



SUSTAIN

SUNY Oswego Office of Sustainability
2016-2017 Yearbook

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Year in Review

This year has seen some massive shifts, not just in how our college community views and takes action on sustainability and sustainable living, but also in our moving toward the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. In light of that, we are not losing momentum and have a number of programs, projects and goals already in our sights for next year.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, the Sustainability Office plans to work with Centro and the Student Association to promote the use of Bus Share across the campus, driving down our transportation carbon footprint even more. The Douglas Project aims to review and reduce paper use and waste on campus from both the faculty and staff needs as well as the student needs.

Talking Trash is going to focus on the real problems with recycling, and educate our students on where our waste goes and what happens to it after it leaves our campus. Campus Crunch and The Clean Plate Club will continue to inform and educate on the food procurement, waste and opportunities we have to make a difference as individuals and our Speaker Series promises to bring topical, informative and impactful speakers to our students, offering empowerment and a global perspective on sustainability.

The office would like to thank the Administration and President Stanley for her continuous support and dedication toward sustainability on campus. Additionally, we'd like to thank each and every student who has contributed to the sustainability fee; without you, none of this would be possible.

PERK UP

take your coffee green



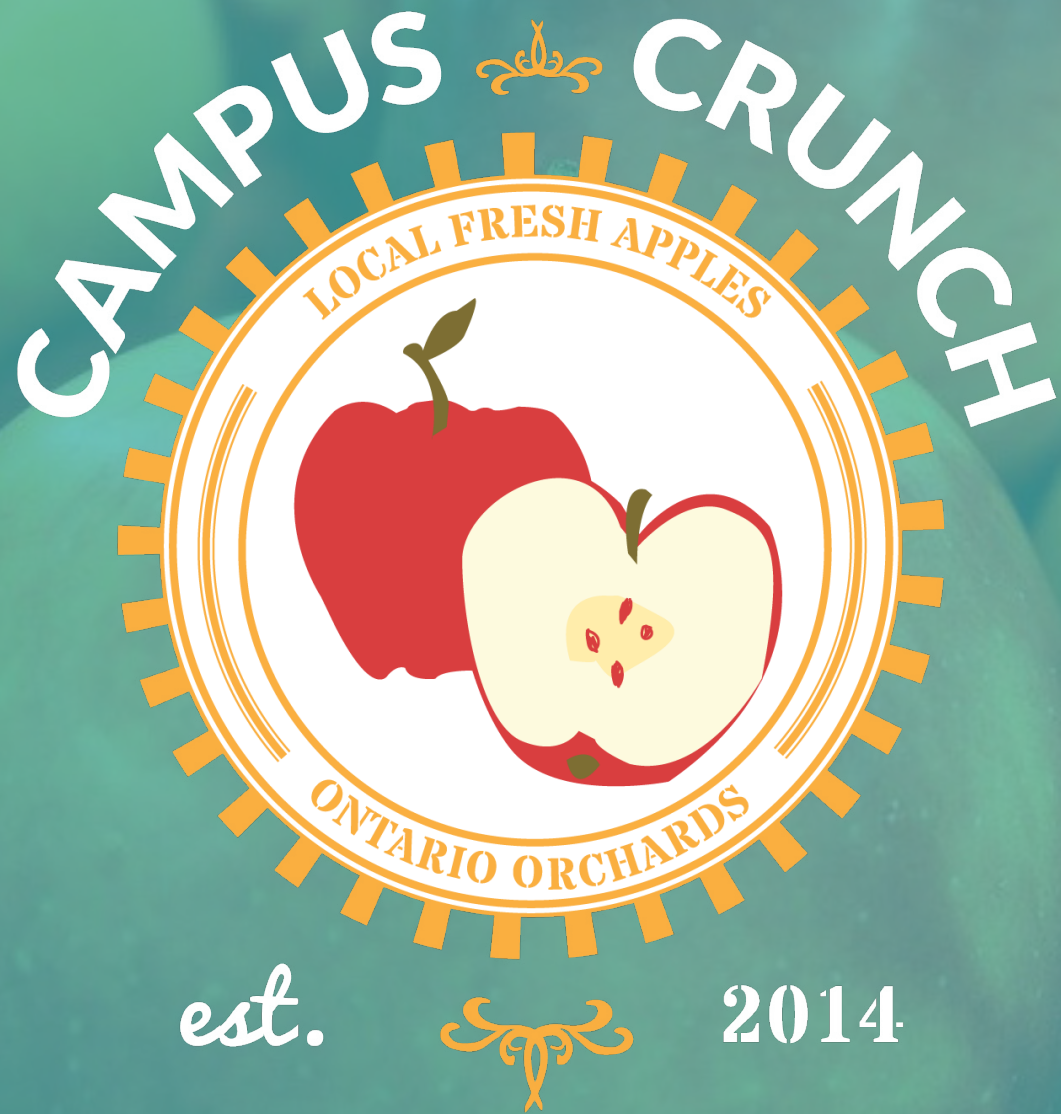
over
3000
cups
kept from
LANDFILLS

The Office of Sustainability's *Perk Up* campaign was modeled after the previous year's *Tap In* initiative that successfully prevented over 660,000 plastic water bottles from entering SUNY Oswego's waste stream.

Research showed us that our campus contributes over 300,000 non-recyclable hot cups into the landfill each semester, from retail dining facilities alone. Due to the nature of these hot cups, they cannot be recycled, and must be thrown into the garbage, a massive contribution to the waste stream, that can easily be avoided.

Partnering again with Cupanion, the office took pledges from students, faculty and staff who wanted to participate in reducing this waste number. We provided them with a re-usable hot beverage cup, and the ability to win prizes by tracking their refill usage and frequency.

Working closely with volunteers from the Go Green Team and Alpha Phi Omega, the office provided and distributed over 500 of reusable hot cups. Free coffee, tea, and hot chocolate was also provided in the Office of Sustainability every Friday to encourage students and faculty to come in and learn more about our programs. In the first two months of the *Perk Up* campaign, over 1700 disposable coffee cups were prevented from entering the landfill from our campus, and has reached nearly 3000 cups since the end of the academic year!



850 *fresh*
APPLES
in 4 hours

Food Day is celebrated every October 24th for the purpose of highlighting affordable, healthy, sustainably sourced food.

Our campus purchases over 40% of its food and dairy products locally, contributing over \$1.5 million into the local economy. SUNY Oswego celebrates this day by participating in the New York *Campus Crunch*, a friendly competition that promotes local food by giving out apples on school campuses and other businesses. This program was inspired by the Big Apple Crunch that originated in 2012 in New York City. At their first annual event, 400,000 New Yorkers bit into a locally grown apple at the same time, and the amount of participants have grown every year since then!

Including SUNY Oswego, over two dozen New York schools participated in *Campus Crunch* on October 20th of 2016. Local business Ontario Orchards donated 850 fresh apples that were given out to students and faculty - in only four hours! We would like to give a big thank you to Ontario Orchards for donating the apples and being a wonderful local business in Oswego!



bikeSHARE

a SUNY Oswego initiative



Our Purpose

BikeShare was created to encourage sustainable transportation, reduce commuter parking congestion and provide resources for the campus community to engage in physical activity. Last year alone, our *BikeShare* program bikes traveled over 2,444 miles and saved over one metric ton of carbon emissions on our campus.

Want a Bike?

To request a bike, simply fill out this form. You will be put on our waiting list, and we will email you when bikes are available. Your bike comes with a lock and year-round service through the *BikeShare* Program, as well as storage over the winter months. The program is free, with the student held liable for damaged or stolen bikes.

our bikes travelled more than

2,444 miles

& SAVED OVER

1 METRIC TON

of carbon emissions on campus



Simplify Your Commute!

The *Bus Share* web application makes bus travel in Oswego a whole lot easier. Simply bookmark our website on your smartphone and let Bus Share find you the quickest bus route to your destination! The site services the SUNY Oswego Campus as well as all of downtown Oswego with simple, step by step instructions.

Bus Share makes it easy to get to class, get your groceries, get out to eat and get back home!

For more information on Bus Share or bus transportation in the city of Oswego, please visit the Bus Share web app or email the Office of Sustainability.

The goal of Bus Share is to continue to grow the sustainable transportation options for our campus community and further promote a cleaner, greener campus.

**CLASS
OUT TO EAT
BACK HOME**



Clean
PLATE
Club

Clean Plate Club

Clean Plate Club originated as an idea from members of Go Green Team in 2015. Some of the members, on their own time, celebrated whenever their friends in the dining hall finished their entire meal, making a clean plate and wasting no food. They would say they were in the "clean plate club" for that day! When this idea was brought up at a meeting, the club loved it, and made buttons to hand out to other students to encourage clean plates, and discourage food waste. The Office of Sustainability loved this idea, and worked with the group to create an even larger program out of it.

The Clean Plate Club was teased to students who saw the colorful buttons at our events, but was officially launched on April 17th, the Monday of Earth Week. Members of the office, Go Green Team, and other volunteers spoke to interested students outside of Cooper and Lakeside dining halls, informing students about the food that is wasted on our campus and all over the world.

On average, students waste about one pound of food daily in the dining hall by either not finishing or not eating some of their meal. Through volunteer action only, we had 109 students pledge to join the Clean Plate Club for the week of Earth Week. These students alone saved over 545 pounds of food - in a single week.

545 pounds
of **FOOD**
saved in 1 week

EARTH WEEK

a week of sustainability to help the planet

1 MEATLESS MONDAY

I've never bean healthier!



Why have one Earth Day when you can celebrate an entire Earth Week? This was a celebration of our goals, commitments, successes and ideals for sustainability here at SUNY Oswego.

Meatless Monday provided a create-your-own trail mix bar and promoted the health and environmental benefits of reducing meat consumption - even by one day a week! We provided meat-free recipes and easy meal solutions to students, showing them how easy it really is to skip meat one day a week.

2 TRANSPOTUESDAY

Sustainable Transportation



Transportation Tuesday focused on the benefits of carpooling, biking, busing and walking. We advertised our existing transportation program, BikeSHARE, and unveiled the BusSHARE app, which help students take advantage of the bus system on and off campus. With over 2,444 miles traveled and one metric ton of carbon saved by our BikeSHARE program alone, we wanted to celebrate the success of our student body!

3 WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

Perk up and save the environment



On Wake up Wednesday we promoted our reusable coffee cup program, Perk up. With over 300,000 non-recyclable hot cups being thrown away each semester, this campaign aims to reduce our landfill contribution. We gave out 100 Perk up cups and served multiple cups of coffee to students and faculty members. Not only do these cups get an automatic discount at the retail dining facilities on campus, but each use can be tracked to enter to win great prizes! Here at Oswego, we take our coffee green.

4 THIRSTY THURSDAY

Tap In to reduce plastic waste



On Thirsty Thursday we promoted one of our most requested and celebrated programs, the Tap In reusable water bottle. Unveiled last year, Tap-in helps students to avoid purchasing disposable water bottles by providing a free, re-usable water bottle. Through our partner Cupanion, students are actively reducing their environmental footprint by tracking their refills, winning awesome prizes and remembering to Hydrate Responsibly!

5 FOOD WASTE FRIDAY

Learn about Clean Plate Club



On Friday we were excited to announce the impact of our Clean Plate Club program, launched on Monday. We had 109 students volunteer and pledge to keep a 'clean plate' for the week. By taking only what they could eat and eating what they took, these students alone contributed to a food waste savings of 545 pounds - in just one week! We then had the chance to show the entire campus community the impact we could all have by keeping a clean plate.



Sustainability

SUNY OSWEGO