



## St. Mary's College of Maryland

18592 E. Fisher Rd.

St. Mary's City, MD, 20686

240-895-2093

[www.smcm.edu](http://www.smcm.edu)

Higher Education

Member since October 2009

### MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP



#### **Environmental Team**

*St. Mary's paid environmental team members include a sustainability coordinator in the Office of Planning and Facilities as well as a Sustainability Fellow, a one-year position offered to recently graduated alumnus/a. In addition to these staff members, St. Mary's Sustainability Committee is a large group of students, faculty, staff and administrators that work to ensure the environment at SMCM is clean and healthy, while also responsibly engaging with our larger community. The Committee meets in smaller working groups weekly, as do the Committee co-chairs, while larger meetings are held every 4-5 weeks.*



#### **Environmental Policy Statement**

*"Our beautiful residential campus on the banks of the St. Mary's River inspires our work, our play, and our commitment to the environment." – from St. Mary's Mission Statement.*

*In 2008 the Sustainability Committee authored a first draft of St. Mary's Sustainability Strategic Plan. This coming year, the Sustainability Committee will continue preparing the future of sustainability at the College. The Committee's goal is to finalize a strategic plan for sustainability that is consistent with the College Strategic Plan. In addition, as a signatory of the ACUPCC, the College must submit a Climate Action Plan by May 2010. The Climate Action Plan will lay out a series of actions to be undertaken to realize our pledge of climate neutrality in as expedient a timeframe as possible. Such actions are likely to include energy efficiency upgrades, the installation of renewable energy systems on campus and a host of operational and behavioral improvements. Both the strategic plan for sustainability and the Climate Action Plan will be developed through an inclusive vetting process. Drafts will be made available to students, faculty and staff to incorporate input from the campus community.*

**Environmentally Preferable Procurement**

*All coffee sold in the College coffee shops and dining hall is certified organic and Fair Trade.*

**Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

*As an institution of higher education, we believe in the prescience of environmental education and sustainability as an element of a modern liberal arts experience. Our environmental studies program stands as a widely popular cross-disciplinary minor at the College and includes cross-listed courses from disciplines as varied as economics to English, biology to museum studies.*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*The College actively participates in community environmental projects by working closely with local community groups and on-campus student organizations. The St. Mary's River Project works to monitor the health of the St. Mary's River and educate local children about the Chesapeake's ecosystem and the environmental challenges facing it through an outreach program that puts St. Mary's students in local classrooms. Other community engagement includes our participation in events like the St. Mary's River Watershed Association's Riverfest and partnering with this same group to manage the Maryland Grows Oysters program for the St. Mary's River.*

**WASTE**

**Solid Waste/Material Use Reduction and Reuse**

*Since January 2009, the trays have been removed from St. Mary's College dining hall. It has been shown that the removal of the trays has reduced the amount of food waste by 23%, in addition to saving water and energy. In addition, we have developed a composting program for food waste, leaves and grass clippings. We estimate the composting program to reduce the College solid waste by 4 tons annually. It also helps reduce the usage of fertilizers.*

**Recycling**

*St. Mary's College uses a single stream recycling system. Recycling bins or dumpsters are available for every classroom, offices and residences on campus. St. Mary's College's institutional recycling ratio has been improved from 37% in 2006 to 42% in 2008.*

## **ENERGY**

### **Energy Efficiency**

*In 2007, a \$2.8 million dollar Energy Performance Contract managed by the Department of General Services was completed that is reducing the College's energy consumption: 2,100,000 KWh (16.5% reduction) and 73,000 gallons of oil (23% reduction) are saved every year. This reduction derives from a variety of energy efficiency projects that included upgraded lighting and occupancy sensors, boiler replacements and energy management system upgrades. In 2008, the Sustainability Committee compiled scores of ideas from the campus community to save energy. Listed in the Energy Conservation Initiative draft report, many of these initiatives are currently being implemented.*

### **Renewable Energy**

*Following a student referendum in 2007 where 96% of student voters elected to increase student fees to pay for a "green energy fund," the College has purchased renewable energy credits to offset 100% of St. Mary's annual electrical consumption, 12,000 metric tons eCO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide equivalent value). The college also sports a 3KW photovoltaic demonstrational array atop the Library, and through a partnership with the Student Government Association was able to install a geothermal heat pump HVAC system in the new James P. Muldoon River Center that prevents 270 metric tons of eCO<sub>2</sub> from being emitted a year.*

## **WATER**

### **Water Conservation**

*We've installed on-campus water saving technologies including gray water systems, waterless urinals and dual flush toilets help to save over 9,000,000 gallons of water each year.*

### **Stormwater Management and Site Design**

*Over the past decade of campus development, the College has implemented stringent storm water management programs to protect water quality. In each of its capital projects, the College seeks to achieve optimum conservation solutions, often exceeding the regulatory requirements of the State's Critical Areas Commission and the Maryland Department of Environment. This commitment has resulted in the implementation of "best management practices" that intend to achieve an overall net improvement in the quality of storm water reaching*

*tidal waters by reducing nutrient and sediment pollution. Since 1986, although the campus has doubled its size, St. Mary's College has been able to achieve a 50% reduction in storm water pollution.*

### **GREEN BUILDING**



#### **LEED Silver**

*Goodpaster Hall is certified LEED Silver using the New Construction Rating System.*