# WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

# PROGRESS REPORT FOR FY 2012

The intent of this report is to clarify and communicate the successes and failures of Weber State University's efforts to become carbon neutral and more sustainable. Though some organizations might utilize a sustainability report to emphasize success and gloss over failures, we believe a frank assessment provides vital insight for moving toward our goals. We will use both absolute and relative metrics to best communicate our current status and progress.

As a signatory to the American College and University President's Climate Commitment, Weber State has committed to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2050. This is an ambitious goal, but given adequate resources for investment in sustainability and energy reduction, coupled with behavioral and attitudinal changes among students, staff and faculty, it is achievable. This report details progress towards that ultimate strategic goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

### **Table of Contents**

Leadership Statement	2
Notable Energy & Sustainability News	3
1. Awards and Recognition	3
2. Student Sustainability Fund Established	4
3. WSU Launches Environmental Ambassadors Program	4
4. WSU Hosts 4th Annual Sustainability Summit	5
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	6
5. Note Regarding Carbon Emissions Calculations	6
6. Carbon Reduction Goals	6
7. Scope 1 Emissions	7
8. Scope 2 Emissions	8
9. Scope 3 Emissions	9
10. Total GHG Emissions	11
11. GHG Emissions Per Building Square Foot	13
12. GHG Emissions Per Person	14
Energy Consumption and Conservation	16
13. University Energy Consumption	16
14. Energy Efficiency Project Status	16
Additional Sustainability Projects & Programs	18
15. Water Conservation Efforts	18
16. Waste Reduction	19
17. Alternative Transportation	22
18. Biodiversity Protection	23
19. New Construction	24
Contact Information	25

### LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

#### Leadership Statement

Weber State is committed to improving the learning environment in every way. One of those ways is by careful investment in long term sustainability programs that represent both sound business practices and decisions, but also sensitivity to and actions to support an improved natural environment. We feel that long term sustainability, improving our natural environment, and sound business decisions are not mutually exclusive, but are instead synergistic in making our university more attractive to students, more cost effective overall, and provide the greatest value overall for our financial and human resource investments. We are in this for the long term.

Kevin P. Hansen Associate Vice President for Facilities & Campus Planning

## NOTABLE ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

#### Notable Energy & Sustainability News

#### AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- For the second year, Princeton Review selected WSU as one of 320 schools in the U.S. and two in Canada "that demonstrate notable commitments to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation." To view WSU's profile in "The Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2013 Edition" please visit princetonreview.com/green-guide.aspx
- Weber State University was officially listed as one of the 2013 96 "cool schools" in the USA, according to Sierra Club Magazine. Hundreds of institutions of higher education were surveyed and ranked according to their measurable sustainability goals and accomplishments. All aspects of the campus dynamic, from academic programs to food services, from landscaping to energy-reduction devices, from administrative commitments to collaborations with public agencies and non-profit organizations, were taken into account. WSU's final ranking was 74th in the Nation. Sierra Club's final rankings can be viewed at: <a href="http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201209/coolschools/complete-rankings-cool-schools.aspx">http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201209/coolschools/complete-rankings-cool-schools.aspx</a>
- The Dee Events Center won the 2012 EPA National Building Competition for the entertainment and culture category. To earn the EPA commendation, the Dee Events Center reduced its energy use by 22.1 percent and prevented 337 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions over the course of the year. This is equivalent to the energy use from 17.3 homes. Additionally, the Dee Events Center was formally recognized for "achieving an energy use reduction of 20 percent or greater." WSU reduced its energy use at the Dee Events Center through a variety of strategies, including:
  - Converting the lighting system for the arena from metal halide to LED. To our knowledge, WSU is the first NCAA arena in the nation to have 100 percent LED lighting.
  - Installing new high-efficiency chillers
  - Updating building controls from an inefficient pneumatic system to modern Direct Digital Control (DDC)
  - Meeting with building occupants and implementing best practices for reducing energy consumption
  - Offering incentives to building occupants for future building upgrades based on building performance

### NOTABLE ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

#### STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY FUND ESTABLISHED

In the spring of 2012 the Student Sustainability Fund was created through a one-time allocation of \$9,000 from the Student Fee Recommendation Committee (SFRC). In the summer of 2012 the Energy & Sustainability Office hired a Student Sustainability Coordinator to implement sustainability projects on campus using the newly established sustainability fund.

The hired Student Sustainability Coordinator, Hannah Rice, realized that there was a great need for bike infrastructure on campus and therefore proposed a plan to install 24 bike racks and 3 bike fix-it stations on the Ogden campus. To increase awareness around the need for waste reduction, Ms. Rice also proposed that the University install 8 water bottle refill stations in various campus buildings. Ms. Rice took the proposal to the WSU Administration and was able to receive the additional funding needed to implement all of these projects. As of this writing, all of the bike racks and fix-it stations have been installed. Installation of the water bottle refill stations will be complete by the end of May 2013.

In January, 2013, Ms. Rice again went before the SFRC to present on the progress made with the one-time \$9,000 allocation and to request base funding for the Student Sustainability Fund. The SFRC agreed to provide the Student Sustainability Fund with \$16,000 in base funding. This money will be used to partially fund the Student Sustainability Coordinator position, training for that position, and additional sustainability projects.

#### WSU LAUNCHES ENVIRONMENTAL AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

In the fall of 2012, WSU's Student Sustainability Coordinator, Hannah Rice, launched the Environmental Ambassadors program. Environmental Ambassadors is a peer-to-peer educational outreach program that promotes environmental stewardship and awareness. The ambassadors this year consisted of approximately ten committed students who worked to spread their knowledge of environmental topics, issues, and resources to other groups and students at WSU.

The "Green Move-In" was the first of many successful events the program hosted this year. Held at University and Wildcat Villages, the Environmental Ambassadors helped set up a new recycling program in housing. They provided temporary recycling bins for movers and collected a large number of cardboard boxes to be recycled. They also went door-to-door passing out information magnets and handouts that identify all of the materials recyclable on campus.

The Environmental Ambassadors also celebrated America Recycles Day in the Shepherd Union with a waste audit and recycling education program. In the spring of 2013 they hosted two competitions: Recyclemania and Campus Conservation Nationals. Recyclemania was a campus-wide competition to increase recycling rates over an eight week period and Campus Conservation Nationals was an energy consumption reduction competition held in Wildcat Village Residence

### NOTABLE ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Hall 1 over a three week period. Results from both competitions were positive but left much room for improvement. It is expected that results next year will be more significant now that the Environmental Ambassadors have gained experience running the competitions for the first time.

#### WSU HOSTS 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

This year's Sustainability Summit proved to be an exciting and successful event with over 360 attendees. Hosted in the Shepherd Union on February 28 and March 1, the conference provided exceptional educational programs, networking, and trade show opportunities for educators; government representatives; sustainability, energy, and solid waste professionals; students; politicians; and interested public.

L. Hunter Lovins kicked off this year's Summit with her keynote address, "The Business Case for Sustainability." Lovins is president and founder of Natural Capitalism Solutions (NCS) (www.natcapsolutions.org). NCS educates senior decision-makers in business, government, and civil society to restore and enhance natural and human capital while increasing prosperity and quality of life.

On February 28th, several sessions were offered on the following topics:

- Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Achieving Carbon Neutrality
- Water Conservation, Quality, and Management
- Recycling and Waste Reduction/Elimination
- Student-geared sessions focusing on green jobs, green building, and more

On March 1, the following professional workshops were offered:

- Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Green Associate Course: This course provided a detailed overview of sustainable planning, design and construction techniques based on the LEED Green Building Rating System.
- Energy & Water Management: An Introduction to Sustainable Business Development: This workshop provided an overview of energy and water waste streams in the workplace as well as the tools to help identify and measure waste and to develop a sustainable business approach.

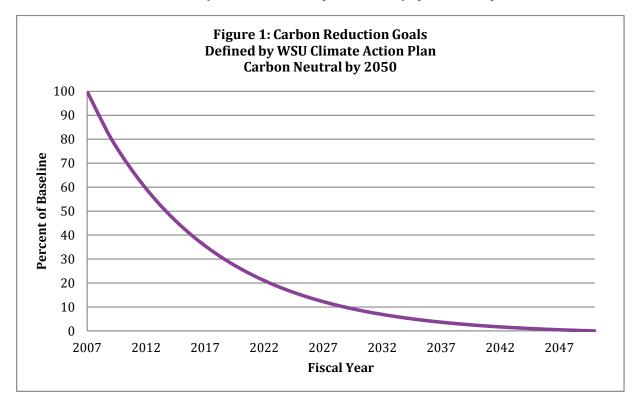
#### Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

#### NOTE REGARDING CARBON EMISSIONS CALCULATIONS

WSU has conducted its past carbon emissions inventories using Clean Air Cool Planet's Campus Excel spreadsheet Carbon Calculator v5.0. In the spring of 2013, Clean Air Cool Planet released a web-based version of the calculator (CarbonMAP). All of WSU's data was transferred over to CarbonMAP this year. Along with converting the calculator from a spreadsheet to a web-based system, Clean Air Cool Planet updated emissions factors used to calculate carbon emissions. Therefore, when comparing historical data in this report to past year's reports there will be some discrepancies. The trends (increases or decreases in emissions) remain the same. For a complete listing of changes to emissions factors please visit: <a href="http://campuscarbonblog.org/">http://campuscarbonblog.org/</a>.

#### CARBON REDUCTION GOALS

The carbon reduction goals currently outlined in Weber State University's Climate Action Plan are ambitious. The long term goal is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 with several intermediate goals in years 2012, 2022, and 2035. WSU's first intermediate carbon reduction goal is to achieve a 40% reduction in emissions (from the baseline year of 2007) by this fiscal year.



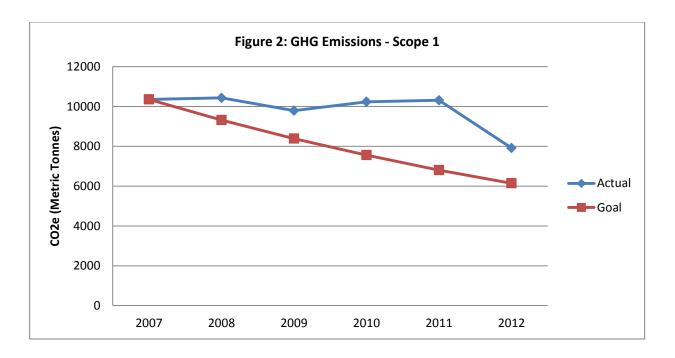
#### **SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS**

Carbon emissions are typically reported in three categories: Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions. Scope 1 emissions are defined as those emissions occurring from sources that are owned or controlled by the institution, including: on-campus stationary combustion of fossil fuels; mobile combustion of fossil fuels by institution owned/controlled vehicles, and "fugitive" emissions. For Weber State University, Scope 1 emissions are derived from the central heat plant which runs on natural gas (diesel during emergencies) and the University fleet which runs on traditional gasoline, diesel and compressed natural gas (CNG).

Emissions associated with fertilizer application have also been added to WSU's Scope 1 footprint this fiscal year. Fertilizer application contributed approximately 15.19 metric tonnes of  $CO_2e$  to WSU's footprint. While fertilizer has been applied to WSU's landscape in years past, the historical data is not available. Emissions data for future applications will be collected now that this data is available.

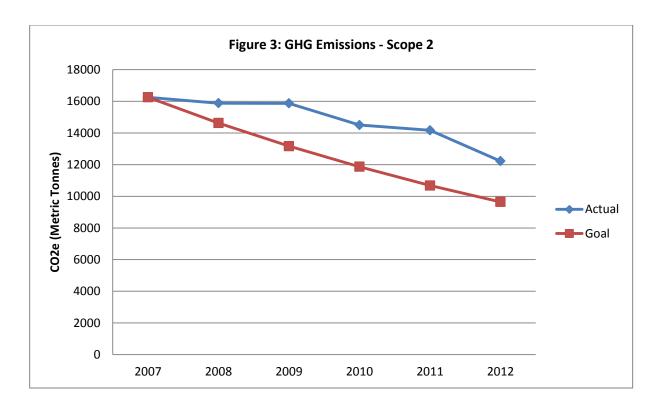
As can be seen from the figure below, WSU's Scope 1 emissions were reduced significantly this fiscal year. During the summer of 2011, the boilers at the University heat plant were shut off so that repairs to the steam distribution system could be made and so that new insulation could be added. Significant natural gas savings were thus realized not only from the energy efficiency upgrades and repairs made, but from shutting off the boilers for several weeks.

While WSU did not achieve the interim target goal of 40% reduction, significant progress has been made. Scope 1 emissions have been reduced by 23.6% from the baseline year of 2007; the equivalent of taking 509 cars off of the road each year.



#### **SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS**

Scope 2 emissions are defined as indirect emissions generated in the production of electricity consumed by the institution. Figure 3 below shows that while WSU did not achieve its 40% emissions reduction goal, Scope 2 emissions have been reduced by 24.8% from the 2007 baseline year. This is equivalent to taking 840 cars off of the road each year. These savings can largely be attributed to campus-wide interior and exterior lighting upgrades. Additional completed energy efficiency projects are noted under the Energy Consumption and Conservation Section of this report.



#### **SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS**

Scope 3 emissions are defined as other indirect emissions that are a consequence of the activities of the institution, but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the institution. Scope 3 emissions include University-related air travel, student, faculty, and staff commuters, and solid waste generation.

For previous years' reports, air travel data was collected by multiplying total WSU flights (obtained from WSU's Purchasing Department) by national average flight miles (see <a href="http://www.bts.gov/press releases/">http://www.bts.gov/press releases/</a>). This fiscal year, WSU's Purchasing Department used WSU purchasing reports to collect destination and mileage data for each flight. Therefore this year's data is more accurate because it is not based upon an estimate of national average flight miles but actual WSU trips.

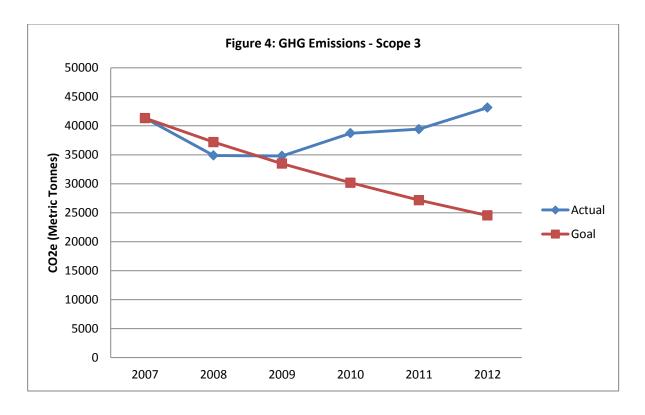
WSU's solid waste generation was obtained from the University's contractor, Waste Management. Emissions associated with solid waste production are significantly higher (for all fiscal years) in this report than previous reports for two reasons. First, in previous years Waste Management had not added in the solid waste produced by the Shepherd Union. This has been corrected not only for this year but all previous years in this report. Second, the emissions factor associated with solid waste has increased drastically based upon new science which indicates that solid waste contributes more to GHG emissions than previously thought.

Commuting emissions data were derived from a survey conducted in the spring of 2011 by the Energy & Sustainability Office (housed in the Facilities Management Department). This survey was sent to a random sample of students, faculty and staff through WSU's Student Voice. Survey participants were asked to report on the mode(s) of transportation used to travel to campus, the distance from their home to campus, and the average number of days per week traveled to campus. If respondents indicated that they traveled to both the Ogden and Davis Campuses, then data for travel to both campuses was collected. Using the survey data, the commuting emissions for students, staff and faculty were calculated. See Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Commuting Emissions** 

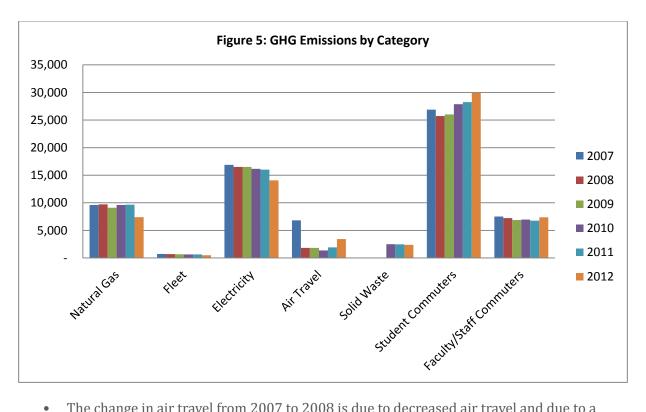
Year	Students	Faculty/Staff
2007	26,903 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes	7,522 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes
2008	25,733 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes	7,242 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes
2009	26,019 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes	6,879 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes
2010	27,867 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes	6,978 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes
2011	28,257 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes	6,760 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes
2012	29,945 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes	7,370 CO <sub>2</sub> e metric tonnes

Scope 3 emissions are depicted in Figure 4. As can be seen from the graph below, Scope 3 emissions have been increasing over the past few years. This can partially be credited to WSU's increasing student, faculty and staff population. However in FY 2012, the increase in emissions is also attributable an increase in University-related airline travel.



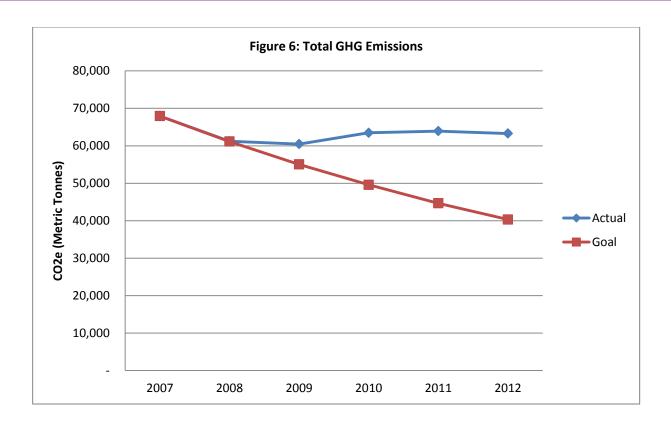
#### **TOTAL GHG EMISSIONS**

Figure 5 compares the primary sources of Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 emissions sources side by side. As can be seen from the chart, student commuting represents the largest source of emissions followed by electricity and natural gas consumption. Emissions associated with faculty and staff commuting (as of this year) is not far below natural gas emissions.



- The change in air travel from 2007 to 2008 is due to decreased air travel and due to a change in how the data is collected
- Solid waste emissions increased in Fiscal Year 2010 not because overall waste generation increased, but because the University decided to send the waste to a new landfill that does not have methane recovery capabilities.

While Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have decreased significantly it is evident from Figure 6 below that increases in Scope 3 emissions are impeding WSU's overall progress. As long as the vast majority of the WSU community chooses to travel to campus in a single-occupancy vehicle, it is given that emissions from University commuters will only increase as the population rises.

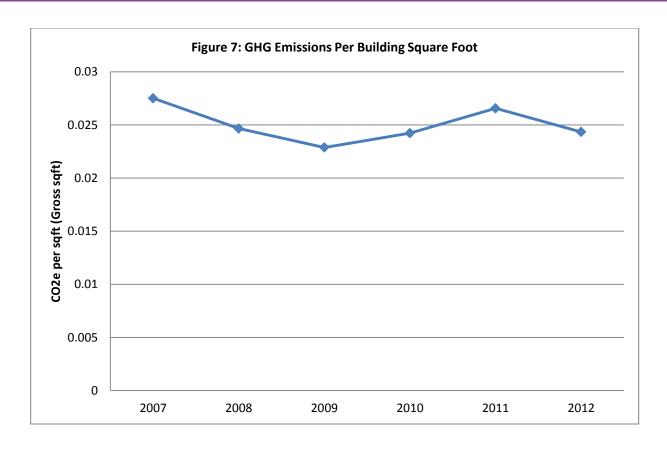


#### GHG EMISSIONS PER BUILDING SQUARE FOOT

As can be seen in Table 2 below, WSU added 193,895 square feet in FY 2012. Figure 7 depicts emissions per square foot and shows a decrease in emissions this past fiscal year. This decrease can partially be attributed to the completion of energy efficiency projects as discussed previously. However, it can also be attributed to the replacement of old buildings with new, more energy efficient, buildings.

Table 2: WSU Gross Building Square Footage by Year

Fiscal Year	Gross Building Square Footage
2007	2,469,079
2008	2,480,723
2009	2,642,600
2010	2,619,259
2011	2,405,678
2012	2,599,573

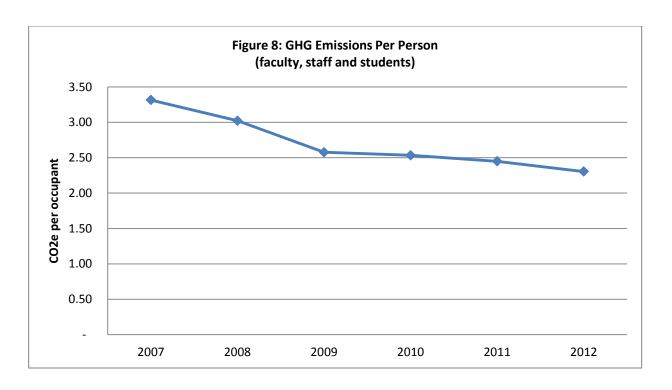


#### **GHG EMISSIONS PER PERSON**

Table 3 and Figure 8 show that while WSU's population again increased in FY 2012, emissions per person decreased.

Table 3: WSU Population by Year

Fiscal Year	Total Students, Faculty, and Staff
2007	20,492
2008	20,246
2009	23,460
2010	25,046
2011	26,099
2012	27,467



### **ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION**

#### **Energy Consumption and Conservation**

Energy consumption (electricity and natural gas) represents a considerable portion of the University's GHG emissions. Energy conservation also represents an opportunity for the University to save significant amounts of money. For these two reasons most of the initial sustainability effort is being expended towards making the University as energy efficient as possible.

#### UNIVERSITY ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Table 4 depicts WSU's electricity and natural gas consumption figures. As discussed previously, WSU saw a significant drop in consumption of both this fiscal year.

Table 4: WSU Energy Consumption

Fiscal Year	Electricity (kwh)	Natural Gas (MMBTU)
2007	38,714,341	174,846
2008	38,927,520	176,545
2009	38,905,072	170,782
2010	38,082,772	180,215
2011	37,717,473	181,921
2012	33,131,629	139,214

Over the past few years, Weber State University has subscribed to the Rocky Mountain Power Blue Sky program which supports renewable energy power production. This past fiscal year, WSU purchased approximately 13% of the University's electrical power from renewable energy resources (wind power) through that program.

#### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT STATUS**

In 2009, AMERESCO (an energy services company) completed an investment grade audit for WSU that identified a number of projects that, once completed, would reduce energy consumption, improve efficiency, or otherwise save natural resources. Construction on these projects (see Table 5 below) began in July 2010. Due to the initiation and completion of some of these projects, WSU realized \$939,575 in utility savings this fiscal year.

WSU has completed construction on additional energy efficiency projects not outlined in Table 5. These projects were completed prior to the 2009 AMERESCO audit and have been mentioned in WSU's previous annual reports.

# **ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION**

Table 5: Energy Conservation/Efficiency Project Status (5/6/2013)

Interior Lighting - Campus Wide	Construction - 45% complete
DEC Chiller Replacement	Complete
	Construction - completed by fall 2013
Steam Powered Condensate Pumps	
Replace DHW Tanks with HX	Construction - completed by fall 2013
Steam Energy Upgrades Phase 1	Complete
Steam Tunnel Support Repair	Funded as part of steam repairs
Replace Piping Insulation on AHUs	Awaiting In-House Labor
Boiler 2 Economizer	Complete
VFDs for Central Plant Cooling Towers	Complete
Convert DX Units to CHW	Canceled
TE Convert Inlet Vanes to VFD	Awaiting In-House Labor
Davis 2 VAV Upgrade and IDEC	Engineering
Recomission Sky Suites, ED, SS	Complete
Domestic Water Conservation	Construction - 10% complete
Solar Water Heating - GYM	Complete
Solar PV Davis – Phase I	Complete
Solar PV Davis – Phase II	Construction – completed by fall 2013
Solar PV Union	Complete
Weatherproofing - SS, LI, SL	Complete
Computer Controls	In Progress
Greenhouse Temperature Controls	Canceled
Swimming Pool Cover	Complete
Electric Meters	Complete
Steam Meters	Construction - completed by fall 2013
Chilled Water Meters	Construction - completed by fall 2013
Irrigation Water Meters	Complete
High Efficiency Transformers	CI - 2 Years Out
HV Switches	Out for Bid
Exterior Lighting	Construction - completed by fall 2013
DEC Power Factor Correction	Complete
Building scheduling and commissioning	Ongoing

### Additional Sustainability Projects & Programs

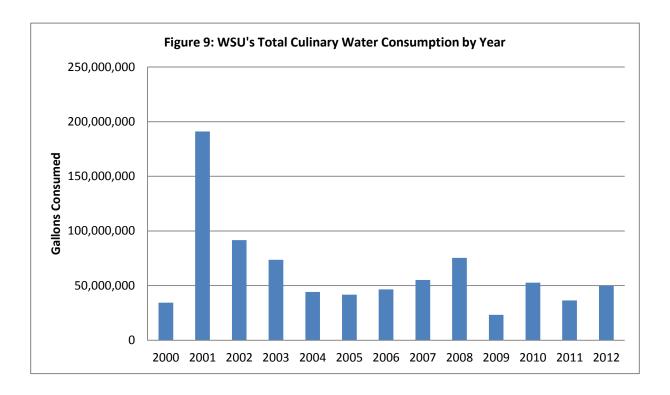
In addition to conserving and reducing the University's energy consumption, Weber State University has worked to reduce water consumption, reduce waste generation, encourage the use of alternative transportation, offset university-related travel, increase biodiversity protection, and incorporate the principles of sustainability into all new construction.

#### WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Figure 9 depicts Weber State University's culinary water consumption over the past 13 years. The spikes in water consumption in years 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2008 are due to water main breaks that occurred in those years. In fiscal year 2010 WSU had a few smaller water main breaks that increased the University's water consumption above what would have been typical consumption. Culinary water consumption did increase in FY 2012 compared to FY 2011. A fire line break is partially responsible for this increase.

To help identify leaks, breaks, and other water line problems more quickly, WSU is currently in the process of installing culinary water sub-meters. This project, which will be completed in November 2013, will allow the University to track water consumption in real-time. Data, in fifteen minute increments, will be publically available from a website.

The University is also working to reduce culinary water consumption by installing low flow toilets, urinals, and faucets in every building. To date, the WSU Stewart Library has been upgraded with low flow fixtures.



#### WASTE REDUCTION

Table 6 provides data on WSU's waste generation. As discussed earlier, previous annual reports did not include waste generated by the Shepherd Union because this data was omitted from Waste Management's reports to the University. This error has been corrected and Table 6 provides the updated numbers for all fiscal years including the Shepherd Union Waste.

As can be seen from Table 6, WSU's waste production numbers have been going down. This is likely due to the recycling program which generated 191 short tons of recycled materials this fiscal year (recycling rate of approximately 20%).

**Table 6: WSU's Waste Generation in Short Tons** 

Year	<b>Short Tons</b>	
2007	845	
2008	834	
2009	833	
2010	807	
2011	799	
2012	769	

Low recycling rates and high recycling contamination rates have been significant challenges for WSU. To help address these issues, the Energy & Sustainability Office implemented a pilot program to increase recycling in the Social Science, McKay Education, and Wattis Business Buildings in the fall of 2012.

The office installed more recycling bins, made sure that a recycling bin was located next to every trash bin, and installed better educational signs above all recycling and trash containers. Custodians also altered their schedules to increase the number of recycling pick-up days and decrease the number of trash pick-up days. Finally, the University's waste hauler, Waste Management, reduced the size of the trash dumpsters serving these buildings and increased the size of the recycling dumpsters.

#### Pilot Recycling and Trash Signs



Custodians in the three buildings have stated that recycling contamination rates are down significantly and that they are collecting more recycling. It is expected that WSU will see a decrease in its waste production and an increase in its recycling rate in the FY 2013 annual report.

In addition to the recycling pilot program, as discussed in the "Notable Energy & Sustainability News" section of this report, WSU's Environmental Ambassadors focused a lot of their education efforts on recycling and waste reduction this year. The Ambassadors hosted a move-in waste reduction day, celebrated America Recycles Day, and organized the Recyclemania competition.

Also this past fiscal year, through a partnership between Facilities Management, the Shepherd Union, and Sodexo, Weber State University has made composting food waste on campus possible. During the summer of 2012, a large composting bin (AKA the Earth Tub) was installed off of the loading dock of the Shepherd Union Building. The Shepherd Union staff purchased the tub, Facilities Management installed it, and Sodexo maintains and manages the composting process. Currently Sodexo is only composting all pre-consumer food waste (i.e. kitchen preparation scraps). However, in the future, post-consumer food scraps (i.e. dining waste) will be composted as well. The final compost product has been used on WSU's grounds by the landscaping department.





In addition to the above, WSU been reducing waste production through the following on-going programs:

- a. Green waste composting: Landscape purchased a chipper in Fall 2009 and is using it to mulch and recycle green waste on both campuses. This has resulted in approximately a 12% waste reduction.
- b. Property Control recycling and salvage:
  - i. Materials processed through property control are made available to other departments or sold to the community. Sending items to the landfill is the last option.
  - ii. Electronics Recycling Electronics are recycled as funds permit. Last year, WSU recycled 200 desktop computers and 150 CRT monitors.

#### **ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION**

As discussed previously, bike infrastructure on the Ogden campus was greatly increased this year with the installation of 24 new bike racks and 3 bike fix-it stations. The Environmental Ambassadors hosted a Bike Festival on campus in April 2013 to celebrate the installation of the new bike racks and to provide a demonstration on how to use the fix-it stations.

New bike racks and fix-it station installed on the west side of Elizabeth Hall



In addition to bike infrastructure, WSU launched the U-Haul Car Share program in the fall of 2012. WSU currently has two cars available to rent by the hour. One is located in the paid parking lot at the Shepherd Union building and another is located in front of the community center at the University Village housing complex.

In the commuter survey conducted by the Energy & Sustainability Office several respondents noted that they would be more willing to take public transit if they had a car available to them during the day to run errands or deal with potential emergencies. The U-Haul Car Share program addresses these concerns and also provides on-campus housing residents with the option of not owning a car. Instead students can choose to just borrow a car only when they really need one. Rental rates and additional information can be found at:

http://www.weber.edu/parking/CarSharing.html

Previous year's accomplishments with regard to alternative transit promotion include the following:

• Via a partnership between WSU and Questar, construction on a new compressed natural gas (CNG) station was completed in February 2012. Compressed natural gas is a cleaner burning fossil fuel that is currently much cheaper than traditional gas. The new station lies just to the

west of University Village on Old Post Road. The shuttle bus fleet currently runs on CNG and new campus vehicle purchases are required to be at least a hybrid of CNG/gas. In addition to filling the shuttles, the station fills another important need, proximal and economical alternative fueling for the public traveling along the I-15 / 89 corridors. The self-serve station is open to the public.

#### New CNG station on Old Post Road



- In 2006, WSU prepared and published the University Transportation Master Plan that emphasizes mass transit, pedestrian movement, bicycles, and carpooling to reduce single occupancy vehicle movements. Initiatives identified in this plan are for the most part complete or are being vigorously pursued.
- WSU participates in the Ed Pass program with UTA, with ridership gradually increasing each
  year. This program now includes UTA busses, the Frontrunner light rail system, and the TRAX
  system in Salt Lake City. University personnel with the Ed Pass card can ride on all of these
  systems at no charge.
- The University converted its shuttle bus fleet to natural gas powered vehicles and reduced the length of shuttle bus routes to save fuel.

#### **BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION**

For the second year in a row, the Arbor Day Foundation has named Weber State University a 2012 Tree Campus USA for its commitment to effective community forestry management. WSU achieved the designation by meeting the required five core standards for sustainable campus forestry: a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects

#### Arbor Day 2013 Celebration



#### **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

- The Hurst Center for Lifelong Learning received LEED silver certification and meets state high performance building energy efficiency standards.
- Elizabeth Hall, the new humanities building, was built to LEED silver certification standards and Utah's high performance building energy standards.
- A new residential housing complex has been designed and 2 of the 3 buildings have been completed and are occupied. The new residence halls will be LEED silver certified and have been designed to be much more energy efficient and sustainable, including the use of water source heat pumps, solar hot water heating, and state of the art control and energy management systems. Construction on the third residence hall will be completed in the summer of 2013.

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **Contact Information**

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have! Additional information can be found at: <a href="https://www.weber.edu/sustainability">www.weber.edu/sustainability</a>

# JENNIFER BODINE SUSTAINABILITY SPECIALIST



Tel 801-626-6421 jenniferbodine@weber.edu

# JACOB CAIN ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER



Tel 801-626-6311 jacobcain@weber.edu