



Campus Sustainability Annual Report



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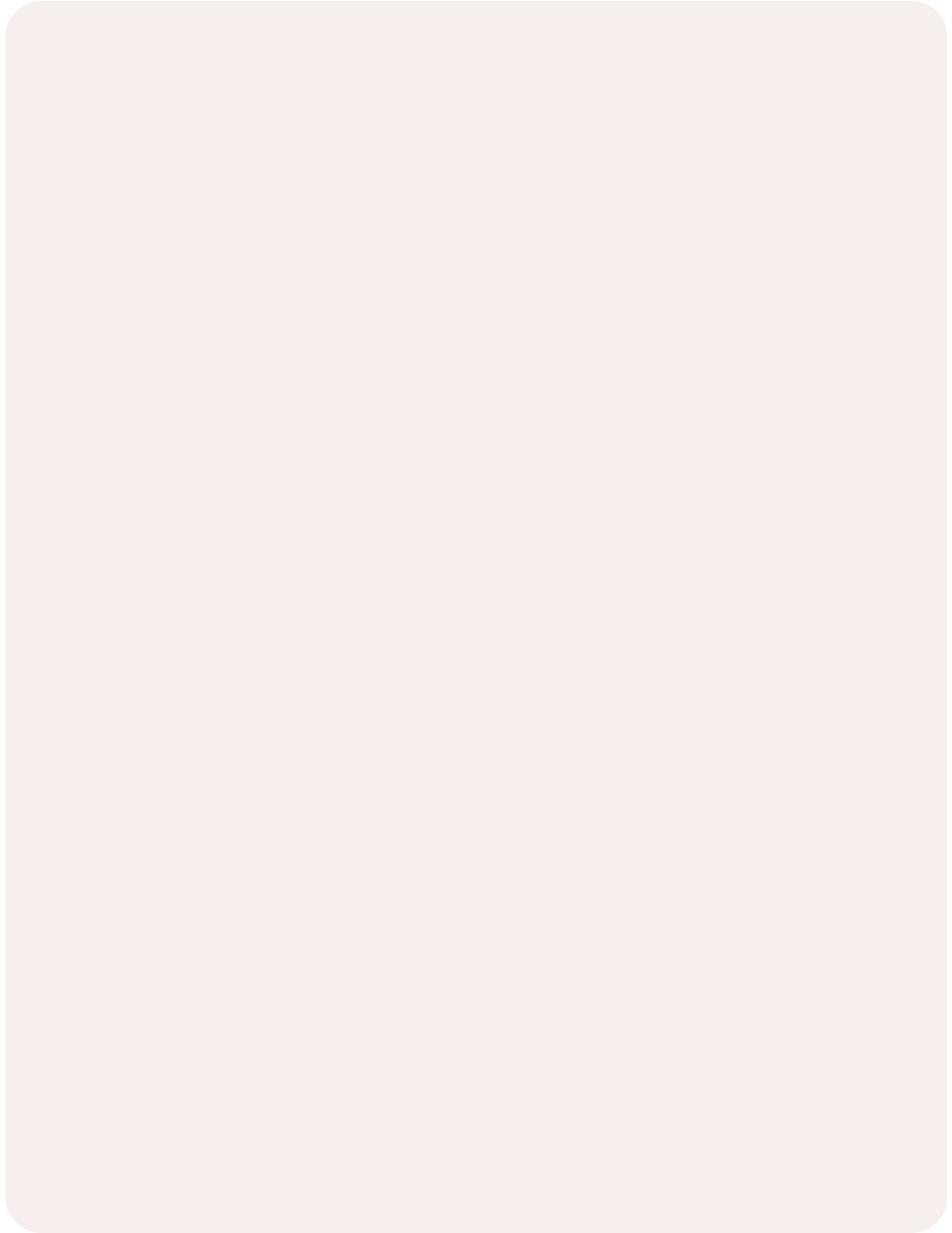
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What is Sustainability Reporting?

Sustainability reporting refers to the ongoing efforts made by an institution, organization or business to monitor, measure, and benchmark quantitative and qualitative indicators of various environmental, social, economic, and cultural impacts associated with their operations and outputs. At The University of Winnipeg, our commitment to robust sustainability reporting reflects the responsibility we take for how our institution impacts people and ecosystems. We know that we cannot improve our sustainability performance and maximize our net social, economic and environmental benefits without identifying and tracking key indicators over time.



Waste Management

- UWinnipeg conducted a campus-wide internal waste audit with the goal of identifying factors contributing to contamination and ways for improving overall waste reduction and landfill diversion (see page 14)
- Sustainability staff improved our recycling program by focusing on materials that cannot be sent to municipal recycling facilities. Working with industry partners, UWinnipeg recycled:
 - 5 tonnes of electronic waste
 - 331 kgs of dead batteries
 - Over 20,000 disposable
 - 13 tonnes of scrap metal
 - 5.5 kgs of used pens
- We renewed our commitment to sustainable building maintenance by hiring the Dexterra Group for contracted cleaning services

Education

- UWinnipeg students filled over 2,900 combined seats in 76 sustainability courses. 77% of graduates in 2022 took at least one sustainability-related course while completing their degree.

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Sustainable Campus Operations

Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

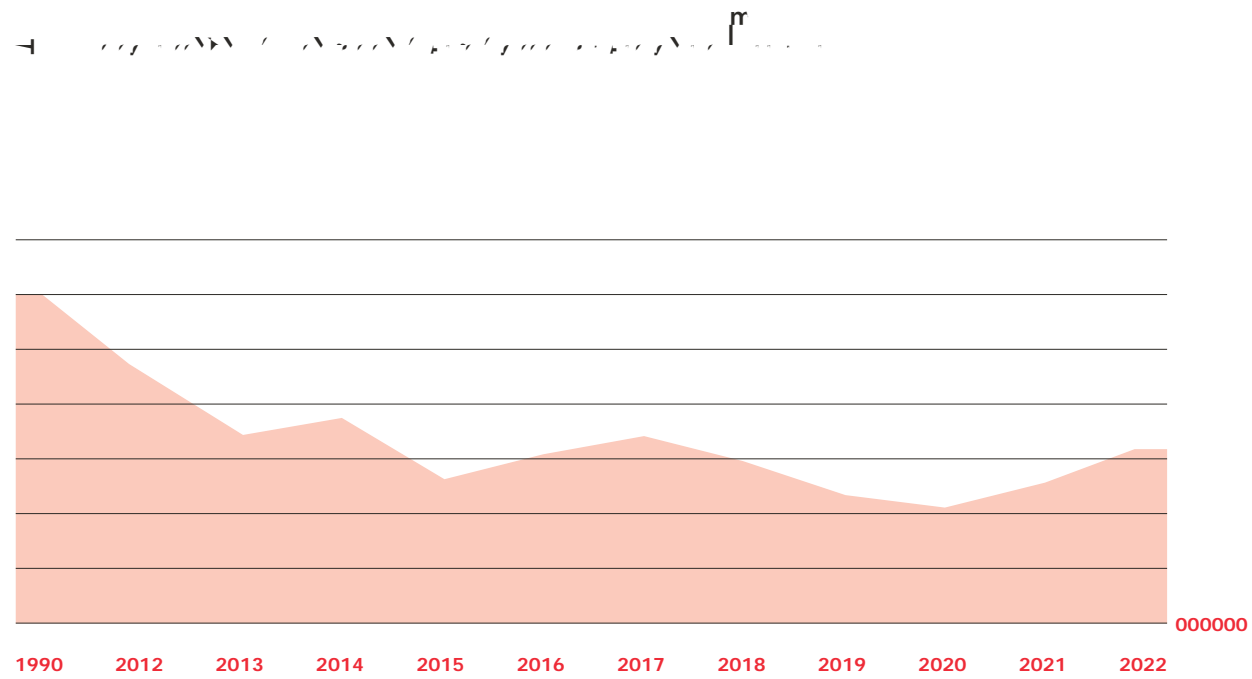
UWinnipeg's 2022-2023 energy and greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) performance serves as an important reminder that our building systems do not operate in a vacuum. Despite our best efforts and our continued investment in green energy alternatives and emissions reduction strategies, there are environmental and economic factors beyond our control that can contribute to significant and unanticipated fluctuations in our climate footprint from year to year.

As seen in Figure 1, emissions increased by 26% to 2,664 TCO₂e along with a slight increase in our emissions intensity (emissions per square metre of owned campus space). In 2021-22 we nearly reached our 2017 goal of meeting 5% of energy needs with nonconventional green renewables.

Unfortunately, as seen in Figure 2, 2023-22 saw a downturn in the productivity of our biomass and solar panel energy systems - together they produced 1.3% of all energy consumed on campus. This not only means less energy from green renewables, but also an increased reliance on conventional hydro electricity and natural gas which come with higher carbon emissions.

As the global climate emergency continues to worsen, it's clear that our institution will need to become more energy resilient, while also contributing to global emissions reductions targets.

That's why Facilities Management, Planning and Sustainability continue to pursue innovations for UWinnipeg's energy system, focusing on new net-zero technologies that can allow us to produce more renewable energy on-site.



Waste Management

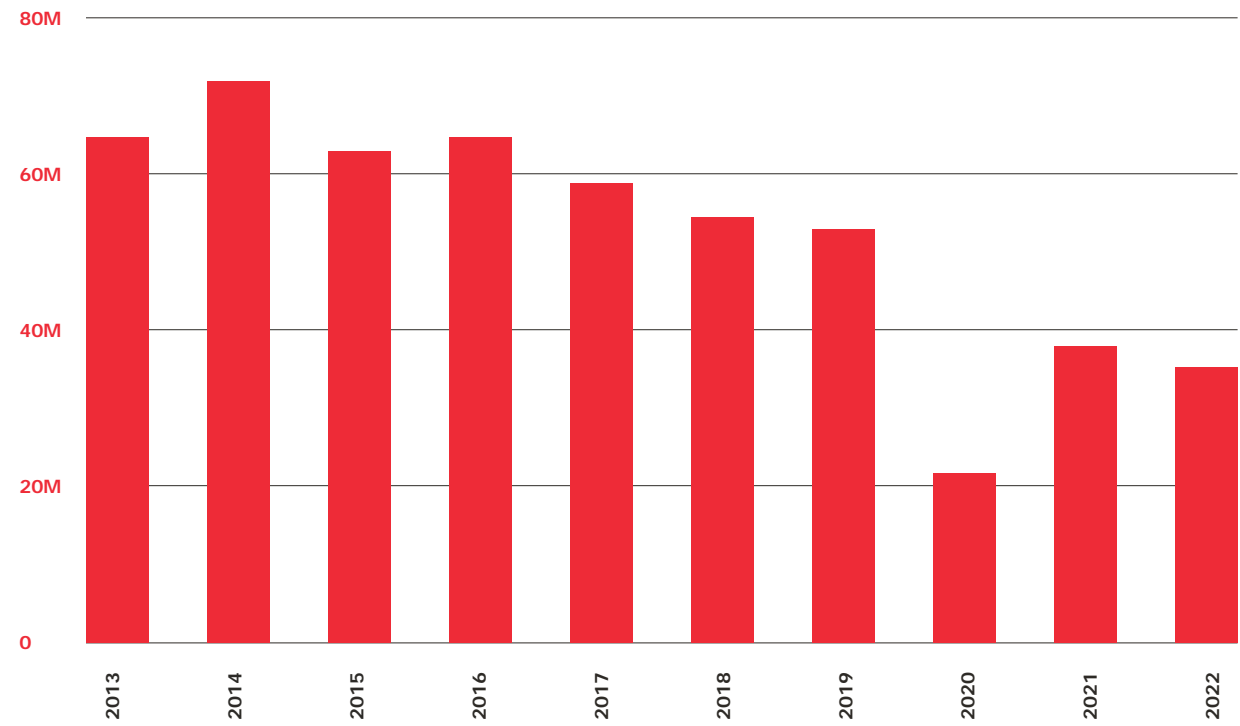
In 2022, UWinnipeg continued to prioritize its waste management program with investments in infrastructure, the renewal of key industry partnerships, and ongoing education across campus. As seen in the graph below, which is based on data provided by waste haulers, our total waste volumes are returning to pre-pandemic levels, with the majority of waste sent to landfill. In 2022, the CSO led a campus-wide waste audit, which allowed for a deeper understanding of our overall waste profile and the levels of contamination found in our three main waste streams. While hauler data tells us how much waste is ending up in landfill, recycling and compost facilities, waste audits allow us to see precisely what types of cross-contamination are occurring in each stream.



UWinnipeg Sustainability and Facilities management staff had the opportunity to tour Green for Life's state-of-the-art recycling facility in April, 2022. We learned about the impacts of contamination on the recycling process, and saw first-hand how individual recycling actions add up to renewable resources.

Recycling Collection Stream	Amount Collected
Electronic waste	5t
Batteries	231 kg
Scrap Metal	13t
Pens	5.5 kg
Masks and Gloves	More than 25,000 items

To complement our non-conventional recycling programs, the CSO hosted the third annual McFeetors Hall Resident's Giveaway. Working together, the CSO, Campus Living, and Facilities Management collect gently used items from students who are moving out of dorms at the end of the academic year. The program collects everything from bedframes, bookshelves and electronics to clothing, kitchen utensils and cleaning supplies. In 2022, we even found new homes for two fully functioning electric stoves. Items are donated to several charitable organizations in Winnipeg including Centre Flavie, Oyate Tipi, and Main Street Project. This initiative diverts a significant amount of material from landfill, while providing those in need with household essentials.



As seen in the graphic above, UWinnipeg's water use dropped significantly in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic (2020). Water use has since increased but not to pre-pandemic levels with remote work and study options resulting in lower daily campus population numbers.

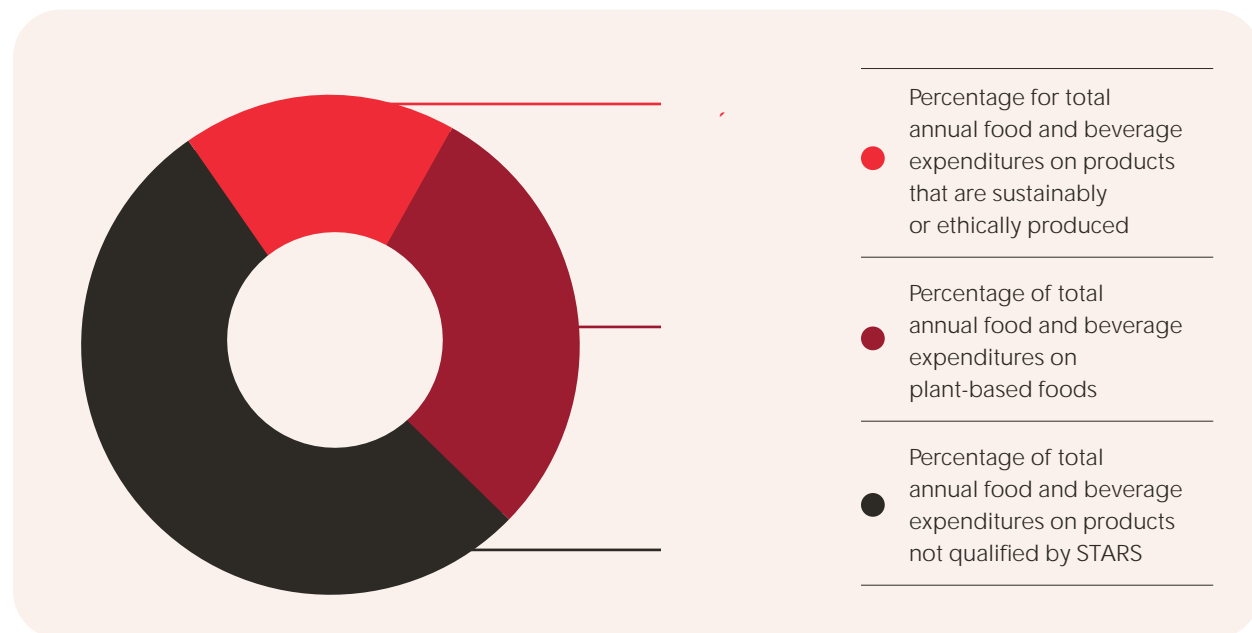
Campus Food Services

Diversity Food Services continued to rebound from the COVID-19 Pandemic downturn in 2022, while remaining committed to its social and environmental principles. Diversity re-opened all campus outlets to support the regular return to classes, which involved hiring/onboarding and training roughly eighty new employees between August and October.

During the 2022 fiscal year, UWinnipeg's food service provider made a substantial investment in the renovation of the Riddell Hall Servery. They also implemented new supply chain strategies to ensure continued support for local and sustainable businesses during the current economic downturn.

Diversity also grew its off-campus business, acquiring Sleepy Owl Bakery, rebranding catering with the introduction of Spruce Catering, and returning to FortWhyte Alive. These off-campus initiatives ensure employees have work for the whole year, thus reducing turnover and lowering costs.

Diversity also revisited their menus to increase the total volume of vegetarian and vegan dishes offered to help manage the impact of massive inflation that has plagued the meat and poultry markets. Plus, all chicken products are now halal certified.



Investing in Sustainable Communities

Investing in Sustainable Communities

The HRDO continued to offer educational sessions on sexual violence prevention and responding to disclosures, respect in the workplace, conflict resolution, accessibility, unconscious bias, and others. The HRDO also helped arrange training from other experts, including Anti-Oppression training, Creating Inclusive Workplaces keynote, and Microaggressions workshop. They also held a teach-in about 2SLGBTQ+ awareness and contemporary issues, which included the history of Two-Spirit people and creation of inclusive workplace environments for Two-Spirit people.

The HRDO also participated as a member of the Manitoba Flexible Learning HUB's Project Board and an online EDI module for Manitoba post-secondary faculty was completed, with another module in the works.

10/1/2023



Experiential and Work-Integrated Learning

UWinnipeg continues to support experiential and work-integrated learning opportunities for our students and knows that these are especially valuable for students looking to enter sustainability-related fields. The 2022 Experiential Learning Fund supported several course-based and research initiatives on campus. Other highlights in this area include the Indigenous Ethnobotany Field School and the English department's Writing in the City course.

Sustainability-Related Research

Thanks to the work of our faculty and research centres, which focus on a wide range of topics, a substantial amount of sustainability-related research continues to flow from our institution. A non-exhaustive scan of activities happening within academic departments and research centres found that UWinnipeg-based scholars produced at least 30 peer-reviewed articles, exploring everything from ecotoxicology and wildlife preservation to climate adaptation and social sustainability. In all, more than 20 UWinnipeg faculty members from 10 different departments published research on sustainability-related subject matter.

Research Highlights

- Understanding the reproductive habits of parasitic fish in the Great Lakes - Dr. Sara Good
- Reducing phosphorus runoff in Lake Winnipeg - Dr. Darshani Kumaragamage
- Dr. Ryan Bullock renewed as Canada Research Chair in Human Environmental Interactions

In 2022, the Research Office committed to systematically tracking sustainability-related research projects at UWinnipeg using their Research Starts Here questionnaire. This form which all researchers are required to complete for each new research project, now includes the following question pertaining to sustainability:

Does this project do any of the following?

- Address the concept of sustainability (meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs).
- Further our understanding of the interdependence of ecological and social/economic systems.
- Have a primary and explicit focus on a major sustainability challenge. This includes (but is not limited to) climate change, global poverty and inequality, natural resource depletion, and environmental degradation.

Now, the Research Office can determine the total number of research projects that address sustainability and also determine which departments/faculties these researchers are from.

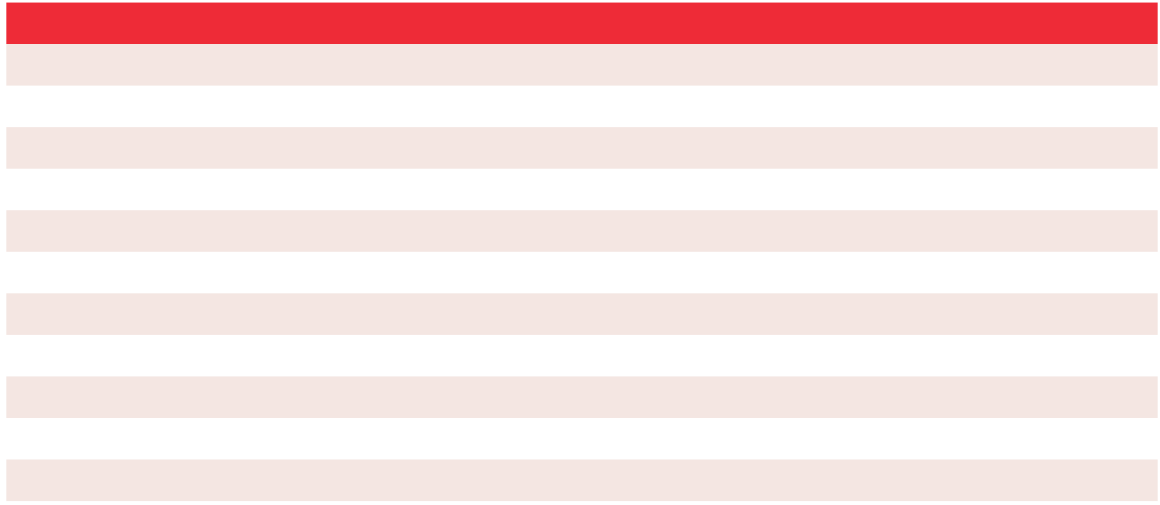
Research Centres

The Prairie Climate Centre (PCC) - one of UWinnipeg's largest research centres, and one of Canada's leading outlets for climate change adaptation research -

Engagement and Leadership Development

The CSO makes a conscious effort to engage the campus community in a variety of ways. This includes online and in-person events and communications. Sustainability staff were present at many campus events throughout 2022, including Roll Call and Orientation, talking to students about sustainable practices and how they can get involved with environmental leadership opportunities.

Fiscal Year	Newsletters Mailed	% of recipients who opened newsletter	% who followed an embedded link
FY2021	6,180	25	6
FY2022	7,957	25	6





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