### University of Louisiana at Lafayette's

# OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT







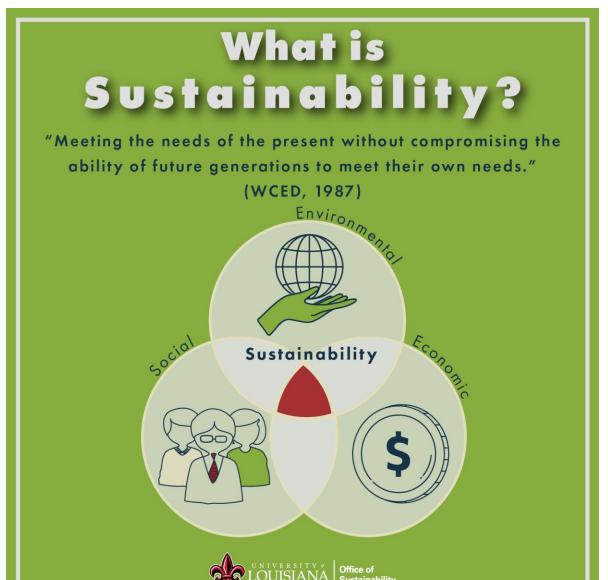
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

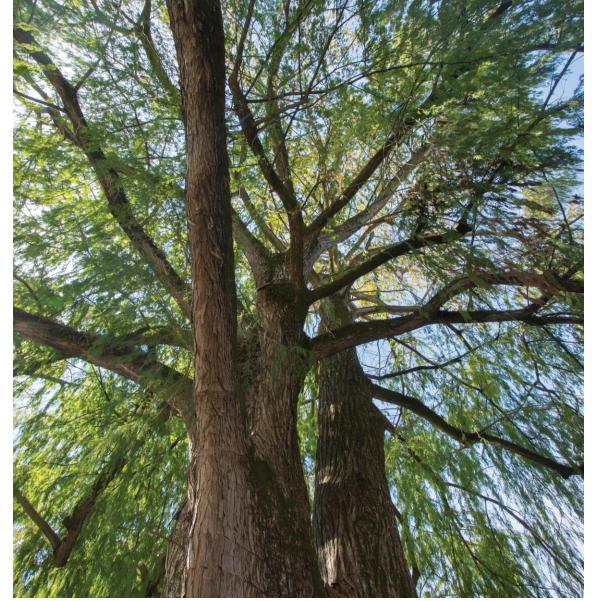












## SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT





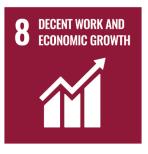
































### SUSTAINABILITY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STAFF

Dr. Gretchen Vanicor
Director of Sustainability
Coordinator of all things



gretchen.vanicor@louisiana.edu

Blair Begnaud, LEED AP BD+C
Assistant Director of Sustainability
MS4 & SWMP Coordinator



blair.begnaud1@louisiana.edu

Jonathan R. Brown
Sustainability Coordinator
Hazardous Waste Coordinator



jonathan.brown@louisiana.edu



### **OUR MISSION**

Our vision is for the entire University community to become more aware of our impacts on the environment and our community, at the institutional level and at our own personal level.

We fully believe that in doing so, we will all become more **conscientious and responsible**, and the University will become stronger and more resilient.

### **OUR GOALS**

- 1. Campus As A Living Lab
- 2. Operations
- 3. Academics & Research
- 4. Engagement





### SUSTAINABILITY TOPICS AT UL

Everything that we do fits into these 8 main topics. Breaking it into these categories help users grasp the broad concept of sustainability and understand the sectors we work in here at UL Lafayette.



AIR AND CLIMATE



**BUILDINGS AND PLANNING** 



WATER USE AND WATERSHED



MATERIALS MANAGEMENT



LANDSCAPE AND HABITATS



TRANSPORTATION







# WHAT DOES SUSTAINABILITY LOOK LIKE AT UL LAFAYETTE?







































## **STARS**

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, & Rating System (STARS)

• UL Lafayette is rated **Silver** with a score **50.92** 

• 14.08 points from a GOLD rating (65). Our next Goal is GOLD

- Measures:
  - Academics
  - Engagement
  - Operations
  - Planning & Administration
  - Innovation & Leadership





# SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCES: RECYCLING

The University has been recycling since 2004. We are proud to offer recycling in almost every campus building and outside throughout campus along main pathways.

Currently in 2024 there is recycling lobby bins in almost 90% of all academic buildings on main campus and many more in the lobbies on frequently used non-academic buildings.

At UL Lafayette we offer various types of recycling:

Mixed Recycling – Across all UL Lafayette Campuses

Plastic Bag Recycling – 10 locations on Main Campus

Ink and Toner Recycling — Martin Hall Mail Room, Office of Sustainability (1606 Johnston St), and by pick up request.





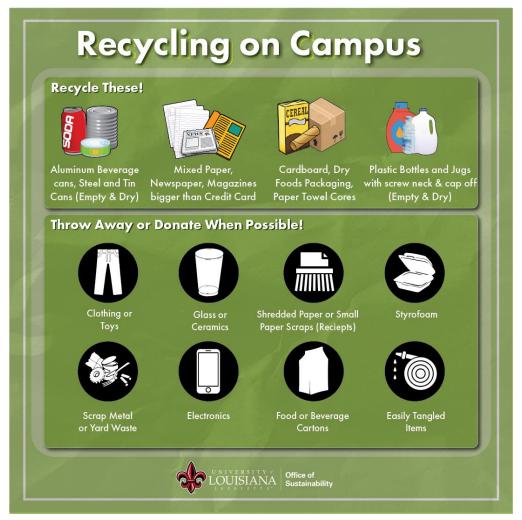






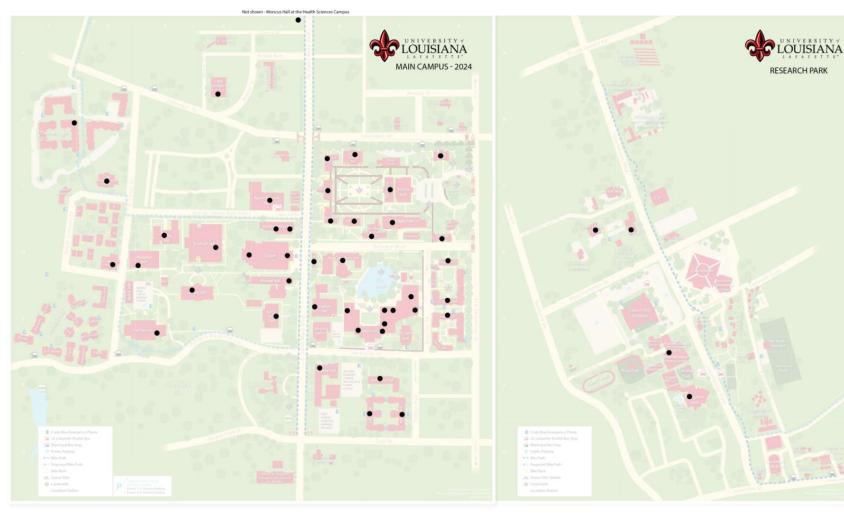
# MIXED RECYCLING







# MIXED RECYCLING LOCATIONS INDOOR RECYCLING LOCATIONS



## PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING







## PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING











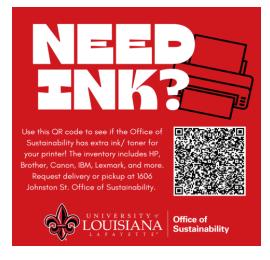
## INK AND TONER RECYCLING

#### Ink & Toner Recycling To recycle your empty ink & toner cartridges, please contact The Office of Sustainability either by : Emailing zerowaste@louisiana.edu Submiting an 'E-cycle request' at sustainability.louisiana.edu/node/123 Calling our Office at 337-482-0054 to request pick up. Droping them off at our Office in 1606 Johnson St. Dropping them off at the Martin Hall Mailroom under the ledge. Please let us know the amount of recycling in your request. This way we can arrange pick up accordingly! What happens We recycle ink & toner cartridges to the through Office Depo and an cartridges? organization called Funding Factory. The Funding Factory has diverted over 43.3

million pounds of ink items from the landfill!



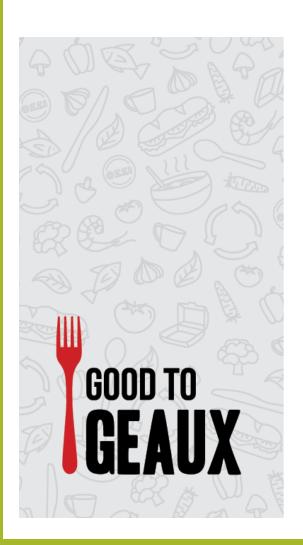






Funding Factory

## GOOD TO GEAUX



### ABOUT G2G: 💮 👝 🗘







The University of Louisiana at Lafayette and UL Dining Services are committed to sustainability. The Good to Geaux system reduces single-use plastic waste associated with to-go food containers.

#### HOW?

Pick up or purchase your initial OZZI token from your residence hall or at the Cypress Lake Dining Hall front desk Jan. 11 - Jan. 15.

Instead of disposing containers into landfill bins, you will return empty Good to Geaux containers to one of five OZZI machines stationed at dining locations across campus. The containers will be washed and sanitized then used again for future meal service.

#### WHEN?

Begins Jan. 25

#### WHERE?

Lagniappe Café Café Fleur de Lis Cypress Lake Dining Hall

LOUISIANA.EDU/GOODTOGEAUX



## GOOD TO GEAUX

#### **How it Works**



Redeem or purchase a new token for a Good to Geaux container.



Pay for your meal and get your food in a Good to Geaux container.



Enjoy your meal.



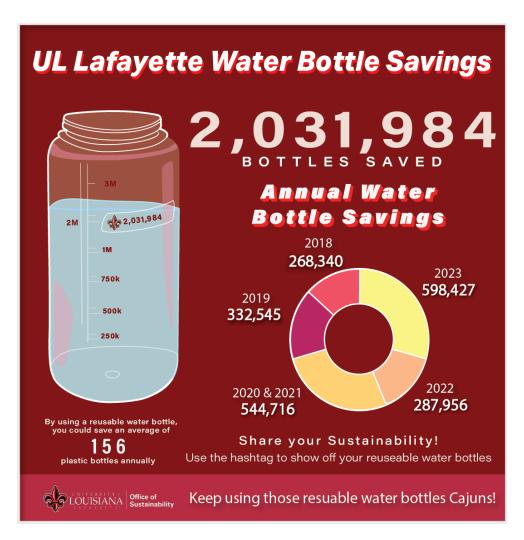
Empty (and, if possible, rinse) the Good to Geaux container.



Return the Good to Geaux container to an OZZI machine on campus and receive a token for your next container.



## WATER BOTTLE REFILLERS





By using reusable water bottles at the 119 water bottle refilling stations across campus students, faculty, and staff have saved 598,427 plastic water bottles in 2023!!

The first water bottle refilling station was installed in 2018 and since then over 2,031,984 water bottles have been saved on campus!



## BIKE AMENITIES AND UL ROUTES

There are over **2,700 bike parking** spots around campus .

There are **5 covered bike parking** locations that can each accommodate 20 bikes.

Bike Friendly Streets with a growing number of bike paths. In 2023 the Fletcher Hall Bike Path and St. Michael St. connection at Ira Nelson were added to campus

There are various bike routes that run throughout campus and connect to Cajun Dome Blvd bicycle path

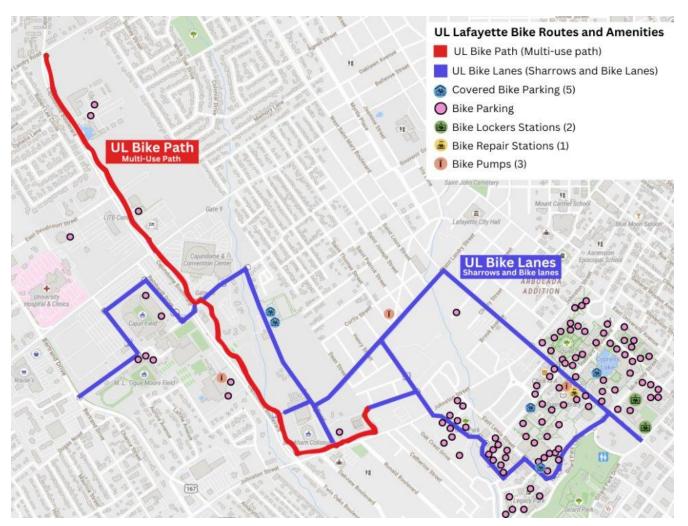
Solar powered pedestrian crossing s were added in 2023

Bike repair stations are coming soon!

There are 2 Bike Lockers Locations

10 lockers in Oliver Tower

10 lockers in Taft Street Tower





### BIKE EVENTS AND ROUTES

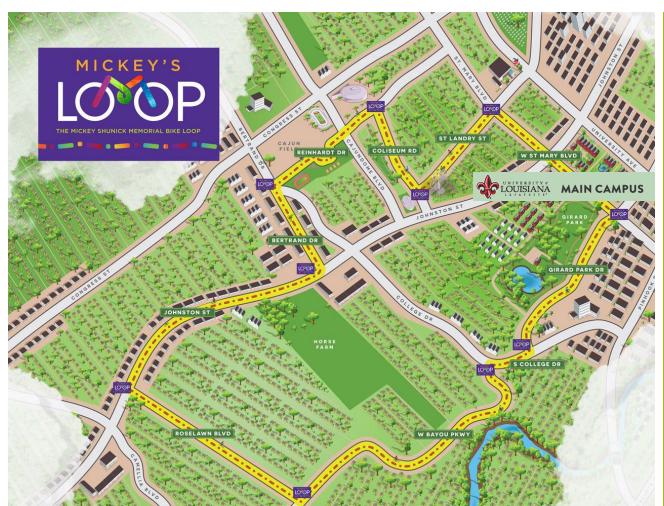
### UL Lafayette Bike Events

Bike Repair Workshop at the annual Fête de la Terre Earth Day Celebration in April

Celebration of Lafayette's Bike Month in April with Bike to Campus week during Fête de la Terre

**Geaux Bike**, a student organization about biking, who organizes group rides during the semesters

Bike Workshops once a year to discuss biking topics and infrastructure improvements







## CAMPUS CUPBOARD & CAREER CLOSET

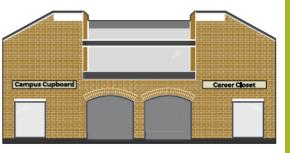






### **CAMPUS CUPBOARD**& CAREER CLOSET

Free nonperishable food items and professional clothing for UL Lafayette students, faculty, and staff



210 E. St. Mary Blvd.



## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOLAR FARM- PART LAB













## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The Office of Sustainability hosts various service opportunities during the fall and spring semesters. Reoccurring service events include:

Krewe de Coulee -Mardi Gras

UL Homecoming Parade Clean up

Love the Boot Clean up + Beautification - April

Arbor Day Tree Planting- January

Big Event- March

SOUL Camp- August











# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: KREWE DE COULEE



**FEBRUARY, 15 2024** 



1,085 lbs of litter collected in 109 bags



2 Hours



40 Krewes



170 Registered Volunteers



1 Coulee Monster















# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: HOMECOMING CLEAN UP











# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: LOVE THE BOOT (EARTH WEEK)





**EVERY APRIL** 









# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: ARBOR DAY

**EVERY JANUARY** 











# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: BIG EVENT

**EVERY MARCH** 













# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: SOUL CAMP

**EVERY JULY-AUGUST** 







## GOODWILL NOT LANDFILL

**EVERY MOVEOUT** 







## DONATIONS HERE

LIGHTLY USED CLOTHING, BEDDING, KITCHEN SUPPLIES, HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES, SCHOOL/OFFICE SUPPLIES

Do not put perishable food/damaged items in this bin.

Also used foam toppers should be disposed of in the dumpters outside.





## ZERO WASTE GAMEDAYS

**EVERY HOME GAME** 













## **ENERGY WEEK**

**EVERY FALL SEMESTER** 











# FETE DE LA TERRE WEEK

**EVERY APRIL** 

















# FETE DE LA TERRE EXPO

**EVERY APRIL** 



















# SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT











### NIGHT HIKES AT THE NATURE STATION

**ONCE A SEMESTER** 













# SUSTAINABILITY TOURS + BINGO

AS REQUESTED









#### **CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY BINGO**

Take a tour through campus and use your skills of observation to play!



How are your observation skills?

1-24 You are a Super Star! 6-20 Excellent!





# CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS

- University Offices and Departments
  - •Office of the President
  - Office of Facility Managment
  - •UL Lafayette Alumni Association
  - Ecology Lab
  - •KRVS
  - •Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
  - Office for Campus Inclusion
  - •UL Lafayette PART LAB
  - Sodexo Dining Services
  - •UL Lafayette Athletics
  - Office of University Housing
  - Division of Student Affairs
    - Residential Life, Career Services, Dean of Students,Student Engagement & Leadership
  - •Undergraduate Orientation
  - •School of Architecture & Design (College of the Arts)
  - •The Hilliard Art Museum at UL Lafayette

- Student Organizations
  - Students for Sustainability (S4S)
  - Sustainable Design Club
  - Bio Society
  - Geoscience Society
  - Geaux Bike UL
  - UL Lafayette AmeriCorps
  - SOUL Camp
  - The Big Event
  - Resident Assistants
  - Student Orientation Staff
  - Student Government Association

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS

- United Way of Acadiana
- · Backyard Sapphire
- Acadiana Native Plant Project
- Urban Naturalist
- · Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners
- · Lafayette Garden Club
- Society for Louisiana Irises (SLI)
- Louisiana Iris Conservation Initiative
- Louisiana Wildlife Federation
- Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association
- · Louisiana Watershed Initiative
- Teche Vermilion Water District
- Bayou Vermilion District
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Lafayette Community Fridges + Food Pantries
- UL Lafayette Campus Cupboard and Career Closet
- UL Lafayette Alumni Chapters
- Junior League of Acadiana
- Arc of Acadiana
- Goodwill of Acadiana
- Salvation Army
- Habitat for Humanity
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)
- · Leadership Institute of Acadiana

- Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society
- UL's Bee Campus USA and ULs Tree Campus USA Committees
- Lafayette Tree City
- Trees Acadiana
- Acadiana LDEQ's
- Lafayette Consolidated Government (LCG)
  - LCG's Environmental Quality Office
  - LCG's Public Parks
  - LGC's Planning Division
  - LCG's Lafayette Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee
- 24 Hour Citizen Project
- Bike Lafayette
- One Acadiana
- Acadiana Nature Station
- Lafayette Education Foundation
- Local K-12 schools in Lafayette Parish
- Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA)
- Parish Proud
- Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL)
- Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
- Louisiana Fur Advisory Council
- · Keep Louisiana Beautiful Communities and University Affiliates.
  - Keep Lafayette Beautiful
  - Keep UL Lafayette Beautiful



# SUSTAINABILITY + COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES ON CAMPUS

OUISIANA Office of Sustainability

# UL LAFAYETTE LIVING LAB PROJECT

The Living Lab Signage Project is a multiphase project that intends to transform the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's campus into a walking arboretum—a living laboratory. By installing educational signage along existing pathways, visitors and students can engage more with the diverse habitats on our campus and become more knowledgeable about sustainability initiatives and its impacts. The goal of the interpretive signage is to showcase the interconnectedness of various areas on campus and educate visitors about south Louisiana's biodiversity, environment, and plant and animal species.

As of Summer 2024 there have been 3 large educational signs about Campus Trees and Pollinator Habitats and 8 small special habitat signs installed across campus.







# ALTERNATIVE SERVICE SPRING + FALL BREAKS

Recently we have created an Alternative Fall and Spring Break Program where students can use their break to participate in service statewide and nationally.

We are still in the process of developing this program, but we have secured our first site partner, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) for the Fall Semester to send students to participate in service work near the coast in Louisiana so they can learn about coastal restoration and volunteerism while providing them an opportunity to give back and strengthen our community.









## SUSTAINABILITY FACULTY FELLOWS

The UL Lafayette Sustainability Faculty Fellows program aims to build a community of faculty and researchers dedicated to exploring issues of sustainability from the local to global scale, service-learning and community building, and multidisciplinary problem solving. The program is designed to support faculty in developing new sustainability course offerings, and/or redeveloping existing courses to include sustainability principles. Faculty apply to be fellows and are awarded a stipend for the participation and incorporation of sustainability into a new or existing course syllabus. Thanks to the Sustainability Faculty Fellows, 18 sustainability courses were added.

#### **SUPPORT FOR STARS:**

- AC7 Incentives for Developing Courses
- PRE-2: Points of Distinction





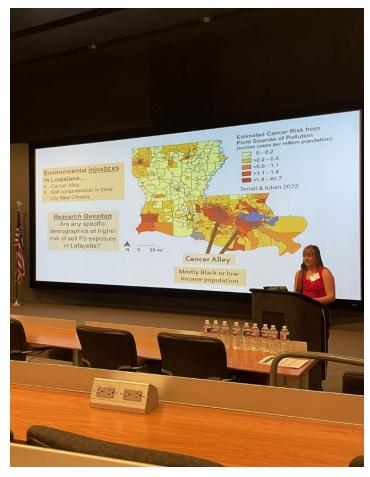
# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AWARDS

In Spring 2023, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette awarded \$40,800 in faculty research grants related to Sustainable Development - that is, research related to Social Inclusion, Environmental Protection or Economic Growth - and to the 17 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. This initiative was a collaboration between 6 campus entities: Faculty Affairs, the Graduate School, the Office of Campus Diversity the Office of Sustainability and Community Engagement, Brian Bolton, Professor of Finance and the Dwight W. Andrus, Jr. / BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Finance and the Office for Research, Innovation & Economic Development.

This program has several key goals: (1) to celebrate the amazing research being done across the UL Lafayette campus, (2) to show how vital research on sustainable development is for Southern Louisiana and the Gulf Coast Region, and (3) to create a platform to share research and to encourage collaborations where faculty can help solve some of society's greatest challenges. This Program is expected to have at least 4 rounds of research and awards.

Since Spring 2023 the Sustainable Development Research Awards has had:

3 Rounds 87 awards given to students, faculty, and staff \$174,800 in awards.





# SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS

#### Zero Waste

- Good 2 Geaux
- Game Day Recycling + Food recovery
- Goodwill not Landfill
- Bottle fillers on water fountains
- Plastic bag recycling
- Regular recycling across campus
- Composting
- Ink and toner cartridge recycling
- Weigh the Waste
- Hazardous Materials
- Career Closet (via Career Services)

#### Campus Grounds

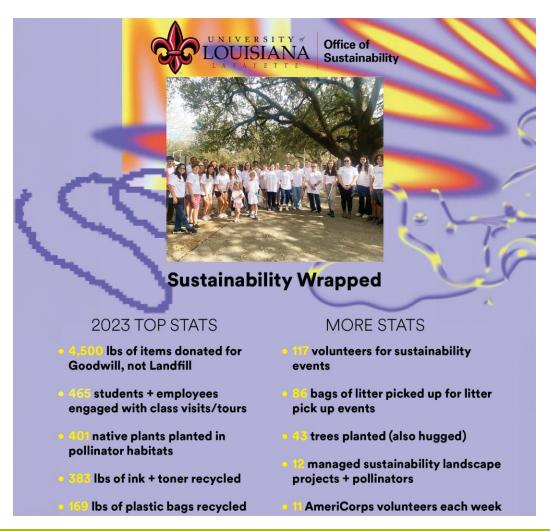
- Tree Campus USA: Urban Forestry
   Management, Fruit trees, Urban Heat Island Studies
- Bee Campus USA: Pollinator Gardens, IMP
- Keep UL Lafayette Beautiful
- Green Infrastructure: Bioswales, rain gardens
- Community Garden + Edible Fruit Trees
- Native planting + Carbon sink

#### • Resource Management

- Energy Conservation
- Water Conservation
- PART Lab / Solar Farm/
- Alternative Energy

#### Food

- Campus Cupboard
- Food recovery
- Meat free dining options
- Local food sourcing
- UL Lafayette Farmers' Market
- Food to Geaux options





### SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS

- Academics
  - Sustainability Course Inventory
  - Certificate in Sustainability (working)
  - Sustainability Faculty Fellows
  - Undergraduate Degrees
    - Architecture
    - Biology
    - Geology
    - Engineering
    - Environmental Science
    - Political Science
  - Graduate Programs
    - Architecture
    - Biology
    - Geology
    - Earth and Energy Sciences (Ph. D.)
    - Environmental and Evolutionary Biology (Ph. D.)
    - Environmental Resource Management
    - Systems Engineering (Ph.D.)
    - Educational Leadership (Ed. D.)

- Campus and Community Engagement
  - Earth day celebration Fête de la Terre
  - Community Service Partnerships
  - Louisiana Higher Education Sustainability Coalition
  - Keep Louisiana University Affiliate Leader
  - Local and state commissions
  - Louisiana Sustainability Summit

- R1 Research
  - EPA Trash Free Gulf of Mexico
  - PART Lab
  - Carbon Mitigation
  - Native plant propagation
  - Sustainable
     Development Research Awar







# SUSTAINABILITY 2023 STATS

- 401 Native Plants Planted on Campus in Pollinator Habitats 2023
- 65 rare Iris Nelsoniis' planted in Cypress lake
- 43 Trees planted on Campus in 2023
- 4,500lbs of donations to Goodwill not Landfill
- 465 students and employees engaged with the Sustainability class visits and tours
- 383lbs of ink and toner recycled with the lnk and Toner recycling program
- 169 lbs of plastic bags recycled at 10 plastic bag recycling bins across campus
- 117 volunteers participating in sustainability service events
- 11 AmeriCorps Students working at Sustainability Sites throughout 2023
- 13 outdoor recycling bins across campus
- 56 indoor recycling bins across campus
- **427 participants** in bike survey **3,903 Pedestrian crossings** on Monday, October 24, 2022 and **3,410 Pedestrian** crossings on Thursday, October 20, 2022
- 1 EV Charging Station at Cajun Field
- **1.1 Megawatts of solar** at PART lab powering parts of the Research Park





#### **SUSTAINABILITY STATS**

- **2,031,984 water bottles saved** on campus since 2018 with the use of the water bottle refiller fountains, 2 saw 598,427 water bottles saved on campus
- 143 water bottle refillers located across campus
- 19,779 uses of the reuseable Good to Geaux containers in 2023 at 5 locations across campus
- Ban on single-use disposable polystyrene since 2018
- Ban on using Tabacco products on campus grounds with the Tobacco-Free Policy since 2014
- Roughly 484 Southern Live Oak trees on UL Lafayette's campus
- **Sustainability Managed Landscapes**(that we specifically manage)
  - 2 Urban Cajun Prairies (Bourgeois park + Madison and this one is also a Bioswale)
  - 2 Rain Gardens (Fletcher Hall rain garden + Hilliard Art Museum)
  - 3 Bioswales (Madison, Wharton, Judice)
  - 1 coulee buffer strip at Bourgeois Park
  - 11 pollinator habitats (this includes the green infrastructure locations listed above)
  - 1 community garden at Cajun Village
- 2024 Krewe de Coulee Clean Up Event Stats
  - 170 volunteers collected 109 bags (1085lbs) in 2 hours
    - With 40 Krewes working at 19 sites along the parade route
    - 2.25 miles of parade routes cleaned





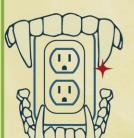


#### WHATYOU CAN DO?

- Reduce your water use, save energy, and minimize food waste when you can
- Promote proper recycling in the halls/academic buildings
- Engage in Community Service
- Be aware of your impact
- Avoid Single-Use Plastics and Styrofoam when you can
- Leave no trace
- Bike or walk to your destination if possible

- Invest in reusable items like water bottles, tote bags, straws, reusable home items, etc.
- Attend Sustainability events on campus and in the community
- Get involved in political/civic conversations regarding sustainability issues
- Shop local and second hand
- Advocate for sustainability on campus, such as water bottle refilling stations, bike lanes and infrastructure, green spaces, urban forestry, pollinators, campus gardens, rain gardens... anything you want!

#### GREEN HARPYS 101



#### Unplug devices

Vampire Loads Like the stealthy mythical creatures, energy is slowly drained from plugged-in devices even if they are "turned off".



#### Switch to LED bulbs

reduces our energy consumption, reducing our carbon footprint.

The average LED's lifespan is about

35,000 hours





#### Turning off the sink off when

brushing your teeth saves 2.2 gallons of water per minute!

Every minute you spend in a shower uses up to 2.5 gallons of water.



Transport

Lower carbon emissions & harmful chemicals result in better air quality!







#### Good to Geaux

Reuseable containers are available to use for campus dining services:

- -Lagniappe Café
- -Café Fleur di Lis
- -Cypress Lake Dining Hall

Learn More at Louisiana.edu/GoodtoGeaux



#### Reuseable Waterbottles

Saves an average of 156

plastic bottles annually

Show off your bottle using #WLemotionalsupportwaterbottle

#### **House Plants**

Lowers stress levels & helps remove toxins from air, releasing fresh oxygen!

#### Beginner plants:

- -Snake Plant
- -Gloden Pothos
- -Peace Lily
- -Spider Plant Show your growth using



#### ADOPT AND PRACTICE **GREEN HABITS**











# UL LAFAYETTE A KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

University Affiliates of Keep Louisiana Beautiful are leading the way in green campus initiatives and inspiring student change makers.

#### The University Sustainability Coalition includes representation from:

University of Louisiana Lafayette University of Louisiana Monroe University of New Orleans Xavier University of Louisiana Centenary College
Dillard University
Fletcher Technical Community College
Grambling State University
Louisiana State University
Louisiana Tech
Loyola University

McNeese State University Nicholls State University Northwestern State University River Parishes Community College Tulane University





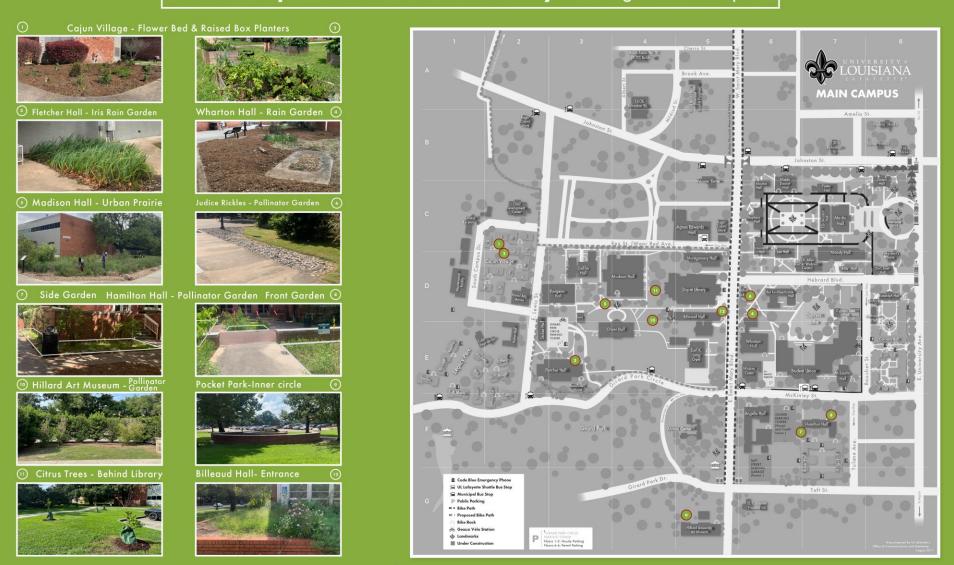
**Since 2008** 



**Since 2022** 



#### AmeriCorps + Office of Sustainability: Managed Landscapes





#### AmeriCorps + Office of Sustainability: Managed Landscapes

( 1 ) Rec Sports Complex - Intramural Fields - Tree Planting

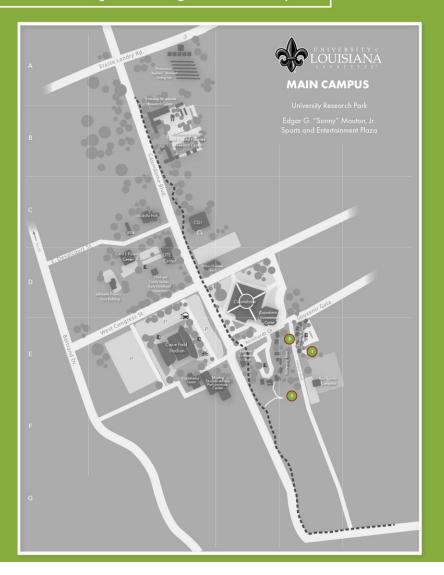


2 Coliseum Road - Tree Planting



(3) Bourgeois Park Urban Prairie Coulee Planting







We plant and maintain newly planted trees and pollinator habitats to make sure they become well established on campus for years to come!





# STUDENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY



- Advocate for sustainable culture on campus + community - Sustainability Seminar Series
- Host biking, paddle, hiking trips
- Keep UL Lafayette Beautiful
- Group trips to local parks, Farmer's Markets, Night Hikes at the Nature Station, etc.
- Participate in tree, flower, and native seedling plantings
- Community Service to help community partners
- Brainstorm and implement Sustainability initiatives on campus



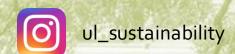
# STAY UP TO DATE:

#### Office of Sustainability











#### **Students for Sustainability**









ul\_studentsforsustainability



UL Students for Sustainability

