Join us in celebrating the Office of Sustainability’s success over the last academic year. In addition to running many annual events like Sustainability Awareness Week, this year also saw the launch of a number of new programs, including ecoREPs, Eco Move Out and the Campus Sustainability Leadership Awards. In February of 2012, the University of Alberta was recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) with a Silver rating for our sustainability achievements on campus using the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS™).
Sustainability Awareness Week

Sustainability Awareness Week 2011 produced 8,045 connections at 54 workshops, tours, and events held across North Campus, Augustana Campus and Campus Saint-Jean. Coordinated by the Office of Sustainability, the event was made possible through the commitment, enthusiasm, and hard work of 37 campus organizations and 13 community organizations.

Sustainability Speaker Series

In collaboration with various on- and off-campus organizations, the Office of Sustainability launched the Sustainability Speaker Series in October, 2011. The series featured renowned leaders in sustainability and focused on various themes, such as waste, energy, water and leadership. Speakers included Bill McKibben, Annie Leonard, Julian Agyeman, Winona LaDuke and Maude Barlow.

Campus Sustainability Tours

Campus Sustainability Tours helped hundreds discover something new and witness many of the sustainability features that make the University of Alberta a leader in campus sustainability. The free one-and-a-half-hour walking tour, hosted by the Office of Sustainability, runs every second Wednesday from April to October and covers the sustainable features of North Campus and beyond.
ecoREPs

The Office of Sustainability launched a brand new program called ecoREPs. Geared to help staff, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows build their sustainability leadership skills, the program provides information on sustainability and how to implement projects across work units and personal work spaces. Over 20 staff members participated in the pilot project, with some working on various ideas that include bringing a greenhouse to Augustana campus, reducing paper towel waste in work units, engaging co-workers in One Simple Act on Campus commitments, and looking at projects to improve air quality and to create spaces for community building.

Campus Sustainability Leadership Awards

Established by the Office of Sustainability this past January, the Campus Sustainability Leadership Awards recognize the outstanding contributions students, staff, faculty and campus organizations have made towards advancing sustainability at the university. This year’s winner was Candice Tremblay, sustainability coordinator for the University of Alberta’s Augustana Campus, with honorary mentions going to Ray Dumouchel, associate director of buildings and grounds; and the Sustain SU 2011-2012 team of student staff: Director Ian Moore, and Associate Directors Stephy Sylvestre and Stefanie Drozda.

Eco Move Out

Thousands of students move out of university residences each year, leaving a lot of waste in their wake. This year, a coordinated residence-wide Eco Move Out donation and recycling program was implemented in collaboration with the Office of Sustainability, Residence Services, and Facilities and Operations. A total of 6,565 lbs of goods were diverted from the landfill.

PHOTOS

1. Students get involved at the Sustainability Fair that took place during Sustainability Awareness Week.
2. Maude Barlow presents a lecture as part of the Sustainability Speaker Series.
3. A Campus Sustainability Tour stops to learn about the sustainability features of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science building.
4. Sustainability Coordinator, Emily Dietrich leads staff in an ecoREPs session.
5. Candice Tremblay receives the Campus Sustainability Leadership Award from Trina Innes, director of the Office of Sustainability.
6. Sustainability Coordinator Lisa Dockman and Outreach Intern Cathryn Sprague show off just a small fraction of the donations collected as part of Eco Move Out.
Strategic Development for a Sustainable Future

The Sustainability Plan

The Sustainability Plan marks a major milestone in our efforts to improve sustainability at the University of Alberta. It collates the many strategic goals, initiatives and practices that will guide the University of Alberta’s efforts in environmentally-, socially- and economically-sustainable leadership in the next few years. Some of the strategies are quick wins and involve incremental changes to existing practices. Other strategies require deep changes to policy and governance approvals. All decision-making on our journey towards sustainability will give consideration to the triple bottom line.

In October 2011, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education recognized the U of A with Best Case Study award for “Deliberation on Campus Sustainability, a project that helped inform the creation of the Sustainability Plan.

The plan was signed off by the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) and the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) in January 2012. This plan will evolve over time as we make progress and learn our way towards sustainability together.

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS™)

On February 3, 2012, the University of Alberta was recognized with a silver rating from the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS™), which helps colleges and universities measure and report their sustainability performance, facilitate information sharing, and create incentives for advancing sustainability.

Want to get involved in campus sustainability?

Visit us online at sustainability.ualberta.ca to learn more about our projects and to subscribe to our monthly Sustainability eNews.

Stay in Touch: 2-06 North Power Plant University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2N2

Telephone 780.492.9289 E-mail sustainability@ualberta.ca

Join us online: