



OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2012

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

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* Indicates a member of the Sustainability Advisory Council (SAC).



Executive Summary

Steady progress was made toward key sustainability initiatives in Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12) and Oregon State University is maintaining its vision to be among the Top 10 land grant institutions in America, and a sustainability leader. One key progress indicator is a [4.2% decrease since FY11](#) in greenhouse gas emissions, in alignment with Strategic Plan Phase II's initiative to substantially reduce OSU's carbon footprint and President Ray's signature to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.

Since FY10, OSU has participated in the [Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System \(STARS\)](#), a comprehensive measure of sustainability in higher education, and this report outlines those measurements and other aspects of OSU's sustainability work. OSU has seen significant growth in student enrollment and building square footage between FY10 and FY12, and these factors influenced sustainability performance and ratings. The University has seen positive gains in the number of sustainability-focused courses offered and greenhouse gas emissions reduced, while construction as well as waste reduction scores declined. Water consumption and community service participation showed positive trends. Research, dining services, planning, diversity and grounds continue to gain high marks for OSU.

Changes needed to improve sustainability performance include increased sustainability content in the curriculum, more buildings with "green" certification, increased efforts to conserve energy, more use of renewable energy, reduction in solid waste, a more efficient campus fleet that uses renewable fuels, and higher focus on socially-responsible investments. The following table shows average summary scores of all STARS-rated institutions, and OSU's scores for comparison.

	Points Possible	OSU FY12	OSU FY10	Avg. of 597 rated institutions
		%	%	%
Education & Research	99.75	72.00%	69.70%	50.90%
Operations	100	49.50%	48.20%	37.60%
Planning, Admin & Engagement	100	74.50%	68.40%	57.60%

Outside of STARS, numerous activities and achievements added to OSU's prominence as a sustainability leader. Select highlights include:

- Using nearly \$850,000 of federal stimulus money to install 17 electric vehicle charging stations and perform 19 energy savings projects, with a payback of less than 5 years
- Operation of a state-of-the-art energy generation facility
- Designation as a "Silver" level Bicycle Friendly University
- Winning the RecycleMania Civil War against University of Oregon
- A novel sustainable textiles symposium
- The creation of a sustainability double degree.

Introduction

Oregon State University made steady progress toward several key sustainability initiatives in Fiscal Year 2012. OSU aspires to be in the top 10 colleges and universities in the United States recognized for excellence in sustainability. With rankings like 11 of 164 in the Sierra Club's Cool Schools, being named in 2012 to The Princeton Review's Honor Roll of the 16 Most Environmentally Responsible Colleges (out of around 800 surveyed) and other awards detailed below, the university has continued a trend of consistently placing in the top 25 for sustainability efforts and FY12 was no different.

This report, STARS, provides a summary of key indicators and highlights accomplishments that occurred between approximately July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012.

Assessment, Awards, and Recognition

Accolades from entities that specialize in higher education sustainability assessment have, for several years, been fundamental to understanding OSU's sustainability success. In FY10, OSU, for the first time, participated in STARS, administered by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS is more comprehensive and standardized than any previous rating or ranking system and serves as the platform for many of the key indicators below.

In addition to the STARS assessment, OSU's ratings and rankings for FY12 are listed here.

- The Princeton Review's 2013 Guide to 322 Green Colleges: OSU was recognized for sustainability practices such as food sourcing, transportation, green building, opportunities to focus on the environment and sustainability in student studies and energy efficiency
- League of American Bicyclists the Bicycle Friendly University program: OSU was awarded a Silver designation for providing a bicycle-friendly campus for students, staff and visitors
- RecycleMania Civil War: Oregon State University won the annual competition with University of Oregon.
- OSU's main campus has been designated by the National Center for Urban Transportation Research as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters. This designation recognizes employers for outstanding efforts to provide alternative to the single occupancy vehicle.



STARS Key Indicators

Despite growth in enrollment and an overall increase in building square footage, performance on many key indicators has improved. Some have slipped. Between FY10 and FY12, student enrollment grew 12%, from 21,969 to 24,977. Over the same period, campus building square footage grew by around 10%, from around 7 million square feet to nearly 7.7 million square feet. This section offers short narratives of significant performance changes (large improvements and declines), areas of consistent high performance and areas for potential improvement.

	Points Possible	OSU FY12	OSU FY10	Avg. of 597 rated institutions
		%	%	%
Education & Research	99.75	72.00%	69.70%	50.90%
Operations	100	49.50%	48.20%	37.60%
Planning, Admin & Engagement	100	74.50%	68.40%	57.60%

Table 1: OSU performance in STARS categories compared to other rated institutions

Areas of Significant Change Between FY10 and FY12

This section details significant changes between FY10 and FY12 in individual STARS credits. Generally, “significant change” here is considered to be greater than +/- 15% for STARS Tier 1 credits. Some credits with less than 15% change are noted here because of the scope, impact or multiplying effect of that credit. Changes to Tier 2 (lower value, quantitative points) are not detailed here.

	Points Possible	FY10		FY12		Change
		Score	%	Score	%	
Sustainability focused courses	10	1.89	19%	2.49	25%	6%
Sustainability courses by dept.	7	4	57%	5.52	79%	22%
Building design & construction	4	2.34	59%	1.5	38%	-21%
GHG emissions reductions	14	1.91	14%	3.67	26%	13%
Computer purchasing	2	1.78	89%	1.4	70%	-19%
Student commute modal split	4	3.44	86%	2.6	65%	-21%
Employee commute modal split	3	1.59	53%	0.94	31%	-22%
Waste reduction	5	1.38	28%	0	0%	-28%
Water consumption	7	5.19	74%	7	100%	26%
Shareholder advocacy	5	0	0%	5	100%	100%
Community service participation	6	0.86	14%	1.24	21%	6%
Community service hours	6	0.29	5%	0.78	13%	8%

Table 2: STARS credits with significant OSU performance change between FY10 and FY12



Sustainability focused courses and sustainability courses by department:

One of Oregon State's largest impacts is the knowledge we impart to students. Between FY10 and FY12, the number of Sustainability Focused courses increased by 6%, from 49 out of 2,596 total courses, to 68 out of 2,728 total. This increase can partly be attributed to the improvement of the assessment tool utilized for this analysis. It can also be attributed to the increasing number of sustainability courses that are being developed at OSU. The credit measuring sustainability courses by department indicates the number of departments that offer at least one sustainability-related or -focused course. Because of continuing consolidation of OSU departments and small adjustments in the Sustainability Office's accounting methodology, 22% more departments on campus were measured to offer courses with a sustainability focus.

Greenhouse gas reduction: Since OSU President Ed Ray's April 2007 signing of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), OSU has made progress toward an ambitious goal of becoming climate neutral by 2025. OSU's STARS score improved by 13% between FY10 and FY12 by reducing gross greenhouse gas emissions from 151,377 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (MTCO₂e) to 135,501 MTCO₂e. Most of this reduction occurred as a result of operation of the new OSU Energy Center, the cogeneration facility that uses natural gas to create about half of OSU's electricity needs and all of the steam used to heat campus. Other efforts like lighting upgrades and federal stimulus-funded steam trap replacements also contributed to this emissions improvement. This increased score was also supported by enhanced data gathering and calculating methods.

Building design and construction: For major construction projects in FY12, OSU opted to build in accordance with green building policies or guidelines but not pursue full LEED certification. All of OSU's projects were LEED Silver equivalent or better. STARS awards partial points for this approach, and only awards full points in this category if all projects meet LEED Platinum certification. Previously, during FY10, the Energy Center was certified Platinum and Kearney Hall was certified Gold, garnering a higher score in that year.

Student and employee commute modal splits: Alternative transportation continues to be a moderately high performing parameter for OSU, particularly given Corvallis' distant proximity to other urban centers. Regional travel data show that Corvallis is an employment destination: many more trips are made into Corvallis for the workday than leave Corvallis for other communities. Corvallis cost of living and other factors contribute to higher reliance on single occupancy vehicle travel. OSU's decrease in score for commute mode splits result from improved data collection methods relative to FY10 and previous years. Despite a 22% reduction in score, it is believed that actual alternative transportation mode utilization has likely improved since FY10.

Waste reduction: Although this credit saw a reduction in score of 29% between FY10 and FY12, differences in data quality are thought to account for the reduction. Data prior to FY12 were estimated using dumpster volumes rather than weights. FY12 STARS submission data came from improved data gathering and waste hauling measurement. In part, Republic Services, OSU's waste hauler, began making precise measurements of each dumpster emptied with their equipment. With improved measurement, OSU plans to further achieve waste reduction relative to our 2005 baseline year. Important to note is OSU's performance on qualitative points in the waste category of credits, indicating many programs are in place to address waste and improve quantitative performance over time.

Water consumption: While weather is a significant factor influencing campus water use, OSU's steps over the last decade to be more water wise have paid off; much of this work occurred before FY10. Despite significant enrollment and square footage growth between FY10 and FY12, water consumption did not increase. The 26% improvement in STARS score resulted from 231,465,608 gallons used in FY10, 231,523,952 gallons used in FY12 and, importantly, a reduction from 267,228,984 gallons in FY05. Factors contributing to this reduction include OSU Landscape Shop's ever-expanding use of a weather-based irrigation system, a conversion of two large sports fields to synthetic turf and water efficient appliances and fixtures installed or retrofitted by the Sustainability Office and other campus units.

Computer purchasing: OSU's very high score for computer purchasing in FY10 reduced by 19% for FY12. In FY10, 89% of OSU's computer and monitor purchases were certified Silver or better by Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool, which was developed using a grant by EPA and is managed by the Green Electronics Council. In FY12, Silver or higher computers and monitors represented 70% of OSU's purchases.

Community service participation and hours: Increases of 6% in community service participation and 8% in community service hours reflect more complete data gathering processes, including a new online web-form for registering and accounting for volunteer and service activities. Even with these new tools, OSU expects the reporting of community service is still incomplete, particularly with the diversity and volume of regular activities observed within student organizations, Greek chapters, Athletics, and courses. There is not yet a culture on campus of reporting community service and engagement activities, resulting in many undocumented hours. Additional days of service (Earth Day Service Day, Make A Difference Day, etc.) and alternative break service trips were added in FY12 by the Center for Civic Engagement, which partially increased the service hours seen in FY12. With the creation of the Center for Civic Engagement in 2011 and a full time professional dedicated to this area, data gathering and activity levels are expected to increase further.

Shareholder advocacy: OSU didn't claim to be engaged in shareholder advocacy for FY10 and did for FY12, gaining the full 5 points for this credit. Shareholder advocacy can manifest in one of several ways: 1) institution files shareholder resolutions that address sustainability; 2) institution submits one or more letters about social or environmental responsibility to a company in which it holds investments; 3) institution conducts a screening of its entire investment pool. This credit does not offer partial points so any activity meeting key aspects earns the full 5 points. Since the OSU Foundation periodically requests its investment consultants conduct a negative screening on the Foundation's holdings and the results are reviewed internally and by the Foundation's Investment Committee, criteria for this credit are met.

In Fiscal Year 2012, Recycling and Surplus sold...

- 313 Bicycles
- 850 Desks and Tables
- 1,007 Chairs
- 1,291 Computers (Bringing in over \$80,000)

Categories of High Performance

		FY10		FY12		% Change
		Score	%	Score	%	
Co-curricular education	17.75	17.5	99%	17.5	99%	0%
Research	27	25.44	94%	26.08	97%	2%
Dining Services	8.5	6.7	79%	6.82	80%	1%
Grounds	3.25	3.25	100%	3.25	100%	0%
Water	10.25	8.44	82%	10.25	100%	18%
Coordination & Planning	18	18	100%	18	100%	0%
Diversity & Affordability	13.75	13.75	100%	13.75	100%	0%
Human Resources	19.75	17.75	90%	17.75	90%	0%

Table 3: OSU scores in STARS high performance subcategories

Co-curricular education: The variety and scale at which OSU engages students outside the traditional classroom setting meets or exceeds STARS criteria for every credit except two: themed housing and themed semester or year. OSU does not currently offer themed housing, semesters or years so these points were not attained. For more details on the extensive offerings for co-curricular education, please visit <http://oregonstate.edu/sustainability/forstudents>

Research: As expected, given OSU's Carnegie Classification as a high research intensity institution, and OSU's designation as a land, sea, space and sun grant university, the volume and type of research conducted at OSU exceeds the STARS requirements by a comfortable margin. For example, to get full points for the number of faculty doing sustainability related research, institutions earn the maximum of 10 points available when 25 or more percent of faculty are engaged in sustainability research. OSU has approximately 31% of faculty engaged. The only room for a higher STARS score in the Research category is within the credit that measures departments engaged in sustainability research, where OSU scored 85% of possible points.

Dining Services: For both FY10 and FY12, OSU scored full points for all qualitative aspects in this category. Room for improvement exists around the quantity of food and beverages purchased from certified sources or from sources within 250 miles of the institution. Institutions earn maximum points when qualifying food and beverages comprise 50 percent or more of food purchases.

Grounds: Full credit was received for FY10 and FY12 in this category of credits due in part to OSU's application of integrated pest management in various forms throughout the Corvallis campus. Also, the university gained points for all qualitative credits including being a Tree Campus USA, utilizing native plants and protecting wildlife habitat. More information at <http://oregonstate.edu/sustainability/natural-features>

Water: For FY12, OSU received full credit in this category due primarily to a 13% reduction in water consumption (detailed above) relative to a 2005 baseline. Amongst others, qualitative credits achieved include water metering for every building and non-potable water use for the rainwater system in Kelley Engineering Center. More info: <http://oregonstate.edu/sustainability/water>

Coordination & Planning: For both FY10 and FY12, OSU achieved the maximum score in this category, where all credits are qualitative and full points are reached by having the presence of a program or plan. With features like a strategic plan that addresses sustainability, a physical development plan that touches on sustainability principles and a climate action plan, OSU is well positioned for high scores in this category because of past planning efforts, although many of these documents need to be updated.

Diversity & Affordability: OSU's multi-year long focus on diversity and creating a welcoming and inclusive campus community have paid off in many ways, including the maximum possible score for this category. Of particular note is OSU's recent attention to affordability and access programs, which include the Bridge to Success and \$150M in academic scholarships through the OSU Foundation.

Human Resources: OSU's score in this category of points is buoyed by high performance in areas like sustainable compensation relative to regional and national averages and offering employee wellness programs. OSU does not currently conduct employee satisfaction evaluations and scored no points for that credit.

Areas of Potential Improvement

This section details areas of potential score improvement and details reasons for lower performing areas. Generally, credits for which the university scored 25% or fewer available points are included in this section. For credits where it makes sense for OSU to pursue performance improvements, general recommendations are included.

	Points Possible	FY10		FY12		% Change
		Score	%	Score	%	
Sustainability focused courses	10	1.89	19%	2.49	25%	6%
Sustainability literacy assessment	2	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Incentives for developing sustainability courses	3	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Building operations & maintenance	7	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Building energy consumption	8	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Clean and renewable energy	7	0.35	5%	0.27	4%	-1%
Campus fleet	2	0.22	11%	0.15	8%	-4%
Waste reduction	5	1.38	28%	0	0%	-28%
Employee satisfaction evaluation	2	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Positive sustainability investments	9	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Community service participation	6	0.86	14%	1.24	21%	6%
Community service hours	6	0.29	5%	0.78	13%	8%

Table 4: OSU scores in STARS subcategories with potential for institutional performance improvement



Sustainability focused courses: As noted above, the number of Sustainability Focused courses increased by 6%, to provide a total score of 25% of possible points for this credit. Combined with the 40% score for **sustainability related courses**, it is clear there is room for more sustainability content within OSU's curriculum. This sustainability focus would support increasing demands with the development of the Sustainability Double Degree, the nationwide advancement of sustainability in higher education and the expansion of sustainability in the workforce.

Recommendation: During FY14, the Sustainability Office will invite a member from the Curriculum Council to join the Sustainability Advisory Council to help address curriculum issues and explore offering incentives for development of sustainability in the curriculum. The Sustainability Office will also benchmark with Extended Campus to learn more about their daylong instructor training.

Sustainability literacy assessment: OSU does not currently conduct entry or exit surveys to assess sustainability literacy of students before and after their university experience. A representative sample, rather than the full student population, would need to be surveyed to earn this credit.

Recommendation: The Sustainability Office, Student Sustainability Initiative and Center for Civic Engagement begin conversations during FY14 with Student Affairs, Institutional Research, University Housing and Dining Services (UHDS) and/or other parties as necessary to craft and implement a statistically valid sample for surveying. Such a survey would support the Social Responsibility and Sustainability aspects of the Learning Goals for Graduates.

Incentives for developing sustainability courses: OSU does not offer incentives for faculty to develop new sustainability courses and/or incorporate sustainability into existing courses or departments. Incentives need to be available to any discipline and may include release time, funding for professional development, and trainings offered by the institution. Incentives for expanding sustainability offerings in academic, non credit, and/or continuing education courses count for this credit.

Recommendation: During FY14, the Sustainability Office should benchmark best practices with the goal of formulating a recommendation to the Sustainability Advisory Council (SAC) for adoption of incentives. [SAC may choose to also pursue other strategies for infusing sustainability into curriculum.

Building operations & maintenance: To receive points for this credit, OSU would need to operate buildings certified under the LEED® for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance Green Building Rating System, and/or in accordance with recognized sustainable operations and maintenance guidelines. OSU has no buildings currently following the qualifying guidelines.

Recommendation: In FY14, hire additional employees within Campus Operations to address operational issues in campus buildings and coordinate the LEED EBOM submittal process.



Building energy consumption: Institutions earn the maximum of 8 points available by reducing building energy consumption per gross square foot of building space by 50 percent, relative to a baseline performance year (2005 for OSU). Further development and sophistication of campus buildings has resulted in stable, but not decreasing, energy consumption.

Recommendation: In FY14, hire additional FTE within Campus Operations to address energy conservation and efficiency opportunities in campus buildings.

Clean and renewable energy: In years prior to FY10, OSU's reliance on renewable energy certificates was higher than in recent years because of varying student and administrative interest in supporting off-site renewable energy development. OSU's partial point in this credit is due to operation of the Energy Center (a clean source of power), the small solar arrays at the Kelley Engineering Building and Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC), the OSU Solar Trailer, and, plus the power generated by the grid tied elliptical exercise machines at Dixon Recreation Center.

Recommendation: During FY15 and beyond, OSU will explore use of renewable fuels in the Energy Center. Continue implementation of solar electric installations and pursue innovative funding methods for other renewable technologies.

Campus fleet: Institutions earn full points for this credit by having 100% of their vehicle fleets powered by gasoline-electric hybrid, diesel-electric hybrid, plug-in hybrid, 100 percent electric, compressed natural gas or biofuels. Miles traveled and amount of fuel consumed are not measured to generate the score for this credit, but those indicators are measured as part of OSU's greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Of OSU's total fleet of 557 vehicles, 43 are fueled by the above sources.

Recommendation: In FY14, Sustainability Office staff will discuss a possible plan with OSU Motor Pool staff to expand vehicles that use alternative fuels and examine necessary overall fleet size. The Sustainability Office will also increase its encouragement of video conferencing as a travel alternative.

Waste reduction: Institutions earn full points for this credit if per capita waste (garbage, recycling and compost) is reduced by 50% or more compared to the 2005 baseline. No points were earned because FY12 per capita waste was higher than the 2005 baseline, likely due to changes in data quality, as described in section 3.1 above.

Recommendation: By the end of FY16, Campus Recycling will further assess the major sources of waste (primarily garbage but also recycling and compost) produced on the Corvallis campus, with the goal of identifying and prioritizing actions for waste diversion and reduction. Additionally, OSU has plans to partner with Republic Services (the local waste hauler) to build an on-campus waste transfer station in 2014.

Employee satisfaction evaluation: OSU does not conduct a survey or other evaluation that allows for anonymous feedback to measure employee satisfaction. Such an assessment would need to cover all departments and be a representative sample of employees. Partial points are not available. Recommendation: During FY14, Sustainability Office staff will discuss with Office of Human Resources their interest level in conducting a representative sample at least once every five years.

Positive sustainability investments: Institutions earn a full score by investing 30 percent or more of their investment pool in one or more of the following:

- Sustainable industries, such as renewable energy or sustainable forestry
- Businesses selected for exemplary sustainability performances
- Sustainability investment funds, such as a renewable energy investment fund
- Community development financial institutions (CDFI)
- Socially responsible mutual funds with positive screens.

Recommendation: Although no concrete plans are yet in place, conversations prompted by the national movement within higher education to divest from fossil fuels have begun conversations about investment screening, sustainability investment funds and renewable energy. The Student Sustainability Initiative, Sustainability Office and other groups should continue momentum in this area.

Community service participation and hours: Details for current scores and future activities are above under section *Areas of Significant Change Between FY10 and FY12*.

Recommendation: Currently, most of the community service hours tracked are those planned through the Center for Civic Engagement. Because a large portion of community service and engagement activities take place through student organizations, Greek chapters, Athletics, and academic courses, a comprehensive reporting and tracking system needs to be utilized by all units on campus facilitating significant community service projects and participation. In FY12, conversations began with Greek life, student organization advisors, and Academic Affairs about this need. However, OSU does not have a user friendly software system or database for all stakeholders to use. More comprehensive hour tracking database and software systems are being explored currently as are funding sources for such a system that would be utilized by both Academic Affairs and Student Affairs. Conversations will begin in FY13 around creating a course designator for the course catalog for service-learning courses in Academic Affairs. Pushing for this change will result in a greatly enhanced ability to track service hours occurring as part of academic course work. Furthermore, the Center for Civic Engagement was established in 2011 and is working diligently to cultivate a culture of community engagement on campus. While great strides have been made in establishing annual service events and programs, dedicating additional FTE to these efforts within Academic Affairs and Student Affairs is needed for OSU to truly elevate our community engagement and community service participation to the next level.

Trademark licensing: Institutions get two points for becoming a member of the Fair Labor Association (FLA) or Worker Rights Consortium (WRC) and two additional points for signing on to the Designated Suppliers Program. OSU uses apparel suppliers that operate in accordance with the labor code established by the Collegiate Licensing Company. State law does not allow for public institutions to join these types of outside agencies. OSU attempts to ensure that the companies making products that bear the university's name are not participating in situations that put workers' rights and safety in jeopardy. OSU follows industry guides but can't participate as a member in WRC or FLA.

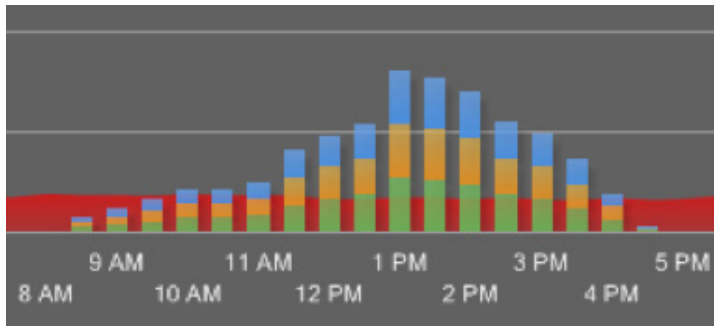
Recommendation: No changes in practice are recommended at this time. University Marketing should consider communicating the existing use of Collegiate Licensing Company labor code.

Highlights Beyond STARS

1. Using primarily federal funding, OSU installed 17 electric vehicle charging stations in four locations around campus. An 18th station on the OSU Solar Trailer at the Student Sustainability Center adds a unique twist on the typical installation.



2. A day-long, free-admission **Sustainable Textiles Symposium** introduced students and others to the vast and varied world of sustainable textiles and apparel and its many innovative components. The symposium featured seven presentations from West Coast based textile and garment companies and business involved in the manufacturing, dyeing, recycling, certification, labeling, and design of sustainable textiles and clothing; many of the companies represented have pioneered sustainable textile production, new recycling techniques, and innovative designs. A roundtable discussion with the speakers was also held to offer students and community members a chance to ask in-depth sustainability-related questions. Approximately 250 OSU students, OSU faculty, community members, and industry members attended the event.



3. The Sustainability Office invested \$750,000 of **federal stimulus money** in **nineteen energy efficiency projects** in OSU buildings. One small project at the CH2MHill Alumni Center reduced that building's consumption of electricity by 45% and natural gas by 40%, saving around \$32,000/year.

4. The Sustainability double degree exposes students to real-world problems and fosters knowledge, skills and abilities to address them in communities and workplaces. In step with the interdisciplinary nature of sustainability, the degree was designed to complement all OSU degree programs and to be earned as a second bachelor's degree in addition to a major area of study. Graduates emerge prepared to communicate effectively, work collaboratively, and apply knowledge of economic, business, scientific, and sociological principles of sustainability to a variety of career fields.

5. While many higher education institutions offer **internal grants** to advance sustainability on campus, the Student Sustainability Initiative (SSI) at Oregon State University (OSU) offers a variety, scale and scope that are innovative, as is the interrelationship between them. The SSI is run and operated by students and is entirely student fee funded. SSI administers four grant programs: Project Grants, Travel Grants, Wage Grants and Green Fee Grants. During FY12, a Research Grant program was also in development.

6. During FY12 OSU **placed new or replaced obsolete bike parking** accommodating 1,224 parking spaces, for a net gain of 637 new spaces. Of the new spaces, 240 are covered.

7. Campus Recycling continued programming that moved OSU toward **waste reduction**. Specific highlights are below, with [more information available online](#).

- **America Recycles Day:** Campus Recycling hosted an event on this nationally recognized day that focused on collecting hard-to-recycle items, and was open to both the on- and off-campus community. In just four hours, Recycling collected 3,000 pounds of electronics, electronic storage media and batteries, plus 30 cubic yards of Styrofoam and film plastic.
- **Move out:** Surplus Property, in collaboration with University Housing & Dining Service, coordinated an effort to reduce waste during residence hall move-out by educating residents and giving them the tools to recycle and donate as much as possible. Donations have been increasing every year since 2010.

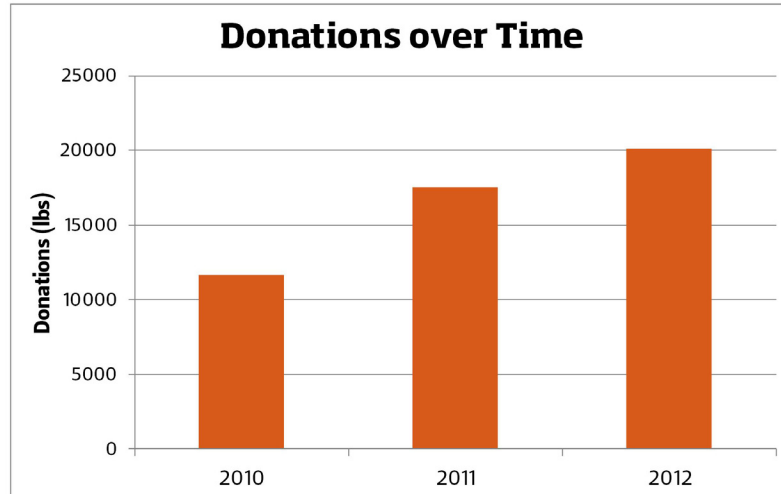


Figure 1

- **Da Vinci Days trash amounts lower:** Through collaboration with da Vinci Days staff, Allied Waste, and community volunteers, 87% of the trash was diverted either to recycling or compost. This was yet another decrease in trash since the festival waste reduction initiative began in 2010; over the first two years of the initiative, per capita trash has decreased by 80%.

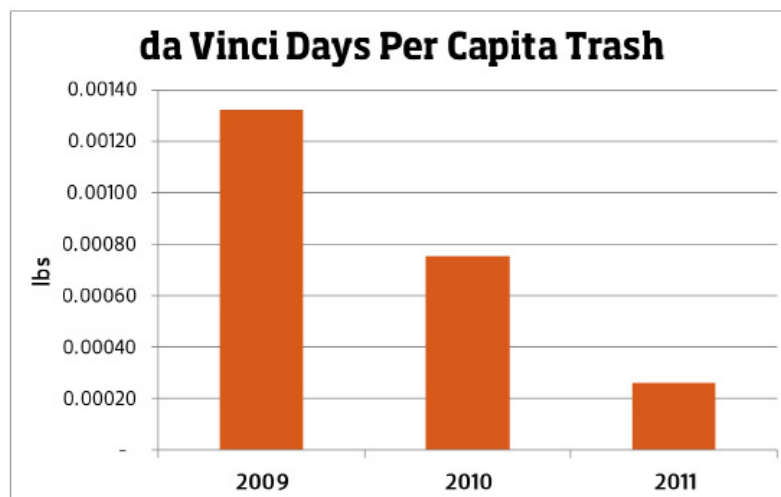


Figure 2

- **RecycleMania:** Again Campus Recycling, sponsored OSU's participation in the national RecycleMania competition, and partnered with many other campus departments and student organizations to put on events throughout the competition. Highlights include:
 - 6% increase in per capita recycling over 2011
 - 49,000 pounds of electronics collected for recycling in just one month, earning OSU a 5th place ranking in the national e-waste competition.
 - 5,000 gallons of Styrofoam collected in one week
 - 1st place ranking among Oregon universities and the Civil War Champion title for the third year.

8. Greening Information Technology. Greening IT is an initiative to reduce the environmental impact of information technology at OSU. Some highlights from FY12 follow:

- Computer lab energy efficiency
 - College of Engineering estimates they save \$8,000/year on electricity by sleeping their computers in the lab
- Paperless/paper use reduction initiatives yield 10% reduction in paper usage in UHDS
- Information Services started a large virtualization project within the data centers to reduce the amount of physical servers, save resources (electricity, HVAC usage, etc.) and meet customer demand better. Featured in an [article on cloud computing in Campus Technology magazine](#).
- Computer power savings – The Community Network, a technical support department on-campus, pushed energy saving power profiles to customer base of 3,000+ computers

Areas Exceeding STARS Credit Maximums

This section details areas where OSU projects, activities or programs reflect priorities and/or strengths of the institution and exceed by a significant margin the STARS point thresholds. These are different than innovation points which strive to be in some way unique; the items listed below may not be unique but have developed in an advanced enough way that they cannot be adequately captured or valued by the number of STARS points allowed.

Sustainability in new student orientation: Worth only 2 points, OSU has made new student orientation a significant part of the student experience and a strong sustainability presence can be found in many programs. Three examples include are listed here:

- START sessions are summer two day events preparing new students and their parents for the upcoming year. During START food is composted and served using compostable serving ware. Sustainability groups and resources are prominently displayed and staffed for students to learn how to get involved and live more sustainably on campus.

- CONNECT is a four day event that starts with campus move-in where volunteers are on hand to show new residents how to recycle and where additional campus resources exist. It is a crash course for students to learn how recycling, composting, and waste reduction works at OSU. The annual Sustainability Fair is a key event during the week, as is the zero waste New Student Picnic where thousands of students gather and more information is available at staffed sustainability tables and booths. It also features a Day of Caring where students participate in a number of community service opportunities on campus and throughout Corvallis.
- U-Engage focuses on how new students can get involved on campus and how when they leave OSU they can be a more productive member of the community. Trips to the Student Sustainability Center are included in U-Engage as is education about how student government works and how students can advocate for themselves and others.

Sustainability events: Worth 0.25 points, this credit considers events where students are the primary audience. Within the scope of this credit, it is not possible to list the numerous OSU conferences and lecture series that include sustainability content. These three events have a strong focus on activities and student engagement:

- As part of Earth Week each April, there are many events (30+) focused on all aspects of sustainability. The largest and most notable is the Community Fair, which typically draws 40-50 campus and community sustainability groups who want to reach students and network with other groups.
- The Energy Civil War is a competition between the University of Oregon and Oregon State University to see which school can produce the most human-generated renewable energy on exercise equipment connected to the power grid. The competition typically occurs near the football civil war and engages the non-sustainability choir.
- Campuses Take Charge is an annual month-long event that challenges individuals to make personal commitments to reduce carbon-dioxide emissions in their daily lives. Emphasis is on reducing energy use through no-cost and low-cost actions. Resident students are one target audience, but outreach is conducted to the entire campus community.

Affordability & access programs: Together with the State of Oregon, OSU offers a wide and varied set of affordability and access programs. A few examples include:

- The Oregon University System Supplemental Tuition Waiver (SCW) program provides limited tuition funds to full-time resident freshmen and sophomores. Eligibility is limited to students with high financial need.
- The Diversity Achievement Award is a competitive award offered to entering undergraduate freshman and transfer students aimed at building upon the diversity and educational goals of the university. Evaluation of award application and financial need are also factored into selection process.
- More than 2,600 students each year are offered support through the Bridge to Success program, which covers full tuition and fees for students in the program

Employee wellness programs: OSU offers extensive employee wellness programs, worth only 0.25 points in STARS. Highlights include

- The Faculty Staff Fitness Program was started in 1984 with 10 activity classes enrolling 100 individuals. Today there are an average of 30-40 classes serving over 800 faculty/staff, GTAs/GRAs, spouses/partners, and retirees of the university each term. No membership fees are collected; a modest class fee is all that is charged.
- “LifeBalanceOSU” helps faculty and staff maintain a healthy balance in life. The program strives to create a family-friendly environment where your work life or school life can be balanced with your personal life.
- Be Well is another effort at OSU by the Healthy Campus Initiative, a collaboration involving students, faculty, and staff. By emphasizing a culture of well-being, we support individuals and our community in adopting and maintaining healthy behaviors that will improve quality of life. A healthy campus provides added value, beyond what individuals provide for themselves. Be Well encourages members of the OSU Community to Be Active, Eat Healthy, Manage Stress, and stay Smoke-Free. In addition to providing resources, services and programs, our aim is to make sustainable changes to the fabric of OSU that will result in a healthier community.
- OSU’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a free confidential service that can assist employees with problems that interfere with day to day activities. OSU has chosen Cascade Centers, Inc., as its EAP provider. Eligible employees and dependents are covered. This confidential service provides telephone contact and/or in-person sessions as needed to assist you in completing an intake, assessment and referral.



Appendices

Appendix I: List of Oregon State University LEED Certified and LEED Equivalent “Green” Buildings
<http://oregonstate.edu/sustainability/completedconstruction>

Appendix II: Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System credit detail table
http://oregonstate.edu//sustainability/sites/default/files/docs/stars_credit_detail.xlsx

