

Benefits of Biking

#### **SAVE MONEY**

average annual cost to operate a car: \$9,600

average annual cost to operate a

bike: \$120

#### **SAVE TIME**

Avoid sitting in traffic and get to class quickly!

#### STAY HEALTHY

The average person will lose 13 lbs. in their first year of biking to work or school!

### HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Bikes give off zero CO2 emissions into the environment!

#### **EXPLORE**

Discover and visit places you can't access by car!

# MEASURING HOW AMERICA RIDES

U.S. Bicycling Participation Benchmark Report

34% of Americans ages 3+ rode a bicycle at least one day in the past year.

Of those who rode a bicycle, 30% rode five days or fewer.

Those who rode for transportation are much more likely to have done so to get to and from social, recreation, or leisure activities (70%) than to have commuted to and from work or school (46%).

48% of adults in the U.S. don't have access to an operational bicycle at home.

54% of adults in the U.S. perceive bicycling as a convenient way to get from one place to another and 53% would like to ride more often. (peopleforbikes.org)

# Cajuns Geaux GREEN

a publication by UL's Office of Sustainability





vélo: noun. BIKE (French)

Bike Share here at UL

We are excited to announce that the new bike share system Geaux Vélo has been approved and will be available to students, faculty, staff, and community members this spring semester! There will be three locations of Bike Share Stations: Cajun Field, The Union, and the Girard Park Circle Parking Tower that house a total of 52 bikes. Membership of this program is FREE, and low-cost fees will be based on hourly usage, which is shown below.

Biking is a sustainable and reliable method of transportation with many health, environmental, and economical benefits! With Geaux Vélo, a round-trip based bike share system, you can become a member for FREE and rent a bike to travel quickly and easily across campus and around the community!

#### How does it work?

Geaux Vélo bikes are designed with airless tires, enclosed chains, and a basket to be durable and efficient! See below for step by step instructions on how to use the Geaux Vélo Bike Share system.

### Sign Up

- Sign up for FREE online at geauxyelobikeshare.com to become a member.
- Go to any of the three Bike Share Stations listed above to activate your UL ID or Driver's License with your User ID and PIN which you will receive in an email once you have registered on line.
- Use your UL ID or Driver's License to rent a bike! (Your User ID and PIN will also work.)

# Remove Key

- Swipe ULID, Driver's License or enter User ID and PIN at Bike Share Station.
- After station door opens, take lighted key assigned to you.
- Find bike with keytag ID number.
- Unlock your bike using key and lock button.

# Ride Around

- Adjust the seat using hand knob directly below the seat if needed.
- Make sure to lock your bike when you park it!

# 4 Return Key

 After returning your bike to the original station, swipe your card and return your key to any open slot.

### Costs Per Hour

Hour 1 = FREE Hour 2 = \$1.00 Hour 3 = \$1.00 Hour 4 = FREE Hour 5 = FREE Hour 6 = FREE

Hour 6 = FREE Hour 7 = FREE Hour 8 = FREE Hour 9 = \$1.00 Hour 10 = \$1.00 Hour 11 = \$1.00 Hour 12 = \$1.00 December 2015 -January 2016

What's inside:

Geaux Vélo Bike Share!

**Recycling on Campus** 

Benefits of Biking (even in winter)

Geaux Green This
Winter

#### Special Announcement

UL has earned its seventh consecutive title as TREE CAMPUS USA in 2015!

Check out the National Arbor Day Foundation's website for more information on the Tree <u>Campus USA program!</u>

https://www.arborday.org/ programs/treecampususa/



### Tip of the Month

Instead of buying rolls and rolls of wrapping paper for holiday and birthday gifts, try wrapping with materials like fabric, reusable bags, and clay pots. Recipients will be able to reuse these items around the house or to wrap their gifts!

If you don't have any of these items lying around, try using something fun like the comic section of the newspaper to wrap gifts!



# UL FOOTBALL

Gameday Challenge Recycling at Home Games

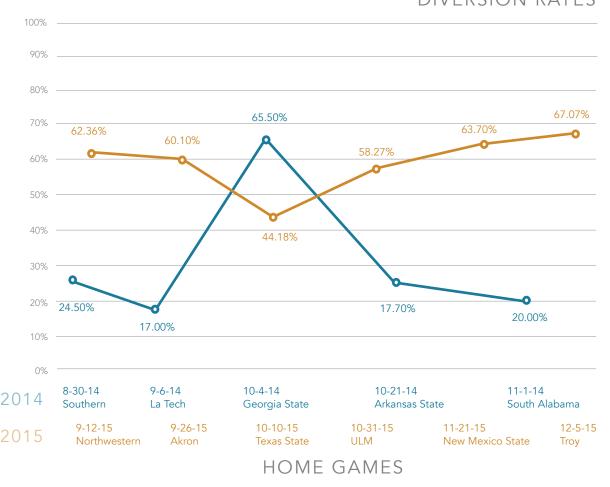




In 2014, we participated in the Gameday Recycling Challenge, a friendly competition for colleges and universities to promote waste reduction at home football games. Last football season, we ranked 10th in the nation for highest diversion rate! This season, though we fell out of the top 10 with a 17th place finish, we did manage to drastically improve our diversion rates from last year! Below are recycling statistics from last football season compared to this season! Thanks again, Cajuns, for participating in the recycling efforts! Keep up the great work!

diversion rate = Pounds of Recyclables/Compostables x 100
Pounds of Trash + Pounds of Recyclables/Compostables

2014 2015 DIVERSION RATES



2014 season average 28.94%
2015 season average 59.28%

25% 50% 75% 100%

#### **Events**

January 13 Classes Begin

January 18
No Classes: Martin
Luther King Day

#### **Community**

Jan. 16 8:00 am-noon
The Teche Project's
St. Martin Parish
Recycling- Free of
Charge!

Taking electronic items to be recycled, prescription drug take-backs and document shredding. Check out techeproject.org/# for more info!

Jan. 30 8:00 am-11:30 am Bayou Vermilion District's Intermediate Canoe/ Kayak Lesson + Paddle Trip

Jan. 9 10:00 am-11:00 am Lafayette Parish Master Gardener's

2nd Saturday Gardening Class

@ Green T. Lindon Elementary 603 Avenue B Youngsville, LA. 70592

#### **Shout Outs!**

A big thank-you to all who have contributed to our e-cycle program!

Here are the leaders for the month of November:

Student Cashier Center
(The Union)
Administration and
Finance
(Martin Hall)
University Bookstore
(Rex and St. Mary)

Check out our website (sustainability.louisiana.edu) to learn more about our e-cycle program and how you can contribute!



#### Bike Safely This Winter Rules to Follow: 1. Be Seen!

With the days getting shorter and weather occasionally getting bad, make sure you are seen by drivers by using white and red lights and reflective tape and/or clothing that makes you visible! During the winter, motorists don't expect to see many bicyclists on the road, so take the extra precautions to be seen!

#### 2. Know the Hazards

The streets are slickest when it first begins to rain or snow. Also, manhole covers, leaves and metal bridges are especially dangerous when wet. Keep your eyes open for potholes, cracks, and RR crossings.

#### 3. Know the Tricks

When it is wet or icy, pump the brakes, ride slower, keep your weight on the back wheel, and don't lean into turns as much. If you do start to fall, try to lean away from traffic and resist putting out your hand to brake the fall.

#### 4. Know Your Options

Although many bike routes to work or school may be habit now, make sure you know alternative routes in advance in case you run into things like messy weather or heavy traffic.

#### 5. Be Predictable

Anticipate what other road users (including pedestrians and other cyclists) are going to do, and help them anticipate your movements. You can do this by using hand signals, not stopping abruptly, and looking behind without veering off course.

#### 6. Be Assertive

Don't hesitate to take a lane. IF you're being honked at, at least they see you! Also, stay to the left of right turning traffic at intersections so oncoming traffic will see you better, and right turning traffic won't plow into you.

(bikewinter.org/node/20)

Reminder Remember to get involved with sustainability-related efforts on campus! Check out the Biology Club, Horticulture Club, Geaux Bike UL, or Students for Sustainability to see what they're doing make our campus a better place! Ask club members about upcoming volunteer opportunities as a way to help out around our campus and within our community!

### Sustainable Winter 2015-16

### Geaux Green this winter by following these simple tips!

Look for ways to store and reuse holiday decorations and ornaments next year! Some gift wrapping, such as gift bags, cardboard, and packing peanuts, may be salvaged as well and reused next year! **Holiday Parties** 

Choose reusable dinnerware instead of disposable dinnerware when possible. When party planning, know party size in advance. This will prevent over-purchasing.

#### Green Clean-up

Make sure to separate recyclable material (paper, cardboard, glass, metals) from trash when cleaning up after a party. Also, try using eco-friendly cleaners that don't contain toxic or dangerous chemicals.

#### Stay Healthy **Get Exercise**

Despite the cold weather, find ways to remain active and in-shape this winter by doing this as simple as walking in the park, jogging around your neighborhood, or completing projects around the

#### Winter Air Quality

Use resources like the Environmental Protection Agency's AIRNow website (www.epa.gov/airnow) to check the particle levels in the air. "Particle pollution consists of microscopic particles in the air that can get deep into the lungs, potentially causing serious health problems and can occur throughout the year (www.epa.gov).

#### Eat Local and Organic

Check out Lafayette's local farmers markets to get great deals on locally-grown food. Not only is this good for your health, it also helps boost our local economy!

Be Energy Efficient

To make sure your heating system is functioning efficiently, check ductwork for leaks and wrap with duct mastic. Caulk and weatherstrip doors and windows that leak air.

#### Check Vehicle

Make sure your vehicle is running efficiently by checking air filter and fluid levels. Check tires for proper inflation and tread ware.

#### Energy-star qualified equipment

Consider replacing old equipment around the house with energy-star qualified equipment. For instance, if your heating equipment is more than ten years old, it is time to upgrade. Although these items may be initially expensive, they will save energy and money in the long run.







### Stay Connected

Be sure to use our website [sustainability.louisiana.edu] as one of your sustainability resources! There, you'll find UL news, planning and progress updates, green guides, links to environmental footprint calculators, transportation information, and ways to get involved around campus and in the community!

Also, keep up to date by following us on Facebook (University of Louisiana at Lafayette Office of Sustainability), Pinterest (UL Office of Sustainability), and Instagram (ul\_sustainability)!

Some programs we offer on campus include E-Cycle, Single-stream recycling, and S.W.A.P Shop for faculty and staff.



Feel free to contact us with questions or comments!

Office of LOUIŠIANA Sustainability

sustainability@louisiana.edu email 337.482-0054 phone

### Local Farmers **Markets**

Lafayette Farmers & Artisans Market at The Horse Farm

Every Saturday 8:00 am-noon

Lafayette Hub City Farmers Market Oil Center (427 Heyman St. across from Champagne's)

Every Saturday 8:00 am-noon Arts Weekend

Local artists join the Hub City Farmers Market 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month

### Green New Year's Resolutions

- I. Stop buying bottled water! Bottles used to package water take over 1,000 years to degrade in landfills and, if incinerated, produce toxic fumes<sup>1</sup>. Instead, try drinking tap or filtered water from a reusable bottle.
- 2. Remember to bring reusable bags when shopping. A plastic bag can take up to 500 years to degrade in a landfill<sup>2</sup>!
- 3. Cut back on paper towels. Try using dish rags or towels to clean up instead. Approximately 51,000 trees are required daily to replace discarded paper towels3.
- 4. Eliminate phantom power usage by unplugging electronics such as chargers, DVD players, gaming systems, coffee pots, TVs, etc. when not in use.
- 5. Switch out all incandescent light bulbs for compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). An EnergyStar qualified CFL bulb will pay for itself in 6 months and will save \$30 in electricity over its lifetime<sup>4</sup>!
- thewaterproject.org
   sciencelearn.org
   recyclenation.com
   energystar.gov

#### Got an Idea?

Great ideas come from everywhere, and we would love to hear yours!

Please share it with us! Just email us at sustainability@louisiana.edu