

SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER



SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY

Facilities & Services
Sustainability



[Call for Sustainability Information](#)

Are you working on a sustainability-related project? Have you integrated sustainability into your club...your academic department...your classes? Have you hosted a sustainability-related event? If so, we want to know!

Each year, SDSU collects information for the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) report, which is a benchmarking program through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). As a renowned tool, STARS is used by hundreds of institutions across the world and allows universities to assess what sustainability efforts they have as well as areas where they can improve.

Sustainability includes environmental health, social well-being, and economic viability. Information is currently being collected for fiscal year 2021/academic year 2020-2021. All information can be emailed to the SDSU Sustainability Specialist, Jennifer McLaughlin.



SDSU Competes in Race to Zero Waste

SDSU is currently competing in the Campus Race to Zero Waste Competition! Our focus at SDSU, during the 8-week competition and beyond, is to educate and inspire Jackrabbit Nation to incorporate sustainability into to all our daily actions. Our actions contribute to roughly 30 tons of trash a week at SDSU.

Striving for less waste starts with #1 reducing: such as opting out of a plastic bag at the store or making coffee at home twice a week instead of buying at a coffee shop. #2 reusing: such as thrifting for clothes or buying refurbished electronics, often at a much lower price. #3 recycling: SDSU recycles a variety of items including aluminum cans, plastics (#1-7), paper, and cardboard.

Upcoming Sustainability Events



- **SDSU Sustainability Tour**

- **Date/Time:** Feb 15th @ 3 p.m. (**TODAY!**)
- **Location:** Meet at American Indian Student Center Conference Room.
- **Description:** Discipline specific experts will lead a guided tour of sustainability features on the SDSU campus. During the tour you'll hear the buzz about pollinator plant efforts, walk through a sustainable certified building, view one of SDSU's 5 solar arrays, learn how the American Indian Student Center connects to sustainability, and tour the growing Local Foods Education Center! All are welcome.
- Sustainability Fair on Earth Day – April 22, 2022
 - Stay tuned for more details!
- Don't Dump! Donate! – end of semester
 - Keep reusable material out of the landfill by donating items to local nonprofits.
 - Stay tuned for more details!

Sustainability Tidbits



Sustainability Club

Food Recovery Network Club

Are you interested in joining the student-led Sustainability Club? Contact **Bidhi** for more information!



Student E-Waste Recycling

Briggs Library is launching an e-waste recycling program! SDSU students are welcome to bring their unwanted computers, laptops, monitors, and cellphones to the library front desk. The devices will be taken to local businesses for recycling. Students should set their phones back to factory settings before recycling. For questions, please contact **Emmeline Weber**.

Food Recovery Network (FRN), is a nonprofit organization, primarily comprised of students, that aims to reduce food waste on campuses across the US. Universities partner with agencies that accumulate excess food in their operations and FRN volunteers transport it to food pantries. Last semester alone, South Dakota State University's chapter of FRN donated just over 150 pounds of food provided by Aramark Catering to Jack's Cupboard, the on-campus food pantry. Join now to combat efforts against food waste and contribute to a more sustainable food system!

To learn more about involvement or to join Food Recovery Network, contact **Olivia**.