



Maryland Green Registry MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science



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Higher Education and Research
Member since August 2009

Management and Leadership



Environmental Team

The UMCES Environmental Sustainability Council (ESC) consists of faculty, staff and students from 4 laboratories (Appalachian lab, Chesapeake Biological Lab, Horn Point Lab and Institute of Marine Environmental Technology), Maryland Sea Grant and Center Administration. The ESC functions as a task group and advisory body to the President and Administrative Council. The mission of the ESC includes but are not limited to:

- 1. Engaging the faculty, staff and students in an ongoing dialogue on reaching environmental sustainability.*
- 2. Providing assessments of the sustainability of operations and recommendations to the President and Administrative Council for improved practices and policies.*
- 3. Serving as the "institutional structure" to guide the development and implementation of a comprehensive climate action plan in fulfillment of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment (now call Second Nature) signed by Dr. Donald F. Boesch on December 18, 2007; as well as developing institutional Resiliency Plan signed by Dr. Boesch in 2015 and with continued support from the new UMCES President, Dr. Peter Goodwin appointed in 2017.*

Annual Goals

UMCES currently belongs to the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment (now called Second Nature). The ESC uses Clean Air Cool Planet calculation systems for all of our data on sustainability issues. To see the latest UMCES sustainability efforts, please visit the UMCES ESC webpage at: <http://www.umces.edu/sustainability>

The UMCES ESC is also currently working on drafting UMCES institutional Resiliency Plan.

Environmentally Preferable Procurement

In 2017, UMCES was able to procure renewable energy credit through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for over 50% of its Horn Point Lab annual electricity consumption.

Also, UMCES has committed to the purchase of Energy Star Equipment where appropriate and financially practical. Paper purchased is a minimum of 30% and in most cases 100% post-consumer content. We have also significantly reduced the purchase and use of disposable plates and cups supported by institutional cultural and behavior changes.

Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

Each of UMCES' laboratories participates in strong environmental education programs with the K-12 schools in each of the local counties. For more information on educational programs at the lab campuses, please visit <http://www.umces.edu>

Waste

Recycling

UMCES participates in MDE's All-StAR (All State Agency Recycling Program) reporting through USM. Following the 'source reduction' method endorsed and encouraged by MDE, UMCES reviews annually its waste and recycling numbers to reduce waste first, then look to recycle.

For more information on the program, please visit MDE's All-StAR website: <http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Pages/allStar.aspx>

Energy

Energy Efficiency

All the UMCES managed laboratory campuses monitor energy consumptions and look for opportunities to increase efficiency through many available programs including MEA's SALP (State Agency Loan Program) and also through Energy Performance Contracts (EPCs) managed by DGS. See below for information on the energy efficiency features of the RV Truitt Laboratory Building.

Renewable Energy

In 2017, UMCES signed a Solar Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for its Horn Point Laboratory campus that will generate over 50% of the labs annual electricity consumption in renewable energy.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.umces.edu/news/umces-commits-generating-solar-energy>

Transportation

Efficient Business Travel

UMCES is increasing its use of teleconferencing and Interactive Video Conferencing (IVN) for administrative meetings. UMCES has been using IVN for classes since at least 2000. New IT purchases look to computer systems that support video and sound so that meetings can be held for small groups over web based conferencing software. This software is normally open source, simple to use and has helped eliminate the need for faculty and staff to travel in order to keep research collaborations and business communications open.

Fleet Vehicles

UMCES has decreased the vehicle fleet, trading in the oldest vehicles and not replacing them. This has caused an increase in ride-sharing as well as decreased casual use of vehicle across campus. Additionally, UMCES augments our fleets with alternative fuel vehicles when possible. AL currently has a Honda Civic Hybrid that is used by both faculty and staff for traveling to meetings and conferences where IVN is not available.

Green Buildings

LEED Silver

The R.V. Truitt Laboratory Building, a 14,000-square-foot, two-story, LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) silver-certified building, boasts five state-of-the-art research labs and one-of-a-kind experimental facilities, including a running seawater system and controlled environmental chambers. The precise temperature controls allow scientists to conduct experiments with Arctic clams in freezing water or coral reef fish in balmy conditions, and lights can be programmed to mimic a slow sunrise or setting sun to recreate natural conditions in the lab.

The Laboratory building incorporates a number of sustainable design elements, including window glazing and shades to filter light, LED and occupancy-sensor controlled lighting throughout the building, and Greengard-certified furnishings. A 450-ton modulating air cooled chiller allows for the total load of the Truitt building and other campus buildings to be met while reducing energy consumption. The total energy savings for this building has resulted in 1.49 billion BTUs decrease annually, about a 28% energy savings.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

- The R.V. Truitt Laboratory Building was awarded the 2017 U.S. Green Building Council's Maryland Community Leader Award for Higher Education in recognition of overall commitment to sustainability and efficiency.*

Profile Updated April 2018



Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

