



Green—it's more than our school color, it's our school spirit.

At Portland State University, we do more than just study sustainability. We engage directly with the community around us to make sustainability real. Our goal is to harness the strengths of our singular urban university—our new ideas, our innovative partnerships, our academic rigor—toward solving the environmental, social, and economic problems of our time.

A UNIVERSITY OF THE FUTURE

Our campus is an integral part of the city of Portland and so are our students and faculty. Through our deep engagement with public agencies, non-profits, and local businesses, we help advance the development and adoption of sustainable strategies and rigorously assess the impacts of cutting-edge practices on our economy, our communities, and our ecosystems.

AT THE FOREFRONT OF CHANGE

Located in a community widely viewed as the leader in sustainability—PSU is a fundamental part of a vibrant and urban “living laboratory.” We are unique among universities, because our students and faculty can work every day with like-minded businesses, individuals, and organizations that look to us for help in knowing what works.

WHERE CITIES MEET NATURE

According to the United Nations, 2008 will be the first year in which over half of the world's population will live in cities.

Our expertise is largely focused on the healthy integration of human and natural systems, especially in urban and rapidly urbanizing communities. Our researchers strive to understand not only what works, but how and why people, organizations, and cities adopt sustainable practices.

CREATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

At Portland State, every student has the opportunity to develop a thorough understanding of the complex and interconnected issues underpinning sustainability before they graduate. Armed with this knowledge, our students can become the generation of leaders who will build a more sustainable world.



GREEN CAMPUS

- One of Portland's largest ecoroofs is located on PSU's Broadway Building, and the campus boasts four LEED certified buildings
- PSU was the first university campus to be designated "Salmon Safe" because of its extensive stormwater management plan
- Most students and faculty forego their cars for light rail, buses, and bikes when traveling to and from campus, thanks to PSU's award-winning "Transportation Options" program
- Our comprehensive recycling program results in the recycling of 500 tons of paper; 30 tons of plastic, glass, and aluminum and 200 tons of Styrofoam, metal, yard debris, and food scraps each year
- Campus food service is required to purchase specific percentages of local and organic food, to compost food waste, and to use biodegradable serviceware
- Food for Thought Cafe opened in 2003, and is one of the only student-run, sustainability-oriented campus eateries in the nation
- PSU will be powered by 100 percent renewable energy by 2010

GREEN LEARNING

- PSU researchers are testing the performance of nine types of solar arrays to determine what technologies work best in different environments
- PSU works with many Pacific Rim governments and universities interested in fostering sustainability, including Hokkaido University in Japan and Tongji University in China
- The College of Urban and Public Affairs is working to better measure how real estate development projects benefit individuals and communities in social as well as economic and environmental terms
- PSU's award-winning Community Watershed Stewardship Program has restored more than 2 million square feet of stream banks in Portland
- A PSU professor is establishing strategies and protocols for integrating renewable and sustainable energy into the regional and national power grid, in order to provide society with reliable, more efficient energy
- PSU's Institute of Metropolitan Studies is working with the Kaiser Community Health Initiative and other community partners to understand what a sustainable regional food system would look like

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