



Cajuns Geaux GREEN

a publication by UL's Office of Sustainability

September / October
2016

The BIG Event Projects for October - Campus Sustainability Month

As part of the Big Event, 75 students planted over 70 trees purchased through an Apache Tree Grant around UL intramural fields on Cajundome Blvd.



UL students fill "Litter Letters" with trash picked up along University Ave. Drive by Lafayette Middle School to see #YARDWORK letters displayed facing University Ave.



Better Block McKinley was a huge success thanks to over 150 UL students, staff, and local organizations such as The 705, ReCover Acadiana, Freetown-Port Rico Coterie, and Lafayette Consolidated Government! For a day, community members were given a chance to experience the potential that McKinley Street has to become a bike and pedestrian-friendly commercial corridor filled with art, music, retail, and food venues!

Campus Sustainability Month is celebrated nation-wide every October. The dedication of October as Campus Sustainability Month is an evolution and expansion of the Society for College and University Planning's Campus Sustainability Day which started in 2003, and its purpose is to create a platform where colleges and universities can engage in discussion about sustainability-related topics, actions, and initiatives. The goal is to raise awareness of all the good things that colleges around the country are doing to promote environmental awareness in order to increase campus engagement and participation.

Some common events hosted by colleges participating in Campus Sustainability Month are teach ins, sustainability pledge-drives, zero energy concerts, waste audits, green sporting events, letter writing campaigns, service projects, and much more!

For the fourth year in a row, UL will be participating in the Big Event in big ways around the community! The Big Event started off as a Thank-you to the local community at Texas A&M University where students volunteer their time once a year to give back to the community in the form of service projects large and small. This began in 1982 at one University, and today is nationwide and has become the largest one-day, student-run service project in the nation!

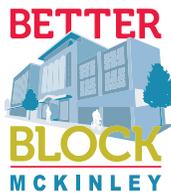
This year, the Big Event was held on Saturday, October 22. Over 2,000 UL freshman volunteered their time that morning to improving our community!

Projects included activities such as:

- Painting
- Landscaping
- Litter pick-up
- Indoor and outdoor building improvements
- Moving furniture

Projects took place at:

- Schools from the Lafayette Parish School System
- Habitat for Humanity
- Acadiana Outreach
- Affiliated Blind of Louisiana
- Boys and Girls Club
- Cite' des Arts
- Better Block McKinley
- UL Intramural Fields
- Hearts of Hope
- True Vine Ministries
- Vermilionville Museum
- Lafayette Fire Department
- Boudin Festival
- Along University Avenue



What's inside:

The BIG Event

How to have an Eco-Friendly Tailgate

Love the Boot, Don't Pollute: Keep Louisiana Beautiful Campaign

GameDay Challenge Update

"Mindful," an Initiative by Sodexo

Tip of the Month

Less Packaging
=
Less Waste

Refuse excess packaging when purchasing food! If you're dining at a restaurant that only has to-go packaging, refuse the plastic bag and plastic utensils. Instead, bring your own reusable bag and reusable utensils that you can wash later.

Did you know... According to the EPA, containers and packaging alone contribute over 23% of the material reaching landfills in the U.S.



Compostable,
Biodegradable,
Recyclable...

What's the difference?

Although all three types of material (biodegradable, compostable, and recyclable) are better than materials like Styrofoam, it is still important to know how to sort these from each other.

Look at the differences between the disposables below:

Biodegradable material is capable of being slowly destroyed and broken down into very small parts by natural processes, bacteria, etc. These materials do not need to go to a special facility.

Compostable items are made entirely of materials that will break down into, or otherwise become part of, usable compost such as soil or mulch. These materials must break down within a timely manner in an appropriate composting facility, or in a home compost pile or device. So only throw compostables into a dedicated composting bin!

Recyclable material goes through a process of collection and processing in order for the material to be turned into new products.



Welcome Back, Football Season!

Remember to Tailgate Sustainably

As fun as football games are, they tend to be huge generators of waste. Cut down on wasteful habits by following some of the tips below, which are organized into categories of Transportation, Purchasing, Food, Disposal, and Leadership. Not only are these sustainable practices for tailgating, these can apply to many other events you may be planning!



- Walk or bike to the game. It's great exercise, and you don't have to hassle with parking!
- Try Lafayette's public transit buses.
- If you have to drive, try to carpool with friends.



- Purchase food in bulk to reduce packaging.
- Coordinate with friends ahead of time to avoid bringing too much of one thing.
- Choose reusable over disposable (think cups, utensils, plates, bottles, etc.)
- At a tailgate, this may not be an option, but the next best thing is to buy biodegradable products.



- Buy local foods that are in season! Not only are you supporting our local economy, you will be supporting goods that have a small carbon footprint, far less than foods that have traveled hundred, sometimes thousands of miles to get here.



- Outside of the stadium, we offer RECYCLE and TRASH bins that are placed side by side and are located at each tailgating site. Please sort your disposables accordingly!!
RECYCLE=GREEN
TRASH=BLUE
- Inside the stadium, there are also separate recycling and trash bins side by side and labeled accordingly.



- Set an example for your family and friends! Explain how and why it's important to take responsibility for your environmental impact.
- Share with us what you are doing to green your tailgate by taking pictures and using #CajunsDontWaste!



zero waste



Recycle at the Game

#CajunsDontWaste



NEW! Communities of Interest

Global Sustainability

Sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Economic Development (OVPRIED), Communities of Interest (COI) is a new initiative that allows faculty members, researchers, and scholars from every discipline to collaborate and share ideas, data, knowledge, and personal insight on common topics. This semester includes the following communities:

- Sustainability
- Transportation
- The Brain

The Second Community of Interest Event was held on October 28, where Global Sustainability was discussed through Cajun Ignite Presentations in Oliver Auditorium.

The Global Sustainability Event included 11 Ignite Presentations by representatives from many Departments and Colleges across campus.

Presentations were on a wide variety of topics that relate to Global Sustainability, such as the biosphere and climate and atmospheric chemistry, reinventing urban areas, global sustainability from an energy perspective, sustainability efforts in education, sustainability from a historical perspective, biodiversity in the Anthropocene, and water sustainability.

Visit vpresearch.louisiana.edu for more information on OVPRIED Communities of Interest!



**"Love the Boot,
Don't Pollute!"**

Keep Louisiana Beautiful, Louisiana's anti-litter and community improvement organization focused on education, enforcement, awareness and cleanups, introduced its new slogan "Love the Boot, Don't Pollute!" recently during an annual conference on the current status of litter, recycling, and state beautification in Baton Rouge.

Designed by Octagon Media, a local Baton Rouge marketing company, this anti-litter slogan aims to be a simple yet powerful state-wide message that urges residents to take pride in our home state by not littering.

Visit KeepLouisianaBeautiful.org to see what you can do to help in the effort to keep our state beautiful!



R e m i n d e r
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 to 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!

Gameday Challenge Update

Last year, we were able to achieve our best diversion rate yet of 67.07% since we started participating in the Gameday Challenge in 2014! This year, we were able to get accurate measurements from Game 3 against South Alabama, which gave us an overall diversion rate of 54.65%. See the breakdown below by location. We publish results as soon as we receive measurements, so check back for updates!

At tailgating and gates:		Inside Stadium:	
Trash	3.49 tons	Trash	2.26 tons
Recycling	5.39 tons	Recycling	1.54 tons
TOTAL	8.88 tons	TOTAL	3.80 tons
DIVERSION RATE	60.70%	DIVERSION RATE	40.50%

Think Before You Eat!

It's easy with Sodexo's "Mindful" Initiative

Your health and wellness are just as important in living a sustainable lifestyle as reducing waste. When dining on campus, make sure to take advantage of all the great things Sodexo, our dining service provider, is doing to deliver healthy and sustainable food choices! When eating in The Student Union's Cypress Lake Dining Room, look for the following icons on menus posted at each station:



Mindful



Vegetarian



Vegan



Whole Grain



Local



Organic



Gluten Free

Mindful, an initiative of Sodexo, is an approach that focuses on transparency of ingredients, delicious food, satisfying portions, and clarity in message. Look for the Mindful logo, which signifies a dish that meets the strict Dietary Guidelines for Americans. For instance, each Mindful dish is limited in calories, has fewer than 30% of calories as fat, fewer than 10% of calories as saturated fat, and is restricted in sodium, and cholesterol.

Mindful not only signifies special meals on campus, it also takes a holistic approach to living healthy by offering the following additional features:

- Sound nutritional philosophy and guidelines
- Based on latest science and leading health organization recommendations
- Chef & management training and certification through the Culinary Institute of America (CIA)
- Teachable moments with education that ties to the food
- Focus on taste and satisfaction - what we like to call healthy indulgence

For more information about this useful program, visit mindful.sodexo.com!



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!



sustainability@louisiana.edu email
337.482-0054 phone

Local Farmers Markets

Lafayette Farmers & Artisans Market at The Horse Farm
Every Wednesday 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm;
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

Community

Every Saturday in November
Hilliard Art Museum's
Yoga at the Museum
at the Hilliard University Art Museum from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

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