

POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS MANAGEMENT

Policy Statement

Don Honorio Ventura State University (DHVSU) is committed to fostering sustainability across all campus operations, infrastructure, and activities. The policy aims to minimize the environmental impact of the campus while promoting responsible use of resources, energy efficiency, waste management, and sustainable practices in all aspects of university life.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- University administration
- Faculty and staff
- Students
- Campus contractors, suppliers, and service providers

It encompasses all campus facilities, operations, events, and activities.

Definition of Terms

1. **Sustainability:** The practice of meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own, balancing environmental, social, and economic considerations.
2. **Green Campus:** A campus designed and managed to promote sustainable practices, energy efficiency, and environmental conservation.
3. **Carbon Footprint:** The total amount of greenhouse gases emitted directly or indirectly through an activity, expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents.
4. **Renewable Energy:** Energy derived from natural resources that are replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, and water.
5. **Waste Management:** Strategies and practices for reducing, reusing, recycling, and properly disposing of waste materials.
6. **Biodiversity:** The variety of plant and animal species in a particular habitat or ecosystem, which contributes to environmental health and resilience.
7. **Climate Resilience:** The ability of a system or community to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to adverse climate-related events or conditions.
8. **Sustainable Procurement:** The process of acquiring goods and services in a way that minimizes negative environmental impacts and supports ethical practices.
9. **Energy Efficiency:** Using less energy to perform the same task, reducing energy waste, and lowering consumption.
10. **Water Conservation:** Practices and strategies aimed at reducing water usage and preserving water resources.

Objectives

1. **Promote Resource Efficiency:**
 - Reduce water and energy consumption.
 - Encourage responsible use of materials and minimize waste generation.
2. **Implement Green Infrastructure:**
 - Invest in eco-friendly construction and renewable energy technologies.
 - Preserve and enhance green spaces on campus.
3. **Encourage Sustainable Transportation:**
 - Support the use of bicycles, public transit, and carpooling.
 - Provide infrastructure such as bike racks and electric vehicle charging stations.
4. **Integrate Sustainability into Campus Culture:**
 - Raise awareness through campaigns, events, and workshops.
 - Embed sustainability principles in research, teaching, and extracurricular programs.
5. **Support Climate Action:**
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet local and international climate goals.
 - Enhance climate resilience by preparing for extreme weather events.

Key Principles

1. **Environmental Responsibility:** Act in harmony with nature by conserving biodiversity, reducing pollution, and protecting ecosystems.
2. **Community Engagement:** Involve students, faculty, staff, and the community in creating a sustainable campus.
3. **Continuous Improvement:** Regularly assess sustainability practices and innovate to enhance performance.

Strategies for Implementation

1. **Energy Management:**
 - Transition to renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind).
 - Retrofit buildings with energy-efficient systems.
2. **Waste Management:**
 - Implement comprehensive recycling and composting programs.
 - Reduce single-use plastics and adopt reusable alternatives.
3. **Water Conservation:**
 - Install low-flow fixtures and rainwater harvesting systems.
 - Promote water-saving behaviors among campus users.
4. **Sustainable Procurement:**
 - Prioritize suppliers offering environmentally friendly and ethical products.
 - Procure energy-efficient appliances and green-certified materials.

5. **Green Campus Design:**

- Incorporate natural lighting, ventilation, and passive cooling techniques in new buildings.
- Expand tree-planting and urban gardening initiatives.

Monitoring and Compliance

- Conduct periodic audits of campus sustainability practices.
- Establish metrics for tracking progress in energy savings, waste reduction, and carbon footprint.
- Engage students and staff in sustainability reporting.

Consequences for Non-Compliance

1. **Staff and Administration:** Performance reviews and additional training.
2. **Students:** Encouragement to comply through incentives and participation requirements.
3. **Contractors:** Penalties for failing to adhere to sustainable guidelines in projects and services.