



Campus Sustainability Office

# SUSTAINABILITY SNAPSHOT

## LEADERSHIP

- Platinum Rating in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS)-the highest possible- for comprehensive sustainability efforts
- Committed to pursuing carbon neutrality & 100% renewable energy for the Ithaca campus by 2035
- Top Ivy institution in the Princeton Review Green Honor Roll, STARS, and Carbon Commitment
- Advancing Earth Source Heat as a breakthrough geothermal technology for carbon neutral heat
- Award-winning Climate Action Plan drove a 36% reduction of campus carbon emissions since 2008

## ENGAGEMENT

- 2018 US EPA *Leadership in Green Power Education Award* winner, for efforts to advance access, education, and engagement with renewable energy, especially in low-income communities across New York
- The Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions' online course on climate literacy and communication has reached 2,500+ citizens from 65 countries since launching in 2017
- Launched the *New York Higher Ed Large Scale Renewable Energy* consortium, the largest ever compact of campus working to solicit new renewable energy projects; the group will develop in New York State
- Composting in all residential communities diverts 39 gallons of food waste per week
- Sustainability Management Academy Training for staff has trained 326 managers
- 75 Green Offices and 15 Green Labs certified across most campus units

## CAMPUS

- Renewable energy offsets 20%\* of campus electricity
- 35% of the food budget goes to local or sustainable food
- Total campus waste is down 1/3 in the last five years; reuse & reclamation doubled in the last year
- *Winter Energy Setback* avoids an average of ~\$100,000 in electricity costs each year
- The *Sustainable Landscape Trail* features a walking tour of sites designed by student, staff, and faculty
- Cornell Dining saved over 700lbs of plastic by reducing grab-and-go food packaging
- Grounds Department worked with students to design and build a solar truck to power a fleet of battery-operated equipment with renewable energy

## ACADEMICS

- 33% of all faculty are involved in sustainability research, a 3% increase in the last two years
- 18% of all courses include sustainability topics, up 8% in the last two years, spread across 79 departments
- Sustainability governance groups & Cornell Assemblies have all endorsed climate literacy goals for students & staff



Cornell University



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