

Guiding Principles for FIU Sustainability

Education

Make environmental sustainability, including climate neutrality, an integral part of the curriculum and other educational experiences for all students. All students, faculty, administrators and staff should be provided opportunities to become environmentally literate and responsible.

Teaching and Research

Stimulate and facilitate teaching and research efforts in sustainability-related areas, including the promotion of environmental service-learning; encourage faculty, students, and staff to make the campus community, university operations, and university lands living laboratories for environmental sustainability.

Land and Resource Management

Manage the campus landscape in a sustainable manner to conserve, protect, and restore natural systems, natural resources, and biodiversity while minimizing water use and pollution; integrate human activities into campus natural systems. Preserve and protect campus green space for outdoor ecological research and recreation.

Service, Outreach, and Extension

Facilitate the civic engagement of faculty, students, and staff and stimulate service, outreach, and extension efforts that promote sustainable practices within community and economic development.

Energy and Climate Change

Monitor and minimize energy consumption, reduce and offset greenhouse gas emissions; promote the development and use of renewable energy sources, particularly solar energy in pragmatic and educational ways. These measures should be done in conjunction with FIU's meeting the requirements of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Transportation

Develop incentives and infrastructure that reduce reliance on commuting, particularly with single-occupancy vehicular travel. Promote sustainable transportation options such as walking, cycling, ridesharing and the use of public transportation. Encourage and foster the improvement of the community immediately adjacent to the campus so that more students, staff and faculty reside there.

Water Resource management

Monitor and minimize the use of water in all campus operations. Abide by the recommendations of the South Florida Water Resource Management Agency with regard to water conservation and xeriscaping.

Agriculture and Dining Services

Promote diverse and sustainable agricultural practices that encourage the use of local foods and the protection of farmland and the rural environment; establish food security and support a high standard of nutrition on campus and in the community.



Built Environment

Construct and renovate the built environment to high standards of energy, water, and materials efficiency with minimum impacts on the environment.

Solid Waste Reduction

Emphasize the reduction of solid waste streams and closed-cycle materials practices. Increase participation in FIU's solid recycling program, particularly through educational programs.

Procurement

Subscribe to procurement policies and practices that support environmentally and socially responsible products, services and companies.

Investment

Explore and develop opportunities to engage in socially and environmentally responsible investing.

Health

Ensure a healthy working environment for faculty, students, and staff and work to ensure equitable access to healthcare on campus and within the broader community.

Monitoring

Establish sustainability indicators for monitoring, reporting and improving campus environmental sustainability

Stewardship

Encourage all members of the FIU Community to take responsibility for the interdependent environmental, economic, and social consequences of their actions.