

# 2008-2009 Annual Sustainability Report



St. Mary's College of Maryland  
at Historic St. Mary's City

## Improving our Institution

Through the Energy Conservation Initiative, community members developed dozens of ideas for the college to **cut energy usage by up to 15%**-- many ideas are already being implemented or being used to craft our Climate Action Plan.

The housekeeping staff has switched to using cleaning products that are **people-and-environmentally friendly**.

We're no longer wasting so much water, food or money- the Great Room's gone "**trayless**." In surveys, "trayless" operation wastes 23% less food, and saves 250,000 gal of water annually.

Thanks largely to the work of the Grounds crew, SMCM is the **first Maryland college** to receive Audubon International's Certification in Environmental Planning for our efforts to enhance the ecological value of campus land.

The College now recycles 42% of its total waste.

## Creating a Culture of Sustainability

Orientation Leaders and Residence Assistants were trained before the 08/09 year on how to **promote sustainable living practices in the student body**.

Sustainable living "**Green Guides**" for students, faculty and staff are now available.

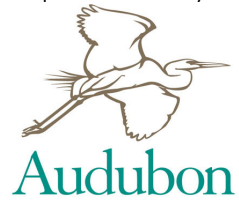
The Committee **funded 75 students** to attend Power Shift 09, a national conference held to learn about sustainable initiatives and how to take political action.

Campus-wide events like **RiverFest, Recyclemania, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Polar Bear Splash** and community markets drew in a diverse array of community members.

The Committee co-hosted lectures by **Will Baker**, President of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation & **Davis Bookhart**, Manager of Energy Management and Environmental Stewardship in the Office of Facilities Management, Johns Hopkins University.



Goodpaster looks out on a storm water pond, one key habitat maintained through environmental planning and landscaping in this Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary



## Engaging Responsibly With our Community

*As signatory to the **President's Climate Commitment**, St. Mary's completed and submitted its first Green House Gas Emissions Report, allowing us to begin work on a Climate Action Plan to reduce this pollution.*

*The Committee drafted the first iteration of the **Sustainability Strategic Plan**.*

*We are committed to socially and environmentally responsible consumption- **100% Fair Trade, Organic coffee is now served on campus**.*

***7 student composting coordinators** were hired to maintain the expanded compost-drop-zones on campus.*

*Working with the St. Mary's River Watershed Association, **250 trees** were planted along Rt. 5*

## Looking Forward to 2009-2010

This year the Committee will complete the **Sustainability Strategic Plan** and **Climate Action Plan**, two guiding documents that will serve as a strategic framework for setting and achieving the college's goals in regards to sustainability. The Committee will also continue to actively pursue projects that make SMCM greener. We look forward to working on these initiatives with our friends and colleagues, old and new.