

In 2015, the Green Raiders presented President Merriman with a token of appreciation for his ongoing commitment to Sustainability. Pictured (left-right) Reilly Augustine, Becky Oblak, President Merriman, and Taylor Cline.

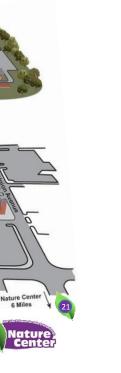




Game Day Recycling Challenge. Pictured (left-right) Jessamine Klefman, Vincent Sansalone, MUcaw, Alana Dawson, and Natalie Nickles



SUSTAINABILITY TOUR





SUSTAINABILITY LOCATIONS

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For more information, or to get involved, contact the <u>S</u>ustainability <u>M</u>anagement <u>A</u>dvisory <u>C</u>ommittee (SMAC)

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President's Office

The University of Mount Union has taken a leadership role in sustainability for higher education. In 2007, a Sustainability Task Force, composed of representatives from the student body, administration, faculty and the Alliance community, was established and President Richard F. Giese signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), making the University of Mount Union a signatory institution. In 2010, the Sustainability Management Advisory Committee (SMAC) was created with the purpose of assisting the President and the President's Council in executive-level, strategic sustainability decisions. In 2015, President W. Richard Merriman recommitted Mount Union to achieving climate neutrality by signing the new Carbon Commitment.

Procurement

The Purchasing Office seeks to provide the University with sustainable purchasing alternatives that are economically viable and meet the social equity and environmental values of the University. In 2008, a Green Sustainable Purchasing Policy was adopted and continues

Green Revolving Fund

In 2016, The University of Mount Union's Board of Trustees showed a continuing commitment to sustainability by approving a Green Revolving Fund (GRF) to be used for energy-related projects on campus. The internal fund will be used to cycle back savings from energy efficiency improvements to fund new projects in the future.

Solar Panels

In 2010. The Peterson Fieldhouse became the home of the largest application of a thin film laminate solar voltaic array in Ohio. A total of 230 feet of the south facing roof is covered by the 18-foot X 15.5 inch solar panels. Each panel is less than an eighth of an inch thick and is fastened to the metal roof with an adhesive. Overall, they make up a 54-kilowatt system and produce enough energy to power seven average-sized homes for one year. There is also a 1-kilowatt solar panel on the HPCC.

Hydration Stations

Hydration stations are located in Bracy, Gallaher, Cope, HPCC and the MAAC. The MAAC boasts the highest usage to date. These stations provide convenient hydration to faculty, staff and students with a rapid fill of filtered water and eliminate plastic water bottle waste. More stations will be installed in the future.

Butterfly Garden

The Eckler Garden was a gift from Alumni in 2000 and serves as both a Shakespeare and Butterfly Garden, due to the varieties of plant species present. Butterfly gardens have intrinsic, aesthetic, educational, scientific, ecosystem, health and economic value. Butterflies are the third most common pollinator behind bees/wasps and flies and serve as an indicator species, one that tells us about the health of our environment.

LED Lighting

The Operations Sub-committee of SMAC has a goal to convert all lighting to LED. The conversion of the Chapel has been the most dramatic with a reduction from 34,100 watts to a mere 2,780 watts - that's a decrease of over 31,000

Food Service

AVI, the food service on campus, is a leader in environmental accountability and incorporating sustainability objectives into its business. Reducing their environmental footprint and integrating sustainable practices is one of their corporate goals (AVIloveoftheearth.com).

Reusable To-Go Containers

The B&B Café sells reusable clam shell containers for a one-time fee of \$5. These containers reduce waste and save money by eliminating the need for disposable containers.

Donation Collection Bins

The HPCC has two collection bins located in the mailroom. These bins are designed to be used throughout the year for special collection drives for such items as shoes. clothing, cell phones, etc. Once collected, these items can be recycled or redistributed, giving the products a new life, while reducing waste to landfill.

Roadway Elimination

Mount Union has taken steps to convert its campus from one dominated by automobiles to one that is pedestrian and bicycle friendly. Since 2012, Mount eliminated traffic on three internal roads (Miller, College and Hartshorn) and moved student parking to the perimeter of campus. Results of these initiatives have increased wellness by creating additional green space, increased walking and biking, as well as reduced emissions from transportation.

Bike Fixit Station

To accommodate the increase in bicycling on campus, more than 240 bike racks have been installed and in 2015 a Bike Fixit Station was installed. The Fixit includes all the tools necessary to perform basic bike repairs and maintenance, from changing a flat to adjusting brakes and derailleurs.

White Roof

The roof on Tolterton-Hood is a white roof. It is painted with a solar reflective white coating and reflects up to 90% of sunlight (as opposed to traditional black roofs which reflect only 20%). White roofs reduce summer energy use by 10-40%, saving money and preventing pollution.

Information Technology

Information technology (IT) purchases Energy Star hardware and products from vendors that promote sustainability. They continue to improve server technology using a combination of storage area networking (SAN) and virtualization. IT developed policies for energy saving practices on campus computers and initiated a pay to print program reducing paper waste.

Gartner Welcome Center - LEED Silver

Gartner Welcome Center is a LEED Silver building - the first in the City of Alliance. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a green building rating system. The green building attributes include a geothermal heat pump. zero use of CFC refrigerants in the HVAC system, automatic lighting controls, large use of materials with significant recycled content, higher glazing in windows, low flow fixtures and high efficiency mechanical and electrical systems. UMU has committed to building new structures to LEED standards.

Tree Campus USA

Mount Union has been recognized as a Tree Campus USA since 2010 for its commitment to effective urban forest management. Tree Campus USA is a national program created in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation. This program was created to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for involving staff and students in conservation initiatives. The UMU campus boasts well over 1,300 trees.

Environmental Science Program

The Environmental Science Program serves as the academic cornerstone of sustainability. The environmental science major at Mount Union is interdisciplinary, integrating traditional science with the humanities. The program seeks to develop environmentally informed professionals and citizens who can contribute to responsible environmental management and who possess leadership, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Public Transportation

SARTA (Stark Area Regional Transit Authority) bus stops are strategically located near campus (State St. and Union Ave.) to allow the UMU community easy access to public transportation. Throughout the year, SARTA representatives are invited to campus to speak to students about bus passes and routes.

Bioswale

Bioswales are landscape elements designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water. Bioswales are used around the parking lots of the Union Avenue Townhouses and at the Nature Center. The bioswales treat the runoff before releasing it as storm water.

Physical Plant

Physical Plant has shown significant leadership in implementing sustainability projects involving campus buildings and grounds. Projects include green building and energy efficiency projects, managing the campus commitment to recycling, and maintaining the grounds in an aesthetically pleasing and sustainable manner.

The Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center

The Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center was established through a gift from Dr. John D. Brumbaugh. Brumbaugh donated his grandfather's (John T. Huston) 109-acre farm to Mount Union in 1986. The farm included old growth and second growth forest and a large historic bank barn. He also established a generous endowment to provide for the development of the area as a nature preserve and educational facility. Mount Union faculty and students use the Nature Center for classes, laboratory sessions and research. Student organizations use the Nature Center for meetings and retreats and individual students visit the Nature Center to experience beauty and peace. Additionally, the Nature Center is open to the public and offers many free programs. Each year, K-12 students visit the Nature Center to participate in learning experiences that are tied to the Ohio Academic Standards.

Regula Center for Civic Engagement

The Regula Center is home to a variety of communitybased opportunities that allow students to learn about and experience engaged, informed citizenship, a value of sustainability. Home to the Dowling Mentor Program, Regula Scholars, Sophomore Service Honorary and the Continued Learning Program, the Center provides a wide range of programming for our students and the community.

Sustainability Office

The Sustainability Manager, with the help of student Sustainability Assistants (aka Green Raiders), support Mount Union's sustainability initiatives. They work alongside the Sustainability Managements Advisory Committee (SMAC) to increase sustainability in both the University's operations and academics by overseeing the implementation of the University's Sustainability Plan and completing ongoing assessments through STARS. UMU received a STARS Silver rating in 2014.

