarbonReferenceStationaryFuels> accessed 3 November 2022.

Scope 2 emissions are defined by SIMAP as greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the production of purchased electricity.⁵⁶

Resolution:

- Upon the establishment of the UD Office of Sustainability, this office shall coordinate and prioritize annual greenhouse gas emissions accounting using the Sustainability Indicator Management & Analysis Platform (SIMAP) for at least scope 1 and 2 emissions
- Branches of UD including but not limited to Operations and Transportation Services shall be required to cooperate with the requests of the UD Office of Sustainability by gathering and sharing greenhouse gas emissions data
- The results of the annual greenhouse emissions accounting shall be used to inform an updated climate action plan and to improve UD's AASHE STARS rating and UD's progress towards meeting the emission targets to be set in the updated UD climate action plan shall be monitored and shared to the public

⁵⁶ SIMAP. "Scope 2: Purchased Electricity version 2019, 2020" <https://unhsimap.org/cmap/resources/scope2> accessed 3 November 2022.

Increasing Green Energy Share of Campus

Energy Consumption

Background:

- Nearly 90% of all CO₂ emissions driving climate change result from the combustion of fossil fuels to produce energy, thus alternative methods of energy production are necessary to mitigate climate change⁵⁷
- The combustion of fossil fuels to produce energy is responsible for about 1 in 5 deaths globally due to particulate matter air pollution⁵⁸
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently stated in their 6th synthesis report that, “delayed mitigation action will further increase global warming and losses and damages will rise and additional human and natural systems will reach adaptation limits” with a high degree of confidence⁵⁹
- The United States has committed to 100% zero-carbon electricity production by 2035;⁶⁰
- State law mandates that by 2035, the state of Delaware’s utilities must derive 40% of their energy from renewable sources to reduce reliance on fossil fuels⁶¹
- In contrast the direction of public policy and the dire need, in academic year ’21-’22, UD purchased 176 million kWh of electricity from PJM and with only 7.9% of this electricity supplied from renewables^{62,63}

⁵⁷ “Causes and effects of climate change” United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/causes-effects-climate-change> accessed 26th, March 2023.

⁵⁸ Vohra, K. et al. “Global mortality from outdoor fine particle pollution generated by fossil fuel combustion: Results from GEOS-Chem” *Environ. Res.* 195, 110754 (2021). DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2021.110754.

⁵⁹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report. United Nations. 2023.

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/> accessed March 26th, 2023.

⁶⁰ “The Long-Term Strategy of the United States: Pathways to Net-Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050” United States Department of State and the United States Executive Office of the President. November, 2021.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/US-Long-Term-Strategy.pdf> accessed 26th, March 2023.

⁶¹ “Governor Carney Signs Legislation Raising Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)” Feb. 10, 2021.

<https://news.delaware.gov/2021/02/10/governor-carney-signs-legislation-raising-renewable-portfolio-standard-rps/> accessed March 26th, 2023.

⁶² This data was sourced from an audit conducted for UD by Siemens that was shared with the Sustainability Council by UD Facilities.

⁶³ Regional Transmission Expansion Plan. PJM. March 14, 2023. <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/library/reports-notices/2022-rtep/2022-rtep-report.ashx> accessed April 2, 2023.

- UD received a score of 0/4 for clean and renewable energy when last evaluated for AASHE Stars in 2020⁶⁴
- UD had an AASHE STARS rating of “bronze-expired,” but UD could gain additional credits to improve this rating upon reapplication by increasing its share of energy supplied by renewables⁶⁵
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers a Green Power Partnership to colleges and universities that provides market supply options and information for green power, procurement assistance and guidance, and public recognition for green power leadership and use⁶⁶

Table 4. University of Delaware Comparator Institution EPA Green Power Partners^{67,68}

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Boston University | University of Maryland |
| Iowa State University | University of Michigan |
| Pennsylvania State University | University of Minnesota |
| Purdue University | University of Pittsburgh |
| University of Arizona | University of Utah |
| University of Illinois | University of Virginia |

⁶⁴ Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). “University of Delaware.” *Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)*.

⁶⁵ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability Tracking & Rating System (STARS)

⁶⁶ “EPA’s Green Power Partnership: Partnership Requirements” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. May 2019. https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-01/documents/gpp_partnership_reqs.pdf accessed 26th, March 2023.

⁶⁷ “Benchmarking at UD” University of Delaware. <https://ire.udel.edu/comparators-dashboard/> accessed 26th, March 2023.

⁶⁸ “Meet our partners” Environmental Protection Agency. <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/meet-our-partners> accessed 26th, March 2023.

Figure 7. Steps to Join the EPA Green Power Partnership⁶⁹



Steps to Join the EPA Green Power Partnership (detailed)³:

1. Connect with EPA to learn more – [Contact us](#) to learn about a range of resources available to help you use green power. Learn about strategies and common market practices. Get answers to your most pressing questions.

⁶⁹“Green Power Partnership Organization” Environmental Protection Agency. <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-organization>. Accessed 26th, March 2023.

2. Purchase qualifying green power – Learn more about [EPA’s minimum eligibility requirements](#). Understand several key best practices for buying green power and learn how to best ensure that your investment will meet your goals.
3. Submit a Partner Reporting Form – Download, complete, and submit a [Partner Reporting Form](#).
4. Meet your assigned account manager – Upon successful acceptance into the Partnership, your organization will be assigned an account manager. Your assigned account manager will be your main point of contact for the Green Power Partnership.
5. Review your application and green power data – As part of your onboarding process with your assigned account manager, you will review and go over your Partner Reporting Form. This will be an opportunity for both parties to ask additional questions and talk about next steps.
6. Communicate your organization’s success – Now that you are a Green Power Partner, you will have the opportunity to work with EPA to communicate your green power use and leadership. EPA offers a range of [communications support](#) to assist you in sharing your Partnership and green power use success.
7. Report annually to EPA – Partners are required to update EPA annually on their ongoing use of green power. Partners will receive an annual Partner Reporting Form from their account manager asking for updates and changes based on their next twelve-month reporting period.

Resolution:

- UD’s Office of Sustainability shall apply for UD to join the EPA Green Power Partnership by the end of 2024
- UD’s Office of Sustainability shall take advantage of the offerings of the EPA Green Power Partnership procurement assistance and guidance to implement a UD renewable portfolio standard that will meet the U.S. promise of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2035
- The UD renewable portfolio standard shall include intermediate goals in 2025 and 2030 to keep UD on track for 100% carbon-free electricity by 2035
- The UD Office of Sustainability shall include a commitment to 100% carbon-free electricity by 2035 with intermediate targets in 2025 and 2030 in an updated UD Climate Action Plan.

“Nothing will benefit human health and increase the chances for survival of life on Earth as much as the evolution to a vegetarian diet.”

-Albert Einstein



Plant-Based Dining

Background:

- Livestock production is one of the most significant drivers of global biodiversity loss according to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)⁷⁰
- Current research demonstrates that the “partial to complete elimination of meat”⁷¹ significantly improves the natural environment, as well as human health, animal welfare, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions^{72,73,74}
- A dietary shift from animal-based foods to plant-based foods can reduce annual agricultural emissions by 61% (Figure 8)⁷⁵
- UD currently holds a contract with Aramark who has recently partnered with Beyond Meat, Eat JUST, and Ocean Hugger Foods to gain the ability to offer high protein plant-based alternatives to a variety of animal products⁷⁶
- UD’s partnership with Aramark – a food service which has partnered with the university for 29 years – led to a commitment to the *Plant Forward* initiative (approximately in Fall 2016). As of October 2020, 30% of the main dishes provided are either vegan or vegetarian, red meat offerings have been reduced by 12% on menus since Fall 2016, and fruit, vegetables, and wholegrains have increased by 20% on the menus since Fall 2016

⁷⁰ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). 2019a. “Chapter 2.1. Status and Trends – Drivers of Change.” *IPBES*

⁷¹ Status and Trends – Drivers of Change.” *IPBES*

https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/ipbes_global_assessment_chapter_2_1_drivers_unedited_31may.pdf accessed 9 September 2020, pp. 91, 108.

⁷² Ashaye, A., Gaziano, J., and Djoussé, L. 2011. “Red Meat Consumption and Risk of Heart Failure in Male Physicians.” *Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Diseases* 21: 941-946, p. 944.

⁷³ Kurbel, Sven. 2020. “What Are the Health Risks of Eating Red Meat, and How Should We Assess Them?” *BioEssays* 42: 1-4, p. 2.

⁷⁴ Qian, Frank., Riddle, Matthew C., Wylie-Rosett Judith., and Hu, Frank B. 2020. “Red and Processed Meats and Health Risks: How Strong Is the Evidence?” *Diabetes Care* 43: 265-271, pp. 267, 269-270.

⁷⁵ Z. Sun et al. Dietary change in high-income nations alone can lead to substantial double climate dividend. *Nat. Food* 3, 29-37 (2022).

⁷⁶ “Aramark and Veganz Sign Partnership of Exclusive Cooperation.” *Vegconomist*. Jan. 10, 2022.

<https://vegconomist.com/gastronomy-food-service/food-service/aramark-and-veganz-sign-partnership-of-exclusive-cooperation/> accessed Nov. 23, 2022.

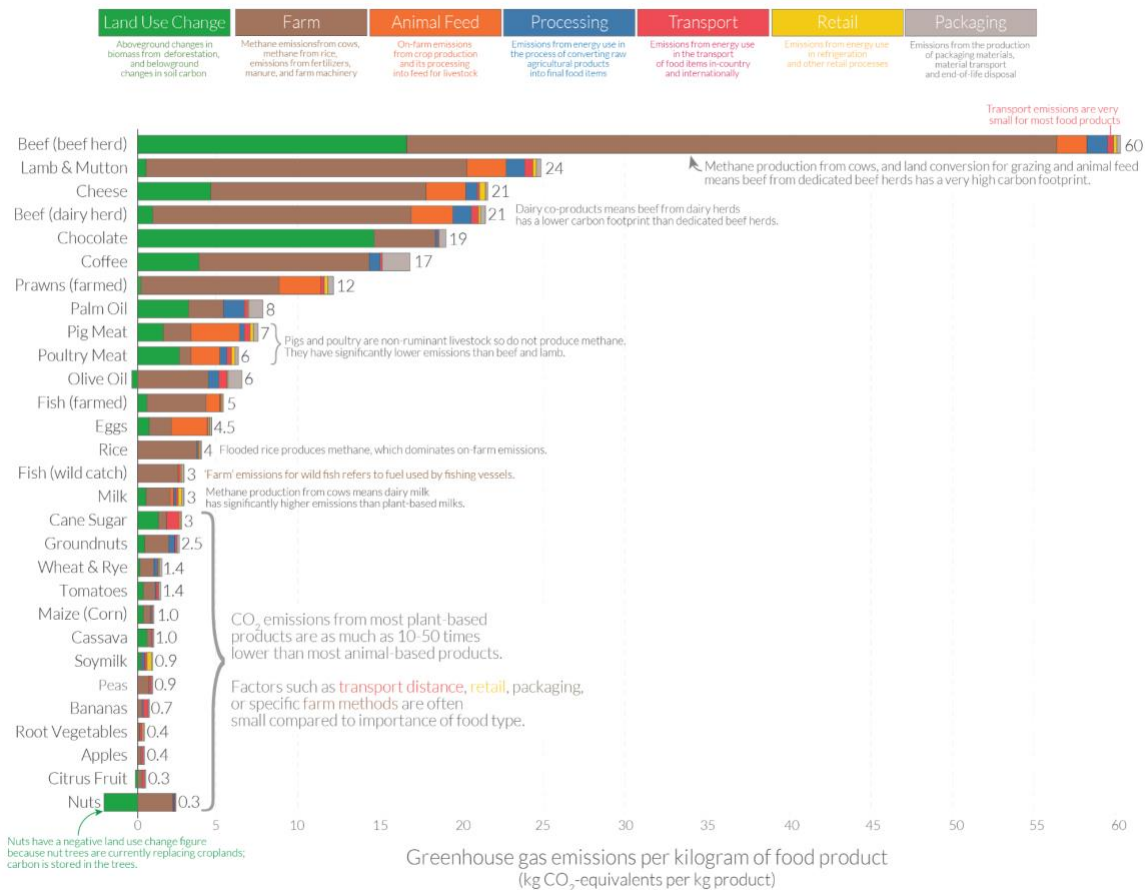
- **Aramark reports that 79% of college students strive to reduce their meat consumption and 85% of college students are likely to order plant-forward meal options⁷⁷**
- **The University of Delaware (“UD”) acquired 11,492 cases of meat and fish products for the 2019-2020 academic year, of which 77.8% were red meat**
- **Comparator institutions have successfully implemented initiatives to reduce or altogether eliminate red meat and processed meat from dining and catering services**
 - **University of North Texas, University of Arizona, Imperial College London, King’s College London, and Cardiff University have created cafés and dining halls with 100% vegan menus**
 - **Arizona State University has partnered with Aramark’s *Plant Forward* initiative to create an entirely plant-based dining station available at all campus dining halls**
 - **Northwestern University has committed to offering vegan meals throughout the day**
 - **Copenhagen Business School provides vegetarian options as default for all catering**
 - **University of Cambridge replaced meat with plant-based products for all dining services and annual events**
 - **Goldsmiths College has ceased serving beef products on campus and has created new vegan options**
 - **University of Cambria has removed beef from all cafeterias to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030**
 - **London School of Economics has removed beef products from all dining services across campus**
 - **Oxford University has banned beef and lamb products at catering outlets**
- **Minimizing the “purchase of conventional animal products” (including “all meat, fish/seafood, poultry, eggs, and dairy products”) will allow UD to score a higher sustainability rating from AASHE STARS⁷⁸**

⁷⁷ “Plant-forward dining on higher-education campuses.” Aramark Higher Education Team. <https://campusinsights.aramark.com/resources-blog/plant-forward-dining-on-higher-education-campus> accessed Dec. 9, 2022.

⁷⁸ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS); AASHE STARS A. “University of Delaware.” *AASHE STARS* <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/> accessed 22 November 2020; AASHE STARS B. “University of Delaware, OP-7: Food and Beverage Purchasing.” *AASHE STARS* <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/food-dining/OP-7/documentation/> accessed 22 November 2020; The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

- Research has shown that consumers are generally unaware of how to reduce the carbon-impact associated with their diet and could benefit from improved communication surrounding the environmental impact of their food choices⁷⁹

Figure 8. Greenhouse gas emissions across the supply chain⁸⁰



⁷⁹ A. Kause et al Public perceptions of how to reduce carbon footprints of consumer food choices. Environ. Res. Lett. 14, 114005 (2019).

⁸⁰ Hannah Ritchie. "You want to reduce the carbon footprint of your food? Focus on what you eat, not whether your food is local" Our World in Data. Jan.24, 2020. <https://ourworldindata.org/food-choice-vs-eating-local> accessed Nov. 23, 2022.

Resolution:

- UD adopts a multi-pronged approach to phasing-out red meat and processed meat from campus dining and catering services
- The UD Sustainability Office includes a sustainable food roadmap in their updated Climate Action Plan that contains a plan to phase out red and processed meat
- UD Dining Services immediately commit to making a 100% plant-based vegan alternative available as an option for each meal for all dining halls, marketplaces, and catered events with a comparable protein density
- UD seeks to establish a 100% plant-based dining hall in partnership with Aramark's *Plant Forward* menu innovation program
- UD provide a quantification of greenhouse gas emissions in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) to students of each food item offered on dining hall menus while implementing Aramark's "Cool Foods Meal"⁸¹ badge to identify low carbon footprint meals and ensures at least one of these meals is always available at each dining hall

⁸¹ "Aramark Rolls Out Cool Food Meals On Residential Dining Menus, Identifies 350 Lower Carbon Footprint Dishes." Aramark. Jan. 3, 2022. <https://www.aramark.com/newsroom/news/aramark-cool-foods-residential-dining-1221> accessed Dec. 9, 2022.

Access to Local and Organic Foods



Background:

- Organic farming is a sustainable agricultural system that uses fertilizers of organic origin such as compost manure, and places emphasis on techniques such as crop rotation and companion planting⁸²
- Organic food can have numerous environmental and societal benefits (creating higher biodiversity and improving soil and water quality per unit area, increasing profitability, and improving nutritional quality)⁸³
- Regularly held farmers markets can improve student access to both organic and whole plant-based foods while supporting local farmers and reducing food transportation distances
- The University of Delaware currently holds a student-run farmers market (“Fresh to You”) that only operates in the summer at UDairy Creamery (28-minute walk from The Green according to Google Maps)⁸⁴
- Emory University, University of Pittsburgh, and James Madison University host weekly farmers’ markets on campus
- James Madison University provides labels on foods to indicate whether it is local and/or organic

Resolution:

- UD increases the farmers' market frequency to a weekly event held as close to year-round as possible at a location near central campus and invites local vendors to expand the variety of sustainable foods offered
- UD expand their dining hall food labelling system to include labels for locally sourced and organic food using information already provided to them by Aramark

⁸² J. P. Reganold, J. M. Wachter, Organic agriculture in the twenty-first century. *Nat. Plants* 2, 15221 (2016).

⁸³ C. Badgley, J. Moghtader, E. Quintero, E. Zakem, M. J. Chappell, K. Avilés-Vázquez, A. Samulon, I. Perfecto, Organic agriculture and the global food supply. *Renew. Agr. Food Syst.* 22, 86–108 (2007).

⁸⁴ <https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/canr/about/sustainable/fresh-to-you/> accessed Jan. 20, 2023.

Mandate for Equitable Access to Fresh Water



Background:

- Inequitable access to clean water drinking water on campus is evident by the high availability of disposable water bottles for purchase versus the availability of public water bottle refilling stations.
- The average 20-ounce water bottle is priced at approximately \$1.50 or \$9.60 per gallon, placing the cost on the consumer⁸⁵
- Estimates project that for a total cost of \$2.10, 4,787 reusable bottles can be filled with safe tap water, an amount easily absorbed by the university. The considerable cost disparity emphasizes the need to reduce the price burden on students and provide equitable access to drinking water with low-cost barriers
- Despite the intrinsically high recyclability of single-use plastic bottles, a mere 20% of water bottles undergo recycling processes. In return, nearly 2 million tons of discarded single-use plastic water bottles end up in landfills, highlighting the severe environmental impacts of these unnecessary consumer plastics.
- As of Jan. 31st, 2020, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System (STARS), a program of AASHE, provided UD a Waste Minimization and Diversion score of 2.87/8.00, giving rise to the dire need for a reduction in plastic waste.⁸⁶
- Traditional water fountains are impractical for refilling water bottles due to inherent design limitations, whereas improved fountains such as the Elkay ezH2O water filler stations emerge as a favorable and sustainable alternative.^{87,88}
- UD currently maintains stations that are well-used by students, faculty, and staff, which has caused a reduction in plastic water bottle usage on the order of thousands according to station metrics (Table 5), however most academic buildings on campus lack these stations.

⁸⁵The True Cost of Bottled Water. *Optimum Water Solutions, Water*. 2022

⁸⁶Williams, C. University of Delaware OP-19: Waste Minimization and Diversion. *The Sustainability Assessment & Ranking System*. 2020

⁸⁷U.S. Reusable Water Bottle Market Size, Share & Trends Analysis Report By Type (Stainless Steel, Plastic), By Distribution Channel (Supermarkets & Hypermarkets, Online), And Segment Forecasts, 2023 - 2030. *Grand View Research*. 2021

⁸⁸ Sustainable Choices For a Better Tomorrow. *Elkay*. 2020

Table 5. 2020 list of Water Bottle Refill Stations and Locations on UD Campus

| Asset | Description | Location | Description |
|--------------|--|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 6739 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RINK) - FRED RUST ICE ARENA (O&M) | NS77-99-0000 | FRED RUST ICE ARENA |
| 6742 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (LOCKER ROOM) - FRED RUST ICE ARENA (O&M) | NS77-99-0000 | FRED RUST ICE ARENA |
| 6744 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (LOCKER ROOM) - GOLD ICE ARENA | NS75-99-0000 | GOLD ICE ARENA |
| 6746 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (POOL) - GOLD ICE ARENA | NK-PL | NEWARK PARKING LOTS |
| 6747 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (WEIGHT ROOM) - BOB CARPENTER CTR (BCC) | NS76-99-0000 | BOB CARPENTER CENTER (BCC) |
| 6749 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RESTROOM) - HARRINGTON COMMONS (HOUSING) | NE30-99-0000 | HARRINGTON COMMONS |
| 6751 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (1ST FLOOR HALLWAY) - HARRINGTON HALL A (HOUSING) | NE31-99-0000 | HARRINGTON HALL A |
| 6753 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (1ST FLOOR HALLWAY) - HARRINGTON HALL B (HOUSING) | NE32-99-0000 | HARRINGTON HALL B |
| 6754 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (1ST FLOOR HALLWAY) - HARRINGTON HALL C (HOUSING) | NE33-99-0000 | HARRINGTON HALL C |
| 6756 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (1ST FLOOR HALLWAY) - HARRINGTON HALL D (HOUSING) | NE34-99-0000 | HARRINGTON HALL D |
| 6758 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (1ST FLOOR HALLWAY) - HARRINGTON HALL E (HOUSING) | NE35-99-0000 | HARRINGTON HALL E |
| 6765 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 009B) - PERKINS STUDENT CTR | NE01-99-0000 | PERKINS STUDENT CENTER |
| 6766 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 019F) - PERKINS STUDENT CTR | NE01-99-0000 | PERKINS STUDENT CENTER |
| 6768 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 119) - PERKINS STUDENT CTR | NE01-99-0000 | PERKINS STUDENT CENTER |

| | | | |
|------|---|---------------|---------------------------|
| 6769 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 202) - CAESAR RODNEY COMMONS (HOUSING) | NC61-99-0000 | CAESAR RODNEY COMMONS |
| 6771 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 309) - CAESAR RODNEY COMMONS (HOUSING) | NC61-99-0000 | CAESAR RODNEY COMMONS |
| 6776 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (ENTRANCE) - 200 ACADEMY ST | NC16-99-0000 | 200 ACADEMY ST |
| 6778 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (1ST FLOOR) - TRABANT UNIVERSITY CENTER | NW22-99-0000 | TRABANT UNIVERSITY CENTER |
| 6779 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (BASEMENT) - TRABANT UNIVERSITY CENTER | NW22-99-0000 | TRABANT UNIVERSITY CENTER |
| 6780 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - 120 E DELAWARE AVE (WASHINGTON HOUSE) | NE103-99-0000 | WASHINGTON HOUSE |
| 6783 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - PURNELL HALL | NW35-99-0000 | PURNELL HALL |
| 6784 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM B002) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6786 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 172) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6787 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 127) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6788 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 159) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6790 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (BASEMENT) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6791 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (2 ND FLOOR) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6793 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (BASEMENT) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |
| 6794 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (POOL DECK) - CARPENTER SPORTS BLD | NN07-99-0000 | CARPENTER SPORTS |

| | | | |
|------|--|---------------|-----------------------|
| 6796 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 108D) - CLAYTON HALL (O&M) | NN18-99-0000 | CLAYTON HALL |
| 6798 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - CHRISTIANA COMMONS BLD (HOUSING) | NN38-99-0000 | CHRISTIANA COMMONS |
| 6801 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 027) - MORRIS LIBRARY | NC31-99-0000 | MORRIS LIBRARY |
| 6804 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 106) - MORRIS LIBRARY | NC31-99-0000 | MORRIS LIBRARY |
| 6805 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 124) - MORRIS LIBRARY | NC31-99-0000 | MORRIS LIBRARY |
| 6806 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 220) - MORRIS LIBRARY | NC31-99-0000 | MORRIS LIBRARY |
| 6808 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 101) - 501 S COLLEGE AVE | NS111-99-0000 | 501 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE |
| 6810 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 155C) - 501 S COLLEGE AVE | NS111-99-0000 | 501 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE |
| 6811 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 131) - 501 S COLLEGE AVE | NS111-99-0000 | 501 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE |
| 6812 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION (RM 144) - 501 S COLLEGE AVE | NS111-99-0000 | 501 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE |
| 6968 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - HULLIHEN HALL | NC01-99-0000 | HULLIHEN HALL |
| 7003 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - LOUIS L. REDDING HALL (HOUSING) | NE105-99-0000 | REDDING HALL |
| 7004 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - ELIPHALET W. GILBERT HALL (HOUSING) | NE106-99-0000 | GILBERT HALL |
| 7005 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - DE BIOTECHNOLOGY INST (DBI) | NE82-99-0000 | DE BIOTECHNOLOGY INST |
| 7006 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - HULLIHEN HALL | NC01-99-0000 | HULLIHEN HALL |
| 7007 | BOTTLE FILLING STATION - DELAWARE FIELD HOUSE | NS65-99-0000 | DELAWARE FIELD HOUSE |

BOTTLE FILLING STATION - SMITH HALL

SMITH HALL

BOTTLE FILLING STATION - AMY. E. DU PONT MUSIC
BUILDING

AMY E DU PONT
MUSIC
BUILDING

Resolution:

- **The University of Delaware will replace traditional water fountains or implement a new water filler station with a standard minimum of one filling station per academic building on campus by 2028.**

“The reality about transportation is that it’s future-oriented. If we’re planning for what we have, we’re behind the curve.”

-Anthony Foxx, Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation



Bikeshare Program

Background:

- **Current research suggests increased cycling and corresponding drops in vehicles on the road to be associated with reduced CO₂ emissions, and improved human health⁸⁹**
 - **This research also highlights that the establishment of a bikeshare program can encourage cycling**
- **Universities and colleges across the world, including over 150 in the U.S., have been recognized for bicycle-friendliness and their bike-sharing programs⁹⁰**
- **The League of American Bicyclists scored Delaware 6th out of 50 states for Bicycle Friendliness in 2018⁹¹**
- **Newark is the only city in Delaware to be rated as a “Bicycle Friendly Community” with a Bronze ranking by BikeNewark⁹²**
- **The University of Delaware (“UD”) currently has a Bronze rating from AASHE STARS (2020)⁹³ and stands to gain additional credits by successfully implementing a sustainable transportation structure and network⁹⁴**
- **UD does not currently operate a bike-sharing program, nor does Newark City Council**

⁸⁹ Jiang, Hui., Song, Su., and Lu, Lu. 2020. “Dockless Bike Sharing can Create Health, Resilient Urban Mobility.” *World Resources Institute* <https://www.wri.org/blog/2020/11/dockless-bike-sharing-can-create-healthy-resilient-urban-mobility> accessed 20 January 2021.

⁹⁰ League of American Bicyclists (LAB), A. “Becoming a Bicycle Friendly University.” *LAB* <https://www.bikeleague.org/university> accessed 20 January 2021

⁹¹ League of American Bicyclists (LAB), B. “Award Database.” *LAB* <https://www.bikeleague.org/bfa/awards> accessed 20 January 2021

⁹² BikeNewark. “League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community Program.” *BikeNewark* <https://bikenewark.org/our-work/related-activities/> accessed 20 January 2021

⁹³ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment & Rating System

⁹⁴ Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). “University of Delaware, OP-18: Support for Sustainable Transportation.” *AASHE* <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/transportation/OP-18/> accessed 20 January 2021.

- A bike-sharing program was planned in 2015 and to be completed in Spring 2016, but there were failures in collaboration between stakeholders and issues regarding the safety of users^{95,96}
- In 2022, Thomas Benson published a Bikeshare Report in collaboration with The Newark Partnership to layout an action plan for the University of Delaware and the City of Newark⁹⁷

Resolution:

The following resolutions come with the full support of the Newark City Council's Planning Commission Chair

- UD becomes a bicycle-friendly university by creating a bikeshare program for students, faculty, staff, and guests to use
- UD will complete an application for the League of American Bicyclists, costing \$100, for an assessment of its bicycle-friendliness
- UD will conduct an informational campaign about transportation safety, specifically regarding cycling, and will host a series of in-person and/or virtual workshops for faculty, staff, and students in bicycle safety. UD Police, BikeNewark, and Newark City Council representatives will be strongly encouraged to attend to share valuable insights
- Bicycles in the Bikeshare Program will feature GPS devices to monitor their location and ensure the bicycle stock is maintained
- To the best of its ability, UD will collaborate with Newark City Council and the Newark Bike Project in ensuring adequate infrastructure is established to create a truly bicycle-friendly city

⁹⁵ Abraham, Tony. 2015. "UD Wants to Launch a Bike-Share Program." *Technically*
<https://technical.ly/delaware/2015/11/03/university-delaware-bike-share/> accessed 20 January 2021

⁹⁶ Shannon, Josh. 2015. "Bike Share Program Coming to Newark Next Spring." *Newark Post*
https://www.newarkpostonline.com/news/bike-share-program-coming-to-newark-next-spring/article_ad8e7a03-7536-5150-a3df-480df61c3dee.html accessed 20 January 2021.

⁹⁷ Benson, Thomas. 2022. "Bikeshare Report" <https://thenewarkpartnership.org/2022/08/18/bikeshare-report/> accessed 5 February 2023.

Bike Infrastructure Improvement



Background:

- The transportation sector represents the largest share (28%) of greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change in the United States⁹⁸
- Numerous reports on sustainable modes of transport such as biking demonstrate benefits including reduced carbon emissions, improved public health, decreased traffic congestion, and fewer vehicle-related fatalities⁹⁹
- UD's Transportation Survey 2023 (for the year 2022) underscore significant barriers to bicycle use among students, faculty, and staff including:¹⁰⁰
 - Safety concerns about sharing roads with cars and pedestrians
 - Inadequate and poorly maintained bike lanes
 - Gaps in connectivity between existing infrastructure
- UD holds an AASHE STARS rating of "bronze-expired," scoring 1.2 out of 2.0 in support for sustainable transportation during the last AASHE Stars evaluation in 2020.¹⁰¹
- Previous reports highlight the critical need for a secure and robust biking infrastructure via initiatives focused on:^{102,103}
 - Expanding current bicycle lanes
 - Improving existing bicycle tool stations
 - Enhancing bicycle safety measures
 - Providing secure and sheltered bicycle storage options around campus

⁹⁸ Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2021. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA 430-R-23-002. (2023).

⁹⁹ <https://bikeleague.org/> accessed 28th March 2024

¹⁰⁰ <https://bpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2023/06/Transportation-Survey-Analysis-2023.pdf>

¹⁰¹ AASHE STARS (n.d.). "University of Delaware." AASHE STARS <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/> accessed 27th March 2024.

¹⁰² University of Delaware-Sustainability Report <https://sites.udel.edu/sustainability/plans/> accessed 27th March 2024.

¹⁰³ The Newark Partnership. (2022, August 18). Bikeshare Report. Retrieved from <https://thenewarkpartnership.org/2022/08/18/bikeshare-report>

Table 6. List of Bike Storage Hotspots on Campus

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| All Student Residence Halls | Pencader Dinning Hall |
| The Green | Russel Dinning Hall |
| UD Parking Garages | Morris Library |
| Perkins Student Center | STAR Campus |
| Lil Bob Gym | Delaware Stadium |
| Bob Carpenter Sports Center | Harker-ISE |

Figure 9. Examples of Advanced Bicycle Storage. Bicycle storage pod in Jersey City, NJ (left)¹⁰⁴. Oonee Bicycle Storage Pod (right)¹⁰⁵**Resolution:**

- UD shall convert at least 50% of their existing bike racks, specifically from identified hotspots in Table 6 into sheltered bike racks equipped with green or white rooftops and/or solar canopies for bike shelters by 2025
- To further promote adoption of biking across campus, UD commits to providing safe bicycle storage solutions including options such as advanced bicycle lockers like Oonee bicycle pods, Figure 9, and begins a pilot project at an identified hotspot in 2025.

¹⁰⁴ <https://icitytimes.com/bicycle-storage-pods-coming-to-transit-hubs-around-jersey-city/> accessed 4th April 2024

¹⁰⁵ <https://www.bicycling.com/news/a20049897/oonee-bike-pods-parking/> accessed 4th April 2024

Electrification of University Fleet

Background:

- The internal combustion engine vehicles (ICEV's) in UD's vehicle fleet produced 1,014 MT of CO₂e in academic year 2018-2019 (Table 7);¹⁰⁶
- Battery electric vehicles (BEV's) reduce fuel-cycle emissions by 69% in comparison to ICEV's on Delaware's current grid;¹⁰⁷
- Cradle-to-grave life cycle analysis (includes mineral mining, vehicle manufacturing, and electricity or fuel usage) demonstrates that on average, BEV's reduce emissions by over 50% relative to ICEV's using the current grid mix;¹⁰⁸
- BEV's can provide financial benefits with a typical payback period of a BEV (when a BEV becomes cheaper than an ICEV) of about 5-6 years due to cheaper maintenance (26% cheaper) and fueling costs (54% cheaper);^{109,110}
- Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) has proposed that all new vehicles sold in Delaware shall be electric starting in 2035 which would make Delaware the 15th state to adopt this measure;¹¹¹

¹⁰⁶ Information provided by Sieman's who was contracted to perform an energy audit at UD in 2020.

¹⁰⁷ "Emissions From Electric Vehicles" Department of Energy Alternative Fuels Data Center. https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric_emissions.html accessed 22 April 2023.

¹⁰⁸ Comparative life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions of a mid-size BEV and ICE vehicle. International Energy Agency. <https://www.iea.org/data-and-statistics/charts/comparative-life-cycle-greenhouse-gas-emissions-of-a-mid-size-bev-and-ice-vehicle> accessed 22 April 2023.

¹⁰⁹ Baik, Y., Hensley, R., Hertzke, P., Knupfer, H. "Making electric vehicles profitable" McKinsey and Co. 8 March 2019. <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/automotive-and-assembly/our-insights/making-electric-vehicles-profitable> accessed 22 April 2023.

¹¹⁰ True Cost of Electric Vehicles. American Automobile Association. <https://www.aaa.com/autorepair/articles/true-cost-of-ev> accessed 22 April 2023.

¹¹¹ Barrish, C. "War without guns' or protecting 'health and our climate'? Del. debates proposed electric vehicle mandate for new cars in 2035" *WHYY*. 6 April 2023. <https://whyy.org/articles/delaware-electric-vehicle-mandate-2035-debate/> accessed 22 April 2023.

Table 7. University of Delaware's 2021 Vehicle Fleet

| Year | Make | Model | Fuel | Gross Vehicle Weight Rating |
|-------------|---------------|--|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 1989 | Peterbilt | Tractor 379 w/Sleeper | Diesel | 80,000 |
| 2015 | International | 7400 Refuse Truck | Diesel | 58,000 |
| 2019 | Freightliner | M2106 - Heil Body Refuse Truck | Diesel | 56,000 |
| 2019 | Freightliner | M2106 - Heil Body Refuse Truck | Diesel | 56,000 |
| 2000 | Freightliner | FL112 Tractor | Diesel | 52,000 |
| 1995 | Ford | L9000 Truck Tractor | Diesel | 46,300 |
| 2006 | Freightliner | Drilling Rig | Diesel | 40,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2011 | Gillig | 35FT Low Floor Bus | Diesel | 39,600 |
| 2018 | Eldorado | EZ-Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2018 | Eldorado | EZ-Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2018 | Eldorado | EZ-Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2019 | Eldorado | EZ Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2019 | Eldorado | EZ Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2019 | Eldorado | EZ Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2019 | Eldorado | EZ Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 2018 | Eldorado | EZ-Rider II Bus | Diesel | 34,250 |
| 1990 | GMC | 7000 Utility | Diesel | 32,000 |
| 1974 | Chevy | Dump Truck | Diesel | 30,000 |
| 2019 | Eldorado | Passport- HD 30ft Bus | Diesel | 28,700 |
| 2019 | Eldorado | Passport- HD 30ft Bus | Diesel | 28,700 |
| 2016 | Ford | F-750 w/Versa Lift 2-Man Bucket | Diesel | 25,999 |
| 2005 | Chevy | Goshen Bus (24Pass) | Diesel | 25,500 |
| 1998 | Ford | F-800 Cab & Chassis - Boxed Bed | Diesel | 24,500 |
| 2006 | Ford | F-550 Flat Bed Custom | Diesel | 19,000 |
| 2014 | Ford | F-350 Crew Cab 4X4 Pick Up | Diesel | 14,000 |
| 2001 | Dodge | C-25 Stake Body | Diesel | 11,000 |
| 1996 | Dodge | R2500 Pick Up | Diesel | 10,000 |
| 2003 | Ford | Utility Body | Diesel | 9,900 |
| 2019 | Mercedes | Sprinter 2500 Crew Van | Diesel | 8,550 |
| 2005 | Ford | E-250 Converted Electric V2G Cargo Van | Electric | 10,000 |
| 2006 | Ford | E-250 Converted Electric V2G Cargo Van | Electric | 10,000 |
| 2013 | Nissan | Leaf Electric Car | Electric | 4,193 |

| | | | | |
|------|--------|--|----------|--------|
| 2006 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2006 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2006 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2008 | BMW | Mini Cooper - Converted Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2005 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2005 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2006 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2004 | Toyota | Scion Xbox - Electric V2G | Electric | 3,084 |
| 2015 | E-Tuk | Vendor Trike | Electric | 2,907 |
| 2017 | Zero | Electric Motor Cycle | Electric | 218 |
| 2017 | Zero | Electric Motor Cycle | Electric | 218 |
| 2018 | Zero | Electric Motor Cycle | Electric | 218 |
| 2018 | Zero | Electric Motor Cycle | Electric | 218 |
| 2019 | Ford | F-750 Dump w/ Plow & Spreader | Gas | 33,000 |
| 1994 | Ford | F-600 Flat Bed | Gas | 26,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | F-650 Box Truck w/Lift | Gas | 25,999 |
| 2012 | Ford | F-650 Box Truck 26' w/Lift | Gas | 25,999 |
| 2007 | Chevy | C5500 Dump Truck | Gas | 19,500 |
| 2020 | Ford | F-550 Box Truck | Gas | 19,500 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-550 Bucket Truck | Gas | 19,500 |
| 2013 | Ford | F-550 Step Van - Ice Cream Truck | Gas | 19,500 |
| 2018 | Ford | F-550 Supreme Freezer Truck | Gas | 19,500 |
| 2004 | Ford | F-550 Cab & Chassis Flat Bed | Gas | 17,500 |
| 2013 | Ford | F-450 4X4 Dump Plow & Spreader | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2017 | Ford | F-450 Refridgerator Truck W/Lift | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2010 | Ford | F-450 Arbor / Plow Body | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2015 | Ford | F-450 4x4 Dump & Plow | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2016 | Ford | F-450 Box Truck | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2013 | Ford | F-450 4X4 Dump Plow & Spreader | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2019 | Ford | F-450 4x4 Plow & Spreader | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-450 Kold King Box Truck w/Lift | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2019 | Ford | F-450 Flat Bed Dump w/ Plow & Spreader | Gas | 16,500 |
| 2019 | Isuzu | NPR-HD 16' Box Truck | Gas | 14,500 |
| 2014 | Ford | E-450 Forrest River ADA | Gas | 14,500 |
| 2014 | Ford | E-450 Forrest River ADA | Gas | 14,500 |
| 2003 | Ford | E-450 Custom Van | Gas | 14,500 |
| 2012 | Ford | E-450 Class III Life Line Ambulance | Gas | 14,500 |
| 2019 | Isuzu | NPR-HD 16' Box Truck | Gas | 14,500 |
| 2016 | Ford | F-350 Box Truck w/Lift | Gas | 14,000 |
| 2020 | Ford | E-350 Commercial Cutaway | Gas | 14,000 |
| 2012 | Ford | F-350 Plow & Spreader on Stake Body Dump | Gas | 13,300 |
| 2009 | Ford | F-350 Box Truck w/Lift | Gas | 13,000 |

| | | | | |
|------|-------|---|-----|--------|
| 2017 | Ford | E-350 Cube Van | Gas | 12,500 |
| 2006 | Chevy | Comm. Cutaway Emergency Response Vehicle | Gas | 12,000 |
| 2012 | Ford | E-350 Commercial Cutaway with Lift | Gas | 11,500 |
| 2007 | Ford | E-350 Cube Van | Gas | 11,500 |
| 2013 | Ford | F-350 4X4 Utility Body | Gas | 11,500 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-350 Box w/Lift | Gas | 11,500 |
| 2016 | Ford | E-350 Box Truck | Gas | 11,500 |
| 2012 | Ford | E-350 Commercial Cutaway with Lift | Gas | 11,500 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-350 4X4 Snow Plow & Spreader | Gas | 11,100 |
| 2019 | Dodge | Ram 3500 w/Plow | Gas | 11,000 |
| 2014 | Ford | F-350 Crew Cab 4X4 Pick Up | Gas | 11,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-350 Crew Cab 4X4 Pick Up | Gas | 10,800 |
| 2019 | Ford | F-350 Utility Body w/Lift | Gas | 10,700 |
| 2019 | Ford | F-350 Utility Body w/Lift | Gas | 10,700 |
| 2015 | Ford | F350 Ext Cab 4x4 Utility Body w/Lift | Gas | 10,700 |
| 2018 | Ford | F-350 Utility Body w/Lift | Gas | 10,700 |
| 2001 | Dodge | R3500 Quad Cab Pick Up | Gas | 10,500 |
| 2012 | Ford | F-350 Plow & Spreader | Gas | 10,400 |
| 2012 | Ford | F-350 4x4 Plow & Spreader | Gas | 10,400 |
| 2008 | Ford | F-350 4x4 Plow & Spreader | Gas | 10,100 |
| 2007 | Ford | F-350 XL Pick Up | Gas | 10,100 |
| 2019 | Ford | F-250 4X4 Plow & Spreader | Gas | 10,100 |
| 2013 | Ford | E-350 Commercial Cutaway | Gas | 10,050 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit Box Truck - 12ft | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | F-350 4x4 Pick Up, Plow & Spreader | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | F-250 Ext Cab 4WD Pick Up w/ Ladder Rack | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | F-250 Ext Cab 4WD Pick Up w/ Ladder Rack | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2016 | Ford | F-250 SD Crew Cab 4WD Pick Up | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | F-250 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2012 | Ford | F-250 Utility Body Truck | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2016 | Ford | F-350 Utility Body w/Lift | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | F-250 4X4 Pick Up | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit 350 Box Truck 12ft. | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2013 | Ford | F-250 Pick Up w/Tool Box | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2013 | Ford | F-250 Utility w/Ladder Rack | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-250 Utility Body Truck | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | F-250 Utility Body 4x4 w\Liftgate | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2012 | Ford | F-250 Utility Body w/Lift | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-250 Utility Body Truck | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | F-350 4X4 Pick Up, Plow & Spreader | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | F-250 Crew Cab 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 10,000 |

| | | | | |
|------|-------|--|-----|--------|
| 2017 | Ford | F-250 Crew Cab Short Bed Pick Up | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | F-250 4x4 Pick Up w/Cap & Ladder Rack | Gas | 10,000 |
| 2012 | Ford | E-350 Comm. Cutaway Utility Van | Gas | 9,900 |
| 2004 | Ford | F-350 Flat Bed Truck | Gas | 9,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-250 Utility Body Truck | Gas | 9,800 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-250 P/U w/Lift & Ladder Rack | Gas | 9,800 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Express 3500 Cargo Crew Van | Gas | 9,600 |
| 2008 | Ford | F-250 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 9,600 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-350 Commercial Cutaway Van | Gas | 9,600 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-250 Ext Cab 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 9,600 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-350 Extended Cargo Van | Gas | 9,500 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-350 Cargo / Crew Seat (Removed) | Gas | 9,500 |
| 2010 | Ford | F-250 Crew Cab 4x2 Pick Up | Gas | 9,400 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Medium Roof Crew Van | Gas | 9,250 |
| 2005 | Chevy | Silverado 4X4 Pick Up | Gas | 9,200 |
| 2008 | GMC | Sierra Crew Cab 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 9,200 |
| 2006 | Chevy | Silverado Crew Cab 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 9,200 |
| 2009 | Ford | E-350 15 Passenger High Top Van | Gas | 9,100 |
| 2010 | Ford | E-350 Ext 15 Passenger | Gas | 9,100 |
| 2009 | Ford | E-350 15 Passenger High Top Van | Gas | 9,100 |
| 1991 | Ford | E-350 15-Passenger Van | Gas | 9,100 |
| 2005 | Ford | E-350 15-Passenger Van | Gas | 9,100 |
| 2020 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,070 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Medium Roof Cargo | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2005 | Ford | F-250 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit 250 Medium Roof Gen Serv Package | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | F-350 4x4 Super Cab Ladder Rack Cap and Bed Glider | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Medium Roof Cargo | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 250 Medium Roof Cargo | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Low Roof Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2008 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |

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|------|-------|--|-----|-------|
| 2008 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van High Top | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van w/Hitch | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van w/Rack & Hitch | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Low Roof Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo - Medium Roof | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 250 Medium Roof Cargo Van | Gas | 9,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Crew Cargo w/Rear AC (YoUDee) | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 High Top Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2007 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 High Top Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2009 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo / Crew Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2011 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2010 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van w/Lift | Gas | 8,900 |
| 2002 | Dodge | Pick Up | Gas | 8,800 |
| 2001 | Dodge | Pick Up | Gas | 8,800 |
| 2004 | Ford | F-250 4X4 Pick Up | Gas | 8,800 |
| 2007 | Ford | F-250 Pick Up | Gas | 8,800 |
| 2017 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo & Ladder Rack | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2012 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo & Ladder Rack | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2008 | Chevy | Suburban 2WD | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2009 | GMC | Savana 2500 Cargo (Racks & Bins) | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Express G2500 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 250 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2009 | GMC | Savana 2500 Cargo (Racks & Bins) | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2019 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2013 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo & Ladder Rack | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2013 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo & Ladder Rack | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Express G2500 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,600 |

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|------|-----------|--|-----|-------|
| 2019 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Express G2500 Cargo Van | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2020 | Chevy | Cargo Van | Gas | 8600 |
| 2008 | GMC | Savana 2500 Cargo Van w/Roof Rack | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2013 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo & Ladder Rack | Gas | 8,600 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 150 Van (10-Passenger) | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit Wagon 10 Passenger Van | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 150 8-Passenger Van | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 150 8-Passenger Van | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 150 Van (10-Passenger) | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 150 8-Passenger Van | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2019 | Ford | Transit 150 8-Passenger Van | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit 150 8-Passenger Van | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 150 Van (10-Passenger) | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit 150 Van (10-Passenger) | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit 150 Wagon (8 Pass) | Gas | 8,550 |
| 2013 | Ford | E-150 / 8 Passenger Van | Gas | 8,520 |
| 2013 | Ford | E-150 / 8 Passenger Van | Gas | 8,520 |
| 2000 | Dodge | B2500 / 9-Passenger Van | Gas | 7,700 |
| 2016 | Chevy | Suburban 4x4 | Gas | 7,500 |
| 2012 | Ford | Expedition 4x4 | Gas | 7,500 |
| 2016 | Chevy | Suburban 4X4 | Gas | 7,500 |
| 2016 | Chevy | Suburban 4X4 | Gas | 7,500 |
| 2016 | Chevy | Suburban 4X4 | Gas | 7,500 |
| 2018 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility PPV | Gas | 7,500 |
| 2014 | Ford | F-150 XL 4x4 w/Ladder Rack | Gas | 7,350 |
| 2011 | Chevy | Tahoe LS 4x4 | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2016 | Chevrolet | Tahoe 4WD Police Pursuit Vehicle | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2020 | Chevy | Tahoe 4x4 Special Service Vehicle | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2015 | Chevy | Tahoe 4x4 PPV | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2015 | Chevy | Tahoe 4x4 PPV | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2016 | Chevy | Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2010 | Chevy | Tahoe SE 4x4 SUV | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2017 | Chevy | Tahoe SSV 4X4 | Gas | 7300 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Tahoe SSV 4X4 | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2018 | Chevy | Tahoe PPV 4x4 | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2019 | Chevy | Tahoe 4x4 SSV - Patrol | Gas | 7,300 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-150 4WD Pick Up | Gas | 7,200 |
| 1998 | Ford | E-250 Cargo Van | Gas | 7,200 |
| 2009 | Ford | F-150 4x4 Pick Up | Gas | 7,200 |
| 2017 | Chevrolet | Silverado 1500 Crew Cab 4X4 | Gas | 7,200 |
| 2009 | Ford | F-150 Regular Cab Pick Up | Gas | 7,200 |

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|------|-------|--|-----|-------|
| 2019 | Chevy | Tahoe SSV 4X4 | Gas | 7,100 |
| 2019 | Chevy | Tahoe PPV 4x4 | Gas | 7,100 |
| 2020 | Ford | Police Interceptor Utility - Black | Gas | 7,100 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-150 Pick Up w/Ladder Rack | Gas | 7,050 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-150 Pick Up w/Ladder Rack | Gas | 7,050 |
| 2016 | Ford | F-150 Crew Cab 4WD Pick Up | Gas | 7,050 |
| 2020 | Ford | Ranger Crew Cab 4WD w/cap & Ladder Rack | Gas | 7,000 |
| 2020 | Ford | F-150 Pick Up | Gas | 7000 |
| 2016 | Dodge | R1500 Crew Cab 4WD Pick Up | Gas | 6,800 |
| 2011 | Ford | F-150 Pick Up w/Cap | Gas | 6,750 |
| 2007 | Ford | F-150 Pick Up | Gas | 6,700 |
| 2011 | Dodge | R1500 Quad Cab 4X4 w/Cap | Gas | 6,700 |
| 1992 | Ford | F-250 Pick Up | Gas | 6,600 |
| 2003 | Dodge | Ram 1500 Pick Up | Gas | 6,550 |
| 2013 | Jeep | Grand Cherokee Laredo 4x4 | Gas | 6,500 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Durango SXT AWD | Gas | 6,500 |
| 2019 | Dodge | Durango SXT AWD | Gas | 6500 |
| 2017 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,465 |
| 2016 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,465 |
| 2021 | Ford | Police Interceptor Utility - White | Gas | 6,465 |
| 2021 | Ford | Police Interceptor Utility - White | Gas | 6,465 |
| 1998 | Dodge | Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2001 | Dodge | Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2001 | Dodge | Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2004 | Chevy | Silverado Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 1998 | Dodge | Ram C1500 Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 1999 | Dodge | Quad Cab Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2011 | Chevy | Silverado 4X4 Pick Up - Reg Cab | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2005 | Chevy | Silverado 1500 Reg Cab Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2005 | Chevy | Silverado 1500 Reg Cab Pick Up | Gas | 6,400 |
| 2018 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2018 | Ford | Police Interceptor Utility 4x4 | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2015 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2018 | Ford | Police Interceptor Utility 4x4 | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2016 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility AWD | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2018 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,342 |

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|------|----------|--|-----|-------|
| 2016 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2017 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,342 |
| 2019 | Toyota | 4Runner SR5 4WD | Gas | 6,300 |
| 2015 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility AWD | Gas | 6,300 |
| 2015 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility AWD | Gas | 6,300 |
| 2015 | Ford | Explorer Police Interceptor Utility 4WD | Gas | 6,300 |
| 1999 | Ford | F-150 Pick Up | Gas | 6,250 |
| 2008 | Ford | Explorer 4X4 | Gas | 6,180 |
| 2014 | Ford | Explorer | Gas | 6,120 |
| 2020 | Chrysler | Voyager Minivan | Gas | 6,055 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Caravan SV | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2019 | Dodge | Grand Caravan ADA Entervan | Gas | 6050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2006 | Dodge | Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2007 | Dodge | Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2013 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2018 | Chrysler | Pacifica Minivan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2017 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SV | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2016 | Dodge | Caravan SV | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2008 | Dodge | Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2013 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2014 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2017 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2018 | Dodge | Grand Caravan | Gas | 6,050 |
| 2019 | Dodge | Grand Caravan SE | Gas | 6,050 |

| | | | | |
|------|--------|---|-----|-------|
| 2016 | Chevy | Colorado Crew Cab 4x4 | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2019 | Ford | Escape 4WD | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | Escape 4x4 SE | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | Escape 4x4 SE | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2018 | Ford | Escape 4x4 SE | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | Escape SE 4X4 | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2019 | Chevy | Colorado 4x4 WT Crew Short Box Pick Up | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2019 | Chevy | Colorado 2x4 WT Crew Short Box Pick Up | Gas | 6,000 |
| 2016 | GMC | Canyon Crew Cab 2WD | Gas | 5,800 |
| 2015 | GMC | Canyon Pick Up | Gas | 5,700 |
| 2015 | GMC | Canyon Pick up | Gas | 5,700 |
| 2014 | Nissan | Frontier Pro-X w/Plow & Spreader | Gas | 5,690 |
| 2018 | Toyota | Tacoma TRD Super Cab 4x4 | Gas | 5,600 |
| 2013 | Nissan | Frontier King Cab | Gas | 5,589 |
| 2008 | Ford | Edge AWD Crossover | Gas | 5,540 |
| 2002 | Dodge | Caravan | Gas | 5,400 |
| 2012 | Chevy | Colorado Ext Cab 4x4 Plow & Spreader | Gas | 5,300 |
| 2012 | Chevy | Colorado Pick Up | Gas | 5,300 |
| 2014 | Ford | Transit Connect Wagon | Gas | 5,280 |
| 2014 | Ford | Transit Connect Wagon | Gas | 5,280 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit Connect Wagon | Gas | 5,280 |
| 2016 | Ford | Transit Connect Wagon LWB | Gas | 5,280 |
| 2015 | Ford | Transit Connect - Small Cargo Van | Gas | 5,270 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit Connect Cargo Van | Gas | 5,270 |
| 2018 | Ford | Transit Connect | Gas | 5,270 |
| 2019 | Ford | Transit Connect XLT Wagon | Gas | 5,200 |
| 2017 | Ford | Transit Connect Cargo Van | Gas | 5,005 |
| 2012 | Ford | Transit Connect Utility Van | Gas | 5,005 |
| 2012 | Ford | Transit Connect Utility Van | Gas | 5,005 |
| 2020 | Ford | Transit Connect Utility Van | Gas | 5,005 |
| 2011 | Ford | Transit Connect Utility Van | Gas | 5,005 |
| 2011 | Ford | Transit Connect Utility Van | Gas | 5,000 |
| 2011 | Ford | Transit Connect Utility Van | Gas | 5,000 |
| 2016 | Ram | Pro Master City (Small Cargo Van) | Gas | 5,000 |
| 2004 | Ford | Taurus S/W | Gas | 4,921 |
| 2003 | Chevy | S-10 Pick Up | Gas | 4,700 |
| 1997 | Ford | Ranger Pick Up | Gas | 4,700 |
| 2010 | Chevy | Impala Sedan | Gas | 4,636 |
| 2019 | Chevy | Equinox LS AWD | Gas | 4,630 |
| 2010 | Dodge | Avenger Sedan | Gas | 4,600 |
| 2008 | Dodge | Avenger Sedan | Gas | 4,600 |

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|------|---------|----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| 2000 | Chevy | S-10 Pick Up | Gas | 4,600 |
| 2016 | Jeep | Patriot 4WD | Gas | 4,575 |
| 2020 | Ford | Escape SUV | Gas | 4,500 |
| 2020 | Ford | Escape SUV | Gas | 4,500 |
| 2017 | Ford | Focus Sedan - 4Door | Gas | 3,990 |
| 2017 | Ford | Focus Sedan - 4Door | Gas | 3,990 |
| 2017 | Ford | Focus Sedan - 4Door | Gas | 3,990 |
| 2012 | Ford | Focus 4DR SE | Gas | 3,990 |
| 2018 | Ford | Fusion Sedan | Gas | 3,681 |
| 2008 | Chevy | Impala Sedan | Gas | 3,555 |
| 2000 | Ford | Taurus Sedan | Gas | 3,340 |
| 2017 | West | Go-4 Parking Enforcement Vehicle | Gas | 2,285 |
| 2020 | Chevy | Express 2500 Cargo Van | Gas | |
| 2018 | Dodge | Caravan Paratransit | Gas/Hybrid | 6,050 |
| 2020 | Toyota | Rav4 AWD Hybrid | Gas/Hybrid | 4,610 |
| 2020 | Toyota | Rav4 AWD Hybrid | Gas/Hybrid | 4,610 |
| 2017 | Ford | C-Max Hybrid | Gas/Hybrid | 5,000 |
| 2017 | Ford | C-Max Hybrid | Gas/Hybrid | 5,000 |
| 2009 | Mercury | Mariner Hybrid 4X4 | Gas/Hybrid | 4,880 |
| 2020 | Toyota | Rav4 AWD Hybrid | Gas/Hybrid | 4,610 |
| 2022 | Toyota | Prius | Gas/Hybrid | 4,255 |
| 2010 | Mercury | Mariner Hybrid 4x4 | Gas/Hybrid | 3,728 |
| 2000 | E-Bus | Fuel Cell Bus / 45-Passenger | Hydrogen | 27,520 |
| 2009 | E-Bus | Fuel Cell Bus / 37-Passenger | Hydrogen | 20,500 |

Resolution:

- **UD shall transition its vehicle fleet to 100% electric vehicles by 2030 through the leveraging of publicly available programs such as the DNREC Electric Vehicle (EV) and Plug-In Electric Hybrid (PHEV) Rebate program**
- **The UD Office of Sustainability shall oversee that the above resolutions are implemented within the provided timeframes produce an updated Climate Action Plan containing the above resolutions.**

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



Background:

- In 2022, the U.S. crossed the 5% market share tipping point for electric vehicle sales, at which point mass-adoption typically occurs and technological preferences rapidly flip putting the U.S. on track for ¼ of all new vehicle sales to be electric by 2025;¹¹²
- Many major vehicle manufacturers including General Motors, Bentley, Mercedes-Benz, Volvo, Cadillac, Honda, Jaguar Land Rover, and Volkswagen have committed to producing exclusively electric vehicles between 2026-2040;¹¹³
- Delaware’s Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) has proposed that all new vehicles sold in Delaware shall be electric starting in 2035 which would make Delaware the 15th state to adopt this measure;¹¹⁴
- Only 0.08% of total parking spaces (9/10,711 parking spaces) at UD are equipped with publicly available charging stations (Table 8)
- Including installation, level 2 chargers which provide ~25-30 miles of range/hour typically cost ~\$4,000-\$13,000 (Table 9), but can pay for themselves within ~3 years through usage fees;^{115,116}

¹¹² Randall, T. “US Crosses the Electric-Car Tipping Point for Mass Adoption” *Bloomberg*. 9 July 2022. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-07-09/us-electric-car-sales-reach-key-milestone#xj4y7vzkg> accessed 22 April 2023.

¹¹³ Motavalli, J. Every Automaker’s EV Plans Through 2035 And Beyond. *Forbes*. 4 Oct. 2021. <https://www.forbes.com/wheels/news/automaker-ev-plans/> 22 April 2023.

¹¹⁴ Barrish, C. “War without guns’ or protecting ‘health and our climate’? Del. debates proposed electric vehicle mandate for new cars in 2035” *WHYY*. 6 April 2023. <https://whyy.org/articles/delaware-electric-vehicle-mandate-2035-debate/> accessed 22 April 2023.

¹¹⁵ EV Charging Station Cost. Ohm Home. <https://www.ohmhomenow.com/electric-vehicles/ev-charging-station-cost/> accessed 23 April 2023.

¹¹⁶ Electric Car Charging Stations: Costs, Payback and Funding Models. Wallbox. <https://blog.wallbox.com/en/electric-car-charging-stations-costs-payback-and-funding-models/> accessed 23 April 2023.

Table 8. Publicly Available Electric Charging Stations at the University of Delaware

| Location | Number of Chargers |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Lot 53 Pearson | 2 |
| Lot 35 Hulihen | 1 |
| Lot 4C Perkins Garage | 1 |
| Lot 14C CFA Garage | 1 |
| Lot 39 Wyoming Maintenance Complex | 4 |

*note: an additional 3 chargers have been ordered for STAR Campus as of Oct. 2022

Table 9. Estimated Costs of New Charging Station Construction⁶⁶

| Itemization | Level 2 (Home) | Level 2 (Parking Garage) | Level 2 (Curb-side) | DC Fast Charging |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Hardware | \$450-\$1000 | \$1,500-\$2,500 | \$1,500-\$3,000 | \$12,000-\$35,000 |
| Electrician Materials | \$50-\$150 | \$210-\$510 | \$150-\$300 | \$300-\$600 |
| Electrician Labor | \$100-\$350 | \$1,240-\$2,940 | \$800-\$1,500 | \$1,600-\$3,000 |
| Other Materials | N/A | \$50-\$100 | \$50-\$150 | \$100-\$400 |
| Other Labor | N/A | \$250-\$750 | \$2,500-7,500 | \$5,000-\$15,000 |
| Transformer | N/A | N/A | N/A | \$10,000-\$25,000 |
| Mobilization | \$50-\$200 | \$250-\$500 | \$250-\$500 | \$600-\$1,200 |
| Permitting | \$0-\$100 | \$50-\$200 | \$50-\$200 | \$50-\$200 |
| Total | \$650-\$1,800 | \$3,550-\$7,500 | \$5,300-\$13,150 | \$29,650-\$80,400 |

*It is estimated that it will cost ~\$2-5 million to ensure 5% of UD's parking spaces are equipped with charging stations.

**Assumptions: UD constructs 524 new publicly available level 2 electric vehicle charging stations to reach 536 total publicly available electric vehicle charging stations by 2025. Half of the new charging stations be constructed in parking garages and half be constructed curbside.

Resolution:

- UD shall equip at least 5% of their parking spaces (536/10,711 parking spaces) with publicly available charging stations by 2025 to be in line with the U.S. Green Building Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Building Design and Construction (BD+C) recommendation and to match the share of new vehicle sales that are BEV's
- The on campus charging stations shall be Level 2 or Level 3 chargers to provide students, faculty, and staff with charging rates that are useful on an 8-hour workday timescale; and
- UD shall take advantage of the offerings of the EPA Green Power Partnership procurement assistance and guidance to provide 100% carbon-free electricity to on-campus charging stations by 2035 in line with U.S. goals
- The UD Office of Sustainability shall oversee that the above resolutions are implemented within the provided timeframes and produce an updated Climate Action Plan containing the above resolutions

*“We don’t need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly.
We need millions of people doing it imperfectly.”*

-Anne-Marie Bonneau, Author/Zero-Waste Chef



Elimination of Single-use Plastics



Background:

- Plastics present a major challenge for society today with less than 10% of all plastics produced actually being recycled
- Plastic packaging (or single use-plastics) takes a large share of the plastics market, as of 2019 plastic packaging was responsible for nearly 44.6% of consumer plastic consumption and 46% of plastic waste was comprised of plastic packaging/single-use plastics
- Governments at all levels including federal, state, and municipalities are acting in direction of reducing single-use plastic waste such as the State of Delaware implementing a single-use plastic bag ban January 1st, 2021¹¹⁷
- UD currently does not supply compostable or bio-plastic cutlery in its dining services and has yet to formulate a long-term plan to reduce single-use plastics on campus
- In 2018-2019, UD produced 2,471 short tons of mixed solid waste (excluding food) and was, therefore, responsible for approximately 865 metric tons of CO₂e emissions¹¹⁸
- Successful precedent exists for other institutions such a Duke University, Lehigh University, the University of Hawaii, the University of Portland, and Johns Hopkins University, who have instituted measures to successfully phase-out single-use plastics on campus

Fact Sheet Accompaniment

1. From 2019, UD offers disposable napkins that are made from 100 percent recycled materials and these are available in all its dining services.¹¹⁹ All dining and catering locations across UD campuses “participate in the University’s single-stream recycling program” too.¹²⁰

¹¹⁷ Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC). “Delaware’s Plastic Carryout Bag Ban.” *Delaware Gov* <https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/waste-hazardous/recycling/plastic-bags/> accessed 14 February 2021.

¹¹⁸ University of Delaware. 2020. “Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the 2018-2019 Academic Year.” *University of Delaware and Siemens* https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/sites.udel.edu/dist/e/763/files/2015/10/UD-2018-2019-GHG-Inventory-Report_Final-V2.pdf accessed 14 February 2021, page 3.

¹¹⁹ Gilreath, Stefanie. 2019. “Reducing Single-use Plastics.” *UDaily* <https://www.udel.edu/udaily/2019/april/dining-services-waste-minimization-earth-month/> accessed 14 February 2021.

¹²⁰ See fn 5.

2. The statutory definition of “solid waste,” according to RCRA Section 1004(27), is “any garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility and other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations, and from community activities.”¹²¹

3. The regulatory definition of “solid waste” is any “discarded material” that is “abandoned,” “inherently-waste-like,” “military munitions,” or “recycled.”¹²²

4. Leveraging fees on single-use plastic products have been demonstrated to reduce overall single-use plastic consumption.¹²³ For example, in England, a 0.05 charge (equivalent of \$0.07)¹²⁴ was introduced (per bag) for single-use plastic bags. In six months, the number of single-use plastic bags provided to customers dropped from 7 billion to 500 million in the first six months of the charge.¹²⁵

5. Exemptions for the State of Delaware plastic bag ban include: (1) plastic wrapping for frozen foods, meat, fish, flowers, or potted plants; (2) bags sold in packages containing multiple bags intended for use as garbage, pet waste, or yard waste; (3) bags used to contain live animals (e.g. fish or insects) sold in pet stores; (4) bags used to transport chemical pesticides, drain-cleaning chemicals, or other caustic chemicals; (5) non-handled bags used to protect a purchased item from damaging or contaminating other purchased items when placed in a recycled paper bag or a reusable grocery bag; (6) bags provided to contain an unwrapped food item; and (7) non-handled bags that are designed to be placed over articles of clothing on a hanger.¹²⁶

6. In the AASHE STARS category of ‘Waste’, UD scored (2020) 3.37 out of 10 credits. Within this category, there are three subcategories: (1) Waste Minimization and Diversion; (2) Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion; (3) and Hazardous Waste Management. Respectively, UD scored 2.87/8, 0/1, and 0.5/1 credits in these subcategories.¹²⁷ Of particular importance is the first subcategory, which assesses universities in relation to three criterion: (1) the university has “implemented source reduction strategies to reduce the total amount of waste generated”; (2) the university’s “total annual waste generation (materials diverted and disposed) is

¹²¹ U.S. EPA. 2017. “Definition of Solid Waste and Recycling.” *EPA* <https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-02/documents/soliddef.pdf> accessed 14 February, page 3.

¹²² See fn 6, page 4.

¹²³ National Conference of State Legislatures. “State Plastic Bag Legislation.” *NCSL* <https://www.ncsl.org/research/environment-and-natural-resources/plastic-bag-legislation.aspx> accessed 14 February 2021.

¹²⁴ FX Convert. “0.05 GBP to USD.” *FX Convert* <https://fxconvert.net/converter/gbp-usd/0.05> accessed 14 February 2021.

¹²⁵ Smithers, Rebecca. 2016. “England’s Plastic Bag Usage Drops 85% Since 5p Charge Introduced.” *The Guardian* <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jul/30/england-plastic-bag-usage-drops-85-per-cent-since-5p-charged-introduced> accessed 14 February 2021.

¹²⁶ Delcode. “Title 7: Conservation, Natural Resources, Chapter 60. Environmental Control, Subchapter IX. Recycling and Waste Reduction.” *Delaware Gov* [https://delcode.delaware.gov/title7/c060/sc09/index.htmlSection,\(e\)\(3\)a-g](https://delcode.delaware.gov/title7/c060/sc09/index.htmlSection,(e)(3)a-g).

¹²⁷ See fn 3.

less than the minimum performance threshold of 0.50 tons (0.45 tonnes) per weighted campus user”; and, most importantly, (3) the university “diverts materials from the landfill or incinerator by recycling, composting, donating or re-selling.”¹²⁸

7. Furthermore, UD scored (2020) 1.25 out of 3 credits for ‘Sustainable Procurement, which assesses, among other things: (1) whether the university has a “stated preference for post-consumer or bio-based content or to otherwise minimize the negative environmental impacts of products and services”; and (2) whether the university has “published sustainability criteria to be applied when evaluating products and services in one or more of the following categories” (one relevant category is “food services” and includes “sustainability objectives in contracts with on-site franchises”).¹²⁹

Resolution:

- **UD commits to eliminating single-use plastics from campus, in favor of eco-friendly alternatives such as biodegradable bio-plastics, compostable items, or replacement with their reusable counterparts.**
- **UD disseminates a university-wide email to all its students, faculty, and staff, in addition to posts on UD social media platforms and blog, that promotes and educates on the reduction of single-use plastics**
- **Where elimination of single use plastics is unfeasible implement a small fee on single-use plastic products sold on its campuses, including in its dining and catering services, whereby the subsequent pool of funds would assist in the establishment of sustainability initiatives across UD’s campuses including proper recycling and end of life management.**

¹²⁸ AASHE STARS. “University of Delaware: OP-19: Waste Minimization and Diversion.” *AASHE* <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/waste/OP-19/documentation/> accessed 14 February 2021.

¹²⁹ AASHE STARS. “University of Delaware: OP-11: Sustainable Procurement.” *AASHE* <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/purchasing/OP-11/documentation/> accessed 14 February 2021.

Battery Recycling Program

Background:

- If placed in a landfill, the toxic materials inside household batteries can leak into the soil and polluting water supplies
- UD currently lacks the infrastructure or initiatives to address end of life battery usage on campus while clear solutions exist since most batteries are recyclable.
- There is a dire need for recycling stations in physical spaces on campus to provide students accessible means of recycling Alkaline 9 volt, AA, AAA, C, D or other small Alkaline Batteries
- For students attending UD, household alkaline and rechargeable batteries can be recycled at selected Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) drop-off centers
- However, DSWA drop-off centers are not walkable and require a vehicle to transport (Table 10)

Table 10. Available DWSA Drop off Locations

| Location | Distance from The Green |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| The Delaware Recycling Center | 16.3 miles |
| Newark Recycling Center | 5.2 miles |
| Pine Tree Corners Transfer Station | 23.5 miles |

Resolution:

- **UD and the Office of Sustainability immediately works towards a Battery Recycling Program in collaboration with Call2Recycle¹³⁰, a non-profit organization, to create battery recycling stations across the university's campuses in high-traffic areas**
- **In collaboration with the GSG, UD and the Office of Sustainability work towards building a collaborative relationship with the City of Newark for the long-term and sustainable funding of battery recycling stations accessible to students, staff, and faculty as well as the local community**
- **UD and the Office of Sustainability promotes recycling a awareness program to help educate students, staff, and faculty about the importance of recycling batteries and where they can locate battery recycling stations on-campus**
- **UD begins gathering data to report on the battery recycling progress and status across the university campuses and the local community**

¹³⁰ Call2Recycle is a non-profit public service organization and over the last twenty-five years the organization has been operating a recycling program working with various companies and municipalities to provide effective and efficient, sustainable and green methods for battery recycling. For more information, history and background, see [link1](#) and [link2](#). In addition, Call2Recycle has been collaborating with many other academic institutions (e.g., Stony Brook University, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Yale University, and University of Houston) and has established battery recycling programs on campus across the US.

Clear and Concise Waste Labeling

Background:

- Many studies have highlighted the importance of effective labeling on recycling bins to improve the fraction of waste diverted to recycling facilities on college campuses;¹³¹
- In 2020, 34.17% of total waste was diverted from landfills through recycling at the University of Delaware (UD),¹³² well below the 60% target set in 2016 for 2020¹³³ and below the 45% average found across other U.S. universities;¹³⁴
- UD maintains an above average rate of putting non-recyclables in recycling bins has previously received a score of just 2.88/8 for waste minimization and diversion when last evaluated for AASHE in 2020^{135,136}
- A 164% increase in campus recycling bin use has been demonstrated upon implementing effective labels that are consistent, concise, clearly readable, and offer examples of acceptable recyclables with the use of icons
- Many recycling bins at UD are unlabeled, difficult to read, offer no examples, are overcrowded, or have labels that predate the 2009 switch to single stream recycling and thus provide incorrect information (Figure 10)
- The lack of accurate, accessible, and clear instructions on recycling bins reduces student confidence in recycling and results in less recyclables being diverted as well as higher contamination rates;

¹³¹ Save, D. (2019, July 5). *Recycling labels increase campus waste diversion*. CleanRiver. Retrieved February 15, 2023, from <https://cleanriver.com/recycling-labels-campus-waste-diversion/>

¹³² Posted by Megan Smalley | April 12, 2021. (n.d.). *RRS examines university recycling, sustainability activities*. Waste Today. Retrieved February 15, 2023

¹³³ *University of Delaware op-19: Waste minimization and diversion*. Waste Minimization and Diversion | University of Delaware | Scorecard | Institutions | STARS Reports. (n.d.). Retrieved February 15, 2023

¹³⁴ Kubitz, L. (2016, November 29). *University to use grant money to bolster recycling on campus*. The Review. Retrieved February 23, 2023, from <https://udreview.com/university-to-use-grant-money-to-bolster-recycling-on-campus/>

¹³⁵ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability Tracking & Rating System (STARS)

¹³⁶ Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). "University of Delaware." *Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)*

Figure 10. Current UD recycling bins maintaining inconsistent and unclear guidance



(a) unlabeled recycling bins in Colburn Laboratory, (b) ineffective recycling label due to excessive text and lack of images found in dorms, (c) ineffective label due to the small text, and lack of images (d) outdated recycling label in Colburn Laboratory predating the switch to single stream recycling in 2008; it falsely asserts that cans / plastics / cardboard / newspaper cannot be recycled.

Resolution:

- By the end 2024, a recycling bin sticker label that provides legible text, icons, and clear examples of recyclables shall be implemented across all UD recycling bins
- Custodial staff shall receive training to prevent recycling waste from being combined with landfill waste; and
- The UD Office of Sustainability shall coordinate this labelling effort and custodial staff training program as well as informational emails to students, faculty, and staff on proper recycling hygiene

Intelligent Waste Collection

Background:

- UD's unsustainable waste management has been clearly evidenced within recent years. As of Jan. 31st, 2020 the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System (STARS), a program of AASHE, provided UD a Waste Minimization and Diversion score of 2.87/8.00, highlighting the dire need for improvement.¹³⁷
- UD's current waste management approach relies on conventional commercial trash cans for collection of single stream recycling and waste in outdoor spaces. It is also important to note that these waste receptacles do not maintain detailed labeling, which have demonstrated a 164% increase in campus waste diversion at other universities.¹³⁸
- Efforts in sustainable waste management have given rise to innovative solutions such as the "smart" solar-compacting waste bins developed by the leading waste and recycling solutions company, Bigbelly. These fully enclosed bins are configurable to meet waste and recycling needs in large public settings leading to cleaner outdoor spaces, reduced rats and pests, decreased collection efforts, and accessible recycling.¹³⁹
- Iowa State University found the implementation of BigBelly's across campus led to a 90% cut in the costs associated with waste collection in comparison to their previous trash cans. The initiative that began in 2009 was found to be so successful the university continued to expand and maintain their efforts. As of 2013, there were a total of 53 solar compactors on the 1900-acre campus.^{140,141}

¹³⁷ Williams, C. University of Delaware OP-19: Waste Minimization and Diversion. *The Sustainability Assessment & Ranking System*. 2020

¹³⁸ Save, D. Recycling Labels Increase Waste Diversion. *Clean River Recycling Solutions*. 2019

¹³⁹ BigBelly. Universities: Case Study UC Berkeley. *BigBelly*. 2023

¹⁴⁰ Iowa State Office of Sustainability. BigBelly Solar: Iowa State University. *Iowa State Live Green*. 2011

¹⁴¹ Pounds, D. Solar-powered Recycling Units Join Trash Compactors. *Inside Iowa State for Faculty and Staff*. 2013

Figure 11. Full Range of BigBelly product line customizable to campus needs¹³⁹



Resolution:

- The University of Delaware in conjunction with the Office of Sustainability, replace all existing outdoor waste and recycling receptacles with BigBelly compactors or an equivalent solar-compacting bin by 2026.
- A standard for outdoor waste and recycling bins is established at one pair of solar-compacting bins per 35 acres of campus and implemented by the year 2030.

Campus Food Waste Management



Background:

- Americans, on average, throw out more than 400lbs (181.4kg) of food per person;¹⁴²
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines food waste as “plate waste (i.e., food that has been served but not eaten), spoiled food, or peels and rinds considered inedible that is sent to feed animals, to be composted or anaerobically digested, or to be landfilled or combusted with energy recovery”;¹⁴³
- The EPA (2018) estimates that food waste accounts for the contents of landfills and combustion facilities more than any other material;¹⁴⁴
- UD has taken some steps to address food waste by up-cycling cooking oils into biofuel, converting food waste into water via mechanical digesters, utilizing a ‘Lean Path’ system and utilizing a system that tracks pre-consumer waste, implementing trayless dining,¹⁴⁵
- UD donates perishable goods to the Food Bank of Delaware each semester, and partnered with the Aramark Green Thread project to establish food waste management and recycling programs;¹⁴⁶
- These measures in UD waste management efforts only pertain to student dining and does not include steps to further combat food waste produced from on-campus events with catering services while also lacking data transparency on food waste

¹⁴² Buzby, Jean C., Hodan Farah-Wells, and Jeffrey Hyman. 2014. "The Estimated Amount, Value, and Calories of Postharvest Food Losses at the Retail and Consumer Levels in the United States." *USDA-ERS Economic Information Bulletin* 121. https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/43833/43680_eib121.pdf?v=1508.7.

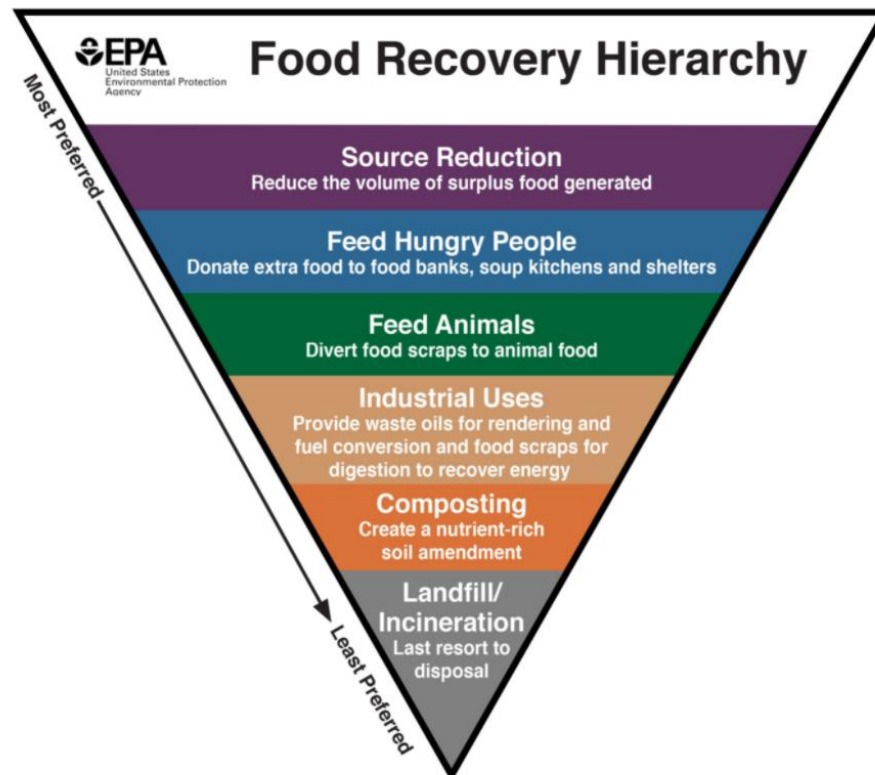
¹⁴³ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), C. "What is Wasted Food and Where Does it Come From?" *EPA* <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/sustainable-management-food-basics>.

¹⁴⁴ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), A. "United States 2030 Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal." *EPA* <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/united-states-2030-food-loss-and-waste-reduction-goal>.

¹⁴⁵ Association for Advancement for Sustainability in Higher Education. (n.d.). *University of Delaware op-8: Sustainable dining*. Sustainable Dining | University of Delaware | Scorecard | Institutions | STARS Reports. Retrieved December 2, 2021, from <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/food-dining/OP-8/>.

¹⁴⁶ Gilreath, S. (2019, April 8). *Reducing single-use plastics*. UDaily. Retrieved November 8, 2021, from <https://www.udel.edu/udaily/2019/april/dining-services-waste-minimization-earth-month/>.

Figure 12. EPA Food Recovery Hierarchy



Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), B. "Food Recovery Hierarchy" EPA <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-hierarchy>.

Program Outlines and Definitions

Pre-consumer food waste: "Food waste discarded by staff within the control of the foodservice operator. This includes all waste in the back of the house including overproduction, trim waste, expiration, spoilage, overcooked items, contaminated items, and dropped items. It also includes all waste in the front of the house that has remained under the control and custody of the foodservice operator, including items on cafeteria stations such as salad bars, steam wells, self-serve deli stations, misordered product (e.g. erroneous grill orders never served), and expired grab & go items. Leftover catering items would be pre-consumer waste if they remain on the catering line and have not been received by an individual customer. If an item has been sold or served to a customer and is then discarded it is no longer pre-consumer waste. Pre-consumer waste offers opportunities for waste reduction and cost savings."- LeanPath. *A short guide to food waste management best practices*.

Post-consumer food waste: “Food waste discarded by customers/guests/students/patients/ visitors after the food has been sold or served. This waste is sometimes referred to as "plate waste" or "table scraps" and the decision to discard it (or leave the food on the plate) is made by the consumer rather than the foodservice operator.” LeanPath. *A short guide to food waste management best practices*.

Lean Path Program: Lean Path offers tools to prevent the accumulation of food waste when food is being prepared for customers/students. It offers scales and touchscreens that allow food waste to be weighed and tracked. Some Lean Path packages include tools that photograph food waste as well. Alongside this, Lean Path offers software that allows users to create visual datasets for further analysis of food waste (e.g., pie chart depicting the main reasons for wasted food). More information on the Lean Path program is available here: <https://www.leanpath.com/solutions/>

Aramark Green Thread: The Aramark Green Thread project is an initiative to “integrate environmentally responsible principles and practices into the services” that Aramark provides to universities, hospitals, municipalities, and businesses. Some of the project’s strategies for integrating environmentally responsible principles include aims to:

- Increase procurement of local and seasonal food;
- Introduce recycling and reuse practices for food and other waste; and
- Implement water and energy conservation efforts.

More on the Aramark Green Thread Project is available here: <https://www.aramark.com/about-us/news/aramark-general/green-thread-environmental-sustainability-platform>

Resolution:

- **UD reports data collected from the *Lean Path* system and pre-consumer waste tracking on the UD Dining Website¹⁴⁷**
- **Collects data on post-consumer food waste in-line with standardized food waste quantification methods and reports it on the UD Dining Website¹⁴⁸**
- **Expands current dining hall food waste management practices to on-campus events with catering services to the extent possible**
- **Considers registering attendees for catered events in which non-attendees are charged a small fee (exceptions included, such as emergencies)**

¹⁴⁷ See: <http://www.udel.edu/dining>

¹⁴⁸ See: <http://www.udel.edu/dining>

Promotion of Sustainable Textiles and Fashion



Background:

- The fashion industry is rife with environmental degradation and human rights abuses due to an opaque global supply chain; a lack of accountability; corporations placing profit over people and planet; a lack of standardized auditing, oversight, and sustainability metrics; and little-to-no government regulation;
- In the academic setting alone, Roughly 100 million polyester gowns in the U.S. have been discarded in the last 30 years, but prior to that commencement regalia was commonly laundered and re-rented;
- Roughly 4 million students graduate in the United States annually, which frames the high environmental cost of regalia within higher education institutions that perpetuate unsustainable business models, and these institutions have the power to make positive environmental change; and
- To ensure environmental sustainability and social responsibility, oversight and supply chain transparency is necessary;
- Production transparency¹⁴⁹ can create a sustainable and socially responsible supply chain at the University of Delaware ('UD') by enabling students, staff, faculty, and visitors to assess the University's manufacturing practices and hold UD, and their partner Barnes & Noble, accountable through purchase power;
- The University of Delaware ('UD'), which has over 185,000 alumni around the world, requires each graduating class (of roughly 6,000 students) to purchase commencement regalia exclusively from the B&N UD Bookstore, which is sourced from the company Oak Hall;
- Oak Hall offers solutions such as the Take Back Program and the option to rent commencement regalia¹⁵⁰, in which the former allows students to place unwanted gowns in recycling bins provided at commencement whereby "regalia that is recycled will be reprocessed into new product"¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁹ The University of Delaware does not provide data on their production process including the "vendors/suppliers" (companies who create the merchandise) and brands they partner with. The only exceptions are Nike, Adidas, Champion, and Under Armour who also appear in Fashion Revolution's Transparency Index.

¹⁵⁰ Oak Hall uses carbon-based dry cleaning which "is one of the most efficient and sustainable methods of dry-cleaning fabrics in mass production."

¹⁵¹See <https://oakhalli.com/about/sustainability/>.

- UD stated in 2021 that “all regalia for associate, bachelor, and master candidates is keeper regalia and not available to rent”;¹⁵² despite scoring 1.25 points out of a total of 3.00 points for Sustainable Procurement, 2.87 points out of a total of 8.00 points for Waste Minimization and Diversion, 5.37 points out of a total of 10.00 points for Diversity & Affordability, and 0.00 points out of a total of 0.50 points for Exemplary Practice in the 2020 AASHE star report;¹⁵³
- In addition to regalia, UD utilizes the global fashion supply chain and acts as a distribution agency for students, staff, faculty, and guests (like that of a retailer or brand that purchases merchandise from vendors/suppliers) for UD branded merchandise;

Resolution:

- UD, in partnership with the Office of Sustainability becomes transparent and publishes their vendor/supplier list (including the brands they license) on the Bookstore website;¹⁵⁴
- Publishes their University Licensing approval standards and guidelines so buyers can examine how UD decides which vendors/suppliers to use
- The university adopts new sustainable wholesale vendors;
- Provides weblinks to available vendor’s Corporate Responsibility Report (CSR) and/or Impact Report provide UD’s community with convenient access to relevant data to allow for informed purchasing decisions, publishes any CSR or worker Codes of Conduct they receive from Barnes & Noble, if any;
- UD establishes a vendor code of conduct or equivalent policy, if there is none currently, that sets expectations about the social and environmental responsibility of the institution's business partners (i.e., product and service providers), such as labor and human rights standards that suppliers must meet
- UD immediately utilizes Oak Hall’s commencement regalia rental option for all associate, bachelor, and master candidates, as it does with doctoral students
- The university allows for Oak Hall’s Take Back Program or instead partner with outside recycling agents to minimize and divert waste
- Offers free or affordable commencement regalia, in addition to hardship support for student

¹⁵² See <https://www.udel.edu/students/commencement/graduates/academic-regalia/>

¹⁵³ See <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/purchasing/OP-11/documentation/>

¹⁵⁴ See <https://udel.spirit.bncollege.com>

- All recommendations are implemented no later than 2030, which echoes the United Nation's call for Better Fashion through its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“We can allow satellites, planets, suns, universe, nay whole systems of universe, to be governed by laws, but the smallest of insect, we wish to be created at once by special act.”

-Charles Darwin



Phase-out Artificial Sprays, Fertilizers, and “-cides”



Background:

- **Biodiversity** is defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the “variety of all forms of life” and is “essential to the existence and proper functioning of all ecosystems” (EPA);
- “Cides” can be understood as including pesticides and functional equivalents, like insecticides, fungicides, adulticides, rodenticides, and herbicides;¹⁵⁵
- The use of ‘cides can cause considerable harm to biodiversity, especially in terms of threatening human access to “food, clean water, medicine, and shelter,” in addition to the intrinsic value of non-human species, and pose the risk of generating resistance in pathogens, pests, and crops;¹⁵⁶
- The proximity of UD’s campuses to White Clay Creek, Christina River, and other major water bodies implicates UD’s usage of a broad range of ‘cides as a threat to local waterways and biodiversity, as well as terrestrial non-human species;¹⁵⁷

Fact Sheet Accompaniment

¹⁵⁵ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). “EnviroAtlas Benefit Category: Biodiversity Conservation.” EPA <https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas/enviroatlas-benefit-category-biodiversity-conservation> accessed 19 October 2020.

¹⁵⁶ IPBES. 2019b. “Chapter 2.2. Status and Trends – Nature.” *IPBES* https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/ipbes_global_assessment_chapter_2_2_nature_unedited_31may.pdf accessed 9 September 2020, pp. 62, 91-92.

¹⁵⁷ Donnelly, K. 2002. “Promoting Delaware Water Quality: DNREC Goals and Achievements.” *Delaware Water Resources Center* 3(2). https://www.wrc.udel.edu/wp-content/uploads/WaterNews/Vol_3/WaterNews_Vol3_No2_Fall_2002.pdf accessed 30 October 2020.

- I. The World Wildlife Fund highlights that biodiversity is “All the different kinds of life you’ll find in one area—the variety of animals, plants, fungi, and even microorganisms like bacteria that make up our natural world,” and biodiversity is needed because it “maintain[s] balance and support[s] life” (WWF).¹⁵⁸
- II. The use of ‘cides can cause considerable harm to biodiversity, especially in terms of threatening human access to “food, clean water, medicine, and shelter,” in addition to the intrinsic value of non-human species.¹⁵⁹ According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), ‘cides “pose serious threats to aquatic and terrestrial species.”¹⁶⁰ The World Bank states that biodiversity is being “threatened by an unprecedented transformation and exploitation of terrestrial and marine ecosystems – driven mostly by human activities,” with one-eight of the total animal and plant species risking extinction within the coming decades.”¹⁶¹
- III. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) identifies pesticides and “agricultural insecticides” as being responsible reducing “macroinvertebrate richness in rivers by up to 40%,” with “urban and agricultural herbicides” adversely affecting non-target species like algae.¹⁶²
- IV. ‘Cides pose the risk of generating resistance in pathogens, pests, and crops that subsequently become “major threats to human wellbeing,” and exacerbates “land and soil degradation,” thereby adversely affecting species distribution and populations of “pollinators and other beneficial organisms.”¹⁶³ Pesticides are specifically a “major threat to pollinator diversity,” and this finding has been echoed by the Delaware government.¹⁶⁴ The Delaware government also found that “[a]ll fireflies are suspected of

¹⁵⁸ World Wildlife Fund (WWF). “What is Biodiversity?” WWF <https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/what-is-biodiversity> accessed 9 September 2020.

¹⁵⁹ See fn 155

¹⁶⁰ See fn 155.

¹⁶¹ World Bank. 2020. “Biodiversity.” *World Bank* <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/biodiversity#1> accessed 19 October 2020.

¹⁶² Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). 2019a. “Chapter 2.1. Status and Trends – Drivers of Change.” *IPBES* https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/ipbes_global_assessment_chapter_2_1_drivers_unedited_31may.pdf accessed 9 September 2020, p. 115.

¹⁶³ IPBES. 2019b. “Chapter 2.2. Status and Trends – Nature.” *IPBES* https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/ipbes_global_assessment_chapter_2_2_nature_unedited_31may.pdf accessed 9 September 2020, pp. 62, 91-92.

¹⁶⁴ Powney, Gary D., Harrower, Colin A., Outhwaite, Charlotte., and Isaac, Nick J. B. 2019. “UK Biodiversity Indicators: D1c. Status of Pollinating Insects: Technical Background Document.” *JNCC* <http://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/3de3abe1-d7d1-417e-9684-1348dd8b9a5a/UKBI2019-TechBG1-D1c.pdf> accessed 5 October 2020, p. 2; Delaware Government. 2015a. “Delaware Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025: Delaware’s Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need.” *Delaware Government* <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/dwap/Documents/2015%20Submitted%20Documents/Chapter%201.pdf> accessed 19 October 2020, p. 93.

being sensitive to pesticide application, including those that occur in urban areas” and pesticides, fungicides, and insecticides present challenges for many species of greatest conservation need.¹⁶⁵ Honey bees and bumblebees are especially negatively affected.¹⁶⁶

- V. Herbicides can reduce, according to the government of Delaware, the “diversity of native plants in the vicinity” and “may lead to increased herbicide resistance of some plant species.”¹⁶⁷
- VI. UD currently uses a broad range of ‘cides, including *Dimension* (herbicide), *Tupersan* (herbicide), *Snapshot* (herbicide), *Gallery* (herbicide), *Freehand* (herbicide), *Dimension 2EW* (herbicide), *Powerzone* (herbicide), *Acclaim Extra* (herbicide), *Drive 75 DF* (herbicide), *Basogran T&O* (herbicide), *Merit* (insecticide), *Tempo* (insecticide), *Orthene T&O* (insecticide), *Conserve* (insecticide), *Glyphosate* (herbicide), and *Sureguard* (herbicide) (UD Grounds).¹⁶⁸ Other artificial sprays include dormant oil (effectively insecticide), *Primo* (plant growth regulator), *Atrimmec* (plant growth regulator), and indicator dye (blue dye added to sprays).¹⁶⁹
- VII. Other academic institutions have successfully taken action to limit or altogether phase-out ‘cides, including the University of California on all its campuses,¹⁷⁰ Sonoma State University,¹⁷¹ all Hawaiian public schools,¹⁷² all Connecticut municipal playgrounds and school properties,¹⁷³ and all New York State schools, day care centers, playgrounds, and athletic fields.¹⁷⁴

¹⁶⁵ Delaware Government. 2015b. “Delaware Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025: Issues Affecting SGCN and Wildlife Habitat in Delaware.” *Delaware Government* <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/dwap/Documents/2015%20Submitted%20Documents/Chapter%203.pdf> accessed 19 October 2020, p. 37.

¹⁶⁶ See fn 164.

¹⁶⁷ See fn 164.

¹⁶⁸ UD Grounds. “Grounds Maintenance Products Available for Use on UD Campus Landscape.” *University of Delaware* <https://web.facilities.udel.edu/docs/CustodialPestControl/GroundsProducts.pdf> accessed 19 November 2020.

¹⁶⁹ See fn 168.

¹⁷⁰ Latham, Jonathan. 2019. “University of California Halts Use of Glyphosate Herbicide.” *Independent Science News* <https://www.independentsciencenews.org/news/university-of-california-system-halts-use-of-glyphosate-herbicide/> accessed 19 November 2020; Feldman, Mackenzie. 2020. “Banning UC Berkeley’s Use of Herbicides from Courts to Campus is a Must.” *The Daily Californian* <https://www.dailycal.org/2017/05/08/banning-herbicides/> accessed 19 November 2020.

¹⁷¹ Sonoma State University News (SSU News). 2019. “Sonoma State Bans Use of Glyphosate Products such as Roundup.” *Sonoma State University News* <http://news.sonoma.edu/article/sonoma-state-bans-use-glyphosate-products-such-roundup> accessed 19 November 2020.

¹⁷² Essoyan, Susan. 2019. “Herbicides Banned on Hawaii Public School Campuses, Superintendent Says.” *West Hawaii Today* <https://www.westhawaii.com/2019/06/27/hawaii-news/herbicides-banned-on-hawaii-public-school-campuses-superintendent-says/> accessed 19 November 2020.

¹⁷³ Beyond Pesticides. 2015. “Connecticut Bans Toxic Lawn Pesticides in Municipal Playgrounds Statewide.” *Beyond Pesticides* <https://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2015/07/connecticut-bans-toxic-lawn-pesticides-in-municipal-playgrounds-statewide/> accessed 19 November 2020.

¹⁷⁴ New York State (NYS) Gov. “Pesticide Use at Schools and Day Care Centers.” *NYS* <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/41822.html> accessed 19 November 2020.

VIII. Based on the IPBES 2019 report, grassland on campus could be transformed into “species-rich meadows and other managed cultivated systems with biodiversity in mind,” and this could be tied to a possible tree-planting program supported by UD and its students, faculty, and staff.¹⁷⁵ Such organically-managed land could enhance mental and physical well-being and help to demonstrate that UD is at the forefront of innovative sustainability action. Green Grants could act as a source of funding. Additionally, this legislation endorses the establishment of UD’s Botanical Gardens Master Plan, which features nine projects.¹⁷⁶

Resolution:

- **In line with comparator institutions, UD takes action to phase-out pesticides usage in all current and future groundskeeping procedures and design these procedures with biodiversity in mind**
- **Based on a 1999 Environmental Law Institute Report for Delaware,¹⁷⁷ UD could adopt the following additional solutions:**
 - **Clearly define biodiversity;**
 - **Develop a campus-wide biodiversity assessment and plan, including a list of established pests known to exist on campus;**
 - **Establish zones on campus that are earmarked for environmental protection to safeguard biodiversity and disallow land development, other than efforts to further enhance biodiversity;**
 - **Adopt stringent environmental design standards for development projects on campus, including biodiversity conservation and restoration;**
 - **Promote infrastructure projects that encourage walking, cycling, and affordable and accessible eco-friendly public transport;**
 - **Involve students, faculty, staff, and local residents in policy planning and land-use development in advance of decision-making;**
 - **Tighten soil and water conservation plans to prevent soil erosion and degradation;**
 - **Improve UD’s Sustainability webpage to make visible its commitment to conservation of wildlife and biodiversity, with updates regarding the university’s ongoing efforts and goals;**

¹⁷⁵ See fn 162, p. 91.

¹⁷⁶ University of Delaware. “Charting the Path into the Future.” *University of Delaware* <https://canr.udel.edu/udbg/capital-campaign-news/> accessed 18 January 2021.

¹⁷⁷ Environmental Law Institute. 1999. “Protecting Delaware’s Natural Heritage: Tools for Biodiversity Conservation.” *Environmental Law Institute* <https://www.eli.org/sites/default/files/eli-pubs/d9.12.pdf> accessed 19 October 2020, pp. 47, 73-74, 116-117, 130.

- **Seek donations to create a fellowship fund for graduate students at UD to ensure efforts pertaining to UD's sustainability efforts are continued into the future;**
- **Create new sustainability programs and enhance existing programs offered to students (undergraduate and graduate) to increase awareness of sustainability-related and biodiversity-related issues; and**
- **Create an anaerobic digester to generate compost as a natural fertilizer.**

Mitigation of Bird Strikes



Background:

- The population of North American birds has declined by 71% since 1970¹⁷⁸
- Birds serve multiple essential roles in a healthy ecosystem working as pollinators and promoting seed dispersal while keeping insect populations in check
- Window strikes are a leading cause of avian deaths being responsible for up to ~1 billion avian deaths annually (see Supplementary Information);^{179,180}
- The University of Delaware (UD) owns and operates multiple low and medium-rise buildings with relatively high areas of glass including Canon Lab, STAR Campus, and ISE Lab, which are well documented to have an increased incidence of bird strikes¹⁸¹
- There is a statistically significant positive correlation between bird window strikes and window surface area, a lack of tall vegetation in building surroundings, and build year (more collisions associated with newer buildings) at UD (See Supplementary Information) including fatal strikes of imperiled species on campus
- The application of commercially available window films has demonstrated a 94-98% reduction in bird window strikes;^{182,183}

¹⁷⁸ Rosenberg, K. V. et al. (2019). Decline of North American avifauna. *Science*. 366 (6461), 120-124. DOI: 10.1126/science.aaw1313

¹⁷⁹ Sovacool, B. K. (2013). The avian benefits of wind energy: A 2009 update. *Renewable Energy*. 49, 19–24. DOI: 10.1016/J.RENENE.2012.01.074

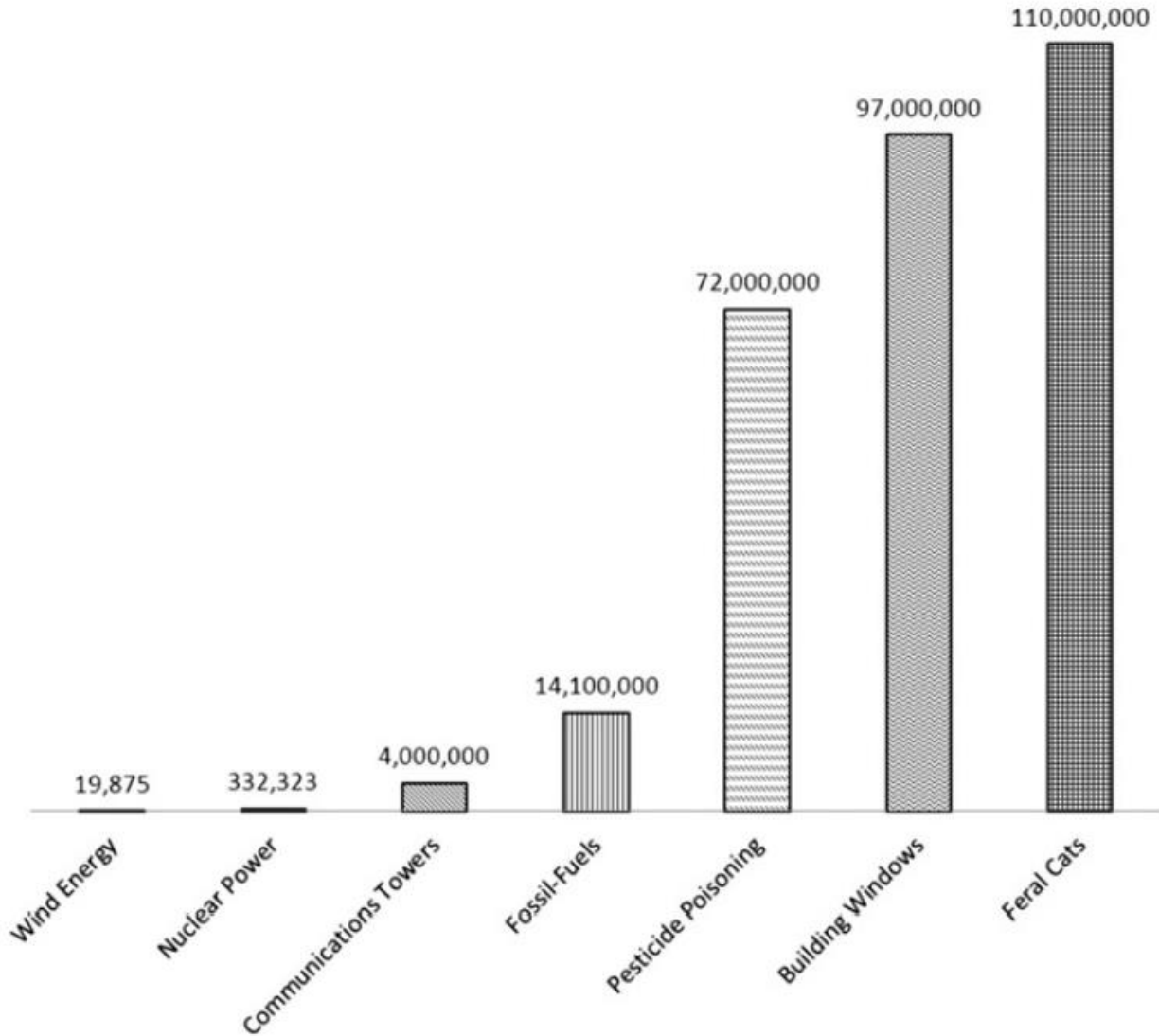
¹⁸⁰ Loss, S. R., Will, T., Loss, S. S., & Marra, P. P. (2014). Bird–building collisions in the United States: Estimates of annual mortality and species vulnerability. *The Condor*. 116 (1), 8–23. DOI: 10.1650/condor-13-090.1

¹⁸¹ Ocampo-Peñuela, N., Winton, R., Wu, C., Zambello, E., Wittig, T., & Cagle, N. (2016). Patterns of bird-window collisions inform mitigation on a university campus. *PeerJ*. 4 (2). DOI: 10.7717/PEERJ.1652

¹⁸² Helzer, D., Coolidge, M., & Ujcic-Ashcroft, J. (2020). Avian Collisions at the Columbia Building.

¹⁸³ Klem Jr., D. (2009). Preventing Bird–Window Collisions. *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*. 121 (2), 314–321. DOI: 10.1676/08-118.1

Figure 13. Causes of Aviation Mortality in the U.S.

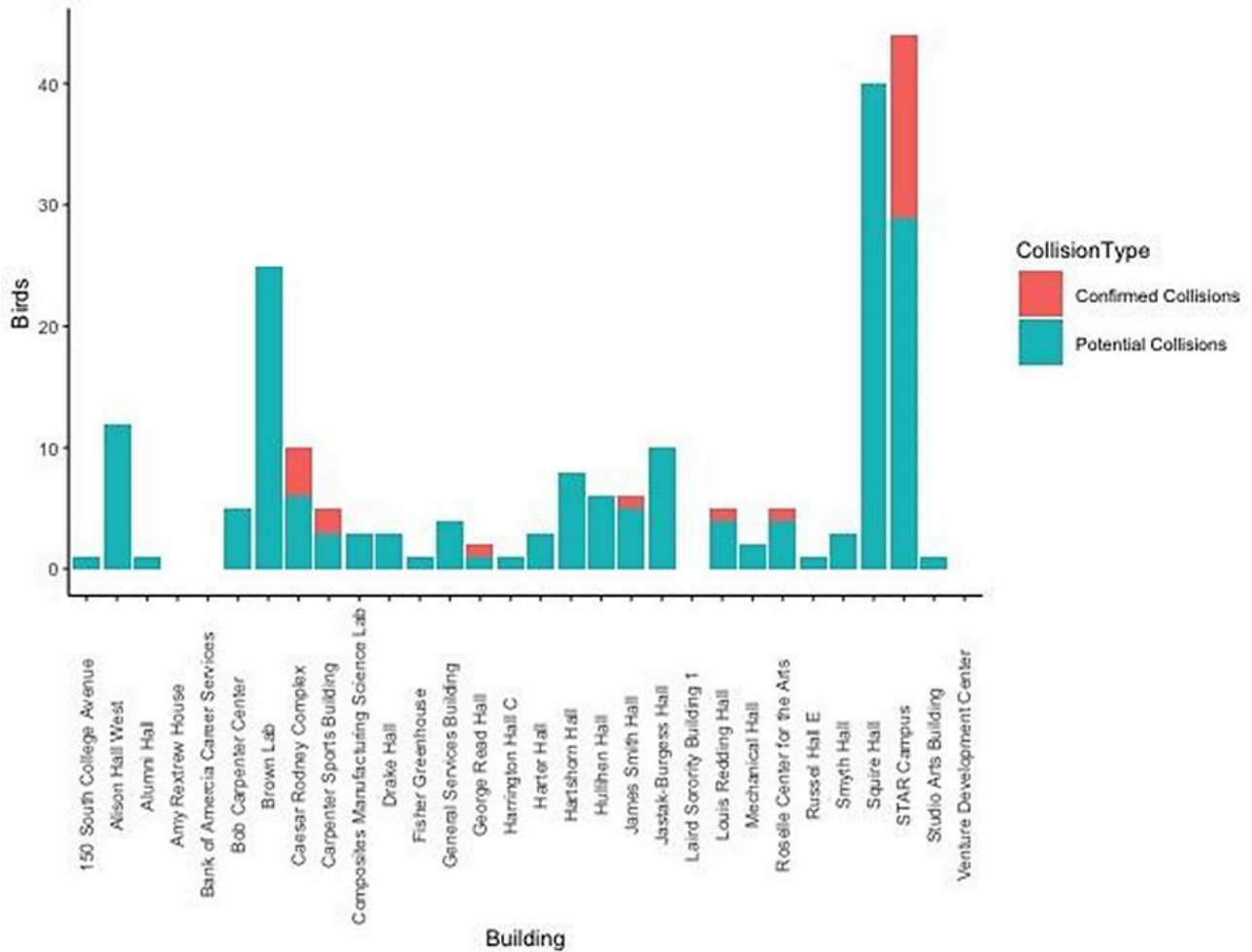


*Numbers represent minimum estimates; the maximum estimate for annual bird mortality due to windows is 975.6 million.

Figure 14. Sample of bird species that likely suffered from window collisions with the University of Delaware buildings



Figure 15. Confirmed and potential aviation collisions with campus buildings (2022 survey)¹⁸⁴



¹⁸⁴ Kirk, H. (2023). Evaluating potential risk factors in bird-window collisions at the University of Delaware. *In Preparation*.

Figure 16. Total collisions as a function of window surface area

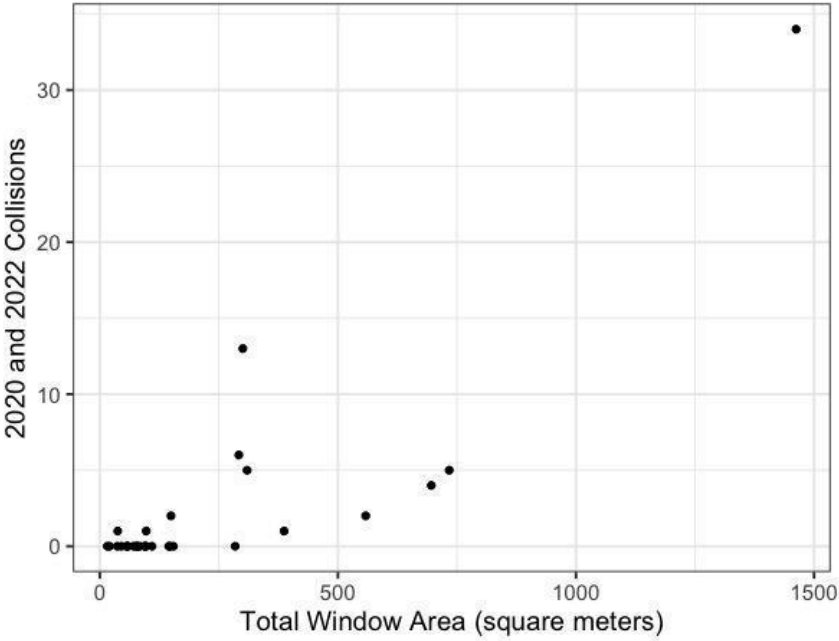


Figure 17. Total collisions as a function of building façade without tall vegetation

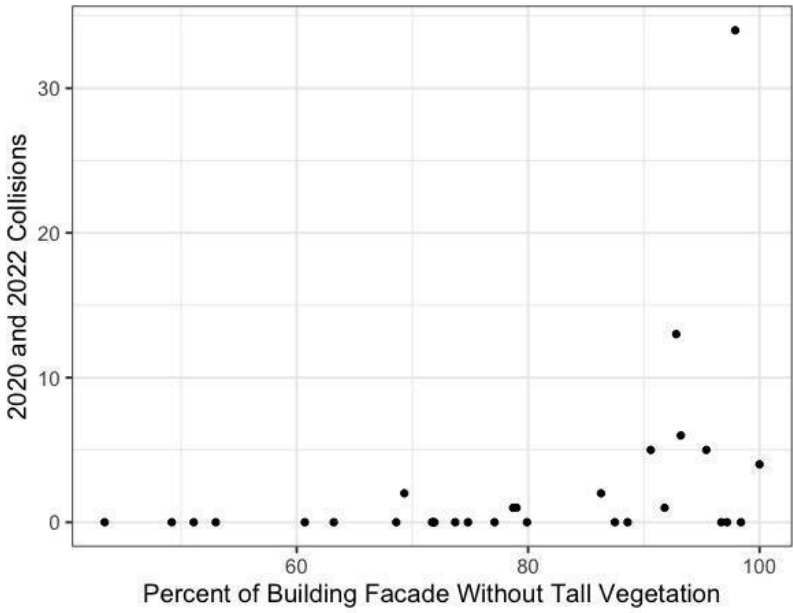


Figure 18. Total collisions as a function of build year

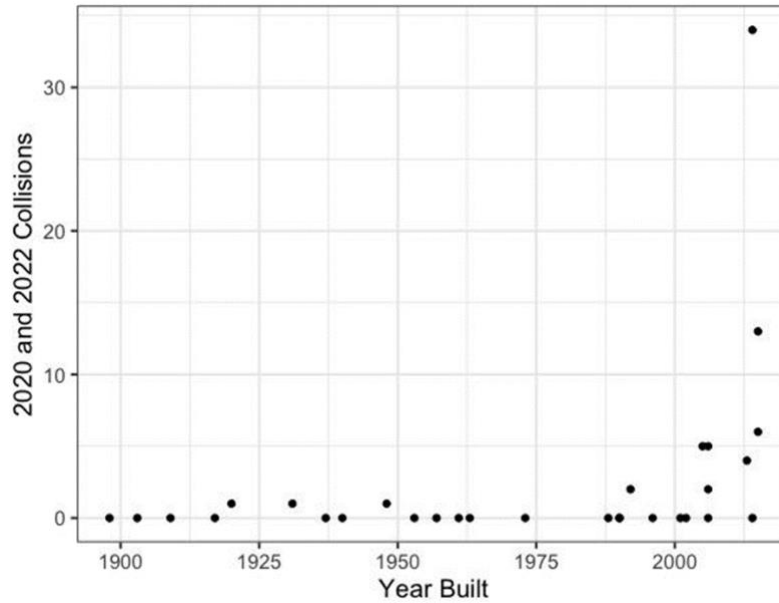


Figure 19. CollidEscape high performance bird tape applied to windows. Dot patterning (left). Stripe patterning (right).¹⁸⁵



¹⁸⁵ CollidEscape. <https://www.collidescape.org> accessed 22 January 2022.

Table 11. Case study of outfitting Cannon Lab with CollidEscapes bird window strike prevention tape¹⁸⁵

| Coverage | 2" Apart | 3" Apart | 4" Apart |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| All Windows | 143 rolls - \$2480.10 | 105 rolls - \$1830.70 | 76 rolls - \$1328.95 |
| ½ of Windows | 72 rolls - \$1261.15 | 53 rolls - \$939.10 | 38 rolls - \$675.35 |
| ¼ of Windows | 36 rolls - \$641.45 | 27 rolls - \$486.10 | 19 rolls - \$347.00 |

Resolution:

- the UD Office of Sustainability shall coordinate the implementation of a solution to reduce bird window strikes on campus
- Bird window strike prevention tape or decals shall be applied to windows including, but not limited to those found on buildings at Canon Lab, STAR campus, and ISE Lab to reduce the incidence of bird strikes
- UD shall rely only upon motion sensing triggered lighting indoors throughout the night and shall only use continuous lighting outside of buildings at night to both reduce energy costs and reduce the incidence of bird strikes
- UD shall use any automated window shade systems already installed to close blinds from dusk to dawn to reduce the incidence of bird strikes
- UD shall plant tall native vegetation in building surroundings to slow avian flight speeds near buildings
- The proposed construction of new buildings at UD shall take bird window strike prevention into consideration to receive a high sustainability score from the UD Trustee Committee on Buildings and Grounds

Native Plantings for Well Supported Ecosystems

Background:

- The University of Delaware’s Grounds Management focuses on planting non-invasive species, rather than striving for exclusively native species¹⁸⁶
- Native plantings attract more insects, which in turn provide a food source for native bird species and support population growth¹⁸⁷
- Birds are integral members of a healthy ecosystem, acting as pollinators and promoting seed dispersal
- Planting native species and reducing the amount of grass cover saves water which is ordinarily used for lawn maintenance and provides reductions in noise and carbon pollution
- UD received a score of 0.00/2.00 for Biodiversity when last evaluated for AASHE STARS, and marked the area as “Not Pursuing” in the self-reporting materials¹⁸⁸
- Comparator Institutions such as the University of Maryland, College Park, which has a score of 2.00/2.00 for Biodiversity from AASHE STARS, have made concerted efforts towards biodiversity and the protection of local species¹⁸⁹
- The New Castle County Department of Public Works already has an environmental initiative, GreenNCC, which supports sustainable practices, including the planting of native plant species, and increasing the percentage of native plant species on campus would align UD with this county-wide initiative, and would additionally bring UD into alignment with the state-wide goals of the Delaware Native Species Commission,¹⁹⁰
- The Cooperative Extension of UD’s Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, a public partnership program, maintains a comprehensive list of trees and shrubs native to

¹⁸⁶ The Sustainability Council, “The University of Delaware Sustainability Plan,” *The University of Delaware* (2022): 24.

¹⁸⁷ Marina Richie, “Why Native Plants Are Better for Birds and People,” *National Audubon Society*, April 6, 2016, <https://www.audubon.org/news/why-native-plants-are-better-birds-and-people>; Stewart and White, “The use of non-native plants,” 67; Desirée L. Narango, Douglas W. Tallamy, and Peter P. Marra, “Nonnative plants reduce population growth of an insectivorous bird,” *PNAS: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 115, no. 45 (October 2018): 11549–11554. DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1809259115.

¹⁸⁸ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), “University of Delaware: OP-10: Biodiversity,” <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-delaware-de/report/2020-01-31/OP/grounds/OP-10/>

¹⁸⁹ AASHE STARS, <https://reports.aashe.org/institutions/university-of-maryland-college-park-md/report/2022-02-27/OP/grounds/OP-10/>

¹⁹⁰ <https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/delaware-native-species-commission/>

Delaware, but UD does not fully utilize its own resources and guidance for campus' landscaping;¹⁹¹

Resolution:

- **The Office of Sustainability defines the planting of native plant species and the protection of regional birds as core elements of its objectives regarding landscaping;¹⁹²**
- **UD shall revise its current policy of planting non-invasive species, and instead more holistically integrate native flora into its landscaping across its campuses, with the goal of having 90% of new plantings consist of native plants by 2030;¹⁹³**
- **UD's Office of Sustainability partner with Grounds, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the UD Botanic Gardens to plan the redevelopment of green spaces and cultivate seedlings for planting**
- **UD set aside currently undeveloped land on the STAR Campus and replace existing areas of turf on each of its campuses with native species that support local birds and other fauna. Crucially, these areas should be removed from nearby structures, especially low- to medium-rise buildings with high areas of glass, to minimize the risk of bird strike deaths.¹⁹⁴**

¹⁹¹ "Native Plants for Delaware Landscapes," College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Delaware, <https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/canr/cooperative-extension/fact-sheets/native-plants-for-delaware-landscapes/>

¹⁹² Beth Miller, "Ready to Roll: New leaders of UD's Office of Sustainability gearing up to tackle urgent agenda." *UDaily*, April 8, 2023, <https://www.udel.edu/udaily/2023/april/sustainability-earth-environment-climate-jeffrey-summerhays-chris-williams/>. The Office of Sustainability lays out nine essential areas of focus.

¹⁹³ This goal reflects the aspirations set forth by the Sustainability Council in their 2022 report while acknowledging that existing trees and shrubs on campus should remain in place. Stewart and White note that non-native species offer valuable nesting habitat for birds, as well as protection from various predators. The Sustainability Council, "The University of Delaware Sustainability Plan," 25; Stewart and White, "The use of non-native plants," 67.

¹⁹⁴ Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela, et al. "Patterns of bird-window collisions inform mitigation on a university campus," *PeerJ* 4, no. 2 (2016). DOI: 10.7717/peerj.1652.

Installation and Maintenance of Green Roofs

Background:

- Green roofs are effective in removing particulate matter improving air quality, they absorb and purify stormwater while also mitigating excessive runoff by retaining up to 90% of the water that falls on them^{195,196}
- A shallow extensive green roof is capable of maintaining the roof's surface at ambient temperature while traditional roofs frequently reach 90°F above ambient temperature, this heat mediation lessens the burden of cooling and can reduce energy demand during summer months by over 75% resulting in reduced carbon emissions;
- When provided with a view of a green roof, students show improved attention, productivity, retention of information, and improved response rates, direct physical access to green roof spaces is correlated with stress reduction, and increased creativity;^{197,198}
- By protecting the roof from high temperatures, UV damage, and harsh weather green roofs last twice as long as traditional rooftops benefits resulting in a national average payback period of just 6.2 years;^{199,200}
- UD received a 4.18/6 for building energy consumption, and a 0/2 for biodiversity, these underperforming categories could gain credits with the addition of green roofs to new and existing building;²⁰¹
- Green roofs require minimal maintenance, weeding once in spring and again in autumn improves their appearance and fertilizing biannually improves the green roofs health;²⁰²

¹⁹⁵ Dowdey, S. (2023, September 8). What is a green roof?. HowStuffWorks Science.

<https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/green-rooftop.htm> }

¹⁹⁶ Davis, C. (2015, July 13). 4 reasons green roofs do a building good. Sustainability.

<https://sustainability.ncsu.edu/blog/changeyourstate/4-reasons-green-roofs-do-a-building-good/>

¹⁹⁷ American Psychological Association. (n.d.). Nurtured by nature. Monitor on Psychology. 5

¹⁹⁸ Perspectives on understanding and measuring the social, cultural and ... National Environmental Science Programme. (2020, September). https://nespurban.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Perspectives-on-understanding-and-measuring-the-social-cultural-and-biodiversity-benefits-of-urban-greening_Sept-1.pdf

¹⁹⁹ The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE); The Sustainability Tracking & Rating System (STARS)

²⁰⁰ *Green roofs*. General Services Administration. (2011, May.). <https://www.gsa.gov/governmentwide-initiatives/federal-highperformance-green-buildings/resource-library/integrative-strategies/green-roofs>

²⁰¹ Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). "University of Delaware." *Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)*

²⁰² *Sempergreen*. (n.d.). <https://www.sempergreen.com/en/solutions/green-roofs/maintaining>

Resolution:

- The university pledges to retrofit 50% of capable buildings with extensive green roofs by 2030 and 100% retrofitted by 2050.
- The Office of Sustainability will oversee the installation and maintenance of extensive or intensive green roofs on all new buildings starting in 2025

Sustainability is the key to ensuring the quality of life for future generations and provides an incredible opportunity for unification around collective environmental challenges. The University of Delaware finds itself positioned to be a leader in sustainability through the holistic development and implementation of sustainable practices in the environment, economic, and social aspects of the UD campus.

Significant strides were made with the establishment the UD Office Of Sustainability; however, there is much left to be accomplished. Prioritizing the outlined resolutions across the broad topics of Energy, Transportation, Food, Waste, and Biodiversity provides direction for this newly established office to efficiently serve the community with high impact.

The recommendations presented in this document demonstrate the magnitude of the diverse solutions required to address the ever-pressing environmental issues we face. We hope the readers are inspired by the wealth of opportunities for improvement and utilize them to bring sustainability to the forefront of the University of Delaware's legacy.