

Sustainability at Stout: Climate Action Plan Update

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Goal of the Action Plan: What are we trying to achieve?

- A focus on sustainability by implementing key elements of the President's Climate Commitment and educational and applied research.
- A leadership role in sustainability, including campus policy development and active participation in regional initiatives and groups.

Progress: Major Accomplishments

- Climate Action Plan* adopted on September 15, 2009
 - Phase 1: Emission Reductions by 2015:
 - 1-3% reduction in fleet vehicle emissions
 - 10-20% reduction in emissions through energy conservation and renewable energy purchasing
 - 3-5% reduction in emissions from transport, waste, water, etc.
- Greenhouse Gas Inventory* to report emissions data, submitted in 2008 and 2009
- Campus sustainability policy development
 - Environmental Sustainability Steering Committee (ESSC) is currently prioritizing policy recommendations and details of each policy. Topics include:
 - Energy conservation – building temperatures, lighting, personal appliances
 - Waste reduction – paper use, printing requirements, special events, recycling
 - Purchasing – purchasing of 'green' materials and products when allowed under current UW purchasing guidelines, purchasing of local food, purchasing of 'green' energy, purchasing of Fair Trade products
 - Transportation – rideshare, bikeshare, pedestrian circulation, carshare, vanpools, campus shuttles, public transit, parking management, telecommuting, flexible schedules
- Participation in regional groups:
 - Sustainable Dunn, Joint Sustainability Working Group, West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition, Menomonie Community Garden initiative, Tainter Menomin Lake Improvement Association, Chippewa Valley Regional Transit Authority
- Sustainability in the curriculum
 - Sustainable Design & Development minor
 - B.S. in Sustainable Management
 - Faculty attended Midwest Regional Collaborative for Sustainability Education, June 2009
 - Sustainability Across the Curriculum World Café event in January 2010
 - "Infusing Sustainability into the Curriculum" two-day workshop in May 2010

Concerns: Additional support or action needed to achieve the plan goals

- How to create awareness of emission reductions in order to comply with our Climate Action Plan Phase 1 commitments.
- How to select policies that will have the greatest impact *and* be most acceptable to the campus.
- How to best include sustainability in the curriculum and providing research opportunities.
- How to best increase our participation in regional initiatives and partner with our community.

*View Climate Action Plan and Greenhouse Gas Inventory online at:

<http://acupcc.aashe.org/index.php?abs=&q=University%20of%20Wisconsin-Stout>