

CSUS Goes Green

All four universities within the Connecticut State University System are charter signatories of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment and have begun taking wide-ranging action to achieve conservation and sustainability goals.



Central Connecticut State University

- Hosted 3-day Focus the Nation symposium in 2008, one of the largest environmental events in the Northeast
- Summer Institute for Sustainability: 12 faculty members working on seven projects exploring various aspects of sustainability with the goal of creating a knowledge base and engaging the Connecticut business community in developing and implementing more sustainable business practices and public policies
- Faculty, student, staff Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability with an overall goal of developing an Institutional Plan for Sustainability
- Undergraduate major in Geography includes an Environmental Track
- Master's in Geography program with specialization in environmental protection
- Proposed Master's in Global Sustainability was developed this summer and is being reviewed by university's curriculum committee
- Planning the Second CCSU Global Environmental Sustainability Symposium, to be held April 15-16, 2009
- CCSU is member of a Sustainability Consortium coordinated by the Hartford Consortium of central Connecticut campuses



Eastern Connecticut State University

- Bachelor of General Studies in Sustainable Energy Management, which prepares individuals to work as energy policy specialists in government, industry, and education
- Minor program in Sustainable Energy Studies (Major in Fall 2009)
- On-line certificate in Sustainable Energy Management
- Individualized major program
- Summer renewable energy workshop
- Institute for Sustainable Energy (internships, work-study jobs)
- Community service and outreach
- Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies (Fred Loxsom)
- Sustainability courses are part of the liberal arts core curriculum
- Students studying solar hot water systems (five in state; one of five at Eastern)
- Service Learning in Jamaica — building renewable power system for local school
- Local field study at Eastern's Arboretum and Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences in Ashford





Southern Connecticut State University

- Undergraduate programs in marine and environmental studies; social perspectives of environmental concerns; earth systems inquiry using Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Wildlife and energy conservation projects – wind turbine feasibility study; monk parakeet population study; habitat diversity conservation project
- Master's programs in ecosystems and environmental concerns; environmental design; energy use and climate change
- Environmental Futurists are recognized at city and state levels for their activism; activities include organizing neighborhood cleanups, planting organic garden and partnering with local high school to grow produce for local food pantries
- 200 students collect six tons of garbage during fall Day of Service in New Haven; fall and spring campus clean-ups; "zero-waste" picnic
- Student Government presents first-ever Student Sustainability Leadership Award; sponsors free student shuttle program to New Haven, reducing auto emissions



Western Connecticut State University

- Bachelor of Arts, Ecological Sciences option is offered in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences
- Ruth Gyure, assistant professor of Biological and Environmental Sciences, works with students on a phytoremediation project to remove heavy metals from the soil by using plants to absorb pollutants
- Western hosted a Focus the Nation teach-in on global warming, joining several other universities in the nation
- The Jane Goodall Center for Excellence in Environmental Studies, based on campus, offers interdisciplinary programs for students, educators and the community that foster an understanding and awareness of issues relevant to the environment, both natural and human-centered
- Roots & Shoots members participated in the annual Day of Peace by planning group projects, including use of recycled materials, in promoting peace
- Westside Nature Preserve, 33 acres of deciduous woodlands and wetlands, provides outdoor learning opportunities
- A garden of native species has been planted at the Science Building

