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Wait! Wait! Don't print me!

Go Aggies! Go Green!
2012 continued the focus on sustainability at NMSU. With a year of development under our belt the Manager of Environmental Policy and Sustainability has established eleven initiatives to lead the Office of Sustainability (OoS) along an exciting path of greening the environment at NMSU.

The following report covers activities and accomplishments related to sustainability for the 2012 calendar year. With better understanding of where OoS wants to go, we expanded our role in some areas and lessened it in others.

The Office of Sustainability either supported or collaborated with each department or organization outlined in this report to help facilitate the implementation of sustainability projects. However, please note that these initiatives do not illustrate the totality of sustainability measures being executed at New Mexico State University and its branch campuses. Many more campus departments and many more volunteers became involved in greening the campus in 2012. It was a great year. Go Aggies! Go Green!

**2012 Summary**

**Go Aggies! Go Green!**

---

**Major NMSU Sustainability Accomplishments in 2012**

- A **2% reduction** in GHG emissions
- Certification of three LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) buildings for a total of 7 Gold and 3 Silver across NMSU campuses throughout state
- A **5.4% savings** in energy use from 2011 to 2012
- Gold rating on AASHE STARS (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System)
- Fifth place in RecycleMania Grand Champion Competition out of 638 universities (66.78% diversion rate)
- Partnerships with the eight NMSU Colleges for the “Sustainability Awareness Campaign”
- Sustainability Council has new chair, a member of the NMSU faculty, David Boje. David increased volunteering and attendance at Council meetings!
- ASNMSU Sustainability Coordinator, Chelsea McCoy, worked closely with OoS on Campus Sustainability Day, bottle filling stations, green basketball game, tabling, and sustainability education campus-wide
- Completed ACUPCC Progress Report
- Speaking engagements for various organizations and several NMSU classes
- First Annual Campus Sustainability Day was a complete success!

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**Letter from the Sustainability Manager**

Every day I come to work and know what an honor it is to work at NMSU with wonderful and caring people. Often I walk away from a meeting or an encounter and say to myself “They were so nice!” And it’s true, what a great environment to be in.

Environment is the key word here. We live and work in a place that is special to most of us and my job is to help you take care of it because it is fragile. I developed the eleven initiatives (see p. 4) of the Office of Sustainability to do just that—take care of our campuses all across the state from our personal health (Initiative 5) to the overall picture (Initiatives 3, 8, and 9). The number one initiative is relationships. We are all in this together and I am grateful to each and every one of you who have helped me along my journey in this second year of my job as Sustainability Manager at NMSU. We have so many more great things to accomplish and look forward to. Let’s do it together!

joni newcomer, ND, LEED AP
Manager Environmental Policy and Sustainability
newcomer@nmsu.edu
http://sustainability.nmsu.edu
575-646-7563

---

joni newcomer, ND, LEED AP, is the Manager of Environmental Policy and Sustainability
Mission Statement
To be a resource for the NMSU community to develop a common vision of sustainability through innovation, education, and action.

2012 Goals
1. Develop student internships
2. Host three public programs focused on environmental initiatives
3. Outreach to campus and beyond

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Sustainability Initiatives
1. Relationships
2. Energy reduction
3. Climate
4. Education
5. Food and health
6. Green buildings
7. Transportation
8. Waste reduction
9. Water
10. Materials
11. Renewable energy

What is Sustainability at NMSU?
Sustainability at NMSU is a lifestyle and a responsibility. It relates to improving and maintaining the quality of human life while preserving the integrity, stability, and beauty of ecological systems for the future.

Office of Sustainability intern Suzanne Montes (left) teaches students about recycling on America Recycles Day

Go Aggies! Go Green!
October 2012, the Office of Sustainability moved to temporary quarters in Regents Row Mitchell Hall, Rm. A100. The OoS and the new Environmental Education Center (EEC) will be here while the new office is under construction on the other side of the demising wall (see photo, below right, for new office location Rm. A116 on the courtyard side).

**Plans for the new EEC**

We are building a new office with teaching examples for all types of green construction, green office supplies, a toner recycling center, bottle filling station, re-used furniture, and energy efficient ways to do things in your work-lives and your own personal lives. The Center is open to all individuals for education on environmental topics or as a conference area that seats 10.

The education starts outside—we're planning container herb gardening, recycling/trash bins, and educational posters that will change on a regular basis so you can learn to be green as you wander by.
Energy Reduction

We monitor and analyze energy consumption for electricity, chilled water, steam, and gas at our Central Utility Plant on a 24-hour basis using the Niagara Energy Management system (see chart to right). All of these metrics are incorporated into a “Utility Dashboard” designed by NMSU Energy Management Systems Manager Pat Chavez.

One of the Facilities and Services shops, the Electricians, is one of the best followers of the practice of cutting energy costs on campus. When light fixtures need repairing or need new lamps, they replace old energy-hog fluorescent light fixtures with new energy-conscious fluorescents. Where possible they use LED lamps which are the most efficient type of bulbs currently available. Energy use is cut from 5-20% using LED’s and they last 10 times longer than incandescents, saving labor costs too.

In 2012 the University reduced energy consumption by 5.4% as shown on the chart above

Energy Services Company (ESCO) “Investment Grade Audit” with Ameresco

NMSU has partnered with Ameresco to perform an Investment Grade Energy Audit (IGA) of all NMSU campuses to become more energy efficient and promote sustainability. This audit will include the facilities at Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Doña Ana Community College, and Grants, the remote Agricultural Science Centers and all buildings on main campus.

Ameresco, an international leader in innovative energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainability solutions, will work with university staff to develop a comprehensive approach to lower NMSU’s energy expenditures, manage energy use more efficiently, and promote overall carbon reduction initiatives.

In early 2013, Ameresco energy engineers will be on campus conducting building inspections. Part of their efforts will include the installation of various metering devices in classrooms, offices, and other building areas that will measure factors such as energy use, room temperature, and light levels. Their first report will be in early March with recommendations of what NMSU needs to do to reduce our energy use and costs, probably with lighting upgrades as our #1 project.
Facilities and Services shops are very aware of environmental efforts on campus. On the next two pages are a few of the things that they do to take care of the campus environment.

Administration
- No longer printing PO’s but using electronic documents instead
- Using shared printers that are set to print double-sided lowering energy and paper costs

Electricians
- Standard procedure to replace all old fluorescent fixtures with either upgraded fixtures or LED fixtures
- Replaced old parking lot lights in lots from Espina to Jordan along University with new high-efficiency LED lights
- Replaced old 150 watt exterior wall lights in many buildings across campus with new 50–120 w LED lights
- Standard procedure to recycle old wires from any remodel projects

Locks/Access Control
- The locksmiths recycle all the old keys and metals instead of sending them to landfill
- Changing over to low energy handicap operators in all buildings

Mechanical (HVAC)
- Standard procedure to replace failed motors with high-efficient motors and install high-efficiency rooftop mechanical units when old ones fail
- Recycled metal from remodels such as drinking fountains and AC units
- Refrigerants from failed cooling units are recovered and recycled by the FS Environmental Health & Safety office
- HVAC regularly maintains building interior temps between 74°–76° in summer and between 68°–70° in winter lowering energy use and costs

Custodial
- After creating "Green Cleaning Policy" in 2010, the custodians continue to run a very successful green cleaning program campus-wide which includes training, utilizing Green Seal certified products, and awareness
- Prepared "Custodial Sustainability Initiatives" with environmental safeguards and strategies that include use of environmentally preferred products, conservation, reuse of materials, and reduction of waste
- Created a “Custodial Low Impact Equipment” policy

Grounds
- Xeriscaped almost 2 acres of grounds (ARC/Genesis, Arrowhead Dr., inside corners of the stadium, Branson Library, American Indian Student Center, Jett Hall, Pan Am Ticket Booth, Gardiner Hall, and Ed Services) saving water and creating a beautiful environment
- Testing new electric backpack blowers that release fewer greenhouse gasses
- Continuing to make and use compost from turf and plant clippings
- Installed flow meters on all water pumps
- Installed Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) irrigation system at soccer complex saving water and energy

Environmental Health & Safety
- Played a big role in getting NMSU certified as a Bicycle Friendly University
- Installed Fix-it bicycle station on west side of Corbett Center
- Stormwater Management Education
- Shows "New Staff Sustainability Welcome" video to incoming staff during EHS training sessions

Mechanics
- Purchased an air conditioning recycling station to capture liquids and used refrigerants
- Recycle used oils, tires and coolants
- Preventative Maintenance plan for upkeep of all vehicles for maximum efficiency lowering emissions from the atmosphere

Movers
- Movers partnering with OoS on Toner Recycling program for all pickups
- FS has a no-idling policy for all trucks except when necessary to use lifts

LED streetlights will be installed on campus in parking lots from Espina to Jordan along University

Go Aggies! Go Green!
Facilities and Services

Paint Shop
- Standardized use of low VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint that doesn't offgas chemicals into our brains and bodies
- Restricted use of enamel paint

Project Design + Eng.
- Managed the design and construction of three LEED buildings and the Satellite Chilled Water Plant which saves NMSU money and GHG emissions
- El Paso residents that work at PD+E carpool cutting gas and GHG emissions
- DACC Sunland Park is being designed to LEED standards (OoS Initiative #6)
- Collaborating with CLEAResult and El Paso Electric to design energy efficient buildings and remodels; we receive rebates for cutting energy!
- Encouraging energy savings through building design standards

Plumbing
- Installed first bottle filling station at Activity Center (see above) with many more to follow across campus
- Standard procedure to use low flow toilets and faucets when replacing failed units
- When remodeling, wall heaters and piping are recycled

Sign Shop
- Reuse of materials when possible
- Reuse plastic signs by scraping off vinyl letters and replacing with new ones.

Recycling
- Established curbside recycling at Tom Fort, Sutherland Village, Cole Village, Vista del Monte, Cervantes, Chamisa, Piñon Hall, Garcia Hall, Monagle and Rhodes, Garrett, Hamiel.

Structural Maintenance
- Recycling metal poles and bollards from replacement of outdoor lights
- Recycling construction materials
- Built temporary washout pit for recycling concrete from old construction sites; some concrete is reused at Las Cruces Foothills landfill as ground fill
- Window tinting for energy efficiency as well as rebates from El Paso Electric

Utilities
- Constructed the new energy and water efficient Chiller Satellite Plant
- Operators at the Central Utility Plant (CUP) continue to utilize the Niagara system to monitor energy usage to stay below the set electrical use peak saving the university energy costs
- Converted the turbine inlet air chilled water system to variable flow which saves electricity and chilled water production
- Energy Management department continues to install electric meters across campus so energy use can be monitored to increase energy efficiency. Buildings with new monitors include Gerald Thomas, Wind Tunnel, Neale Hall, English/Speech, and Walden Hall
- Installed utility meters for domestic water at CUP to track all water consumption utilized during production of campus chilled water and steam
- Thermally insulating all steam and chilled water pipes in tunnel system
- Preventive maintenance keeps water and steam leaks to a minimum
- Repaired chilled water meters at Barnes & Noble, Chamisa housing, Gardiner, and Goddard Hall
- Converted 1965 Chemistry building’s mechanical system from pneumatic controls to digital controls allowing better monitoring and greater energy efficiency

Go Aggies! Go Green!
Volunteering

AASHE STARS

A dedicated group of volunteers completed the STARS report (Sustainability Tracking Assessment Reporting System). STARS is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. STARS was developed by Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) with broad participation from the higher education community. The mission of STARS is to empower higher education to lead the sustainability transformation.

What is STARS?

- A guide for advancing sustainability in all sectors of higher education
- A common standard of measurement for sustainability in higher education that creates incentives for continual improvement toward sustainability with broad participation from the campus sustainability community
- A tool that promotes a comprehensive understanding of sustainability that includes its social, economic and environmental dimensions
- Builds a stronger, more diverse campus sustainability community

With a Gold Star on our Nov. 2012 submittal, we will not be submitting a report until 2015. We had a great team of dedicated volunteers who led the charge this year to get us from Bronze in 2011 to Gold. The leaders of each section are as follows:

- David Boje (education and research credits)
- Rani Alexander (curriculum credits)
- Steve Self and Suzanne Montes (operations credits)
- Joni newcomer (planning administration and engagement credits)
- Jared Ryan Dial (all credits)

Other avid volunteers
- Katrina Doolittle, Emily Kelley, Katrina Miner, and Rohny Saylors

Sustainability Council

The Sustainability Council creates and supports an environment of sustainable practices at NMSU. This volunteer council, made up of faculty, staff, students, and community members, is committed to education, research, operations and engagement that build an economically, ecologically and socially sustainable campus and community. 2012 accomplishments include:

- Elected new chair, Professor David Boje, PhD
- Elected new co-chairs of the three committees
- Completed STARS Report with a Gold rating!
- Continued to increase attendance in Council meetings
- Began planning the new Sustainability Research Center
- Continued planning of a new solar study station
- Diligently worked to get NMSU certified as a Bicycle Friendly University
- Provided educational speakers on many diverse sustainability topics
- Engaged the community through outreach to City Council, LC Green Chamber of Commerce, Doña Ana County Camino Real Development Plan, and the DACC “Architecture Camp”

Go Aggies! Go Green!
In 2006 an Executive Order was signed that requires all Executive Branch state agencies, including the Higher Education Department to adopt the US Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (USGBC LEED) Rating System.

NMSU built its first LEED certified building in December of 2009. In 2012 there were three new LEED buildings: two Gold and one Silver (see below in yellow). At the end of 2012 there were six remaining buildings to be certified.

We are accomplished at getting points for LEED in site design, energy efficiency, waste reduction, and water efficiency.

### NMSU USGBC LEED Certified and Registered Projects - Revised 12.31.2012

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<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Street</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>LEED System Version</th>
<th>Points Achieved</th>
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The three acre plot of land west of Gerald Thomas Hall (also known as the Student Centered Field Lab) is a place for student learning, public outreach, and research. The area is used to grow cover crop demonstration plots, organic vegetables, and experimental breeding lines. Some of the organic produce ends up at the 100 West Café in the Hotel Restaurant Tourism Management department where culinary students learn to use the fresh vegetables in their dishes. Any trimmings or food scraps not used in the Café are then collected, composted, and returned to the plots from which they came — cradle to cradle living at NMSU!

A small and very dedicated group of people have been working diligently for the last year to get NMSU certified as a Bicycle Friendly University (BFU). The Five components are as follows:

1. Encouragement (more interaction with bike clubs and wellness groups)
2. Education (providing bicycle safety classes on regular basis)
3. Engineering (more bike lanes and pedestrian walkways)
4. Enforcement (setting up campus police patrol)
5. Evaluation (surveys on use and opinions)

Co-chairs for the BFU were Jean Conway, Teaching Academy and David Shearer, Environmental Health & Safety.

Task force included Matt Brigance, Dave Church, Rebecca Creamer, and Jeff Harvey. Further support by MGT 448 students Matt O’Brien, Ros-Polly Nguyen, Tito Ortiz, and Derek Quintana, with statistics from Judith Bosland. Thank you everyone!

The three acre plot of land west of Gerald Thomas Hall (also known as the Student Centered Field Lab) is a place for student learning, public outreach, and research. The area is used to grow cover crop demonstration plots, organic vegetables, and experimental breeding lines. Some of the organic produce ends up at the 100 West Café in the Hotel Restaurant Tourism Management department where culinary students learn to use the fresh vegetables in their dishes. Any trimmings or food scraps not used in the Café are then collected, composted, and returned to the plots from which they came — cradle to cradle living at NMSU!
Partnership with ICT

ICT computer labs continue to find ways to keep sustainability as part of their every operation.
- Computer monitors are turned off nightly, all lights in labs are turned off when not in use; recycle bins are placed in labs for plastic, paper, and toner cartridges.
- Student labs participate in the Toner Recycling Program
- Printing option in labs has also improved over the past year. The new Aggie Print system allows students to print double sided from a computer station, their personal device or jump drive.

For more information visit ICT at http://studenttech.nmsu.edu/

Paper Reuse Printer

University Communications has a great idea that other offices with networked printers could learn from and emulate. Back in 2008, Amy Smith came up with a very sustainable plan. Because of a great deal of publishing reports and agriculture research articles, the University Communications writers do a lot of proof reading of drafts and layouts. They set up boxes all around the building to gather proof-paper printed on one side. The paper is collected and loaded into a shared printer that is only for used paper. Thinking outside the box is a part of being a Green Aggie. Thanks UComm!

University Communications is using the Toner Recycling Program to recycle their used toner cartridges.

Member Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce

The Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce (LCGCC) is a great way for Office of Sustainability to connect with the community. The LCGCC practices include a commitment to sustainability, energy conscious business, waste and water conscious business, and “Think Local!” Program. We share a lot of the same initiatives and were good partners in 2012.

The Manager of the Office of Sustainability, joni newcomer, was a guest speaker at the First Friday luncheon series in August. Dr. newcomer shared what NMSU is doing for the environment and helping local companies understand what they can do to make their own businesses more sustainable.

joni newcomer speaks at national AASHE conference in October

The manager of the Office of Sustainability was chosen to speak at the AASHE annual conference in Los Angeles on October 15th. The title of her talk was “Combining Sustainability and Environmental Health and Safety Offices at NMSU”. Topics included greenhouse gas reporting, Title V air permit, hazardous waste minimization, STARS report, transportation, indoor air quality, chemicals, and water. Dr. newcomer spoke to about twenty attendees from colleges around the country.

Go Aggies! Go Green!
NMSU greatly reduced its paper purchases again!

- Annual paper purchases from Office Max in 2011 was $79,236
- Annual paper purchases from Office Max in 2012 was $39,757

Annual Estimated Savings: $39,479

Healthy Vending Machines

2bU is a new vending machine provided by a local vendor, Mesilla Valley Snacks, that we are using in our residence halls. Some of the advanced technology features are as follows:

- LCD screen that lets customers peruse nutritional and dietary information for products before the purchase
- Adjustable dual temperature zone allows drinks to stay cold and keep snacks at room temperature, thus saving energy
- LED lighting
- Motion sensor dimmers help conserve energy
- Energy Star rating offers the highest energy efficiency levels for vending machines in the industry
- Stocks many locally produced and distributed snacks
- Organic, gluten-free, and vegan food are a few of the options of healthy food.
- The machines are at Corbett Center first floor east side and Garcia Hall in the main lobby.

Toner Recycling Program with Office Max

A Toner Recycling program was started in November 2012. Office Max provides 20x20x20 boxes for free. NMSU departments request a box, fill it with empty toner cartridges, then call us for a pick up. We then deliver a new empty box. FS Movers partner with the OoS by picking up the full boxes and delivering them to the FS Warehouse for UPS pickup. We keep plastic and other materials from the landfill by using this program. OoS initiative #8 is waste reduction—in two short months we recycled almost 80 toner cartridges! Thanks to everyone who is involved for your support!

ABCD Listserv Furniture Reuse

The Office of Sustainability encourages waste reduction by reuse of items of all kinds. Responsible faculty and staff on campus use “abcd” email listserv to send out emails showing items that anyone on campus can have for free. It’s been a very successful way to get product to people who need it and to keep waste from the landfill. Remember, Office of Sustainability Initiative #8 is “Waste Reduction”.

NMSU placed 7th in the Grand Champion Category of RecycleMania in 2012, with a diversion rate of 66.87%.

Go Aggies! Go Green!

Housing

NMSU’s Housing and Residential Life is one of our greenest departments at NMSU. Director Greg Block is on top of the latest and greatest ways to be a Green Aggie! Some of the things that they accomplished in 2012 are:

- 16X25 Recycling bins in dorm rooms at Garcia, Piñon, Monagle and RGH
- Chamisa Village II achieved LEED Gold certification and recycled over 90% of the construction waste
- Received several rebates for lighting upgrades
- Began curbside recycling at Cole Village which adds to the bins at Chamisa, Greek/ROTC, VDM, Tom Fort, Sutherland, Cervantes Village, eight chapters of Greek and ROTC
- Received $11,000 rebate from El Paso Electric for installing new “Elastek” cool roof on Garcia Hall

Environmental Odds and Ends

Go Aggies! Go Green!
The NMSU Foundation has recently created the NMSU Sustainability Fund to further the mission carried out by the Office of Sustainability. This was the brainchild of Emily Kelley, University Communications Specialist.

The Office of Sustainability is responsible for developing policies and guidelines for protecting natural resources, reducing the University's ecological footprint and ensuring accountability for green building and low-impact development in NMSU's ongoing capital improvement program. The office also coordinates environmental sustainability initiatives on issues ranging from climate change to recycling and water conservation. The Office of Sustainability works with faculty, staff and students to enhance NMSU's environmental literacy and awareness through academic programs and research activities. We are hopeful that the fund will pay for a nationally renowned environmental speaker in the future.

Anyone may donate to this fund and donations are tax-deductible. To donate to the NMSU Sustainability Fund online visit http://fndforms.nmsu.edu/giving.php. In block one, select “Find a Giving Area/Fund;” type Sustainability Fund in the popup box. NMSU employees may give via payroll deduction. The form for payroll deduction is located at http://foundation.nmsu.edu/s/422/images/editor_documents/Foundation%20Internet/FAQs/payroll_deduction_form_final.pdf. Indicate Sustainability Fund in block 4, column C.

For more information about the fund contact joni newcomer at newcomer@nmsu.edu or 646-7563.

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**Student Internships**

The Office of Sustainability had two interns in 2012.

**Suzanne Montes** was infinitely helpful while volunteering for the Council as student co-chair of the Operations committee, helping OoS do tabling for America Recycles Day and playing a big part in planning our first Campus Sustainability Day.

**Jen England** helped design flyers, bring sustainability topics into her English classes she taught as a Master’s student, and a detailed study on how NMSU students understand the concept of sustainability.

The Environmental Education Center’s student work area (above) with Cradle to Cradle carpet and reused furniture, sets the example of lowering our carbon footprint. The EEC is open to anyone who wants to learn more about how they can change their personal carbon footprint and be a better environmental citizen.

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**Sustainability Fund**

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Aggie Recycling
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Last but not least, thanks to the students who inspire us to do better to ensure their healthy future

The trouble is that the hockey stick graph became an icon and deniers reckoned if they could smash the icon, the whole concept of global warming would be destroyed with it.

- Michael E. Mann

Go Aggies! Go Green!