



# UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

## SUSTAINABILITY GUIDE

# WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE?

**Before we get into the Sustainability Guide, let's discuss what climate change and sustainability are and why they are so important.**

Sustainability is the concept of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future. It involves finding a balance between natural resource conservation, social equity, and economic prosperity to ensure long-term wellness. Sustainability can be a solution to many environmental concerns such as overconsumption, pollution, and can even mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Climate Change is the long-term shifts in temperature and weather patterns. Recently, these shifts have been caused by an increase in human activities that require burning fossil fuels, oil, and gas. This results in greenhouse gas emissions being released into the atmosphere, which traps the heat and raises the Earth's temperatures in the process. Climate change can cause the loss of species, issues with agriculture, and the spread of diseases.

**It is important to adopt sustainable life practices to limit the impacts of climate change. Use this guide to learn more about how you can be sustainable on campus and what sustainable initiatives UD has already implemented.**



# TOPICS WE'LL TALK ABOUT

- Recycling.....(pg. 1-3)
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# RECYCLING



**Blue plus gold equals green! Keep UD trash free and recycle!**



## What is Recycling?

Recycling is the process of converting waste materials into reusable objects to prevent them from being discarded into landfills.

## Why is it important?

It is crucial because it helps conserve natural resources, reduces energy consumption, and minimizes pollution.



## Benefits of recycling:

Recycling keeps trash out of landfills, reducing the need for new landfills and helping to preserve natural habitats. Also, recycling has economic value, as it creates jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries and generates revenue from the sale of recycled materials.



# RECYCLING IN DELAWARE



## ACCEPTABLE

Place only these materials loose, empty, clean and dry in your recycling cart or dumpster:



### PAPER

Magazines, junk mail, paper bags, office paper, newspaper, etc.



### PLASTIC CONTAINERS

Leave lids on.



### CANS, BOTTLES, JARS

Remove jar lids and recycle separately

**KEEP YOUR RECYCLABLES OUT OF PLASTIC BAGS. PLACE ITEMS LOOSE IN THE CART.**



### CARTONS, PAPERBOARD, CORRUGATED CARDBOARD



## NOT ACCEPTABLE

Keep these items out of your recycling cart or dumpster:



SHREDDED PAPER



FROZEN FOOD PACKAGING



FOOD WASTE



COFFEE CUPS

Visit our website to learn how to recycle these items:



BATTERIES



STYROFOAM



GARBAGE



MIRRORS AND WINDOW GLASS



TANGLERS

Garden hoses, string lights, nylon rope, etc.



SCRAP METAL



PLASTIC BAGS

Return to retail store.



ELECTRONICS



YARD WASTE



[de.gov/recycling](http://de.gov/recycling)



# HOW TO SORT WASTE AT UD

Clean Hard Plastic



Aluminum Cans



Paper Bags & Cardboard Boxes



Glass Bottles



Do NOT Use Trash Bags for Your Recycling



RECYCLABLE

Food To-Go Box



Plastic Straws



Snack Bags



Used LED Light Strips



Pizza Boxes



Coffee Cups



NOT RECYCLABLE

# WATER AND ELECTRICITY CONSERVATION

There are simple ways you can make a difference!



A reusable water bottle is a great sustainable option compared to plastic water bottles!

Water bottle refill stations can be found across campus, including in Perkins, Trabant, Morris Library, Lil Bob, and in many student dorms!

Consider using laundry detergent eco sheets—no bleach, phosphate, and no extra plastic from jug needed! You can find these at your local convenience store, as well as Amazon. Also, doing laundry with cold water saves a lot of energy!

## HOW TO USE



Put in Clothes



Put in Washer Sheets



Start Washing

## SO EASY!

1 Strip = 1 Load



You can save so much energy by doing the little things! Shutting off lights after you leave the room, unplugging electronics before going on break, and taking shorter showers are great starts!



# TAKE ACTION!

Here are some tips on how you can make sustainable food choices in UD dining facilities!

## 1 Eat Less Meat!

- Reduce your individual carbon footprint by eating less meat in your diet
- UD Dining halls provide vegan stations and plant forward recipes
- Keep an eye out for Sustainable Fish Fridays in Caesar Rodney



## 2 Cool Foods Meals

- Keep an eye out for meals in the dining hall with the CoolFoods badge because they are climate friendly dishes with a low carbon footprint.
- There are at least two CoolFoods dishes each meal period!



## 3 Join ReusePass on GrubHub

- Opt to use the reusable to-go containers available in the dining halls, Greens to Go, and Ecogrounds via the "Reuse Pass" shop in the GrubHub app.
- Make sure to return your containers within 3 days after use!



Scan to Sign Up!



# SUSTAINABLE DINING INITIATIVES AT UD



## Hydroponic Towers

The Dining halls have partnered with the Hydroponics Club to provide students with sustainable, organic, and fresh produce grown right on campus through hydroponic towers. These towers can be found in Caesar Rodney and Pencader dining halls.

## Locally Sourced Food

The Dining Halls commit to use locally sourced and seasonal ingredients grown, raised, or caught within 250 miles when available.



## Composting Food Waste

UD partners with Natural Upcycling to collect all food waste produced at UD's dining halls and student centers, where the food waste is delivered to an anaerobic digester and converted into fertilizer and biogas!

# SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT



Biking is a sustainable and effective way to get around town! **BikeNewark** provides up to date information on bike routes and bike safety. **Newark Bike Project** provides affordable bike options and accepts donations of older bikes to be fixed and reused!



The University of Delaware provides busses to and from a wide variety of locations around campus. Download the University's bus tracking app, **DoubleMap**, to stay updated on routes.

Newark's public transportation system, DART, provides routes throughout the town and surrounding areas. They offer discounted fares for students, just use your UDID!



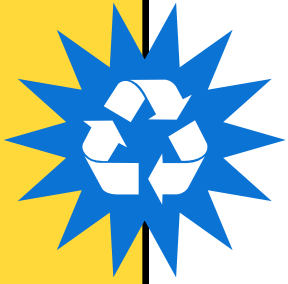
Need to go further? The Newark train station is located on South Campus across from UDairy! Service between the Newark Train Station and Center City Philadelphia along the SEPTA Wilmington/Newark Regional Rail line is available Monday through Friday.

Limited AMTRAK service on the Northeast Regional line is available from Newark Train Station



Electric vehicle charging ports available in various locations around campus including: **Hullihen Hall, Pearson Hall, the Bookstore, Perkins Garage, and the Newark Train Station**

# SECOND HAND IS THE WAY TO GO



An easy way to make more sustainable choices is to buy less stuff! Buy second hand whenever possible! If you don't need it anymore, someone else might!

## U**Don't** Need It!

Have extra furniture laying around after move out? Take advantage of the U**Don't** Need It program which collects furniture in good condition that you no longer need and gives it back to the community!



## Clothing Coop

Located in **Perkins Room 287**, the Clothing Coop is a second hand clothing resource for Blue Hens!

Come shop clothing for all occasions, including professional attire!

## Graduation Gown Recycling

No longer need your graduation gown? Don't throw it away! Keep an eye out for gown donation boxes and keep gowns out of landfills!



# GOING OUTSIDE

**It's time to get outside and enjoy nature! Where around campus can you enjoy the great outdoors?**

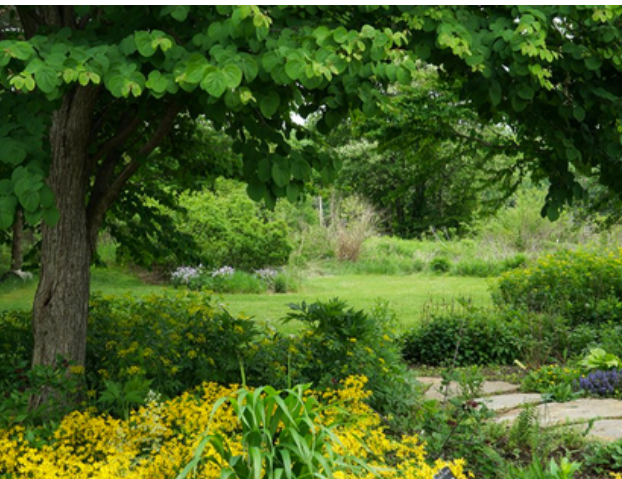
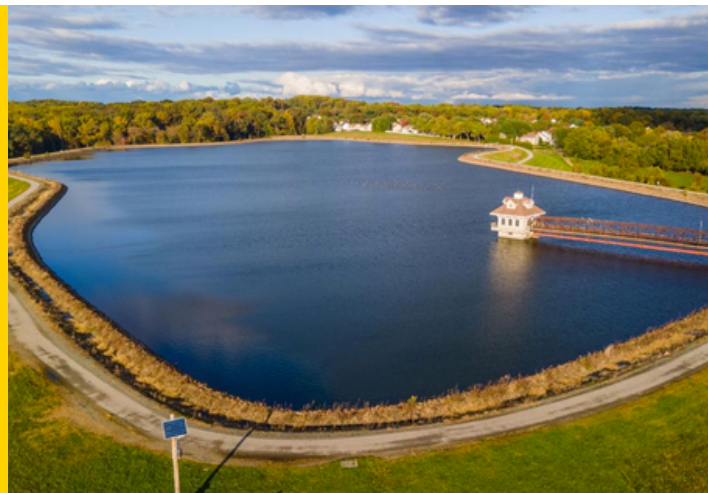


## WHITE CLAY CREEK

Less than a 20 minute walk from Trabant, is White Clay Creek. You can enter the trails behind the North Campus Tennis Courts and follow them to the Creek.

## NEWARK RESERVOIR

Off of Paper Mill Road is the Newark Reservoir. Enjoy a relaxing stroll around the reservoir which is accessible by foot from campus.



## UD BOTANICAL GARDENS

The CANR school supports UD's Botanical Gardens, which are located around Townsend Hall. Be sure to walk around the gardens and check out the Native Garden and Lepidoptera Trail!



# GET INVOLVED

Ready to make an impact? Here are some on and off campus opportunities where you can make a difference!

## RSOs On-Campus:

- Epsilon Eta
- Students for the Environment
- Student Sustainability Alliance
- The Environmental Justice Project
- Sunrise Newark
- Earth, Ocean, and Environment Club
- Sustainable Fashion Club
- Native Species Initiative
- Collegiate Future Farmers of America

*For a full list of sustainability focused RSOs, scan this QR code. To get involved and to find more RSOs, search for these organizations on Student Central or look for them on Instagram.*



## Off Campus Organizations

- Newark Conservation Advisory Commission
- Delaware Nature Society
- Delaware Sierra Club
- Delaware Nature Conservancy



## What Else?

Another important way you can get involved is to vote! Voting is a way you can communicate your priorities to your representatives. Be sure you are registered in your state before the deadline to be eligible to vote. Deadlines, eligibility requirements, and how you can register can be found online.

**Check out [Vote.org](https://www.vote.org) for more information!**

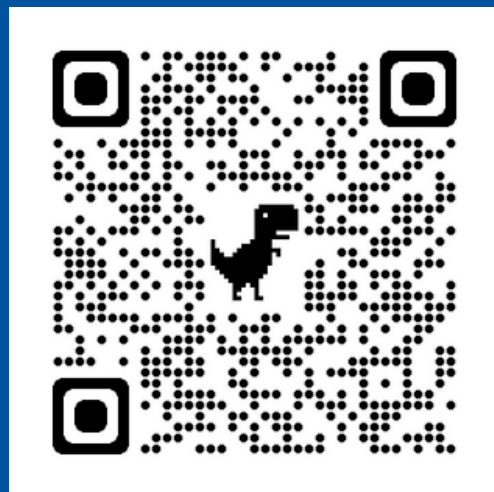
# UD OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY



This guide was produced by the University of Delaware Office of Sustainability that works to bring sustainable practices to our campus. More specifically, the Office of Sustainability serves as a university-wide entity that coordinates, advocates, amplifies, and reports the vast set of sustainability activities within teaching, research, community engagement, and operations of the university.

You can learn more about the Office and ways that you can get involved by visiting: [sites.udel.edu/sustainability/](https://sites.udel.edu/sustainability/) or scanning the QR code.

Follow us on Instagram: @udelsustainability



## Guide Authors:

- Bailey Probert ('24)
- Anna Strucki ('24)
- Kylie Tugend ('25)
- Edward Yu ('25)
- Joshua Minzter ('26)