

Sustainability at IUPUI

Staff Council

March 18, 2009

Sustainability

Sustainability is defined broadly as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”¹ It can be taken to encompass issues of local and global environmental quality, resource use, environmental literacy, and societal equity.

Additional Information

IUPUI Sustainability Website http://cees.iupui.edu/Education/Campus_Sustainability/

Contains: Principles of Sustainability, Committee Memberships, Greening IUPUI Grant Application, Calendar of Events and Resources

IUPUI Committees: Recycling and Waste Reduction; Transportation; Land, Air, and Water Management; Energy Use; Built Environment; and Public Health

Indiana University Bloomington Sustainability Website <https://www.indiana.edu/~sustain/>

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

<http://www.aashe.org/index.php> IUPUI is a member of AASHE: for information on how to obtain your own logon ID, contact Colleen McCormick cjmccorm@iupui.edu.

IUPUI Recycling Website <http://www.cfs.iupui.edu/recycle/>

Upcoming Sustainability Events

ToxAway Day: Friday, April 17th 7am – 1pm – Parking lot West of the Union Building

Sponsored by the Recycling Committee - Bring your household hazardous materials and electronic waste.

Acceptable items are listed on the web page, <http://www.cfs.iupui.edu/recycle/toxaway.php>

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Colleen McCormick at cjmccorm@iupui.edu.

Electronic Waste Collection Days, a free electronic waste recycling drive sponsored by Indiana

University Bloomington and IUPUI: Thursday, April 30th through Saturday, May 2nd 9am-2pm

Location: Indiana State Fairgrounds, Parking lot south of the fairgrounds at the corner of 38th Street and Coliseum Avenue <http://indiana.poweron.com/>

¹ World Commission on Environment & Development in Our Common Future (Oxford University Press, 1987, p. 8)

STATEMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES

PREAMBLE: As stewards of the IUPUI campus and of all its resources, we recognize the interdependence of humans with the environment. We must apply thoughtful and creative planning to achieve a thriving campus community built on the principles of sustainability. We must foster conservation, protection and enhancement of natural resources through campus policy and personal behavior. We must promote a common agenda for IUPUI as a green campus. We must preserve and enhance the quality of life for our campus community and future generations in ways that enhance teaching and learning, research, civic engagement and administrative practices.

Leadership Commitment and Measures

We will implement these Principles by demonstrating campus leadership, collaborative planning and by adopting best environmental practices wherever possible. We will establish goals, objectives, and indicators; select priority projects; conduct an annual self-evaluation of progress through established campus reporting; and issue a campus-wide report.

Recycling and Waste Reduction

We will work to elevate the environmental consciousness of the IUPUI community. The subcommittee advocates sustainability programs that advance reduction, reuse, and recycling of waste materials, as well as promotes environmentally sound purchasing practices.

Transportation

We will minimize transportation demands to and from campus and continue to incorporate alternative fuels in the campus fleet. We will work with the Central Indiana Clean Cities Alliance, Central Indiana Commuter Services, and IndyGo to encourage increased use of carpooling and public transportation by IUPUI students and employees and we will work with Central Indiana Bicycling Association, Indy Greenways and similar programs to encourage bicycling as a commuter option.

Sustainable Use and Protection of Natural Resources – Land, Air, and Water Management

We value and conserve natural resources and will seek to preserve and make sustainable use of our air, water, and land. We will protect and conserve non-renewable natural resources through efficient use, careful planning, collaborative land management programs and regulatory compliance. We will minimize use of substances that may cause environmental damage to the air, water, land or its inhabitants and seek alternative substances that are more environmentally friendly. We will safeguard habitats affected by our facilities and operations and promote biological diversity, especially on and near the public lands we manage. We will conserve and increase greenspace through comprehensive planning.

Energy Use

We will conserve energy and improve the energy efficiency of our buildings, vehicles, and equipment as well as the goods and services we use.

Purchasing Products and Services

We will pool our knowledge and resources to purchase green products and services, where possible, and work to adopt joint purchasing practices. We will work with our suppliers to adopt sustainable approaches and solutions. We will partner to create a stronger market for environmentally friendly and regionally produced products and services.

Design and Management of the Built Environment

We will seek to design, build, restore and manage our facilities and grounds through the use of sustainable materials and practices. The United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system or an equivalent rating system will be considered and implemented to the extent possible. Total life cycle costs, energy use, and impact on the environment are other important factors that will influence selection of materials and practices.

Public Health

We will work to raise awareness about the ways the environment impacts individual and community health. We will monitor our policies and practices to assess environmental and occupational hazards that can adversely affect public health. When potential risks are identified, we will promote the identification and implementation of effective solutions.

Education

Through environmental and sustainability education we are committed to developing and supporting environmentally aware and engaged citizens. We will involve the campus community in improving our ability to implement these principles and continue to educate. We will work with academic units to enhance and expand teaching about sustainability in the classroom.