



CSUDH Annual Sustainability Report

FY 2023-2024 *July 1 - June 31*

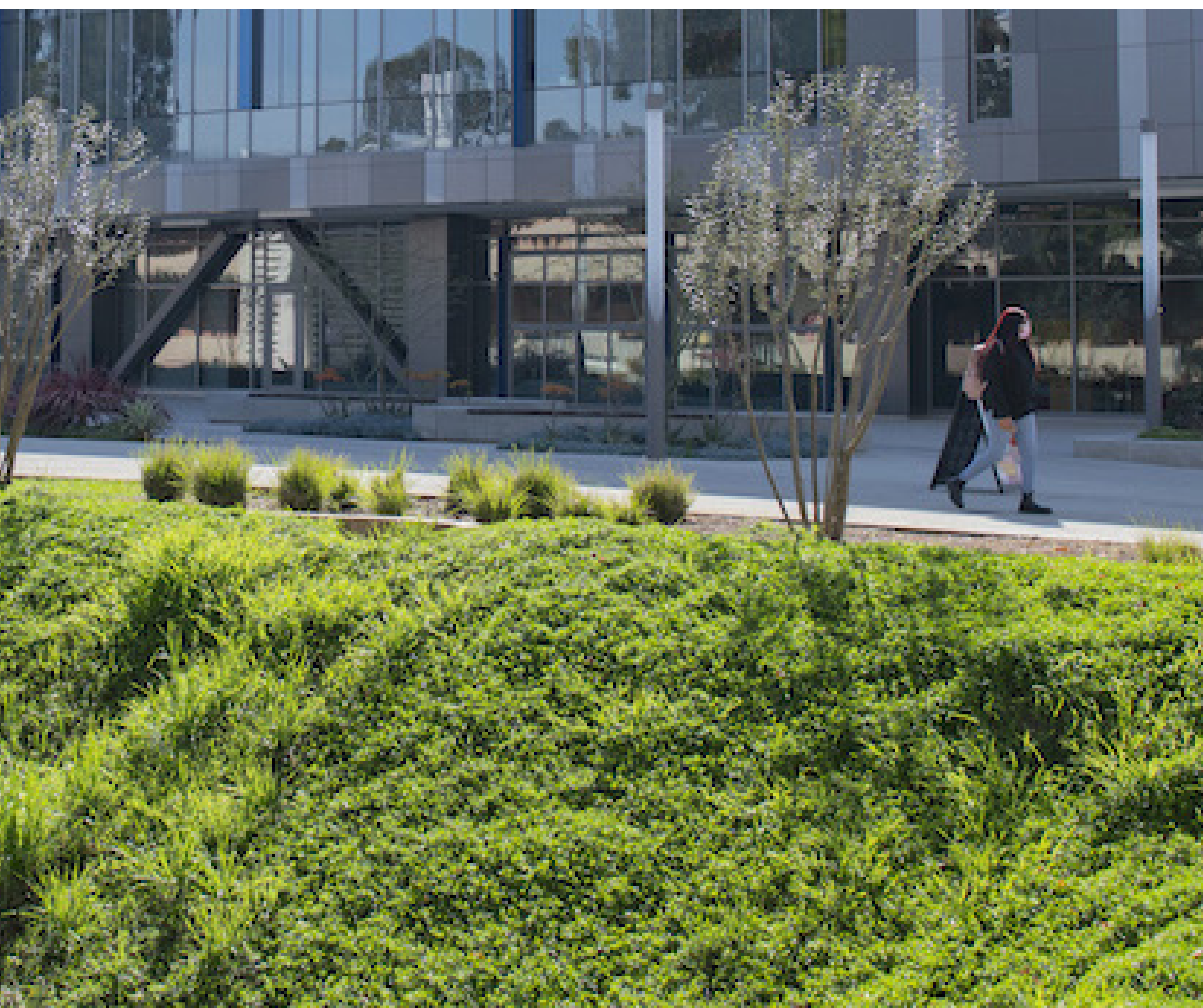


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1. Executive Summary

Campus Sustainability Highlights:

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) made several important strides towards supporting sustainability on campus. A few prominent accomplishments include:

Awards/Accomplishments:

- **West Basin Board Recognition Award:**
 - Honored with the One Water Award for an innovative water condensate recapture project in Central Plant.
- **AASHE Sustainable Campus Index Ranking:**
 - Achieved 4th place nationally for Investment-Finance practices in the October 2023 rankings.
- **CHEC Best Practice Award:**
 - Received the CSU Focus on Efficiency Award for the Clean Energy Optimization Pilot at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference (November 2023).
- **Tree Campus Higher Education**
 - Renewed national recognition from the Arbor Day Foundation for exemplary campus forestry efforts in 2023.
- **Campus Urban Farm Milestone:**
 - Achieved a record harvest of produce and added livestock (chickens), increasing the Farm's role in campus food security significantly.
- **Mandatory Zero Waste Training:**
 - Successfully implemented a mandatory virtual zero waste training for staff and faculty to foster waste reduction.

Projects:

- **Alternative Transportation:**
 - Formed an Alternative Transportation Committee with co-chairs and charter members as a sub-committee under the University Sustainability Committee, in alignment with CSU Transportation Policy.
 - Expanded access to sustainable transportation options by launching a staff vanpool program in partnership with Enterprise Rideshare, awarded funding for a free bike rental program for launch in Fall 2024.
 - Conducted first-ever student-focused transportation survey in Fall 2023 to capture student commuting behaviors in addition to that of employees.
- **Center for Sustainability & Environment:**
 - Center was officially approved in June 2024 as an institutional-level academic center to further support campus sustainability efforts.
- **Master Landscape Plan:**
 - Collected feedback from 1,300 Toros to inform a completed Landscape Master Plan with strategic goals to enhance campus physical and social infrastructure, prioritizing tree cover and sustainable landscaping practices.
- **Engagement:**
 - Reached a record of 5,005 participants through sustainability events and programming, including:
 - Weekly Farmers Market activities, Major initiatives such as Sustainability Month (October), Race to Reduce Month (March), and the Earth Day Festival (April 23, 2024).



2. Sustainability Staffing & Institutionalization

Sustainability Institutionalization

Sustainability Staffing:

- During the 2023-24 fiscal year, the Office of Sustainability was supported by four full-time staff members: the Sustainability Director, the Sustainability Coordinator, the Zero Waste Coordinator, and a full-time AmeriCorps VISTA member.
- In September 2023, the Sustainability Manager was promoted to Director, and a new full-time Sustainability Coordinator was hired to build on the team.

Building Student & Employee Leadership/Involvement in Sustainability:

Goal: Create avenues for students and employees to engage with sustainability activities in a non-formal employment capacity and develop independent leadership in sustainability initiatives.

- In the 2023-24 academic year, the Office of Sustainability worked with a total of four paid part-time student interns, and three College Corps fellows, to continue facilitating engagement opportunities through the Farmers Market, develop campus-wide sustainability marketing, direct support in zero waste projects, and advance the operation of weekly Sustainability Club activities.
- In February 2024, the Office of Sustainability launched the third cohort for the Sustainability Star Program designed to engage faculty and staff in sustainability leadership. Seven staff and faculty members from various departments successfully completed the certification, including attendance at all four training workshops and exercises. The four workshops educated the participants on deeper-level concepts around consumerism (local-to-global), zero waste, water conservation and urban farming/sustainable food production systems.
- **Toro Green Initiative Funds:** To engage students further, the Office of Sustainability allocates \$5,000 from its budget each year to encourage students to submit implementable sustainability ideas for the campus. This year, with the Office of Sustainability's promotion and support, four students were awarded project funds to implement their ideas, including: capturing more rainwater on campus for water conservation with water barrels, a free bike rental program, a zero-waste donation bin (accepting clothing, shoes, and office supplies), and additional micromobility infrastructure on campus, such as added bike racks and skateboard racks.

- The University Sustainability Committee, along with its two officially established sub-committees—the Alternative Transportation Committee and the Sustainable Landscape Committee—held monthly meetings throughout the 2023-24 academic year. This committee is responsible for formally representing the university in developing campus-wide recommendations to further the principle that “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (UN World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). The committee's annual recommendations were submitted to Presidential Cabinet in time for the new fiscal year, prior to July 1, 2024.

▫ The recommendations were as follows:

- Promote the enhanced annual commuter survey to improve data collection on campus commuter behavior.
- Updating the Bike Policy to a Micromobility Policy to better manage and support micromobility devices on campus.
- Approving the adoption of the new Master Landscape Plan draft
- Evaluating the implementation of a paperless policy



Student Michelle Gonzales after implementing her TGIF idea to conserve water with rain barrels.

3. Utilities & Services

Utilities include energy, water, and trash/recycling services. Annual consumption is reported for the 2023 fiscal year (unless otherwise stated) below.

Energy:

Net Zero Energy & Carbon Neutrality

Goal: Improve the energy efficiency of campus facilities and increase renewable energy generation with the goal of achieving a net zero energy bill and scope 1-3 carbon neutrality for the campus by 2045.

Progress:

- In support of the President's Climate Commitment signed by President Parham in March 2021, which formally pledges CSUDH to net carbon neutrality for scopes 1-3 by 2045, the Office of Sustainability prepares an annual greenhouse gas inventory for the campus for each fiscal year and has been doing so since 2019. Additionally, the supporting draft Climate Action Plan was approved and finalized by Executive Cabinet in August, 2022.
- The campus maintained normal operations throughout the 2023-24 FY. For the 2023 fiscal year:
 - Scope 1 emissions were 1,462.00 tons.
 - Scope 2 emissions were 3,608.75 tons.
 - Scope 3 emissions were 10,156.92 tons.
- *Energy Utility Consumption*
 - Electricity consumption for the 2023 fiscal year was 15,930,053 kWh.
 - Of this consumption, the amount of electricity provided by rooftop solar was 1,818,728 kWh.
 - Natural gas consumption for the 2023 fiscal year was 247,597 therms.



Figure 1 - CSUDH has been a signatory of the Carbon Commitment to carbon neutrality and member of the national Climate Leadership Network since March 2021.

2023-2024 FY Initiatives

- In year three of participation in Southern California Edison's Clean Energy Optimization pilot, CSUDH once again was the top performer, saving more than 40,000 metric tons since beginning the pilot in 2019. The campus has cut its behind-the-meter greenhouse gas emissions by 54% since it began participating in the program.
- The campus went live with almost 1MW (985 kW) of rooftop solar on five buildings (Welch Hall, SBS, Library, NCSI, and the Gym) via a power purchase agreement (PPA) last FY 22-23. Since then, these panels now allow the campus to get around 1/3 of its peak daily energy from on-site, renewable sources. Two buildings are now carbon negative on average, putting more energy back into the campus grid than they consume. 1,818,728 kWh in solar energy was provided during the 2023-24 FY.

Central Plant continued to be pro-active about saving energy, implementing continued measures to:

- Improve campus HVAC and lighting schedules to match occupancy levels.
- Holistically improve the energy efficiency of campus buildings, supporting ongoing rollouts of LED lighting and smart lighting controls as well as converted from pneumatic to DDC HVAC controls for greater energy efficiency throughout campus buildings.
- Upgrades of Central Plant assets to ensure more efficient delivery of heating and cooling to campus buildings.

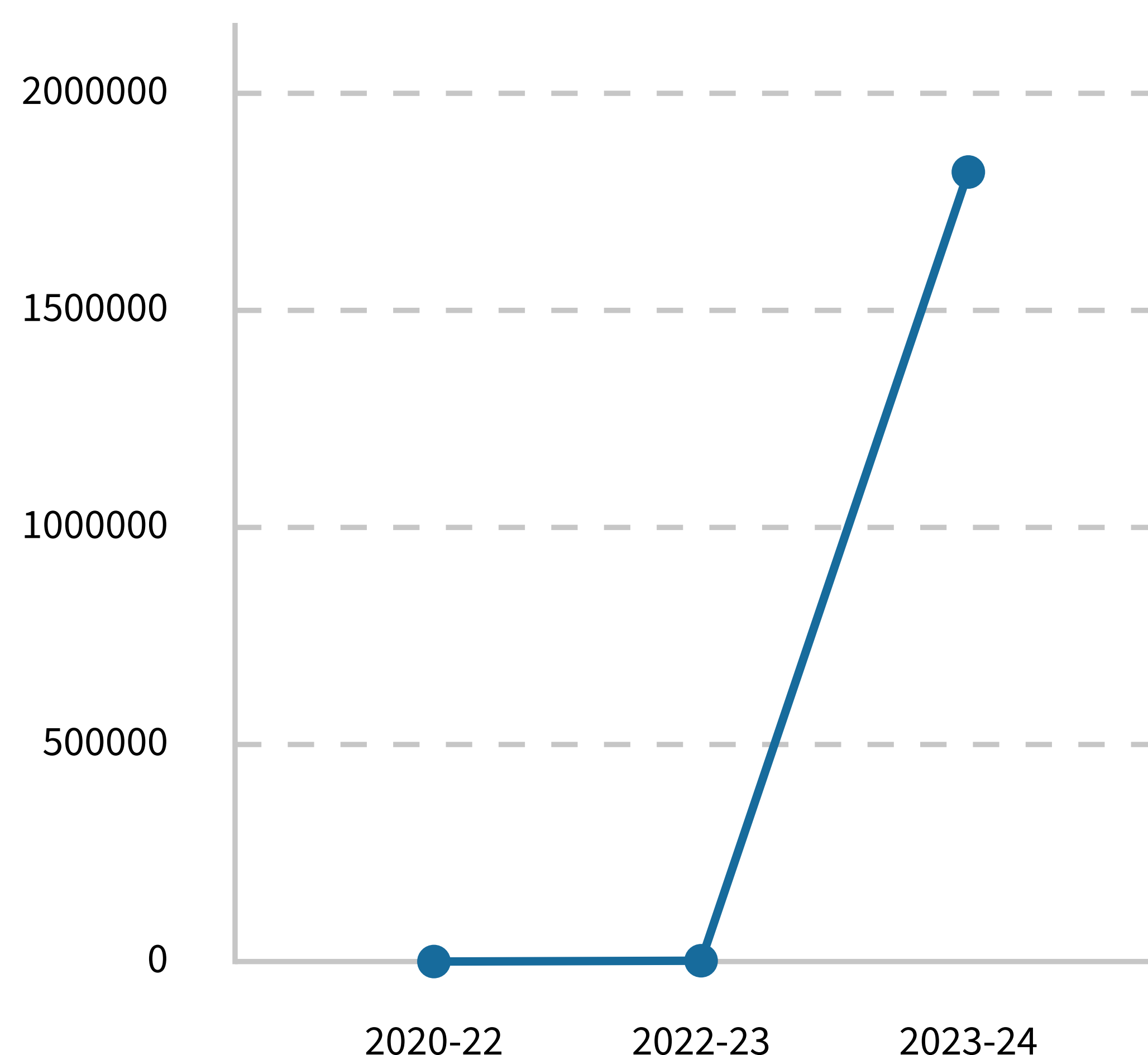


Figure 2 - kWh used from solar energy since beginning of implementation 2022.

Waste Management:

Zero Waste

Goal: Striving for the highest possible diversion rate to non-landfill sources with the goal of becoming a zero-waste campus (90%+ landfill diversion rate) before 2045. Reducing waste volume overall by integrating source reduction approaches into campus.

Progress:

- In FY 2023-24, our campus sent 754.52 tons of waste to the landfill, as reported in the campus' 2023 CalRecycle submission. This marks a significant reduction of 64.48 tons compared to the previous year's total of 819 tons. This improvement is attributed to enhanced zero-waste programming, outreach efforts, and educational initiatives.

Zero Waste Programming:

- The Office of Sustainability installed Dyvert lids, a transparent container displaying appropriate waste items for each receptacle that hang on the outside of the receptacle, in SBS and LaCorte Hall, helping users better understand and sort waste into the correct bins for recycling, composting, or landfill.
- The Office of Sustainability collaborated with Aramark to eliminate single-use plastics across campus dining, including utensils, furthering the commitment to reach the net zero waste goal on campus.

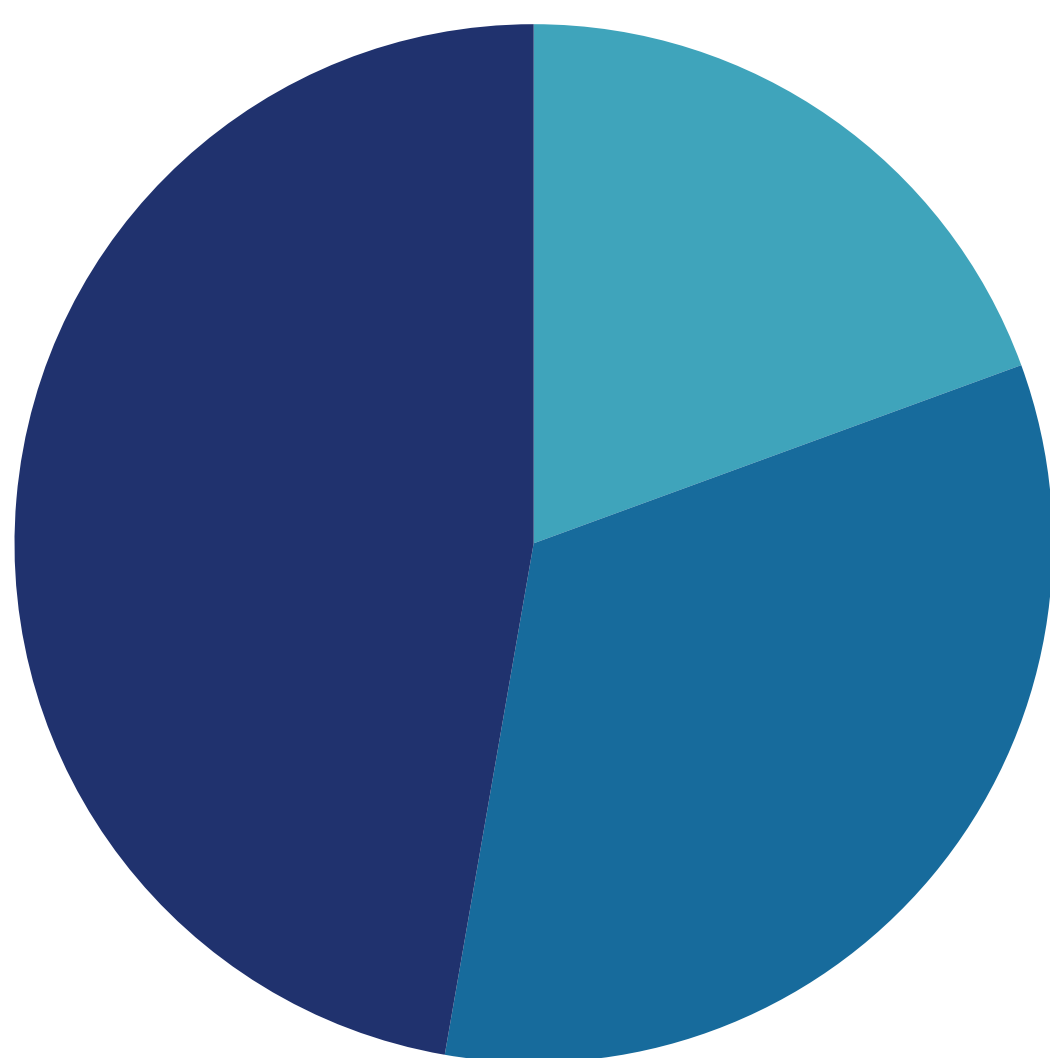


Figure 3 - FY 2023-24 division between the different waste sources of materials

Compost (310.11) Recycle (531.9)
Landfill (754.52)

2023-24 FY Initiatives:

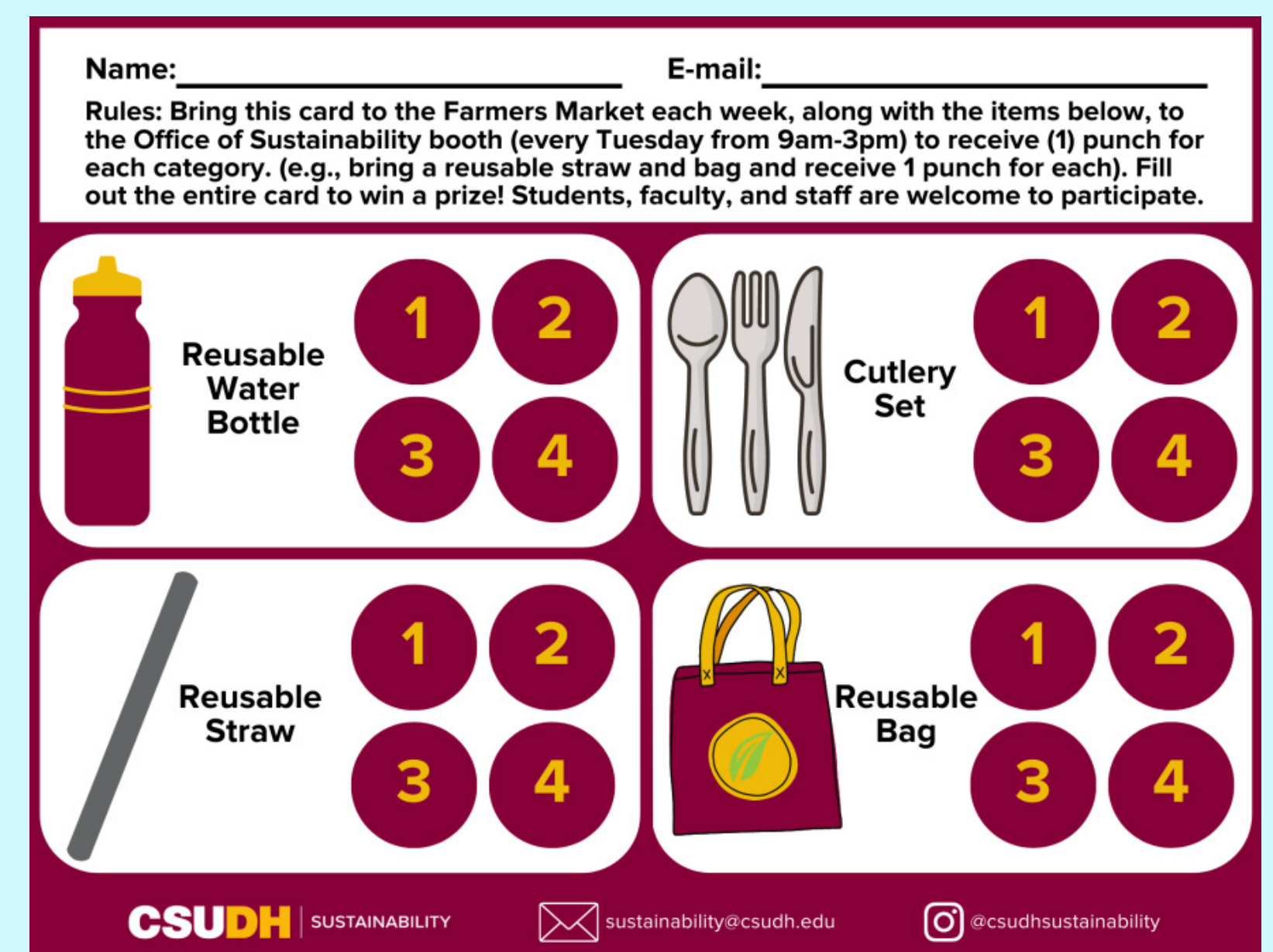
- In Spring 2024, a zero-waste informational video was officially incorporated as mandatory training via CSU Learn for all employees. This integration ensures that all employees gain a clear understanding of the zero-waste station system and receive essential guidance on proper waste sorting.
- The monthly Pop-Up Thrift event at the Farmers Market accepted donations of used clothing, office supplies, and household items and redistributed 711.71 lbs of these items back to the Toro community, diverting them from the landfill and fostering a culture of reuse and sustainability on campus.
- A punch card program was launched at the Farmers Market to reward sustainable habits. Participants earned stamps by bringing reusable items, with completed punch cards entering a drawing to win a Rocketbook, a reusable, paperless notebook.
- "Terry the Trash Bin," a vibrant zero-waste mascot, was introduced on Instagram as part of March's Race to Reduce campaign. Terry made appearances across campus, inviting students to dispose of items they were unsure about. Through engaging Instagram reels, Terry provided clear guidance on proper waste sorting, making sustainability fun and interactive.
- May 2024's Commencement ceremonies marked a milestone as the first ever to include the Office of Sustainability and go entirely plastic bottle-free. The Office of Sustainability provided reusable aluminum cups on-site, which were collected after use and handed over to Aramark for cleaning and reuse. This achievement was made possible through a successful collaboration between the Office of Sustainability, Events & Ceremonies, and Aramark.



Office of Sustainability Mascot: Terry, the Trash Bin



Dyvert interior lids with demonstration items to "what goes where?"



Zero Waste Punch Card Program

Water:

Net Zero Water

Goal: Achieve a 10% reduction in water consumption from a 2019-20 FY baseline for potable and a 10 year average (2013-2022 FY) for reclaimed by 2030 for both potable and reclaimed water usage.

See the full CSUDH Water Action Plan for more information here:

<https://www.csudh.edu/sustainability/campus-initiatives/water-management/>

• Progress:

- Potable (indoor) water consumption was 10,286 CCF consumed during the 2023 calendar year. Per the CSUDH Water Action Plan, this combined consumption still meets the overall reduction goal of 11,702 CCF.

	Target:	Actual:	Target Achieved?
Annual CCF Potable	11,702	10,286	Yes
Gallons/Weighted Campus User	754.97	767.91	No
Gallons/GSF	6.51	5.72	Yes

• Reclaimed Water Usage:

- Potable water on campus is mostly used for indoor applications, with the exception of landscaping in Housing and parts of Parking Lot 7 while reclaimed water is used exclusively for outdoor irrigation. Performance targets vs. actual consumption performance for reclaimed water in the 2023-24 fiscal year is included below:

	Target	Actual	Target Achieved?
Gallons/Acre (Reclaimed)	882,419	723,446	Yes
MAWA (Water Budget) Achieved? (CCF)	67,892	50,206	Yes

Sustainable Landscaping:

The Sustainable Landscape Committee continued to meet regularly during the 2023-24 FY to provide guidance and support for sustainable landscaping on campus.

In recognition of the Sustainable Landscape Committee's comprehensive and coordinated approach to tree management, the Arbor Day Foundation once again awarded CSUDH national Tree Campus USA recognition for its 2023 calendar year activities.

Over the course of the 2023 calendar year, 42 new trees were planted on campus. This included the planting of one new fruit tree in front of the Campus Urban Farm as part of a tree celebration event held during October Sustainability Month.

Landscape Master Plan: In Fall 2023, Spurlock Landscape Architects was contracted to develop a new Landscape Master Plan which had not been updated since the university's initial founding. The Office of Sustainability supported Spurlock's outreach efforts, hosting them at the ASI Board Meeting and Academic Senate Meeting, organizing multiple outreach/tabling events, and facilitating several survey outreach initiatives and virtual information sessions which gathered feedback from 1,300 Toros to help inform the plan. The plan was successfully completed, reviewed by the Sustainability Committee, and is available for reading [here](#).



Fruit tree planted outside the Campus Urban Farm, with help from Environmental Studies Students.

Transportation:

Carbon Neutrality

As a commuter campus, CSUDH continues to make efforts to reduce the environmental impact of transportation by CSUDH students, staff, faculty, and visitors.

Goal: In alignment with the university's Climate Action Plan and the system wide CSU Transportation Policy, the goal is to achieve Scope 3 carbon neutrality related to commuting by 2045.

Alternative Transportation Committee:

In November 2023, the Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with the Parking Office, launched the Alternative Transportation Committee as a sub-committee to the University Sustainability Committee. This committee met monthly during the start-up period of FY 2023-24, and provided a strategic platform for implementing initiatives focused on reducing transportation-related emissions and promoting sustainable commuting options. Through the committee's recommendations and collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, several initiatives have been successfully implemented and planned.

Projects and Initiatives:

- **Micromobility** (Bikes, E-bikes, Scooters, Skateboards, etc.):
 - One of the main priorities of the Alternative Transportation Committee has been to initiate an update to the existing Bike Policy to be more inclusive of all micromobility devices, such as e-bikes, bikes, skateboards and scooters. etc. Plans for the FY 2024-2025 were strategized and include a demonstration of a micromobility riding zone for the campus community, along with a survey to gather feedback on the feasibility and interest in such zones.
 - As part of the Toro Green Initiative Fund (TGIF), the University Sustainability Committee voted to fund a free bike rental program, which is set to launch in Fall 2024.
 - New bike and skateboard racks have been installed around campus as another TGIF funded project, further enhancing the infrastructure to support micromobility.
- **Public Transit**
 - The Office of Sustainability has been actively involved in meetings with the Parking Office and Metro to improve transit services for the campus. Notable achievements include planning and negotiating a U-Pass agreement for students, which will offer a 50% discount on fares across 13 LA transit agencies with ride-based chargers (not annual bus passes). Scheduled to launch Spring 2025.
 - The lack of seating at campus bus stations, particularly on E. Victoria Street, was addressed by adding improved bench seating. In collaboration with Bluebolt, a vendor providing benches with solar-powered charging stations for electronic devices, two new benches were installed free of charge to the campus, making public transit more appealing and convenient for students, staff, and visitors.



Bluebolt Solar-Paneled Bus Benches



New Skateboard Rack outside the LSU building.

- **Pedestrian Mobility:**

- The Office of Sustainability introduced additional signage along the campus walking trail to enhance pedestrian mobility and improve navigation around campus.
- High level long-term planning discussions with Capital Planning are focusing on expanding pedestrian paths across campus to further improve connectivity and walkability before the LA Olympics 2028, which partly will be happening on campus grounds.

- **Ridesharing:**

- The launch of the Enterprise Vanpool program during Spring 2024 for staff is another significant initiative. This program is now available to all full-time staff and offers discounted van rentals for carpooling, encouraging shared transportation options and reducing single-occupancy vehicle use.

- **Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure:**

- The Edison ChargeReady Electric Vehicle Program has been significantly expanded from the original plan of 100 added EV chargers to 200 EV chargers in Lot 3. This program, set to begin in Fall 2025, will provide greater access to EV charging stations across campus, supporting the shift towards sustainable transportation options.

- **Data Collection and Commuter Surveys:**

- The Office of Sustainability is working with internal stakeholders to plan and strategize improved commuter surveys and better collect data on campus commuting behaviors. This data will help inform future transportation planning and enhance the university's ability to promote sustainable travel choices. The new survey is set to be launched in Fall 2024.

- **Long-Term Infrastructure Planning:**

- **Mobility for All Hub:**

- During FY 23-24, CSUDH started discussions with Metro, the City of Carson, third-party consultants like Michael Baker, and the CSUDH Offices of Facilities Planning Design & Construction and Parking to improve low to net-zero-emission mobility infrastructure on campus. This includes collaborative planning around the "Mobility for All" Hub being designed to integrate infrastructure such as micromobility EV chargers, additional bike rentals, scooters, and enhanced pedestrian routes. This collaborative effort aims to make alternative transportation more accessible and promote a holistic, sustainable approach to campus mobility.

- **Transit Hub:**

As part of the campus's long-term transportation planning, conversations in FY 23-24 started with the City of Carson about establishing a large transit hub along E. Victoria Street to improve bus connections and make it easier for buses to connect at the front of campus. This project by the City of Carson will aim to encourage improved and increased connections between various transit agencies and further support the use of public transportation.



Procurement & Sustainable Food

As a campus with significant purchasing power, CSUDH holds substantial influence over the environmental impact of the products it buys. By prioritizing suppliers and vendors who incorporate waste reduction, recycled materials, and other sustainable practices, the university can drive broader sustainability efforts. Additionally, the campus has both an economic and environmental responsibility to promote the reuse of materials and the incorporation of recycled content in its purchases. With food production, distribution, and disposal having a considerable environmental footprint, integrating these factors into campus sustainability planning is essential. In the 2023-24 fiscal year, the campus pursued the following initiatives to reduce its environmental impact:

- **Procurement Scoring Measures:**

- Developed and implemented procurement criteria that prioritize sustainability, including waste reduction, recycled materials, and environmentally responsible manufacturing practices. These measures are integrated into the university's purchasing decisions, ensuring that vendors align with campus sustainability goals. Additionally, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) evaluation criteria were incorporated to further support responsible and inclusive purchasing practices by CSUDH vendors.

- **Weekly Farmers Market:**

- The campus hosted a weekly Farmers Market featuring several vendors who met sustainability criteria, such as offering local farm produce, supporting small local businesses, and promoting circular economy practices. This initiative supported the local economy while reducing the carbon footprint of food transportation by offering the opportunity for students, staff, faculty and local residents to engage with sustainable food sources and practices from local farmers and small-business owners.
- EBT Sign-Ups: Efforts were made to encourage EBT participation at the Farmers Market, ensuring accessibility to affordable, locally sourced food. Collaboration with Toro CARE ensured the CalFresh program was present every week to facilitate outreach and increase sign-ups.

- **Aramark Data and Food Recovery Programs:**

- The campus worked with Aramark to track and report data on food purchasing and implement food recovery programs and zero-waste policies to reduce food and plastic waste in the dining hall. This includes:
 - Single-Use Plastic Initiatives: Reduced reliance on single-use plastics in food service operations by promoting sustainable packaging and reusable alternatives, such as the Toro Token reusable food container program, resulting in the transition of all single-use plastic items to either biodegradable or recyclable materials, from bags to utensils.
 - Food Recovery: The Office of Sustainability introduced a partnership with Aramark and Toro Care to establish food recovery initiatives that directed surplus food to support basic needs programs, such as Teddy's Food Pantry, ensuring that edible food is redistributed to students in need rather than being discarded.



CSUDH Farmers Market vendors

4. Academics / Green Workforce Development

Courses:

Integrating sustainability principles into the curriculum and supporting sustainability-focused courses are essential to ensuring that students graduate with a deep understanding of their role as global citizens and their impact on the world.

Goal: Host at least one event per semester focused on engaging faculty members in supporting the integration of sustainability into curriculum.

Office of Sustainability Academic Infusion Initiatives:

- Throughout the academic year, the Office of Sustainability worked closely with several faculty members to integrate sustainability principles and projects into their coursework. These efforts included guest presentations, workshops, seminars, sustainability tours for classes, and arranging hands-on sustainability activities for students as part of class projects. See table below:

Description:	Date:	Students:	Class Code:
Farm Tour : Explored best practices in urban farming and participated in hands-on demonstrations.	8/10/2023	23	PHI 101
Zero Waste Presentation: Presented insights on zero waste practices, emphasizing sustainability in daily life.	9/28/2023	16	IDS 310
University Life: Introduced campus services and resources provided by the Office of Sustainability.	10/2/2023	15	GEO 100
Native Seed Bomb Workshop: Shared information on California native seeds, their ecological importance, and demonstrated how to create seed bombs.	11/9/2023	27	IDS 210
Infranergy Marketing Outreach Project : Conducted research to identify potential commercial leads for solar energy services, earning extra credit for contributions.	11/14/2023	25	MGT 310
Hygiene Kit Demonstration: Showcased how to make DIY soap and deodorants using eco-friendly ingredients.	11/16/2023	27	IDS 210
Graduate Seminar: Discussed international sustainability, highlighting challenges and opportunities faced by different countries.	3/14/2024	3	ENV 590
Sustainability Class Presentation: Delivered a presentation on campus services and resources provided by the Office of Sustainability	4/24/2024	10	HEA 466



Earth Science class participating in the Office of Sustainability's Carbon Cube pledge activity



Environmental Studies Class on their first Campus Urban Farm tour for the semester

Academic Events and Resources

- The Center for Sustainability & the Environment was officially approved in June 2024. The Center is a university-wide center designed to support and institutionalize environmental sustainability within CSUDH's academic units and curricular/research activities.
- CSUDH Sustainability supported a spring faculty learning community (FLC) in spring of 2024 by sponsoring stipends for 10 CSUDH faculty members to participate in the larger CSU system-wide FLC organized around the topic of climate change.

Internships & Service Learning:

In addition to coursework, students can deepen their understanding of sustainability through hands-on service learning and internships. These opportunities allow students to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world sustainability projects, enhancing their educational experience.

- **Goal:** Support at least three paid and volunteer internships per semester for CSUDH students.
- **College Corp Interns:** As part of a multi-year grant partnership between CSUDH and the state, CSUDH supports an annual cohort of approximately 100 College Corps fellows. These CSUDH students participate in the College Corps fellowship program via an initial course instructed by CSUDH faculty and are then assigned to various project sites affiliated with the campus.
 - Three College Corps interns supported the Office of Sustainability, working on sustainability initiatives such as eco-crafting workshops, Farmers Market coordination, and event planning.
- **Sustainability Internships:** The Office of Sustainability supported a total of four paid student interns throughout the 2023-24 fiscal year, engaging them in sustainability marketing/outreach, event coordination, Sustainability Club operations, presentations, etc.

Green Workforce Development:

In addition to educating students on sustainability, the campus also plays a vital role in developing workforce skills for students entering the growing green jobs sector.

Goal: Provide support for at least one green workforce event per semester.

The Office of Sustainability collaborated with the campus Career Center and other campus groups to host two events over the course of the year specifically designed to encourage the development of the green workforce:

- **Green Career Panel** (October Sustainability Month): 11 students attended a panel featuring four CSUDH alumni now working in the green workforce.
- **Earth Day Festival 2023:** 31 exhibitors shared information about paid internships and job opportunities in the green sector, tabling on the campus walkways. These organizations were positioned together at the event to facilitate student engagement around green jobs.
 - **Newsletter Marketing:** By growing the newsletter "The Sustainability Scoop" subscription list, the Office of Sustainability provided students with direct information and access to regional green job opportunities, internships, and grants on a monthly rolling basis.
 - One example of this success was Sustainability Club member Michelle Gonzales, who was accepted into a research opportunity through the connections made via the newsletter.



Sustainability Intens trying out the new Bluebolt Solar Bus Benches



College Corps Fellows helping to harvest carrots to donate to Teddy's Food Pantry

Campus Urban Farm:

Founded in February 2018 after approval by Presidential Cabinet, the CSUDH Campus Urban Farm (Farm) is an outdoor classroom, lab, and garden that uses a multi-disciplinary approach to address student food insecurity, urban agriculture, and sustainability. A venue for faculty-led research and experiential learning for students, the Farm is now the site for experiments with composting, solar, permaculture, aquaponic, and water-wise techniques. The Farm occupies approximately .11 acres with 30'x 80' of available growing space. It also houses a large nursery shed, and an adjoining space that is used as an outdoor classroom with a live chicken coop. Once the site of a campus nursery, the Farm is fully enclosed with a gate and has a sidewalk encircling the main growing area which now consists of 15 raised planter beds, three solar-powered hydroponic towers, and several demonstration growing areas/exhibits.

Mission:

The Farm has a strong educational mission, and not only provides fresh produce to food-insecure students, but supports the study of urban agriculture, sustainability, and other faculty-led research projects. By weaving sustainability training and education into the farm experience, CSUDH is preparing environmentally responsible community members who understand the importance of reducing their energy, water, and waste, as well as understanding the impacts that urban agriculture can have on a community.

The mission of the Farm is to serve as a resource for:

- Providing free and/or affordable produce to food-insecure students.
- Providing a living laboratory space for faculty and students to integrate sustainability into their coursework and research.
- Providing an outdoor classroom space and event venue to support relationship-building in the community, both on-campus and off.
- Piloting a campus composting program to support efforts to keep campus green waste on-site.

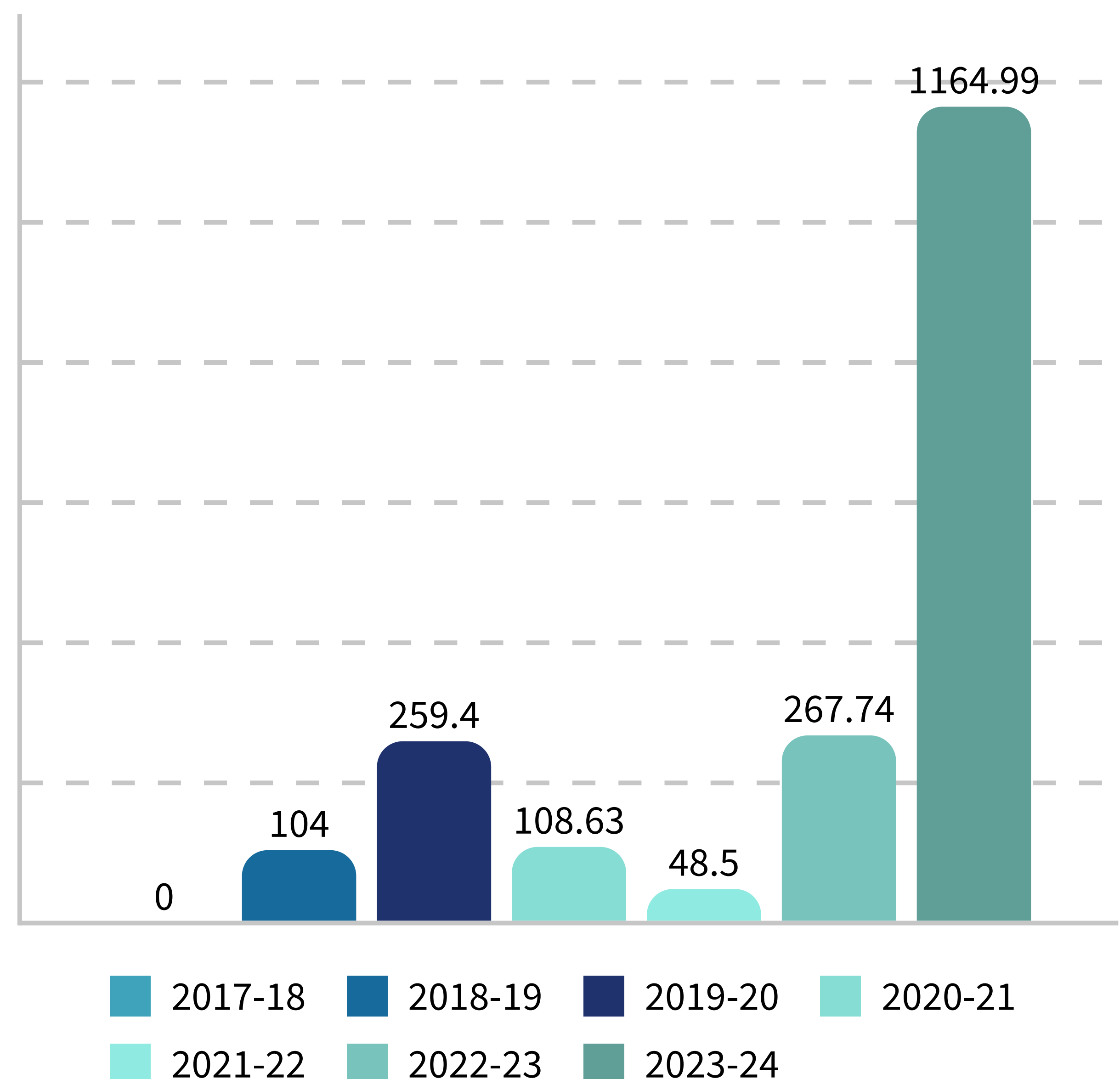


Example of one of the many harvests collected in summer 2024

Summary Metrics:

To ensure the Farm is supporting its mission, it maintains metrics on several key performance indicators. The summary of those metrics is listed here:

Fiscal Year:	Pounds of Food Distributed to Campus:	Volunteers Engaged:	Classes Engaged:
2017-18 (Feb-June)	0 (Construction)	140	2
2018-19 (July-June)	104	104	7
2019-20 (July-June)	259.4	371	3
2020-21 (July-June)	108.63	14	3
2021-22 (July-June)	48.5	62	3
2022-23 (July-June)	267.74	90	4
2023-24 (July-June)	1,164.99	326	3



Campus Urban Farm 2023-24 FY Highlights:

- **Increased Production and Full-Time VISTA Support:**
 - With the addition of a full-time VISTA member working weekly at the Farm, produce output was approximately 4.5 times larger this year compared to the previous fiscal year, significantly contributing to campus food resources.
- **Highest Engagement to Date:**
 - This year saw record-breaking volunteer engagement numbers, reflecting the Farm's growing importance as a hub for education, sustainability, and community building.
- **Addition of Livestock:**
 - The Farm expanded operations by introducing chickens, which now produce approximately 12 pounds of fresh eggs weekly. These eggs are donated to the campus food pantry to support food-insecure students.

Funding & Engagement Initiatives:

The Farm successfully organized a variety of events and workshops, enhancing its role in education and outreach:

- **Workshops & Collaborations:**
 - Water Replenishment District Garden Workshop: A guest speaker educated 27 students on best practices in gardening.
 - High School Visits and Presentations: Rancho Dominguez Prep (LAUSD) visited the Campus Urban Farm with 23 students on 5/15/24, learning about urban agriculture practices.
- **Special Events:**
 - Farm Open House: The event officially celebrated the arrival of the Farm's campus chickens, engaging 15 attendees.
 - Black History Month Celebration: Featured a presentation by College Corps on historical Black environmentalists. Toro CARE collaborated with a cooking demonstration showcasing Afro-American cuisine prepared with crops grown at the Farm, engaging 12 attendees.
- **Farm Tours & Educational Activities:**
 - Multiple farm tours and presentations welcomed campus community members and external groups, fostering hands-on learning about sustainable farming practices with a total of 227 visitors.
- **Donations & Partnerships:**
 - West Basin Municipal Water District donated four water barrels to the Farm (installed on the Farm shed) to support Farm water conservation.

Total Engagement Impact:

The Farm hosted 360 attendees in total through tours, presentations, workshops, and events during FY 2023-24, highlighting its growing influence on campus and within the community.

Academics:

The Campus Urban Farm continued to serve as a living classroom, providing hands-on learning opportunities for students across disciplines. These experiences offered students practical exposure to sustainable farming practices and real-world applications of their coursework:

- The Farm was officially designed as an outdoor academic classroom location, enabling classes to formally meet regularly in that space as part of academic instruction for courses.
- **Weekly Farm Rehabilitation and Operations Support:**
 - Two IDS (210 and 310) classes, co-sponsored by Campus Urban Farm faculty lead Jenney Hall, visited the Farm weekly to assist with rehabilitation efforts and support growing operations.
 - Class PHI 101 visited the Farm, joining a Farm tour to learn about urban agriculture practices.



Chicken flock leader "Tabitha" ruling the roost at the Farm.

Contact Campus Urban Farm:

Please visit our website at: csudh.edu/sustainability/campus-urban-farm

Follow us on Instagram: [DHUrbanfarm](https://www.instagram.com/DHUrbanfarm)

Email us: urbanfarm@gmail.com

5. Engagement

Outreach Campaigns:

In order to support the sustainability goals of the campus, the Office of Sustainability supports educational programming to encourage sustainable user-behavior change on a variety of topics.

Goal: Reach at least 10% of the FTE campus population every fiscal year through direct interactions via outreach events and campaigns.

• Progress:

- The Fall 2023 FTE was 14,299 requiring outreach efforts to engage 1,430 individuals. The Office of Sustainability surpassed this target, reaching a total of 5,005 people through various campaigns, events, and programming.

• 2023-24 Outreach Initiatives:

◦ Academic Infusion Engagement

- Class Presentations (see page 15 for details): Delivered sustainability-focused presentations and activities:
 - IDS 210- Office of Sustainability Class Presentation
 - GEO 100- Class Presentation
 - IDS 210- Native Seed Bomb Activity
 - IDS 210- Eco-friendly DIY Hygiene Kit Workshop
 - MGT 310 – Clean Energy Marketing Outreach Activity
 - ENV 590 – Graduate Seminar about International Sustainability
 - ENV 590 – Graduate Seminar about Californian Waste Haulers
 - HEA 466 – Office of Sustainability Class Presentation

◦ Workshops and Events

- **Eco-Living Workshops:** Total Participants 145.
- Collaborated with campus organizations such as ToroCare, Farmers Market, and classroom visits to promote eco-friendly living through a variety of pop-up events.
- **October Sustainability Month:** Total Participants 189.
 - Green Career Panel: 11 students engaged with four CSUDH alumni to explore careers in the green workforce.
 - Sustainable Landscape Workshop: 40 attendees joined a virtual session to provide input on Spurlock's Sustainable Landscape Plan draft.
 - Gardening Workshop: 35 participants learned sustainable gardening techniques from an expert in collaboration with the Water Replenishment District.
 - Green Energy Workshop: 18 attendees participated in a virtual session with Infranergy, focusing on solar and battery innovations for renewable energy.
 - Central Plant Trick-or-Treat Tunnel Tours: 81 participants toured the Central Plant to learn about energy and water conservation practices.



Water Replenishment District Garden Workshop at the Campus Urban Farm

▪ March Race to Reduce Campaign: Total Participants 299

- Carbon Cube Launch: 141 attendees pledged actions to reduce their carbon footprint during the launch of a visual carbon cube.
- Enterprise Vanpool Townhall: 25 participants explored campus vanpool and alternative transportation options.
- Take the Stairs Challenge: 72 participants opted for stairs over elevators to raise energy conservation awareness.
- Home Battery Storage Workshop: 21 attendees learned about energy-saving battery systems in a presentation by Infranergy.
- Walking Trail Plogging Event: 11 participants collected and weighed campus litter to promote a cleaner campus.
- Zero Waste Webinar: 4 attendees explored zero waste practices and services on campus.
- Farm Open House: 15 visitors toured the Farm, met the chickens for the first time, and learned about daily farm operations.
- Worldwide Climate Teach-In: 35 participants attended the annual Sustainability Townhall, hearing faculty and the Office of Sustainability share their sustainability work.

• Surveys and Community Engagement

- **Bluebolt Bench Surveys:** 94 responses evaluated feedback on solar-powered bus benches.
- **Spurlock Surveys:** 231 responses contributed insights to the Sustainable Landscape Plan draft.
- **Coastal Clean-Up Day:** 19 participants collaborated with the National Wildlife Federation to collect trash on campus, celebrating National Coastal Clean-Up Day

• Staff Training Programs

- **New Employee Orientation:** 51 participants learned about campus zero waste best practices.
- **Custodian Sustainability Training:** 20 staff members received training in zero waste management.
- **STARS Program:** 9 participants from staff, with 7 earning certifications after a month-long training in topics like water conservation, consumerism, zero waste, and urban farming.
- **Mandatory Zero Waste Training:** 1,234 participants completed this essential program learning about campus Zero Waste best practices.

• Other Campus Outreach Initiatives

◦ Weekly Farmers Market Tabling:

- **Pop-Up Thrift Event:** 1,038 attendees.
- **Sustainability Workshops:** 369 participants engaged in activities like transportation trivia, ecocrafting, composting, and native seed bomb creation.
- **Spurlock In-Person Outreach & Project Education:** 236 participants learned about sustainable landscaping.
- **American Native Heritage Day Engagement:** 85 attendees celebrated indigenous cultural sustainability practices in collaboration with SLICE and Changing Spirits.

- **Community Outreach**

- **Annual Earth Day Festival (April 23, 2024):**

- The 17th annual Earth Day Festival marked the largest sustainability-focused community event of the year.
- Key Highlights:
 - 86 participants completed the "Booth Bingo" activity, engaging with 30+ organizations.
 - Collaboration with the Art Department showcased an upcycled art exhibit on the Library rooftop deck.
 - The Green Hero Awards Ceremony recognized outstanding sustainability contributions from faculty, staff, and students.



Green Hero Awards recipients at CSUDH Earth Day Festival



High school class feeding the chickens.



Students providing feedback to the Landscape Survey for the new Landscape Master Plan



The Free Spirit Organization guest tabling with us during Indigenous Celebration Day at the Farmers Market.



The Office of Sustainability ready to kick-start the Coastal Clean-Up Day event

6. Contact Information

About us:

California State University, Dominguez Hills and other state institutions are major consumers of energy and natural resources. Then university has a responsibility to be a wise steward of scarce resources by reducing the use of non-renewable resources, increasing energy efficiency, and as part of the larger CSU system, promoting continued economic and ecological viability in California. CSU Dominguez Hills is on the cutting edge of sustainability efforts by an urban campus, and is actively providing leadership in engaging faculty, students, and staff in on-campus sustainability efforts. We are always looking at ways to increase partnerships and funding to support the educational, research and public service missions of the university as they relate to sustainability.



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