

# Walla Walla Community College

## 2015-2017 Sustainability Plan



## **PLAN PARAMETERS**

WWCC's sustainability goals and strategies shall be in compliance with statewide sustainability initiatives.

The sustainability goals and strategies shall be in alignment with the WWCC vision and mission statements, institutional values, and the institutional strategic plan.

The sustainability strategies shall include and be evaluated against measurable outcomes and timeframes.

## **STATEWIDE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES**

Washington State Executive Orders 02-03 (Establishing Sustainability) and 05-01 (Efficiency Goals for State Operations)

Establish sustainability objectives and prepare a biennial Sustainability Plan to modify practices regarding:

- Resource consumption
- Vehicle use
- Purchase of goods and services
- Facility construction, operation and maintenance

Plans will be guided by the following long-term goals:

- Raise employee and student awareness of sustainable practices in the workplace
- Minimize energy and water use
- Shift to clean energy for facilities and vehicles
- Shift to non-toxic, recycled and remanufactured materials in purchasing and construction
- Expand markets for environmentally preferable products and services
- Reduce waste as an inefficient or improper use of resources

## **WWCC VISION STATEMENT**

WWCC will be the catalyst that transforms our students' lives and the communities we serve.

## **WWCC MISSION STATEMENT**

Walla Walla Community College inspires all students to discover their potential and achieve their goals by providing relevant, equitable, and innovative learning opportunities and services.

## **WWCC INSTITUTIONAL VALUES**

**Learning Opportunities:** We value learning and encourage students to acquire a rich and wide body of knowledge as well as a love of their chosen discipline. We provide an environment that fosters active learning and the support services necessary to help all students achieve their potential. Everything we do is focused on expanding student access, retention, and completion.

**Integrity:** Integrity is an essential component of the common bond within Walla Walla Community College. Efficient accomplishment of institutional goals is based on trust and mutual respect. We value honesty, fairness, and ethical behavior.

**Sense of Community:** We strive to build community. We value a climate where all individuals feel accepted and meaningfully involved in a common cause. We recognize we are interdependent and demonstrate respect for one another.

**Teamwork:** We value partnerships within the College and with members of the communities we serve. We practice collaboration in plans, actions, and shared results.

**Diversity:** We oppose all barriers that separate people from opportunities; barriers of socioeconomic status, race and ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, and inexperience with the educational system.

**Innovation:** Walla Walla Community College values, respects, and rewards the enthusiastic pursuit of new ideas, creative risk-taking, and entrepreneurial endeavors. Encouraging the pursuit of excellence and innovation will help the College prepare students and staff to shape the future. Creativity is one of our most important resources in the 21st Century.

**Health and Humor:** We value a healthy environment that encourages humor, creativity, and enjoyment of work. We promote health, wellness, and safety within the College and the communities we serve.

**Personal and Professional Growth:** We value the growth of both our students and staff. We believe that our own engagement in the learning process enhances our ability to enrich our personal lives, careers, and work in the global community.

**Excellence:** We value superior quality and are dedicated to continued improvement in all college programs and services. We practice an ongoing systematic planning and evaluation process to ensure that our programs and services are distinctive, relevant, responsive, and of the highest quality.

**Sustainability:** Walla Walla Community College values the well-being of its communities and is dedicated to protecting and restoring our resources. We advocate for and demonstrate practices that promote economic and environmental sustainability.

## **WWCC CORE THEMES, OBJECTIVES, AND INDICATORS**

Walla Walla Community College identified three core themes that manifest essential elements of its mission: Student Success, Strengthen Communities, and Resource Stewardship. Core themes describe the fundamental aspects of the College's mission by translating it into practice.

### **Student Success**

- Academic education: prepare students for baccalaureate education
- Workforce education: prepare students to enter and advance in middle and high skill employment
- Transitional studies: prepare students to master academic or technical skills required to further their education or secure family wage employment

### **Strengthen Communities**

- Strengthen internal community: attract and retain talent
- Strengthen external community: contribute to the economic development of the region, state, and country
- Strengthen external community: establish and maintain partnerships that support a healthy economy and environment

## Resource Stewardship

- Secure necessary resources
- Manage financial resources effectively
- Natural resource stewardship
  - Core indicators
    - Solar energy usage
    - Reduced paper consumption
    - Water conservation
    - Track carbon emissions
    - Track the proportional share of alternative fuel vehicles in college fleet

## **SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES**

The following priorities, in compliance with statewide sustainability initiatives and in alignment with WWCC objectives, were used to guide the development of goals and strategies for the 2015-2017 Sustainability Plan.

### 2015-2016 Priorities

- Energy efficiency
- Waste management
- Student, campus and community engagement in adopting best practices

### 2016-2017 Priorities

- Water management
- Healthy built and landscaped environments
- Responsible purchasing
- Efficient business practices and effective data systems

# 2015-2017 SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, STRATEGIES & OUTCOMES

## Goal 1: Reduce energy use

Strategy 1: New building construction exceeding 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards or better; all renovations and new building construction under 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> incorporate environmental and energy best practices where economically feasible

Outcomes: New construction exceeding 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> meets Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards or better; a demonstration Net Zero House is constructed by the end of the 2017 academic year; best practices are assessed for renovations and new building construction under 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> and implemented when economically feasible

Strategy 2: Maintain, or reduce further, electric and natural gas consumption at FY 2013 levels

Outcomes: Electric and natural gas consumption is maintained at or below the FY 2013 student/employee to building ft<sup>2</sup> ratios (excluding abnormal weather impacts); campus electrical delivery systems and metering will be reviewed to maximize energy efficiency by the end of the 2015 academic year

Strategy 3: Increase use of hybrid gas/electric and other fuel efficient and low emission vehicles

Outcomes: An accurate baseline of vehicle use is established by the end of academic year 2016, with vehicle fuel use reduced by 5% of that baseline annually thereafter; two quick charge electrical car charging stations will be in place by the end of the 2015 academic year; a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station and utilization of CNG vehicles will be in place by the end of the 2015 academic year

Strategy 4: Maintain a process to track and subsequently reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Outcomes: Data is collected to support required reporting

## Goal 2: Generate and use renewable energy on-site

Strategy 1: Increase use of solar energy on-site

Outcomes: Up to 177 kW of additional solar production capacity will be installed and a Net Zero Energy House will be constructed on campus by the end of the 2016 academic year

Strategy 2: Increase use of wind energy on site

Outcomes: A second (12 kW) wind turbine is installed on campus by the end of the 2015 academic year; an additional (10 kW) turbine is installed by WWCC at the Walla Walla City Landfill for instructional purposes; continue to purchase Blue Sky units at current levels

## Goal 3: Reduce solid waste

Strategy 1: Establish a baseline landfill diversion rate for the 3-5 largest waste streams and then increase that baseline rate by 5% annually through reduction in use and less contamination within the waste stream

Outcomes: A baseline diversion rate is established by the end of the 2015 academic year; procedures are in place to increase diversion rates by the end of the 2016 academic year; a 5% per

capita increase in diversion has been achieved by the end of the 2017 academic year; per capita use of bottles, cans and cardboard is reduced by 5% by the end of the 2017 academic year; per capita use of paper is maintained at FY 2014 levels; the selling of single-use bottled water is eliminated on campus by the end of the 2016 academic year

Strategy 2: Implement aerated static pile composting on campus utilizing landscape, garden, greenhouse, grape pomace, and pre-consumer food waste streams

Outcomes: System is implemented and operational by the end of the 2015 academic year

Strategy 3: Operate a comprehensive electronic waste recycling and/or reuse program

Outcomes: The comprehensive electronic waste recycling and/or reuse program is maintained

Strategy 4: Operate a vehicle and equipment recycling program

Outcomes: Appropriate equipment and vehicles are recycled annually through one of four workforce programs: Automotive Repair Technology, Collision Repair Technology, Diesel Technology, or Outdoor Power Equipment

#### **Goal 4: Decrease water use and storm water runoff**

Strategy 1: Prioritize installation of water conservation devices such as waterless urinals, dual flush toilets, low-flow shower heads and faucet aerators

Outcomes: All new construction and all replacement urinals, toilets, shower heads and faucets incorporate water conservation devices

Strategy 2: Detect and repair water leaks

Outcomes: Detect and repair water leaks as funding allows

Strategy 3: Irrigate campus grounds with 100% non-potable water

Outcomes: Campus grounds are irrigated with 100% non-potable water

Strategy 4: Follow Department of Ecology (DOE) guidelines regarding storm water runoff management

Outcomes: Infiltration techniques, erosion control systems, silt fences, and other strategies implemented per DOE guidelines when recommended

Strategy 5: Explore options for replacing the areas of sports and non-sports turf by the Main Campus East Entry with demonstrations of low water use turf and/or landscaping alternatives (xeriscaping)

Outcomes: Options for xeriscape alternatives are presented by the end of the 2016 academic year

#### **Goal 5: Increase student, campus and community awareness of sustainability best practices through training, demonstration and participation**

Strategy 1: Include an overview of sustainability concepts in student and employee orientation programs

Outcomes: A member of the Sustainability Committee provides an overview of sustainability concepts and campus policies at every student or staff orientation

Strategy 2: Promote and support student groups focused on or dedicated to sustainability

Outcomes: Faculty and staff actively promote and support student groups focused on sustainability

Strategy 3: Promote, reinforce, and publicize sustainability efforts via signage, emails, and other media

Outcomes: Campus renewable production and consumption metering will be displayed in a publicly viewable kiosk by the end of the 2015 academic year; signage is installed highlighting on campus sustainability best practices, such as Salmon Safe Certification, composting, and window treatments at the WEC; the Net Zero Energy House includes interpretative signage highlighting sustainability components; press releases highlighting efforts are issued at least twice each year

Strategy 4: Create a recognition and award program to acknowledge faculty/staff/student efforts to implement sustainability best practices within academic programs or campus management and operations

Outcomes: Framework for program is established by the end of academic year 2016; program is implemented during the 2016-2017 academic year

Strategy 5: Serve as a nexus for organizations, programs and special events promoting and modeling sustainability best practices

Outcomes: The Water & Environmental Center (WEC) continues to provide office and meeting space for five co-located partner sustainability focused organizations plus hosts at least 200 meetings annually for partner organizations pursuing environmental best practices

## **Goal 6: Utilize responsible procurement strategies, efficient business processes and effective data systems, and support regional economic development efforts**

Strategy 1: Increase efforts to source campus materials, supplies, food and food packaging/containers, information technology equipment and resources from organizations committed to social responsibility and environmental sustainability

Outcomes: Purchasing decisions include considerations of environmentally sound and socially responsible options

Strategy 2: Adopt business practices that increase institutional efficiencies

Outcomes: Waste is eliminated along the entire value stream (purchasing, distribution, use, disposal/reuse); recycling of campus goods and equipment is prioritized; preparation for conversion to CTCLink are completed by the end of the 2017 academic year; improved onboarding technology systems are in place by the end of the 2016 academic year

Strategy 3: Lead or support regional sustainable economic development efforts

Outcomes: WWCC incubates or supports efforts to develop sustainable businesses regionally; employees and students participate in and/or support community activities and businesses