



ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2010-2011

Accomplishments:

- Climate Action Plan
 - Worked collaboratively with the SGA to increase the purchase of renewable energy credits by 15% without the need for additional funds
 - Completed the first update of the College's green house gas inventory in August 2011
- Green St. Mary's Revolving Fund (GSMRF)
 - Worked collaboratively with Student Affairs and the SGA to establish a \$110,000 rotating fund
 - Established the first working committee for project reviews and proposals in October 2010 (Committee contained 3 students, 2 faculty, and 2 staff members)
 - Finalized all charter documents and project submission forms
 - Obtained funding for 4 energy conservation projects totaling \$6,000
- St. Mary's' Strategic Plan
 - Worked with the Strategic Planning Committee for the draft of Vital Priority F (Sustainability)
- STARS (Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System)
 - St. Mary's registered as a STARS participant and intends to submit the College's first ever comprehensive green report in Fall '11
- Reusable To-Go Program
 - Worked with Student Environmental Action Committee and Bon Appétit to design a pilot program, which began in February 2011
 - Ordered 1,000 reusable "oyster-shell" to-go boxes for 400 initial participants
 - Expanded the program to 400 new participants and added a new drop off station at the Campus Pub in September 2011
- Campus Farm
 - Applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from Sandy Hollow Arts and Recreation for the Environment to purchase farm materials
 - Assisted in organizing a summer intern structure to maintain the farms productivity through peak harvesting seasons
- Composting, Waste Minimization and Recycling
 - Expanded the SGA-funded composting program to include pickup of coffee grounds from the Daily Grind and the Green Bean cafes
 - Hosted 2 "Free Markets" during the academic year, collecting unwanted consumer goods and offering them for free at selected events
 - Worked with student organizations to improve signage at composting stations and recycling containers around campus
 - Organized an end of year residence hall donation drive collecting 2 box trucks worth of food, clothing, school supplies, furniture, appliances, ect. which were then donated to charity

- Campus recycling rates decreased to 35% from 40% of total waste, based upon new measurement methodologies
- New Student Orientation
 - Worked with the Orientation staff to distribute green guides to the incoming first-year and transfer students
 - Conducted “Green” outreach trainings with residence life staff and orientation leaders

Events:

- “Eat Local Challenge”, September 28th
- National Campus Sustainability Day, October 20th
- Kudzu Clean Up, November 2nd, hosted by the Eco-Reps
- Collaborated with the Student Environmental Action Coalition on “Do it in the Dark Month”, February 2011
- 4th Annual Polar Bear Plunge, February 18th
- Earth Hour, March 27th
- Free Markets and End of Year move out sale

Awards:

- St. Mary’s was one of only two institutions of higher education to receive the Maryland Green Registry’s Leadership Award
<http://www.smcm.edu/news/pressrelease/2010/07/10-135.html>
- St. Mary’s was named the largest green power purchaser in the Capital Athletic Conference by the Environmental Protection Agency for the 4th year in a row
- St. Mary’s was named a top “Green School” by the Princeton Review, ranking in the top 80th percentile of all Colleges and Universities in the Country

Works in Progress:

- Green Purchasing Policy
- Installation of campus benches for the local STS bus system
- No-Idling Vehicle Policy for Physical Plant and Public Safety
- Expanded Composting Program
- Expanded Electronics Recycling Program
- Bike Sharing/ Check-out program
- Campus Solar Photovoltaic Systems
- Large Scale GSMRF Projects (Solar PV or Geothermal)
- 2nd Energy Performance Contract