



Annual Report 2013-2014



*Truman was
designated as a*
**Tree
Campus
USA**
*site in
March 2014*

Truman State University's Sustainability Principles:

- *Acknowledging the interdependence of humanity and nature*
- *Embracing inter-generational stewardship*
- *Accounting for triple bottom line practices*
- *Conserving natural resources Striving to eliminate waste*
- *Investing in collaborative community-based projects*
- *Developing a closed-loop local food system*
- *Promoting multi-modal transportation*
- *Innovating - Evolving - Educating*

Visit the Truman sustainability website at: sustainability.truman.edu

Summary of Truman Sustainability Efforts

Education and Research

Co-Curricular Education - Engaging students in sustainability issues through co-curricular activities allows students to deepen and apply their understanding of sustainability principles. Activities Truman has undertaken include:

- Continued providing sustainability hints and tips during new student orientation, as well as the Residence Life sustainability educators program.
- 2013-2014 Sustainability Events -
 - Sustainability Series Speakers -
 - Fall - **GreenTown Joplin**
 - Spring - **Wolfgang Hoeschele**
 - University Conference Day - conducted professional development for employees
 - Student-sponsored Earth Week activities
 - Campus Sustainability Day 2013 activities
- Sustainability Learning Community - In Spring 2014, Residence Life established a Sustainability Learning Community in the BNB residence hall. The community will be active for Fall 2014.

Curriculum - By training and educating future leaders, scholars, workers, and professionals, higher education institutions are uniquely positioned to prepare students to understand and address sustainability challenges.

Truman participates in this educational mission through:

- Offering 9 Sustainability-Focused & 45 Sustainability-Related Courses, representing a **TOTAL of 54 courses across 14 DEPARTMENTS**
- A minor in Environmental Studies
- An online Sustainability Certificate

Sustainability-Focused Courses

- concentrate on the concept of sustainability including its social, economic, and environmental dimensions; or
- examine an issue or topic using sustainability as a lens

Sustainability-Related Courses

- incorporate sustainability as a distinct course component or module;
- concentrate on a single aspect of sustainability; or
- address a sustainability principle or issue

Planning, Administration and Engagement

Public Engagement - Volunteerism and the sense of compassion that community service helps develop are fundamental to achieving sustainability. Community engagement can help students develop leadership skills while deepening their understanding of practical, real-world problems. Activities included:

- Green Thumb Project - Two VISTA volunteers (funded by a grant from the Missouri River Coalition) are housed at Truman, and participate with the local K-12 schools on community gardening efforts and education.
- Truman is working with other COPLAC schools on the **"Commitment to Place"** project, which is focused on civic engagement activities. Truman will focus on food and education activities as part of this project.



Truman was included on the [President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll 2013](#) (and has been on the Honor Roll every year since 2008)

Coordination and Planning - Truman is dedicating resources to sustainability coordination, incorporating sustainability into primary campus plans, and developing plans to move forward on sustainability. This is demonstrated through the following:

- The President's Sustainability Action Committee continued working on the tactical plan, with a goal to achieve the STARS Silver rating by 2015.

Human Resources - Investment in human resources is integral to the achievement of a healthy and sustainable balance between human capital, natural capital, and financial capital (the triple bottom line). Truman tries to address this balance in the following ways:



Conducted an employee survey in the spring of 2013, covering commute issues, campus diversity, and employee satisfaction.

Using the survey results, the President's Sustainability Action Committee is working with Human Resources and the Staff Council on appropriate follow-up activities.

[Click here to see the full summary from the 2013 Faculty and Staff Survey](#)

Summary of Truman Sustainability Efforts (continued)

Operations

Grounds - Campus grounds can be planned, planted, and maintained while minimizing the use of toxic chemicals, protecting wildlife habitat, and conserving water and resources.



Tree Campus USA

Began planting trees as a follow-up to planning done with the Missouri Conservation Department, and approximately 423 native trees and shrubs were planted this past year.

In March of 2014, Truman received the designation of [Tree Campus USA](#). This included the development of a Tree Care Plan and student educational programs.



Ribbon cutting ceremony on April 22, 2014 for a student-led interdisciplinary project known as the Bear Creek Restoration Project (around 400 trees and shrubs were planted in total, including 350 bare-root saplings and roughly 50 conservation grade potted trees).

Transportation - Moving toward sustainable transportation systems can reduce greenhouse emissions and other pollutants.

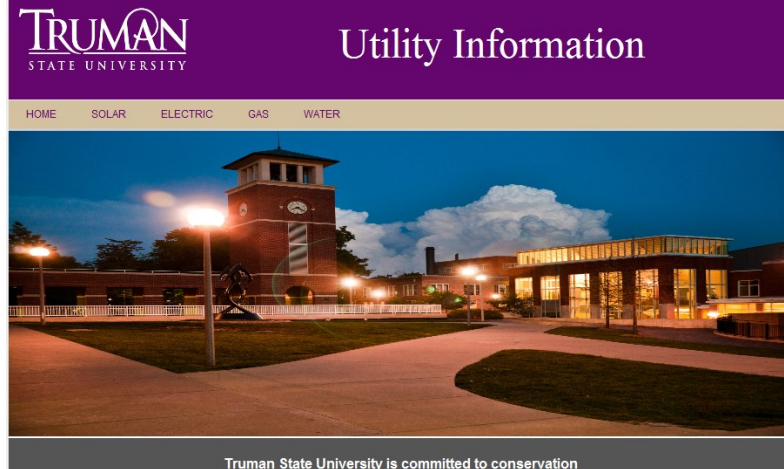
- Investigated becoming a [Bicycle Friendly University](#).

Dining Services -

- Sodexo continues to look for more local GAP/GHP certified producers (i.e., producers who follow the Guidelines for Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices.)

Energy - Implementing conservation measures and switching to renewable sources of energy can help save money and provide some protection from utility rate volatility. Recent Truman conservation measures include:

- [Utility Dashboard](#) - Updated the utility dashboard with up to 5 years of data on utility usage and costs, this includes data for solar, electric, gas, and water.

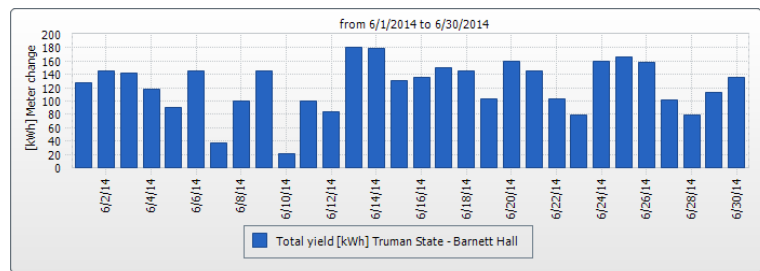


Renewable Energy -

Truman State - Barnett Hall Monthly report

Devices/PV system	Gesamtertrag Meter Change [kWh] November 2014	Gesamtertrag Meter Change [kWh] 2014
Truman State - Barnett Hall	653.75	29462.91
	653.75	29462.91
	[Total]	[Total]

< Year < Month 11/9/2014 Month > Year >



6/1/2014 - 6/30/2014

Typical monthly report from the Barnett solar array.

Waste - Truman is moving toward zero waste by reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting. New efforts this past year included:

- Student Government refined the on-campus glass recycling program, and Truman has been working with the city on a potential city-wide glass recycling program.
- Re-upholstered furniture in many locations, this is ongoing.
- EPA Food Recovery Challenge** - Signed up for this EPA program to reduce purchasing and waste fees during 2014/2015.

Buy Local –

[Sodexo](#) strives to use local foods whenever possible. Besides utilizing local produce from the University Farm, Sodexo’s suppliers out of Des Moines IA and Olathe KS ensure a large supply of local products from producers following the Guidelines for Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices.



The Green Thumb Project –

Truman has a formal partnership with the Ray Miller School (grades 3-5) whereby the Truman students help guide gardening efforts at the school.



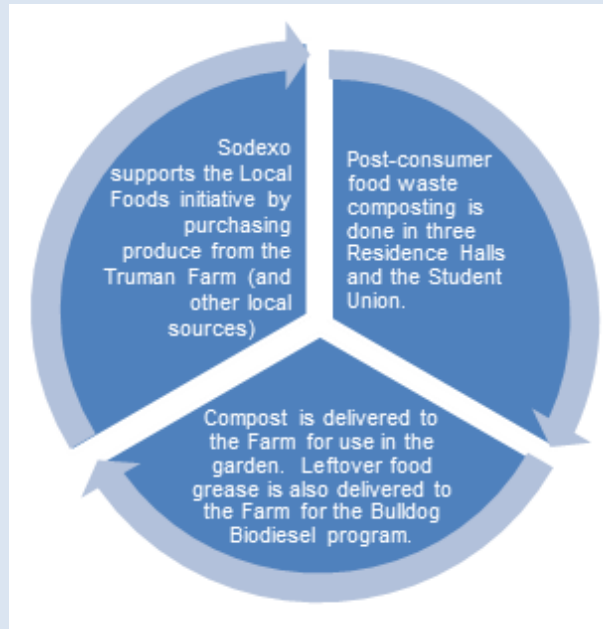
Communiversy Garden -

The Communiversy Garden, started in 2010, is an organic garden managed by students on campus. All produce from the garden is shared among students and the community.

Community Garden -

33 20’x20’ garden plots are available at the University Farm for anyone interested.

Farm-to-Table Program



Truman is working in partnership with Sodexo to build a sustainable food system.

Compost Project

The [Compost Project](#) is managed by a student intern receiving independent study credit; Truman students are responsible for gathering, weighing, and processing the waste into compost. (In addition to Truman sites, waste is gathered from local restaurants.)



Approximately 300 lbs of food waste is composted per day.

Truman “Rot Riders”

Truman students ride bicycles with trailers and collect food waste from homes in the city. This waste is added to the compost.



Bulldog Biodiesel

Agriculture Science purchased a BioPro190 automated processor and produces biodiesel with waste vegetable oil donated by several cafeterias and community restaurants.

When temperatures are above freezing, Bulldog Biodiesel fuels all equipment used on the Truman Farm.

EPA Food Recovery Challenge

- Reduce purchasing & waste fees **by 5%**.
- Support the local community by feeding people, not landfills.
- Reduce our environmental impact and greenhouse gas emissions



Sustainability Committee

Committee Charge -

◆ The President's Sustainability Action Committee will **identify and evaluate** ways to modify university practices to bring them into increasing accord with the principles of the Sustainability Initiative.

◆ Furthermore, for identified practices of interest, the committee will **document** the current state of these practices and **develop practical benchmarking** for assessing progress towards desired modifications of such practices.

◆ The committee will **provide regular advice** to the University President regarding suggested best practices, and will **present an annual report** of its activities to the University President that records progress on practices of interest and indicates future plans.

2013/2014 Committee Members

Nancy Asher

Coordinator of Testing and Reporting and Associate Budget Officer

John Gardner

Director, Residence Life

Donna Liss, Chair

CIO, Information Technology Services

Lora Cunningham

Director, Sodexo Food Services

Karl Schneider

Director, Facilities Management

Lori Shook

Design Project Manager, Campus Planning

Dr. Wolfgang Hoeschele

Faculty Member, Society and Environment

Dr. Michael Kelrick

Faculty Member, Biology Department

Molly Turner

Student, Student Government

Environmental Affairs Committee Liaison

Judi Schweitzer

Consultant, Sustainability Expert



Strategic Plan for Sustainability

The University's Strategic Plan for 2011-2015 identified sustainability as a strategic goal under Theme 2: Securing Financial Stability and Growth

GOAL 2.4. Make campus more sustainable by reducing consumption of resources.

The purpose of goal 2.4 is to emphasize to our community the importance of considering the sustainability of our various practices. Whether the resources consumed are financial, environmental, or human capital, we need to ensure that our practices are in balance for the long haul. Strategies and action plans supporting the triple bottom line (finances, planet, and people) should result from this goal.

RESPONSE: The University is striving to achieve the STARS SILVER rating by the end of the 2015 calendar year. This rating represents a continued focus on triple bottom line activities.

The focus for 2014/2015 will be on the following:

- Work on waste diversion strategies through the EPA Food Recovery Challenge program.
- Through efforts in civic engagement and service learning, we plan to increase participation from academic areas regarding sustainability in the curriculum, address food security (the COPLAC project), assist with the Clinton Global University Initiative, and partner on co-curricular CE activities with the Center for Student Involvement.
- Focus on diversity and employee satisfaction follow-up activities, including a flexible work week proposal.
- Maintain and enhance the university grounds by establishing an arboretum as part of our Tree Campus USA program.
- Research and implement energy conservation programs identified by the Guaranteed Energy Savings project.
- Reduce carbon emissions through promotion of biking, including designation as a Bicycle Friendly Campus.
- Work with student organizations on a sustainability fee.
- Establish an internship to create and maintain a "digital history" of sustainability at Truman, and complete the STARS 2.0 survey.

TREE & LAND CONSERVATION



Tree Campus USA
March, 2014



1 of only 237
schools with this
designation

“Paino Pear” turns **4**

Number of trees on
campus and select areas
at the University Farm

1,744

CARBON -and- EMISSIONS

Reduce carbon
emissions through the
purchase of local foods.

380 miles
Loffredo max distance

430 miles
Sysco max distance

Employee and Student
Ride-Share Programs



Bicycle
Coop

WASTE REDUCTION

300 lbs.
Amt. of food waste
composted per day

Recycling
Paper & Cardboard
Plastic Bottles
Aluminum
Electronics & Metal
Toner Cartridges



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Truman on
President’s Higher
Education
Community Service
Honor Roll every
year since 2008



Teach **54** Courses across
14 Departments

9 Sustainability-Focused Courses

45 Sustainability-Related Courses

Sustainability Learning Community
Established in BNB Residence Hall **2014**

AFFILIATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS



AASHE Founding Member



BRONZE Rating

- Member, Midlands Sustainability Forum
- Student Government Environmental Affairs
- Environmental Campus Organization

RESPONSIBLE FOOD PRACTICES

Dining Practices

Vegan Dining
Trans-fat Free
Trayless Dining
Meatless Monday
Re-usable Mug Discount
Re-usable Containers
No-Fry Fridays
Recycled Content Napkins

Food Recovery Challenge



Garden Partnerships

University Farm
Communiversy Garden
Green Thumb Project

33 Number of
community
20’x20’
garden plots

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Managing Usage

ALL Buildings
Have solar, electric,
gas, and water data
in Utility Dashboard

100%
Computers meeting
EPEAT Gold standard

80%
Server
power
savings

93%
Desktop
power
savings

Renewable Energy

5 Solar Arrays

125 kw
Electricity generated
per year

Bulldog Biodiesel
Fuels all equipment
at the University
Farm
(Since 2008)