

Welcome to the University of Colorado Colorado Springs

You are joining a campus community that is committed to sustainability and is nationally recognized for its leadership.

This document will get you up to speed on UCCS sustainability commitments and successes and provide you with ways to get involved.

UCCS Sustainability Vision and Mission from UCCS Sustainability Strategic Plans 2007 and 2012

Vision

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs will be a recognized leader in sustainability, integrating social justice, economic, and ecological values into institutional policies, programs and practices.

Mission

Recognizing that institutions of higher learning have a responsibility to exercise leadership and create the future, UCCS actively pursues sustainability as a way to address the University's focus on increased student recruitment and retention through courses which address contemporary and global issues, effective and efficient resource usage, and fiscal responsibility.

UCCS seeks to be a campus where:

- Committed campus administrators, in partnership with a dedicated faculty, staff, and student body, provide leadership and expertise to local, regional, and global sustainability efforts;
- We recognize our obligation to educate the University community about the importance of individual and institutional environmental and social responsibility, and prepare our students by integrating sustainability literacy into academic learning and research across the curriculum and between the colleges;
- Sustainability is integrated into all aspects of University functioning, including buildings, operations, planning, and purchasing, in a way that we minimize the impact of our growing, dynamic campus upon the earth.

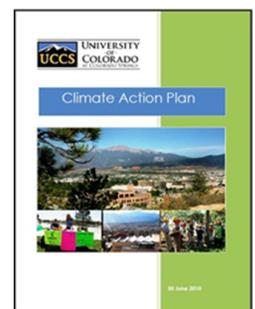
In accomplishing this vision and mission, we will foster a culture of sustainability throughout our campus and also our extended community.

UCCS Climate Action Plan 2010

As an original signatory to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) in 2007, UCCS developed a Climate Action Plan to address reducing carbon emissions toward carbon neutrality and educating all students about sustainability and climate disruption.

CU Board of Regents Sustainability Resolution 2009

The CU Board of Regents encourages sustainability efforts on a university-wide basis to include Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards for buildings, comprehensive plans to achieve climate neutrality, and participation in Greening of State Government.



UCCS Office of Sustainability

In 2005, UCCS formalized its sustainability commitment and supported the work of student and faculty groups with the creation of the Office of Sustainability. This office participates in efforts including strategic planning, green buildings, transportation, food, waste diversion, purchasing, energy and water conservation, curriculum, and education.

Sustainability Highlights

- ◆ UCCS achieved a Silver rating for the national Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS)
- ◆ Multi-disciplinary minor in Sustainable Development
- ◆ Green Action Fund—Student approved \$5 fee to fund sustainability projects on campus
- ◆ As of 2014, seven Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold buildings on campus
- ◆ Sustainability incorporated in General Education Goals
- ◆ On campus greenhouse and garden supply local produce to food service
- ◆ 3 solar installations on campus buildings
- ◆ UCCS purchases 3 million kilowatt hours of renewable energy, equivalent to about 14 percent of the university's total electricity consumption. UCCS is an EPA Green Power Partner.
- ◆ Implementation of comprehensive waste diversion program including compost, recycling, organics, toner cartridges, batteries, etc. Average diversion rate as of 2014 is 45percent.



Sustainability Resources

Office of Sustainability Website—<http://www.uccs.edu/sustain>

Real time energy and LEED information Osborne Center for Science and Engineering—<http://www.uccs.edu/kiosk/seng>

Real time energy and LEED information for Recreation Center—<http://www.uccs.edu/kiosk/reccenter>

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) - We are a member institution so all resources are free by establishing a log in with your UCCS email account. <http://www.aashe.org>

American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) - This has all of our Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Progress Reports as well as those of over 600 more colleges and universities—<http://www.acupcc.org>

Opportunities to Get Involved

Join UCCS Climate Advisory Board

Join UCCS Campus Sustainability Committee

Students for Environmental Awareness and Sustainability (SEAS) <http://www.uccs.edu/~seas/>

Propose projects for Green Action Fund—<http://www.uccs.edu/~gaf/>

Volunteer at the Greenhouse or SEAS garden

Share ideas to save energy and water—Email conserve@uccs.edu

Office of
Sustainability
www.uccs.edu/sustain

