

NAU Sustainability Action Plan: Operations

Goal: Utilize Sustainable Practices Throughout All NAU Operations

Objective 1: Construct, operate, and maintain buildings sustainably.

Action 1: Build all new construction and major renovations to LEED Silver standards. Place an emphasis on the LEED energy efficiency category and ensure that buildings are 30% more efficient than the national average

Responsible Party: Construction, Design and Planning

Action 2: Investigate opportunities for LEED Existing Building Operation and Maintenance (EBOM) certification.

Responsible Party: Construction, Design and Planning, Housing and Residence Life, Office of Sustainability

Action 3: Move towards a “Group Relamp Program” to decrease resource expenditure associated with individual lamp replacement and to improve indoor environment for occupants.

Responsible Party: Operations, Utilities

Action 4: Fund operations and maintenance to levels consistent with the national average.

Responsible Party: Finance and Administration

Action 5: Incorporate formal Life Cycle Analysis into planning and prioritizing for deferred maintenance efforts as well as for planning construction.

Responsible Party: Planning, Design and Construction, Operations

Objective 2: Reduce the impact of chemicals used in operations of campus buildings and grounds.

Action 1: Commit to use 100% Green Seal Certified, or other “Green” 3rd party certified paints, cleaning, and other chemical products.

Responsible Party: Operations

Action 2: Continue test-plot research on non-toxic grounds maintenance methods until a successful method is discovered and herbicide and pesticide use on campus is eliminated.

Responsible Party: Operations, Housing and Residence Life, Enrollment Management and Student Affairs

Action 3: Pursue landscape design and plant material selection to minimize or eliminate need for pest and weed control measures (e.g., native plant selection, semi-natural plant assemblages where appropriate in campus open areas, use of hardscape elements to reduce turf).

Responsible Party: Operations, Housing and Residence Life, Planning, Design and Construction

Objective 3: Increase conservation of on- and off-campus natural resources

Action 1: Create a University Tree Preservation Policy

Responsible Party: Operations, Office of Sustainability

Action 2: Meet and maintain requirements of the Arbor Day Foundation for yearly certification of Tree Campus USA designation.

Responsible Party: School of Forestry, Operations, Office of Sustainability

Action 3: Maintain, improve, and expand campus organic gardens.

Responsible Party: Campus Organic Gardener, University College Action Research Teams, Office of Sustainability

Action 4: Create designated areas for wildlife habitat and pollinator friendly gardens.

Responsible Party: Campus Organic Gardener, Office of Sustainability, Operations

Action 5: Obtain long-term protection for NAU managed research and education lands such as the Historic School Forest and the Centennial Forest.

Responsible Party: Legal Affairs, Government Affairs, School of Forestry, Finance and Administration

Action 6: Preserve existing Green Space and incorporate new Green Space into campus planning where appropriate.

Responsible Party: Planning, Design and Construction

Objective 4: Invest Sustainably

Action 1: Work towards implementing sustainable investment best practices such as the creation of a Committee on Investor Responsibility or investment in sustainable categories as defined by the Association for the Advancement for Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) Sustainable Tracking, Assessing and Rating System (STARS) report.

Responsible Party: NAU Foundation

Objective 5: Function as a Living Laboratory

Action 1: Maintain opportunities for faculty and students to preform applied sustainably related teaching and research around campus operations.

Responsible Party: Facility Services, Office of Sustainability progress measureable