



# **SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS REPORT 2012**

# INTRODUCTION

In April 2012, Lehigh University adopted its first Campus Sustainability Plan which framed our path forward integrating sustainability into our academic mission and operational processes. By establishing baselines, setting policies and standards, changing behaviors, executing projects and measuring progress, the University identified the necessary steps we must take in the next couple of years. By achieving our goals, Lehigh demonstrates our ability to reduce our environmental impact while improving systems and processes that save resources, time and money.

The following report is a snapshot of progress toward Lehigh University’s sustainability goals, contained in Lehigh’s Campus Sustainability Plan 2012. When achieved we will illustrate that the University can enhance its academic and educational experiences, community partnerships and environmental footprint.

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# BUILT ENVIRONMENT & LAND USE



Lehigh will be a campus where the principles of sustainability are clearly evident in the built environment and surrounding landscape, and where these principles guide design, development, and maintenance processes in terms of both environmental sensitivity and supporting an inclusive and equitable community

## GOALS

- Use environmentally-friendly materials and practices in new construction and renovations
- Use environmentally-friendly materials and practices in building maintenance & operations
- Commit to using environmentally friendly materials and practices in operation and maintenance of exterior hardscape

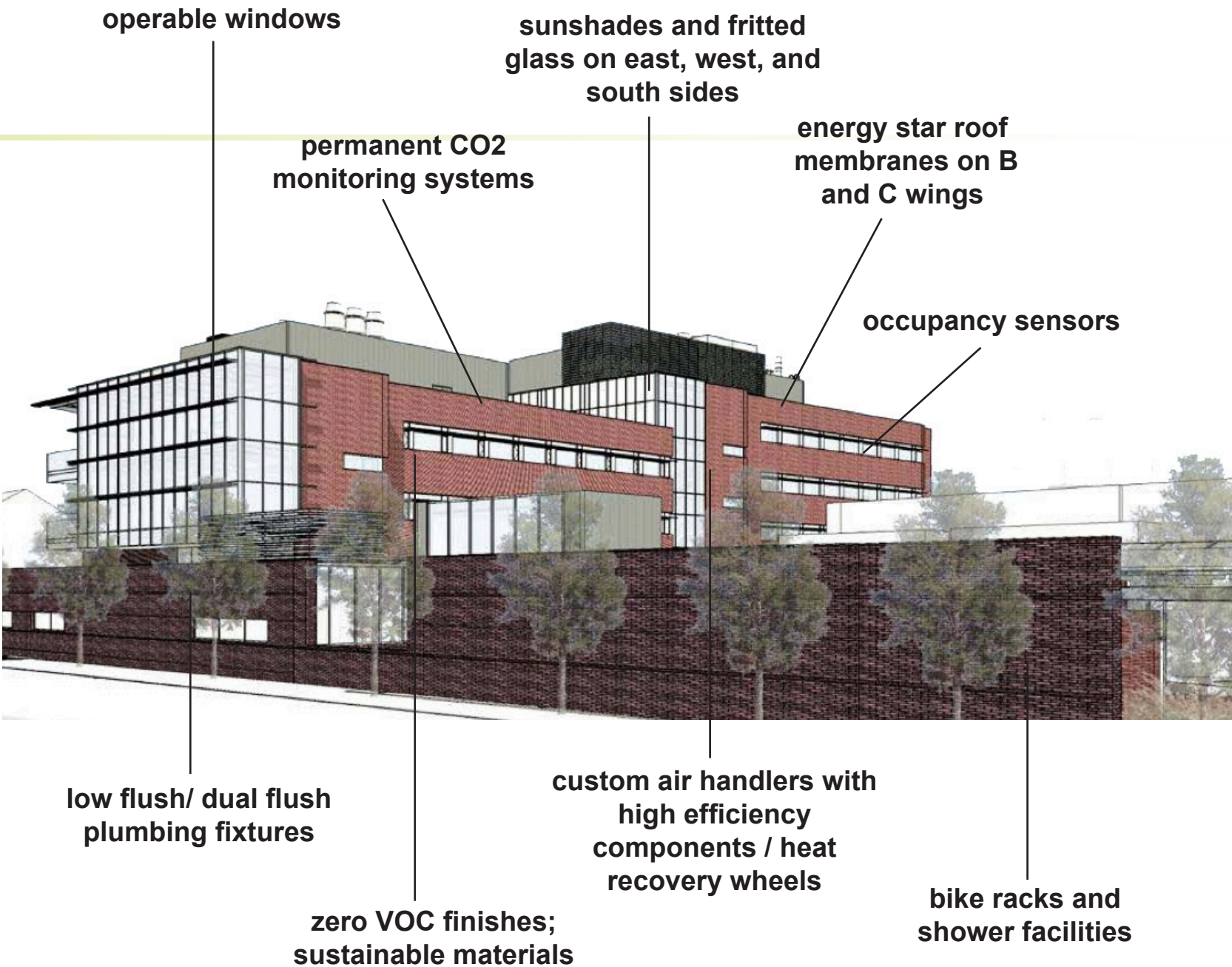
## PROGRESS TO DATE

- RFP's and vendor contracts now include requirement for recycling of construction debris and salvaging of waste metal
- 2012 Campus Master Plan includes expanding the "car-free zone" and making improvements to campus shuttle system with more, and more conveniently located, bus stops

## NEXT STEPS

- Design Williams Hall building-wide renovation to achieve LEED Silver certification
- Review project management standards to include sustainability guidelines
- Materials for smaller-scope projects (where LEED certification is not applicable) will be specified for "green" attributes (e.g., low VOCs; recycled / recyclable content in finishes and furnishings; occupancy sensors; low-flow plumbing fixtures, etc.)

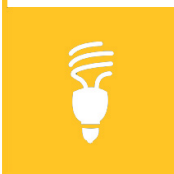
**Green building is  
expected to avoid  
87,437 lbs of sulfur  
dioxide emissions**



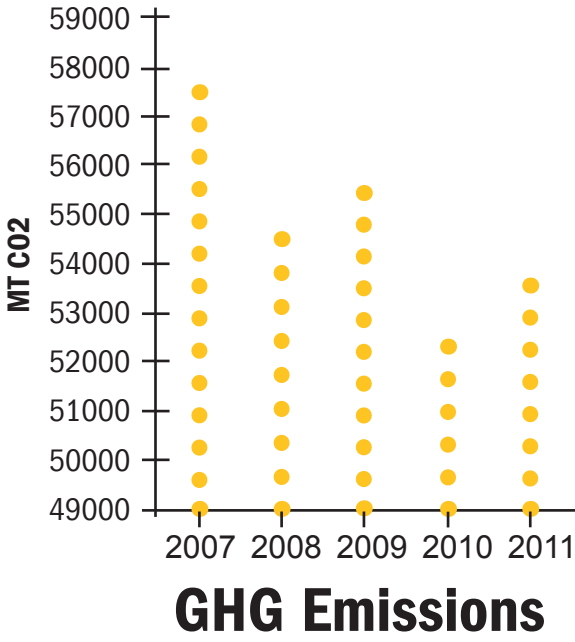
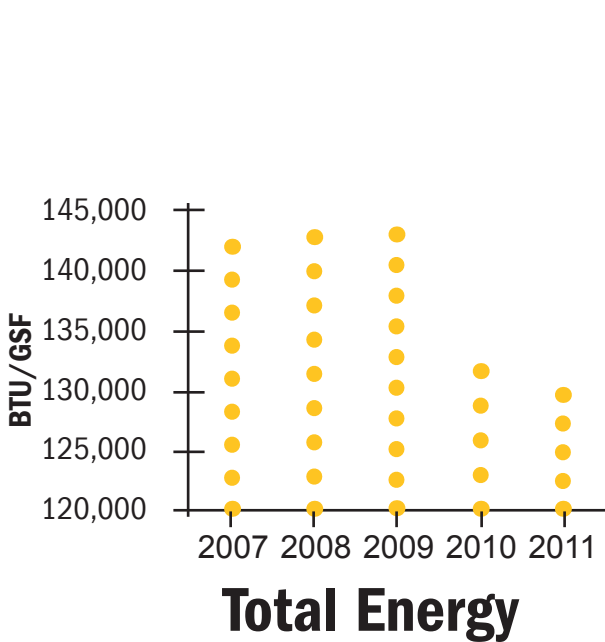
## MEMBERSHIP

Pat Chase- Chair, Campus Planning  
Van Dobson- Facilities and Campus Planning  
Gary Falasca- Facilities Services  
Richard Benner- Facilities Services  
Jane Altemose- Purchasing

# ENERGY & CLIMATE



Lehigh will be a leader in fostering multi-disciplinary and interdepartmental collaboration toward net climate neutrality



## GOALS

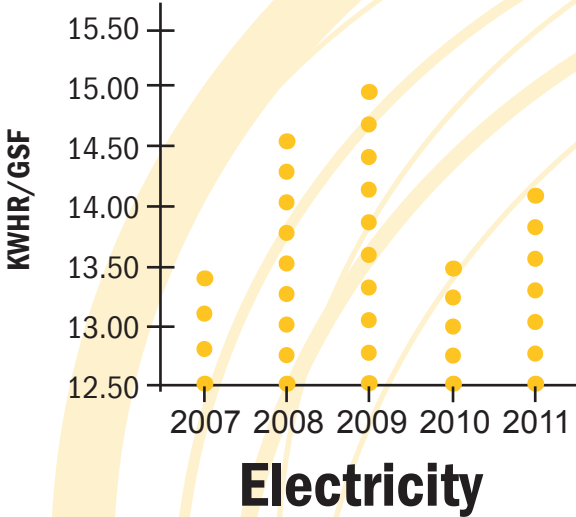
- Create and expand comprehensive baseline data of energy consumption by building
- Create an Energy Plan that addresses campus growth and building needs, energy efficiency retrofits, behavior change opportunities, renewable energy opportunities, and future reduction targets

## PROGRESS TO DATE

- Developed macro consumption and greenhouse gas generation trend data which found overall decreases in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
- Reviewed peer university energy policies

## NEXT STEPS

- As a precursor to creating an Energy Plan, develop a University Energy Policy to establish energy use standards and guide the actions of this working group and the university population as a whole
- Review energy conservation and greenhouse gas reduction efforts to date in effort to identify and prioritize future projects
- Summarize future opportunities to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas generation



### MEMBERSHIP

Van Dobson- Chair, Facilities Services and Campus Planning  
Chris Bell- Residential Services  
Ben Felzer- Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences  
Dave Hendel- Facilities Services and Campus Planning  
Jim Young- Library and Technology Services  
Mike Trzesniowski- Facilities Services and Campus Planning  
Roy Gruver- Library and Technology Services  
Tom Ebaugh- Student  
Wesley Michaels- Student

# FOOD & DINING SERVICES



Sustainability should be at the forefront of every food decision - quality of food, impact and knowledge of where and how it is produced, purchased and disposed of. Lehigh University will be a leader in the local food system: partnering, producing and educating the consumer.

## GOALS

- Divert “usable” food from trash and create a food donation program, where feasible
- Promote reusable mug and container program and provide continued incentive for its use

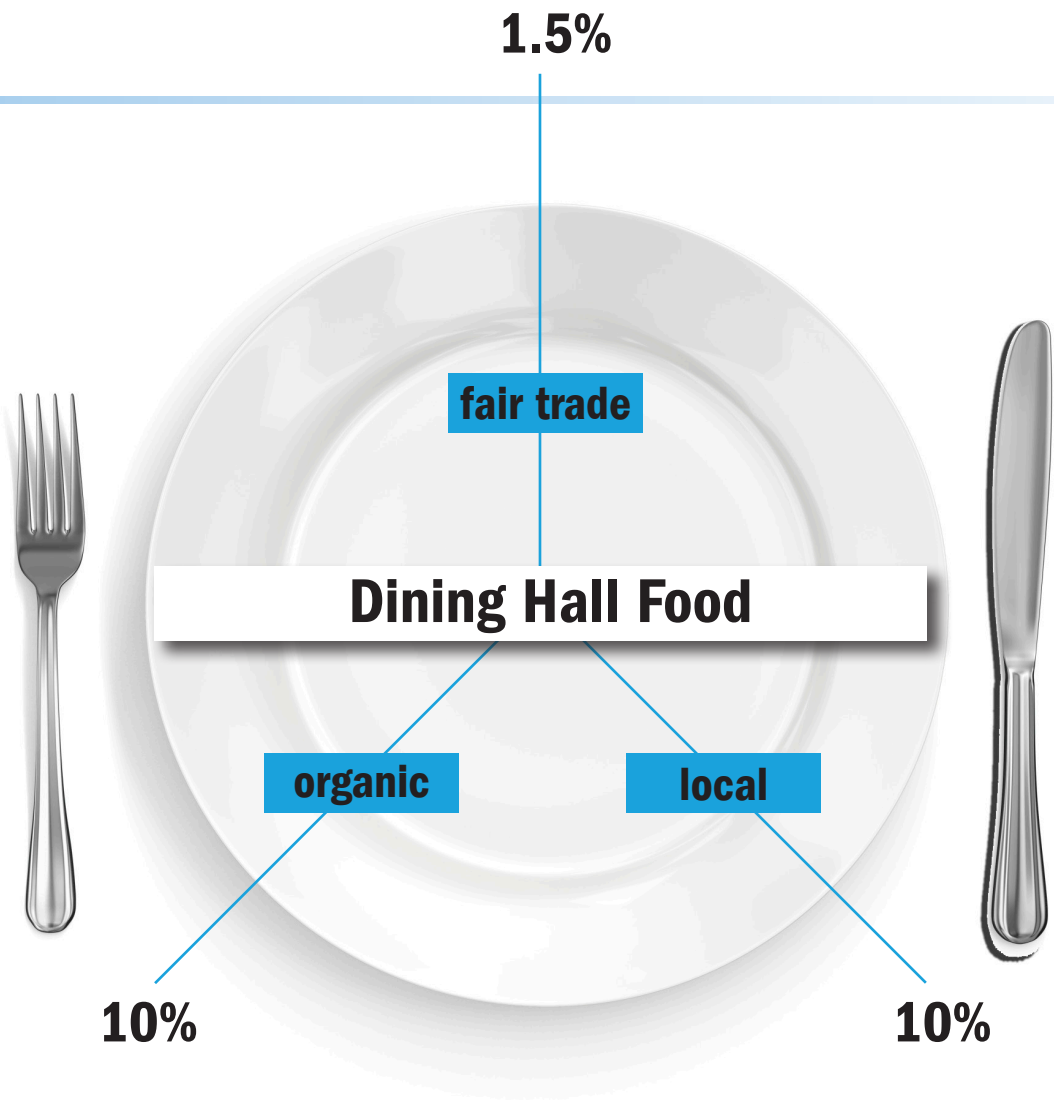
## PROGRESS TO DATE

- Created a free rental dishware program where student groups can borrow dishes, bowls, silverware to use for events
- Developed “Play with Your Food” cooking classes for faculty and staff which are offered 4 times per year. Approximately 10-25 faculty and staff attend per class
- Reusable mug discount program was used 3,856 times during fall 2012, a significant increase from previous years.
- Reusable take out container program has 700 students enrolled in the plan

## NEXT STEPS

- Complete the Sodexo on-line automated assessment mechanism called the Sustainability Management and Reporting Tool (SMART) in order to help track performance
- Install a water hydration station at the Fud Truk spring 2013
- Identify food and beverage items that can be purchased with Fair Trade certification

**Lehigh Dining serves 7,500 meals daily from 3 dining halls, 8 retail facilities, and a catering program**



## MEMBERSHIP

David Joseph – Chair, Student Auxiliary Services  
Jen Mack – Sodexo  
Bruce Christine – Sodexo  
Mary Kay Baker – Conference Services  
Jackie Nester – Sodexo  
Sophie Dent – Student/Sodexo Nutrition Intern  
Graham Touhey – Student



# PURCHASING



As a research and educational institution committed to higher learning and public service, Lehigh is in a good position to set an example and lead others toward a more sustainable future. The University wields tremendous purchasing power—a position that demands a high level of responsibility and stewardship.

2011

2012

**From 2011 to 2012, LTS ordered 261 less paper cartons, saving 1,305,000 sheets of paper**

## MEMBERSHIP

Jane Altemose- Purchasing  
Brenda Bachman- Purchasing  
Sharon Wiles-Young- LTS  
Glenn Strause- Printing and Mailing  
Lauren Furrer- UBS Marketing  
Kylie Ford- UBS Marketing  
Sally Gilotti- Communications

Bob Siegfried- F&A Systems  
David Joseph- Dining Services  
Yasmin Bugaighis- Facilities

## GOALS

- Implement all electronic commerce processes and web based equipment sharing
- Identify Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) opportunities including implementing recycled content copy paper standards, making business case for EPP products and services, and expanding purchase of organic/local foods
- Implement Sustainable Purchasing Policy that aims at minimizing or reducing GHG emissions, expand education program

## PROGRESS TO DATE


- Completed baseline analysis of campus-wide paper purchases and found that many departments, though inconsistent, purchase 100% recycled paper
- Began data analysis of campus toner purchases. Identifying a vendor that can provide cost competitive quality recycled toner cartridges will be able to help us manage the recycling of toner across campus
- Compiled report of commonly purchased non-green office supplies and alternatives of the same quality of equal or lesser value
- Drafted a campus survey that specifically seeks to gather information from departments about office supply purchasing and opportunities for EPPS

## NEXT STEPS

- Conduct pilots in LTS and Printing and Mailing related to leveraging campus volume for better paper purchasing and recycled toner as well as the procurement of EPP that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Implement catalog related strategies and targeted department/coordinator discussions for Office Products initiative above
- Convert existing Green Purchasing Guidelines into Policy with a specific focus on environmentally preferable products (EPP).
- Implement the eProcurement system currently in use by Purchasing, Labstore and LTS will be rolled out to other departments over the next 18 months

**Printing and Mailing services uses 100% recycled stationary and copy paper, with 30% recycled as standard**

# ACADEMICS & EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE



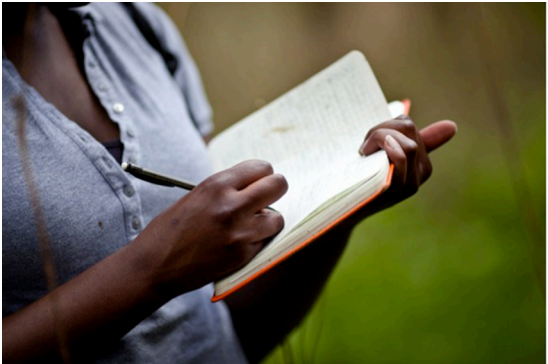
Lehigh as an institution has a critical role in promoting, embracing and being a leader in sustainability education and lifestyles at Lehigh and beyond. Lehigh must increase awareness of sustainability for the Lehigh community through curricular, co-curricular/lifestyle, and research programs

## GOALS

- Assess sustainability literacy of campus community including how many courses are sustainability focused and sustainability related
- Incorporate sustainability into student experience at Lehigh with particular focus on student's first year, Greek accreditation requirements, residential living and co-curricular opportunities

## PROGRESS TO DATE

- A preliminary investigative report identified 17 faculty members who incorporate sustainable development principles into their curricula
- Sustainability was selected as a topic to be integrated into LTS's 2013 Lehigh Lab Forum
- University hired a Professor of Practice and Director of Sustainable Development





# COMMUNITY BUILDING & SOCIAL EQUITY



Lehigh will be a campus where equity and inclusivity are woven into policy, principle, and action at all levels of the institution. All members of the campus community will openly welcome diverse individuals and groups. The university will achieve its social equity and community goals through collaboration and leadership shared with community partners.

**51,000 volunteer hours  
of service are completed  
by members of the Lehigh  
Community on average  
each year.**



## GOALS

- Develop additional policies related to equity, diversity and inclusiveness and community building
- Improve campus education on issues of diversity and inclusion

## NEXT STEPS

- Determine the university's response and intentional efforts as a result of the Campus Climate Survey of 2007
- Meet with HR to learn what Socially Responsible Investment opportunities are available for employees retirement savings use and determine whether they are marketed adequately to employees
- Advertise community web site to general public and link it to the city website, the BASD website, local faith-based organization websites, etc.
- Evaluate potential partnerships with Broughal Middle School and Donegan Middle School to determine whether youth safety can be positively affected through LUPD collaboration
- Hire a Service Learning Coordinator to work collaboratively with faculty and Office of Community Service to maintain existing partnerships both on campus and in South Side Bethlehem
- Establish informal advisory group of diversity consultants willing to share information and best practices

## PROGRESS TO DATE

- Creation of Principles of Our Equitable Community
- In support of the educating Lehigh faculty about diversity and inclusion at Lehigh, training was conducted with faculty by Cornell Interactive Theater

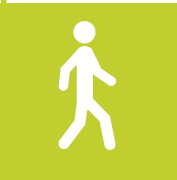


## MEMBERSHIP

Angela Nicole Scott – Co-chair, Office of Academic Outreach  
Dale Kochard – Co-chair, Communications and Public Affairs  
Kim Carrell-Smith – Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences  
Seth Goren – Chaplain's Office  
Suzanne Irvine – Advancement  
Debra Rubart – Office of Academic Outreach  
Albert Wurth – Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences



# TRANSPORTATION



Lehigh University will partner with the largest employers in the Lehigh Valley, institutions of higher education, as well as our own faculty, staff, and students, and serve as a catalyst for change. We will engage the community on shared transportation issues and resources and create a visible, viable and sustainable transportation model contributing to the success of Lehigh's Climate Commitment.

## GOALS

- Educate campus community about alternative forms of transportation
- Integrate sustainable transportation strategies into campus master planning goals

## PROGRESS TO DATE

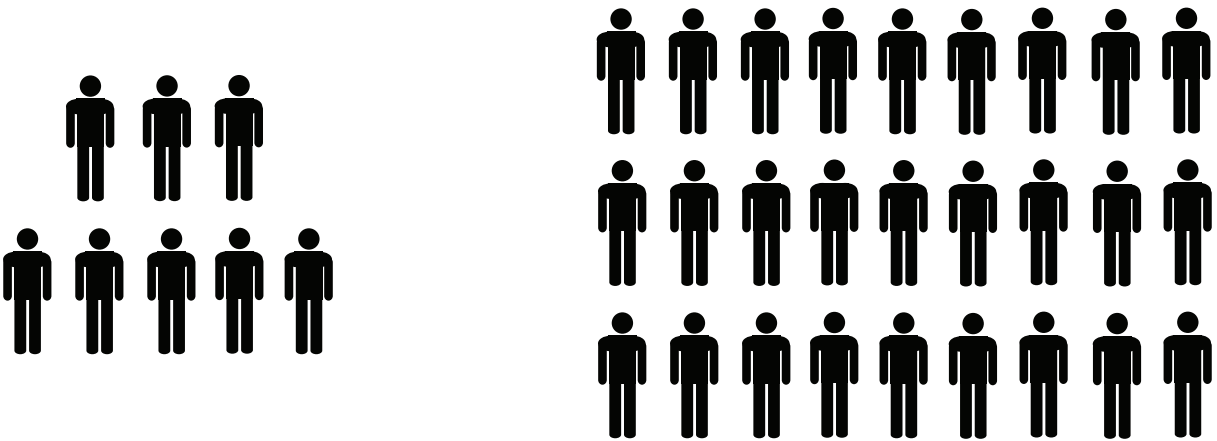
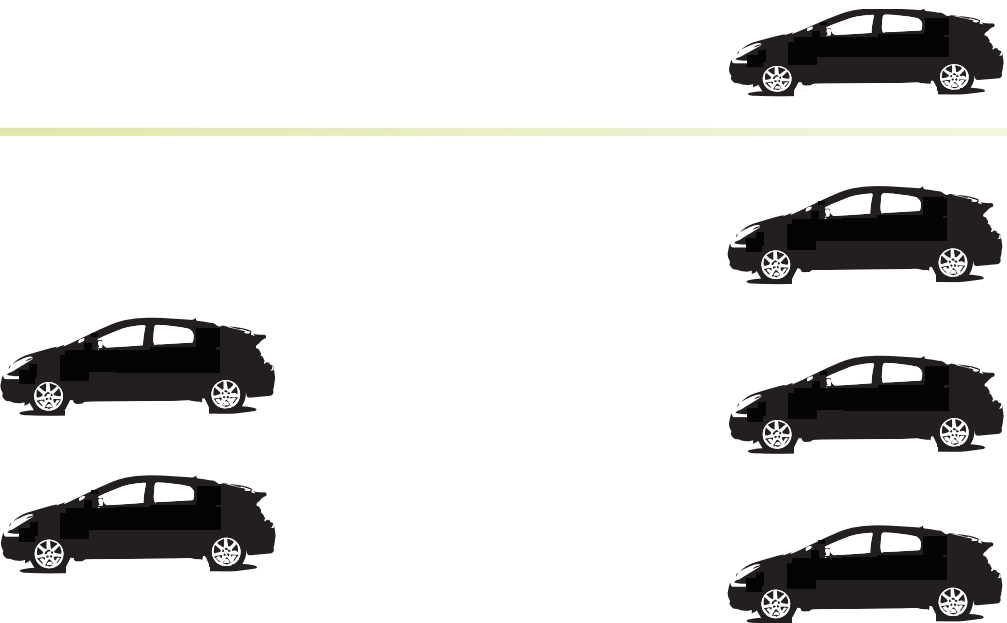
- Car sharing Program, WeCar, has encouraged a 250% membership increase by waiving the one time application fee, reducing the annual membership fee by 50% and providing a driving credit
- Participated in Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Forum and the State of Pennsylvania Natural Gas Vehicle Program conference to understand upcoming collaboration and grant seeking opportunities

## NEXT STEPS

- Perform gap analysis of transportation services and needs
- Continue review of propulsion systems for fleet replacement

## MEMBERSHIP

Mark Ironside – Chair, University Business Services  
Bob Bruneio – Transportation Services  
Chris Christian – Transportation and Parking Services  
Rebecca Davison – Fraternity and Sorority Affairs  
Sharon Field – Parking Services  
Lauren Furrer – Business Services  
Ryan Umholtz – Athletics Facilities and Events

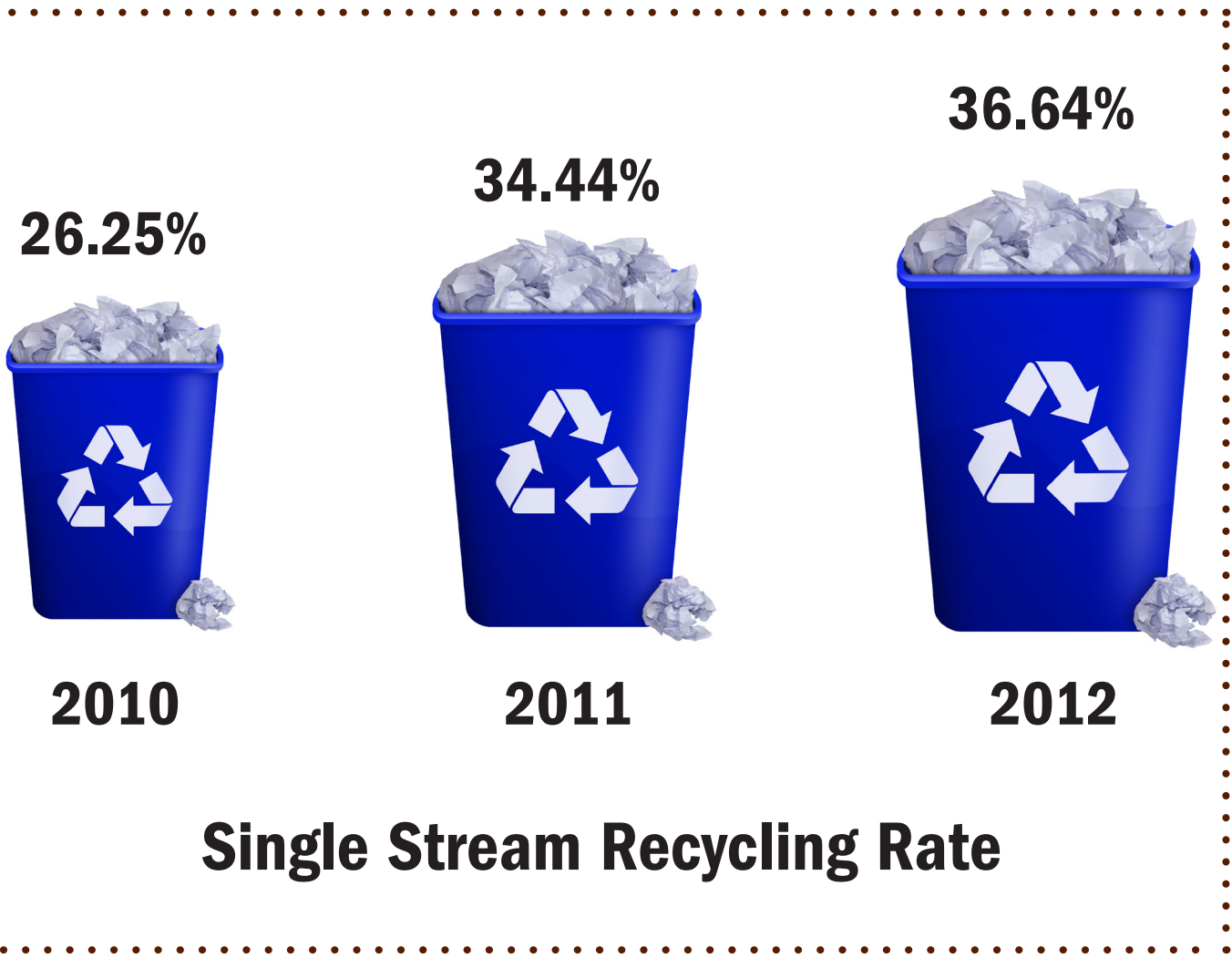


**In the past year, WeCar has increased from 2 to 4 cars and from 80 members to over 270 members**

# WASTE



Lehigh will take a multidisciplinary approach to addressing the problem of waste both locally and on a broader scale. By embracing the principle of zero waste, the Lehigh community can create a sustainable campus that serves as a model for others.



## GOALS

- Develop measures of all kinds of campus waste
- Increase participation in recycling
- Develop campus-wide e-waste program
- Expand composting of organic waste
- Develop sustainable construction practices

## PROGRESS TO DATE

- Created master spreadsheet for all waste created and populated monthly
- In collaboration with LTS Green Team, recycling pilot is underway in EWFM Library to test new containers and signage
- First campus-wide e-waste collection held summer 2012 which captured 29,903 pounds of electronic waste. An e-Steward vendor was selected for future e-waste disposal
- Pre- and post-consumer composting expanded to 5 additional locations. Existing yard waste site surveyed for potential use and expansion to accommodate on-site composting facility. Results of student composting pilot may inform additional considerations
- Select recycled construction materials now collected for all major projects with currently 3.4 tons diverted from the waste stream

## NEXT STEPS

- Analyze waste data and set goals for overall waste reduction and increased recycling
- Redesign recycling and waste signage for use in other buildings
- Identify regulatory requirements for establishing on-campus composting facility and continue to expand collection of organic materials for composting which are currently diverted to Rodale, our current composting contractor
- Capture data on recycled construction materials for both major and minor campus construction projects

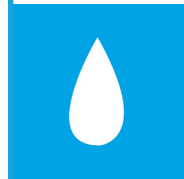


## MEMBERSHIP

Gary Falasca- Chair, Facilities Services  
Richard Benner- Facilities Services  
Ozzie Breiner- Residential Facilities  
Becky Eshelman- Zoellner Arts Center  
Greg Schulze- Athletics



# WATER



Lehigh University will improve water quality and reduce overall water consumption in order to ensure a reliable and clean supply of this valuable resource, in a future that is likely to be threatened by water insecurity.

## GOALS

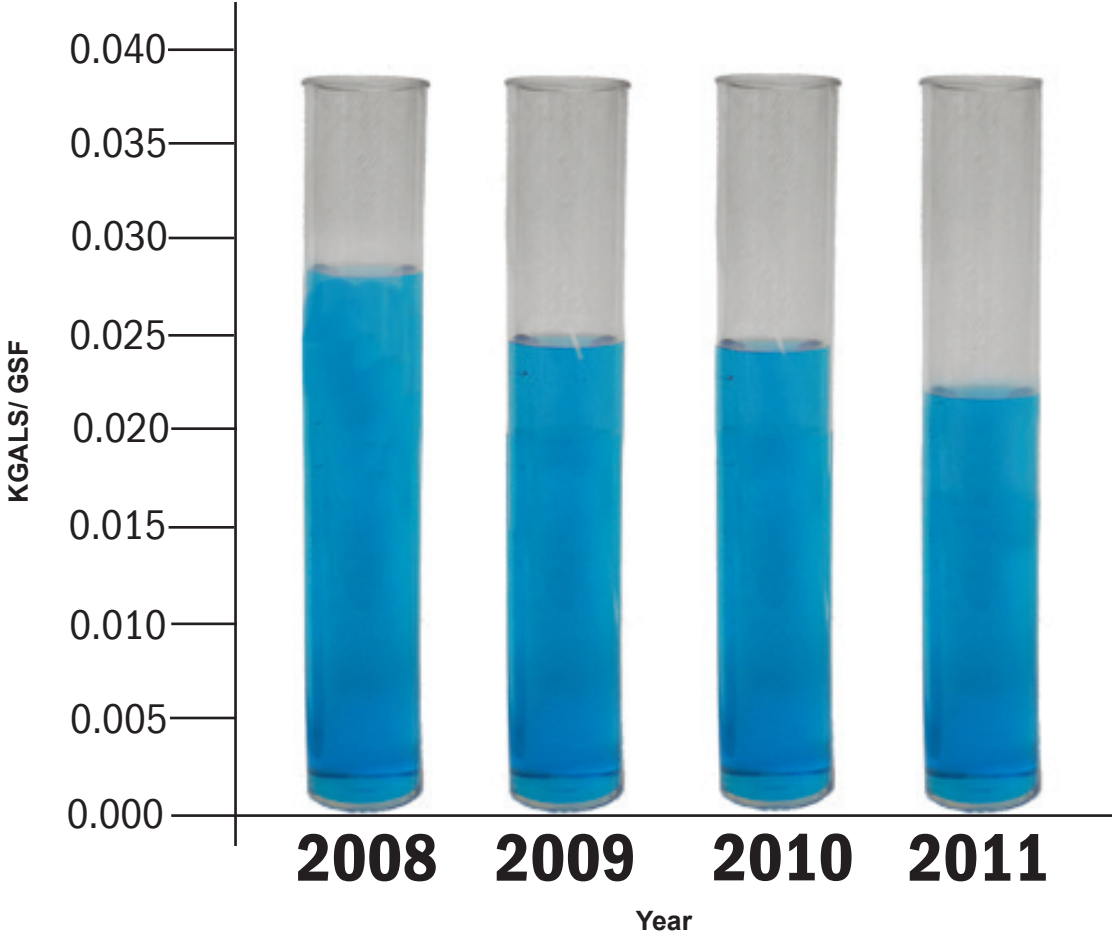
- Understand water usage at the building level and compare usage on a per capita basis both nationally and to other universities
- Investigate use of bottle fill stations in lieu of water fountains

## PROGRESS TO DATE

- Created spreadsheet of water consumption data by building which is updated monthly
- Bottle fill station identified and scheduled for installation in Caruso Wrestling Complex
- Pricing obtained for installation of “smart” irrigation technology on existing landscaping systems

## NEXT STEPS

- Evaluate campus building water consumption and survey high use buildings to identify sources as well as potential plumbing leaks
- Develop conservation signage for restrooms and water fountains in conjunction with awareness campaigns
- Identify and install bottle fill stations in critical building locations
- Identify funding and install “smart” irrigation upgrades to existing systems
- Hire engineering consultant for storm water survey
- Work with landscape contractor to reduce use of fertilizer and pesticides and maintain data on quantities used



Water Consumption

Chart indicates positive progress in reducing water consumption

### MEMBERSHIP

Gary Falasca– Chair, Facilities Services  
Richard Benner – Facilities Services  
Ozzie Breiner – Residential Services  
Becky Eshelman – Zoellner Arts Center  
Greg Schulze – Athletics



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