

*As declared in our Mission, Vision & Values,
"Sustainability at Appalachian State University is not a trend, it is a tradition."*

Sustainability Initiatives: Appalachian State University's Office of Sustainability and Physical Plant work closely with our Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students to lead the nation through innumerable sustainable practices. Appalachian State is also the proud host of the annual Appalachian Energy Summit. The 2015 AES marks the fourth annual gathering for the University of North Carolina Energy Leadership Challenge. During the summit, campus leaders from our 17 public institutions and seven private colleges and universities convene to share best practices and build peer relationships. This year, representatives from community colleges and other states' university systems are invited. Our goals are to jumpstart a national transformative effort across higher education and to save NC over \$1 billion by 2020.



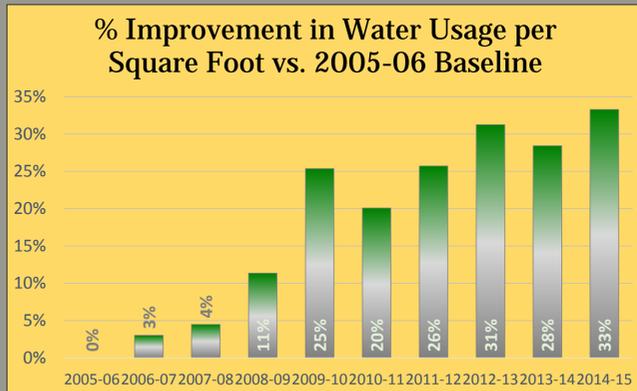
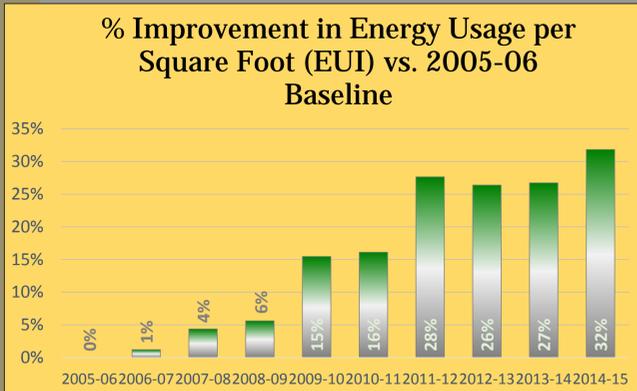
Energy and Water Savings Initiatives: Appalachian State has been focused on reducing energy since 2006 through Energy Savings Performance Contracts and with in house efforts of our operations and maintenance staff. Energy savings measures include LED lighting, replacement of aged HVAC equipment, improved building HVAC controls, steam trap replacement and maintenance, low-flow / dual-flush toilets and low-flow shower heads, building HVAC setbacks and automated scheduling, state of the art laboratory demand ventilation technology, geothermal heat pumps, and window films. The improvements are illustrated below.

Sustainability in Academics:

We established our **Appropriate Technology Program** in 1984 and our **Sustainable Development Program** in 1991.

We currently offer **10 programs** that are **Sustainability-Focused** and an additional **14 programs** that are **Sustainability-Related**.

More than **60** faculty, staff and student members serve on our **Sustainability Council**.



Renewable Energy Initiative: Since 2004, a fee of \$5/student per semester (with a student approval rating of 92%) helps to fulfill the following mission statement: "reduce the environmental impact of Appalachian State University by replacing the University's existing sources of energy with cleaner forms of renewable energy technology on campus and serve as a resource for students and faculty by identifying and investing in the most appropriate energy projects."

Example projects include the photovoltaic (PV) project pictured above, as well as six other PV projects, a 100 kW wind turbine, four solar thermal projects, a solar lab, two biodiesel projects, an electric vehicle charging station, and more, a few of which are pictured to the right.



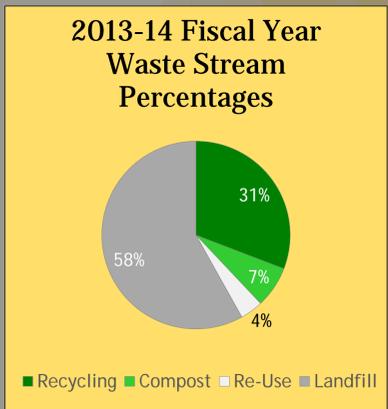
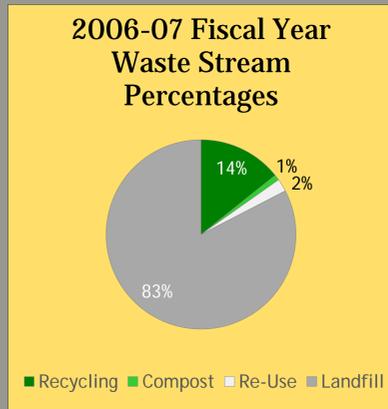
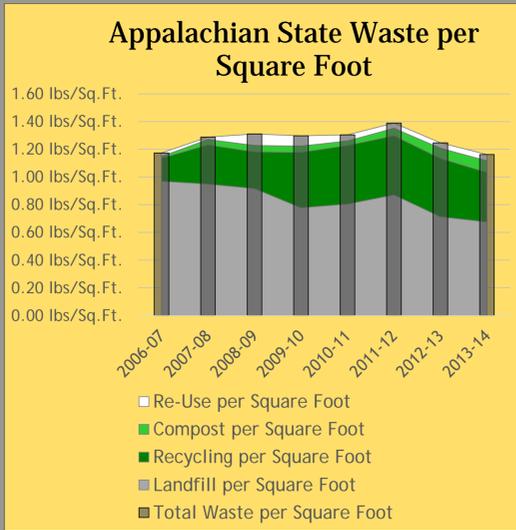
More Sustainability in Academics:

Appalachian houses the **nation's longest running Sustainable Development Program**.

112 faculty members are engaged in **research** and **scholarly activities** related to **sustainability**.

"Contemporary **Green Living: Life Choices in Sustainability**" is the **most popular** first-year seminar course.

Zero Waste Initiative: Appalachian State University is committed to becoming a zero waste campus through a goal of 90% diversion by 2022. Single stream recycling, composting, and a zero waste football stadium are some of the ways we are working towards achieving this goal. As shown below, we are trending in the right direction since we made the zero waste commitment in 2012.



The pie charts above illustrate the significant increase in recycling, compost, and re-use and the substantial decrease in landfilled items over a seven-year period.

Compost: The compost mentioned in the Zero Waste Initiative discussion above is also a sustainable solution for our Landscaping Services Department, who uses 100% of the compost produced throughout campus and on our sustainable farm in a neighboring county.



Pictured above is a service learning trip to a local community garden to learn about sustainable gardening and community composting.

Living Green Residential Learning Community: Appalachian State University offers students a unique housing opportunity known as a Residential Learning Community. One RLC option is the Living Green Community, which is for students who are interested in environmental protection and sustainability and who wish to support that cause by living in an environmentally responsible community. Members of Living Green RLC have the opportunity to create, promote, and implement new initiatives focusing on sustainability on campus; learn about local sustainable initiatives in the community and surrounding area; and participate in fun activities that build awareness around sustainability.