

Sustainable Creighton Green Living Guide



Guided by the principles of **magis**, **truth**, **justice**, and **stewardship**, Creighton's Office of Sustainability Programs seeks to cultivate a **culture of caring for creation**. We seek to increase awareness about issues related to sustainability and provide opportunities for students to become empowered agents of change on the path towards ecological justice.

The ***Sustainable Creighton Green Living Guide*** is a resource to help make our space in our common home more sustainable.

We share **one** planet. We have **one** common history and future. We are **one** humanity. ***Local acts, global impacts.***

THE FACTS

- ▶ We are committed to achieving climate neutrality by 2050
- ▶ We reduced our energy consumption by 24% from 2010 - 2017; we are committed to reducing our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions by 50% over a 2010 baseline by 2028
- ▶ We are dedicated to a "renewed commitment to promoting ecological justice at Creighton and within society at large"
- ▶ We offer courses and programs dedicated to and involving sustainability: Environmental Science, Sustainability Studies, and Justice & Peace Studies



ENERGY



Facilities Management optimizes our systems to reduce our carbon footprint from purchased electricity.

Since 2014, Creighton's Energy Management Team has collaborated with community partners and OPPD on 10 different projects with the goal of energy conservation and cost reduction. Learn more about energy management on our Energy page.

PRINTING



All Canon printers on campus are Energy Star qualified and are 25% more

efficient than conventional printers. Default print settings are duplex and black and white, which reduces environmental impacts and financial costs.

DINING



Creighton Dining uses locally sourced vendors whenever possible. The dining halls

went tray-less in 2008. By eliminating trays, we have reduced our water consumption and food waste. Reusable dishware, stainless steel silverware, and cloth napkins are available for catered events to reduce usage of single-use materials.



WATER



Every residence hall and most campus buildings have at least one water filling

station. The Division of Student Life and Facilities Management are committed to installing filling stations when old water fountains need to be replaced. Since installation, over 250,000 plastic bottles have been saved from these filling stations!

LANDSCAPING



We use an integrated pest management approach for our campus plant

community. We recently added numerous trees and native plants as part of the 24th Street transformation project between Cass and Cumming Streets.

MATERIALS



Both Facilities Management and Strategic Sourcing repurpose furniture and

other items as often as possible to reduce our need to purchase new materials. We have a single-stream recycle program throughout campus. We have composting in Brandeis Dining Hall and in various locations on the mall. We host a community recycling drop off location on campus at 17th and Burt Streets.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Caring for our common home requires great change, large-scale commitments, and involvement of all people. You are part of this change and you can start to make a difference with your daily actions. How we live and the choices we make matter. Small changes can add up to big impacts.

FOOD & DINING

1. Reduce meat consumption and take steps to have a more plant-based diet.
2. Be a localvore! Omaha has a variety of neighborhood farmers markets during spring, summer, and fall. Eat locally produced, in-season food when possible.
3. Don't waste food. Buy only what you need.

It takes 2,000 gallons of water to produce one pound of meat!

This means that 80 hamburgers requires as much water as 10 years worth of showers.

Approximately one-third of food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted globally.

This amounts to about 1/3 billion tons per year.



Omaha Area Farmers Markets

- Old Market: Saturdays in May through October
- Aksarben Village: Sundays in May through October
- Gifford Park: Fridays in June through October
- Florence Mill: Sundays in June through October
- Village Point: Saturdays in May through October
- Papillion: Wednesdays in June through August
- Council Bluffs: Thursdays in May through September
- Bellevue: Saturdays in June through September

WASTE

REDUCE

Remember that the first step in reducing waste is first reducing consumption! Think before you buy. Ask yourself, "Do I need this?" "Do I already have something like this?" "What is this this made of?" "Is this recyclable?"

REUSE

Think creatively! Have a clothes swap with your friends, buy from thrift stores and donate clothes and household items that are still in good condition. Bring your own reusable bags, containers, mugs, and water bottles with you instead of disposing of single use plastics!

RECYCLE



When recycling, please keep the "YES" items in and the "NO" items out. *When in doubt, throw it out.* Check out our campus Recycling Guide. Utilize the community recycling drop off located at 17th and Burt Streets to recycle glass! Learn more about waste disposable on campus.

COMPOST



Food scraps, paper products (paper napkins, paper food containers, and greasy cardboard), coffee grounds, and tea bags can be composted! Dispose your organic waste in the compost bins inside Brandeis Dining Hall and large, green compost totes located outside of Brandies, Skutt, and across from the fountain. Compost bins are for organic waste only. Do not place recyclables inside compost bins!

Take 30 seconds to care for our common home

Sort your waste into:

Recycling | **Landfill** | **Compost**

Glass can be recycled at the community recycling center at 17th and Burt

"There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions."
- Pope Francis



Local acts, global impacts



Recycling



Clean Paper

Including:
Office/notebook paper
Magazines
Newspaper



Metal

Including:
Aluminum and steel cans
Aluminum foil



Plastic

1 2 3 5

Including plastic cups/lids



Cardboard

Including:
Flattened boxes



Local acts, global impacts



Compost



Food scraps

(including meat, bones and dairy)



Paper products

(including dirty paper towels, paper food containers and greasy cardboard)



Coffee grounds, tea bags and wood



Local acts, global impacts



For more information:



Landfill

Plastic bags/wrapping

Styrofoam

Straws

Candy/snack wrappers

Batteries

Paper cups

Plastic utensils

Wires

Shipping pouches

Condiment packets

Pens/pencils

Toothpaste tubes

Chip bags



Local acts, global impacts



WATER

- Challenge yourself to take shorter showers! Set a goal, such as 5 minutes or less and see how you do.
- Turn off water when brushing your teeth, washing your face, and shaving.
- Did you know the average person living in the U.S. uses around 100 gallons of water every day? United States Geological Survey (USGS) has data and tips for reducing water consumption.
- Did you know Cape Town, South Africa is facing a water crisis? Check out their guide to living on 50 liters, or about 13 gallons, per day.
- Global Citizen is a community of engaged citizens striving to achieve United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Try some of their unique and creative ways to save water.

On average, people in the U.S. take 8 minute showers. The EPA estimates that most showers use 2.5 gallons of water per minute. This means the average shower uses 20 gallons of water. Taking a 5 minute shower uses about 12.5 gallons of water.

During the Fall 2018 semester, nearly 60,000 plastic water bottles were avoided by people using the water bottle refill stations in Student Life spaces!

PRINTING



Printing is a leading cause of deforestation. By printing smarter, we can help save paper, leading to bigger and better forests. Here are some tips on how to print smarter:

- Go digital whenever you can!
- Pause before you print! Can you share or store something electronically instead of printing?
- If you do print, use double-sided and black and white options. Our default options on campus are duplex and B/W. This helps us manage resources and saves you money!

ENERGY



- Turn off lights when you leave a room or when there is enough natural light.
- Smart thermostatting! Set thermostat (lower) at 68 F during the winter and (higher) at 76 F during the summer.
- Smart laundry! Wash clothes with cold water and use a drying rack instead of the dryer.
- Avoid the phantom load! Unplug appliances and devices when you are not using them (even if they are turned off.)

TRANSPORTATION

Active commuting leads to healthier people and a healthier planet.



- Bike or Walk! Park your bike on campus at a variety of locations.
- Utilize Heartland B-Cycle, Omaha's bike share program. There is a B-Cycle located by Morrison Stadium! Find out more about Heartland B-Cycle.
- Ride the bus! Metro operates daily bus and rapid bus transit (ORBT) near campus. Find out more about Metro.
- Carpool! Spend time with friends and help prevent excess cars on campus.
- Have an electric car? Use the 2 EV charging stations on campus.
- Use the Creighton Shuttle!

GET INVOLVED

Office of Sustainability Programs (OSP)

OSP serves as a hub for collaboration.

- We send out a weekly Sustainability Update to help keep you informed. The update typically includes events, workshops, legislation, and more! Join the Sustainability Listserv to receive the update and stay up-to-date on what is happening on campus, in our community, and beyond.
- We host annual celebrations for Feast of St. Francis (October 4th) and Earth Month (April).
- We actively participate in Summer Preview, Move-in, and Welcome Week.
- We work with all facets of campus to implement strategies to reach the goals of the Sustainable Creighton Initiative (SCI).

Creighton Student Sustainability Action Fund (CSSAF)

Have an idea for sustainability or environmental justice? The CSSAF is designed to help enable, support, and finance student-driven initiatives. Learn more.

Schlegel Center for Service and Justice

Interested in service? Go on Service & Justice Trips and participate in local service events that focus on justice, sustainability, and the environment.

CONTACT OSP

Email: Sustainability@creighton.edu

FOLLOW OSP

@GreenCreighton on social media

Measure your impact!

Calculate your impact on the planet and take steps to minimize your carbon and water footprints!

- Carbon: www.footprintcalculator.org
- Water: www.watercalculator.org

