

Towards a Sustainable Campus at FSU



The FSU Sustainable Campus & Community Committee, made up of faculty, students, and staff, has taken a leadership role in developing and maintaining recycling efforts at FSU. Beginning in 2005, the “Garnet and Gold Goes Green!” Recycling Program enlisted student, staff, and community volunteers to recycle at home baseball and football games. Over 8 tons of recyclable materials were collected at these games!

In addition to recycling at sporting events, the committee is looking for ways to improve working and living environments in administration and classroom buildings, as well as, residence halls. Other goals associated with campus sustainability at FSU are to reduce energy consumption, become better stewards of the environment, and show leadership in making smart business choices as a public university with public funds.

As part of the campus sustainability efforts, the interdisciplinary committee is assisting in efforts to integrate sustainability, environmental, recycling, and conservation projects in appropriate courses as experiential or service learning opportunities for FSU students.

Would you like to get your department and students involved in the FSU Sustainable Campus Program? Please call 645-6856 or email recycling@fsu.edu

Defining Sustainability

The words “sustainability,” “going green” or “green building” is coming up more often in discussions about the management of resources and business practices. The concept has been around for many years. However, it has gotten much more visibility in the past three to four years. The definition of the word varies depending on who you ask. Simply put, sustainability has to do with reducing our footprint on the future. Most people will agree it contains the following main components – 1) improving economic efficiency, 2) protecting and restoring ecological systems, and 3) enhancing the well-being of all peoples. A sustainable campus program addresses all of these components. Of course, you will find many definitions depending on who you ask. But, they generally will have these three components. Sustainable initiatives must account for all of these at the same time.