

NAU Sustainability Action Plan: Recycling and Waste Minimization

Procurement:

This section of NAU's Sustainability Action Plan is preceded by a section on "Procurement" which will address multiple reduce/diversion tactics like creating a policy for an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Plan (EPP). Procurement will also work to create a process for purchasing that evaluates the overall need for product purchases and work to promote quality and need over quantity and excess.

Student Engagement:

All sections of the Sustainable Action Plan will be executed with consideration of class and student involvement.

Goal: Create a Zero Waste Campus

Objective 1: Reduce waste generated on campus.

Action 1: Categorize, measure, and report all types of materials that enter landfill waste stream from campus. Categorize materials as reusable, recyclable, compostable, hazardous, E-waste, or landfill waste. Create a measuring program that will allow us to capture weight in tonnage from all waste stream materials leaving campus. Report waste stream data. Our first measureable action is to achieve a 25% reduction goal and based upon that effort we will identify future targets. These targets are based on what goes to the landfill and not other areas.

Responsible Party: Office of Sustainability, Facility Services, Residence Life, Dining Services, Academic Affairs

Action 2: Create an educational campaign regarding student purchasing behaviors.

Responsible Party: Office of Sustainability

Action 3: Work with vendors and suppliers, such as Pepsi, Canteen, etc. to include a "pack-it-in, pack-it-out" clause in their contracts to reduce vendor packaging entering our waste stream.

Responsible Party: Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Dining Services, Purchasing, Contracting

Action 4: Promote zero waste athletic and special events.

Responsible Party: Athletics, Facility Services

Action 5: Reduce paper use by promoting paperless offices, double-sided printing, and smaller margins.

Responsible Party: Purchasing, Information Technology Services, Academic Affairs, Finance and Administration, Academic Affairs

Action 6: Hold third party contractors to LEED construction and demolition waste management planning practices for all construction on campus.

Responsible Party: Facility Services, Purchasing, Contracting

Action 7: Develop a campus educational outreach program to inform faculty, staff, and students about NAU's waste reduction initiatives.

Responsible Party: Office of Sustainability, Public Affairs, Marketing, Academic Affairs

Action 8: Promote innovative faculty, staff, and student initiatives to reach campus waste reduction and recycling goals.

Responsible Party: Green Fund, Office of Sustainability

Objective 2: Increase the reuse of all reusable materials on campus.

Action 1: Improve capacity and awareness of on campus and local repurpose/sell/trade/donate services. Develop user-friendly online portal for reuse services.

Responsible Party: Office of Sustainability, Purchasing, Property Surplus, Residence Life, City of Flagstaff

Action 2: Improve capacity of and participation in residence hall move-out donation program.

Responsible Party: Residence Life

Action 3: Improve and expand reusable food and beverage container program. Including additional options for purchasing reusable containers and additional financial incentives for their use.

Responsible Party: Dining Services

Action 4: Expand our refillable water bottle stations program.

Responsible Party: Office of Sustainability, Facility Services, Academic Affairs

Objective 3: Increase recycling for all recyclable materials on campus.

Action 1: Establish a recycling program across campus with clearly marked bins distinguishing waste from recyclables in both outdoor and indoor locations. Adopt consistent campus-wide waste, recycling, and composting signage. Include an educational outreach campaign.

Responsible Party: Facility Services, Building Managers, Dining Services, Residence Live, Academic Affairs, Human Resources and Senate

Action 2: Continue to improve and increase campus composting. Continue to work with on-campus gardens and landscaping to incorporate compost into local grounds' maintenance programs.

Responsible Party: Dining Services, Students for Sustainable Living and Urban Gardening, Facility Services

Action 3: Participate in Recyclemania annually (a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities).

Responsible Party: Office of Sustainability, Residence Life