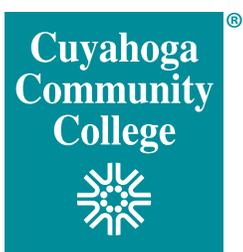




CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Sustainability Implementation Plan  
2014



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# Background Information

Cuyahoga Community College’s Sustainability Plan of 2010 provides the College with an overview of current sustainability initiatives and projects, six long-term vision goals to strive toward, and recommended strategies to begin to achieve those goals. Tri-C’s Sustainability Implementation Plan will help achieve the College’s sustainability objectives by creating an actionable road map that prioritizes projects, timelines, gaps in data needed to deliver sustainability metrics to meet goals, and key factors such as departments that will be involved in next steps to bring the strategies to fruition. All strategies in the Sustainability Implementation Plan are related to the College’s 2013-2016 Strategic Plan (*Figure 1*) and Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) categories (*Figure 2*).

## The six long-term vision goals of the Tri-C Sustainability Plan of 2010 are:

- 1 Academics and Workforce Training:** Tri-C faculty and instructors will infuse sustainability literacy throughout the curriculum. Tri-C students will recognize and understand the basic concepts of sustainability and effectively communicate those concepts to others in the community.
- 2 Energy, Climate, and Transportation:** Strive for carbon neutrality at Tri-C by increasing energy efficiency, exploring renewable energy options, and reducing the College’s transportation footprint.
- 3 Green Buildings and Grounds:** Reduce the impacts of Tri-C’s buildings by following the USGBC’s LEED standards and other best sustainable design and construction practices; creating healthy spaces and programs; and improving stormwater management.
- 4 Procurement:** Apply sustainability to procurement by: (1) Adopting clear and transparent criteria so that full life cycle impacts will be considered in purchasing and contracting decisions; (2) Reducing consumption of goods and reducing the impact of chemical usage; and (3) Providing training and necessary tools and resources to procurement staff.
- 5 Recycling and Waste Reduction:** Increase Tri-C’s waste diversion rate to 50% by 2025.
- 6 Communications and Community:** Increase awareness of sustainability issues among campus and community members through education and outreach and empower sustainability action on campus and within the broader community.

Figure 1

Tri-C Strategic Plan 2013-2016 Strategic Focus Areas
Access and Engagement
Quality and Innovation
Completion and Success

Figure 2

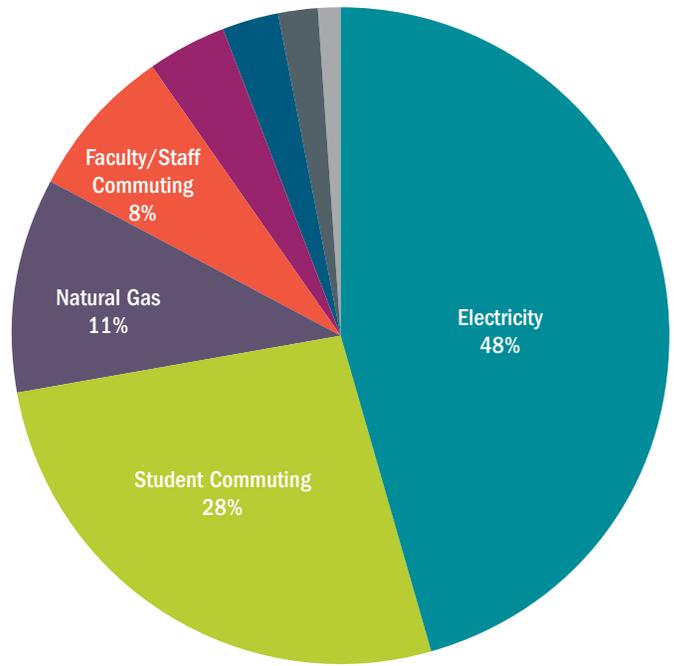
Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Categories
Helping Students Learn
Meeting Student & Other Stakeholder Needs
Valuing Employees
Planning & Leading
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship
Quality Review

- **Tri-C signed the American College and University President’s Climate Commitment in November 2010**, which requires Tri-C to develop a plan to achieve climate neutrality by creating institutional structures to guide the development and implementation of this climate-neutrality plan; complete a comprehensive greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory; and develop an action plan for becoming carbon neutral. **This Sustainability Implementation Plan is also Tri-C’s initial Climate Action Plan for reaching carbon neutrality and will be updated in future versions based on new and emergent opportunities and achievements.**
- **Tri-C completed GHG inventories for the 2011 and 2012 academic years.** These baseline inventories help guide implementation priorities and opportunities.
- **Tri-C has established a goal of 2050 for carbon neutrality**, and when possible, Implementation Plan actions will articulate how they will help the college move toward carbon neutrality.

- **The 2012 GHG inventory showed that 95% of Tri-C’s GHG impacts resulted from energy use in facilities and commuting by students, faculty, and staff (Figure 3).** From a GHG or climate action plan perspective, energy use and commuting will be the primary areas of focus for implementation. GHG emissions are measured in Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (MTCO2e).
- **Tri-C’s Wedge Diagram (Figure 4) shows anticipated GHG reductions resulting from a variety of implemented programs and external influences, compared to a “business as usual” trajectory (no efficiency improvements), and Tri-C’s carbon neutrality goal of 2050.** It is expected that improvements in fuel efficiency of passenger vehicles and cleaner grid electricity will contribute significantly to GHG reduction over time. To meet carbon neutrality by 2050, carbon offsets may need to be purchased. As technology and opportunities change, the wedge diagram and its associated GHG reductions will be updated.

**Figure 3: Tri-C’s Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory (FY12)**

FY12 Total GHG Emissions	
Emissions Category	Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent (MTCO2e)
Total Electricity	32,871
Student Commuting	19,092
Natural Gas	7,400
Faculty / Staff Commuting	5,734
Refrigerants and Chemicals	1,432
Direct Transportation (Fuel)	515
Directly Financed Air Travel	434
Paper Purchasing	196
Expensed Mileage	150
Purchased Steam	145
Agriculture (Fertilizer)	6
Study Abroad Air Travel	3
Wastewater	2
Solid Waste	(25)
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,956</b>



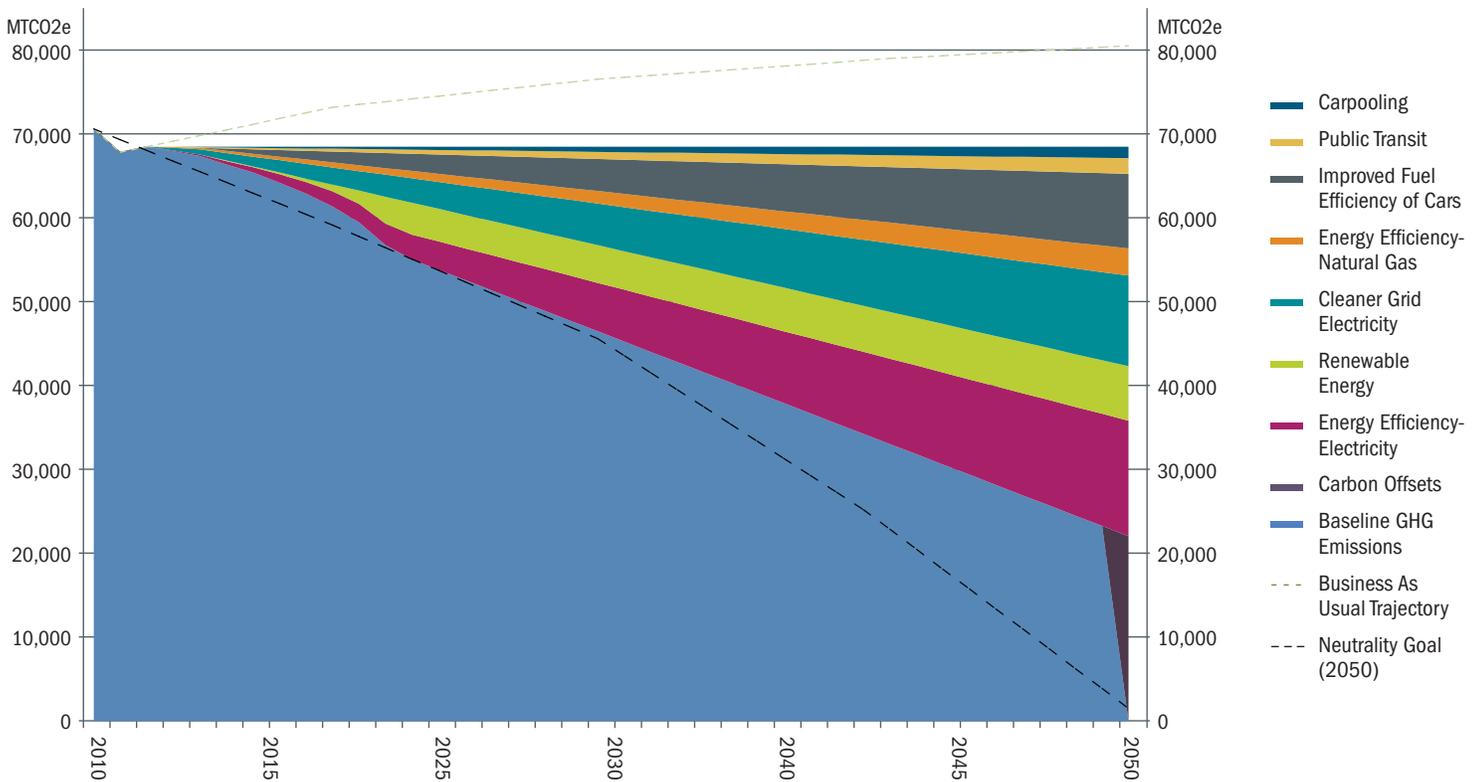
*95% of total emissions come from utilities and commuting*

Tri-C's Sustainability Steering Committee (SSC) provides high-level direction and acts as a sounding board for ideas and implementation of sustainability programs at Cuyahoga Community College as they relate to Tri-C's Sustainability Plan of 2010, including efforts in academics, workforce training, and operations.

- The SSC is made up of the Executive Vice President of Administration and Finance, the Provost and Executive Vice President of Access, Learning, and Success, the Executive Vice President of the Workforce and Economic Development Division, one Campus President, the Vice President of Learning and Engagement, the Vice President of Facilities Development and Operations, the Vice President of Integrated Communications, the Director of the Westshore Campus Enrollment Center, and the Sustainability Manager.

- All strategies identified in this Implementation Plan are priorities for the near term and will be implemented or begun by the end of Tri-C's 2017 fiscal year. Expected longer term strategies are noted for each goal area.
- Successful implementation of the strategies in this plan will require involvement from faculty, staff, and students of Tri-C and will result in benefits to these groups as well as to the surrounding community.
- This plan is a living document and will be reevaluated and updated as necessary in 2017 or sooner should the need arise.

**Figure 4:**  
Cuyahoga Community College Sustainability Implementation Plan/  
Climate Action Plan Wedge Diagram



# GOAL 1: Academics and Workforce Training

Tri-C faculty and instructors will infuse sustainability literacy in appropriate courses throughout the curriculum. Tri-C students will recognize and understand the basic concepts of sustainability and effectively communicate those concepts to others in the community.

## Goal Background

Cuyahoga Community College's mission is to provide high quality, accessible and affordable educational opportunities and services that promote individual development and improve the overall quality of life in a multicultural community. Sustainability at Tri-C means achieving the College's educational and community missions with a sense of responsibility for preserving the environment, promoting the economy, and improving society as a whole.

**Integration of real-world sustainability ideas and concepts into curriculum is a long term goal that will be implemented gradually. This goal is intended to support and empower faculty to utilize examples of sustainability in their curriculum to achieve general education learning outcomes and increase student engagement, retention, and completion.** Short term strategies will focus on assessing and supporting efforts already in place which integrate sustainability examples and concepts in curriculum.

As expected with Tri-C's general education outcomes of civic responsibility, critical thinking, and global awareness, the infusion of sustainability into curriculum can provide real-world examples of all aspects of sustainability and how they interrelate to achieve social, environmental, and economic goals. Curriculum incorporating sustainability should encourage active citizenship and community involvement, understanding of local and global perspectives, and benefits and costs beyond those that are simply monetary or short term.

## Metrics for Reporting

- Number of professors or instructors who have integrated sustainability into their curriculum or have engaged students in sustainability outside the classroom
- Number of academic and workforce development programs that have incorporated sustainability literacy
- Number of classes with modules on sustainability
- Number of students involved in sustainability efforts at the College
- Student sustainability literacy survey results

## Departments Engaged

- Access, Learning, and Success
- Workforce and Economic Development Division
- Faculty Senate
- Campus Sustainability Teams

## Achievements to date

- Integration of sustainability into curriculum by numerous professors.
- Sustainability sessions offered at several College-wide faculty meetings.
- Several academic programs where sustainability is a primary focus area: Environmental Health and Safety Technology (*Figure 5*), Plant Science and Landscape Technology, Construction Engineering, and others.
- Workforce training: Solar training, LEED training, Certified Energy Manager training.

**Figure 5: Sustainability In Curriculum**



*Environmental Health and Safety Technology students after conducting a waste sort to evaluate effectiveness of recycling.*

**Potential long term strategies for Academics and Workforce Training include:**

- Creating connections between Tri-C's sustainability programs and educational programs through service learning or "campus as a living lab" opportunities
- Developing sustainability-specific curriculum

# Academics and Workforce Training

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Sustainability in Curriculum

### Strategy #1

Identify and recognize faculty members who are incorporating sustainability into curriculum and share their successes.

**Responsibility**

Sustainability/Access, Learning, and Success/Faculty

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

High

**Measures**

Number of Professors who have integrated sustainability in curriculum

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**

Helping Students Learn; Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Valuing Employees

**Action Description/Deliverables**

Utilize campus green teams, Faculty Senate, and surveys to identify Professors integrating sustainability in their curriculum. Profile what they are doing, spread word through Inside Tri-C, sustainability website, other outlets. Consider a faculty award for sustainability.

### Strategy #2

Empower faculty to integrate sustainability into curriculum.

**Responsibility**

Access, Learning, and Success/Faculty Senate/ Sustainability

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

High

**Measures**

Number of Professors who have integrated sustainability in curriculum

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**

Helping Students Learn; Valuing Employees; Planning and Leading

**Action Description/Deliverables**

Regularly update faculty on sustainability efforts at Tri-C, in Cleveland, and throughout Cuyahoga County to create opportunities for them to incorporate real-world sustainability examples into curriculum. Engage faculty through sustainability presentations. Look for key opportunities where sustainability can be integrated. Investigate opportunities to send faculty to Sustainability Across the Curriculum workshops or create Tri-C workshops or a Faculty Learning Community focused on sustainability.

### Strategy #3

Work with Workforce and Economic Development to integrate sustainability into curriculum, training and certificate programs.

**Responsibility**

Workforce and Economic Development/ Sustainability

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

High

**Measures**

Number of classes/ programs that have integrated sustainability

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**

Helping Students Learn; Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs

**Action Description/Deliverables**

Regularly update WEDD on sustainability efforts at Tri-C, in Cleveland, and throughout Cuyahoga County to create opportunities for them to incorporate real-world sustainability examples into curriculum.

### Strategy #4

Work with Access, Learning, and Success to integrate sustainability overview into the First Year Experience.

**Responsibility**

Sustainability/Faculty

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

High

**Measures**

Completed or not

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**

Helping Students Learn; Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs

**Action Description/Deliverables**

Incorporate basic sustainability information in in-person and online student orientations as well as in the First Year Experience.

### Strategy #5

Create a sustainability literacy survey for students to set a baseline of sustainability knowledge and understand what aspects of sustainability are important to them.

**Responsibility**

Sustainability/Student Life/ Access, Learning, and Success/Faculty

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

Medium

**Measures**

Student survey responses

**Sustainability Benefit**

Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**

Helping Students Learn; Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs

**Action Description/Deliverables**

Get input from students on how and why sustainability is important to them, levels of sustainability literacy, and what sustainability priorities should be for Tri-C both academically and operationally.

## GOAL 2: Energy, Climate, & Transportation

Strive for carbon neutrality at Tri-C by increasing energy efficiency, exploring renewable energy options, and reducing the College's transportation footprint.

### Goal Background

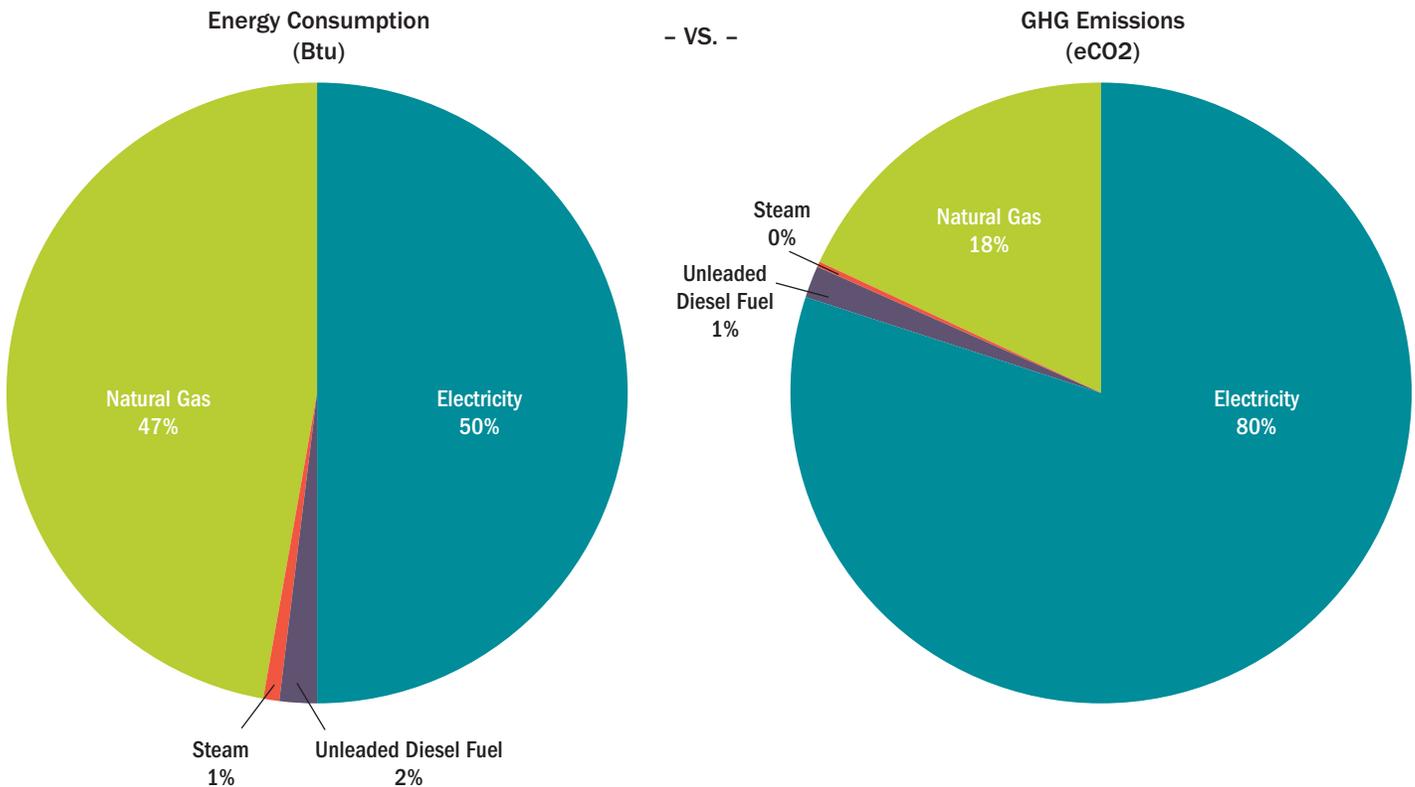
As mentioned in the Sustainability Implementation Plan background information, **95% of Tri-C's annual GHG emissions result from energy use and transportation (commuting). Reducing impacts on climate is the focus of this goal, while the strategies to achieve the goal are focused on improving energy efficiency, using cleaner supplies of energy, and improving transportation efficiency.**

Due to the prevalence of coal-fired power plants in our region and the relatively clean-burning characteristics of natural gas, electricity use results in over three times more GHG emissions per unit of energy consumed than natural gas. While use of electricity and natural gas were fairly even on a British thermal unit (Btu) basis in FY12, electricity use resulted in far more

GHG emissions from energy sources than did natural gas (Figure 6). From a GHG perspective, improving Tri-C's electrical efficiency and making regional electricity production cleaner are higher priorities than improving natural gas efficiency.

The impacts of commuting by students, faculty, and staff are difficult to precisely measure. Improving available data and methodology for measurement will be an ongoing goal of Sustainability Plan implementation. In addition to emissions reduction impacts, a secondary effect of encouraging ride sharing, mass transit use, bicycling, and walking as means of getting to and from Tri-C's campuses is that these programs will help create a greater sense of community on Tri-C's campuses.

Figure 6: Tri-C Energy Consumption and GHG Emissions From Energy Use (FY12)



## Metrics for Reporting

### Energy:

- Utility GHG emissions (annual)
  - Total electricity use (annual with monthly breakdown by meter)
  - Total natural gas use (annual with monthly breakdown by meter)
- Total Btu use per square foot (12 month rolling average)
  - Electricity Btu use per square foot (12 month rolling average)
  - Natural Gas Btu use per square foot (12 month rolling average)
- Average monthly computer power consumption (tracked by ITS)

### Transportation:

- Student commuting GHG emissions (annual estimate)
- Faculty/Staff commuting GHG emissions (annual estimate)
- Tri-C fuel use GHG emissions (annual)

## Departments Engaged

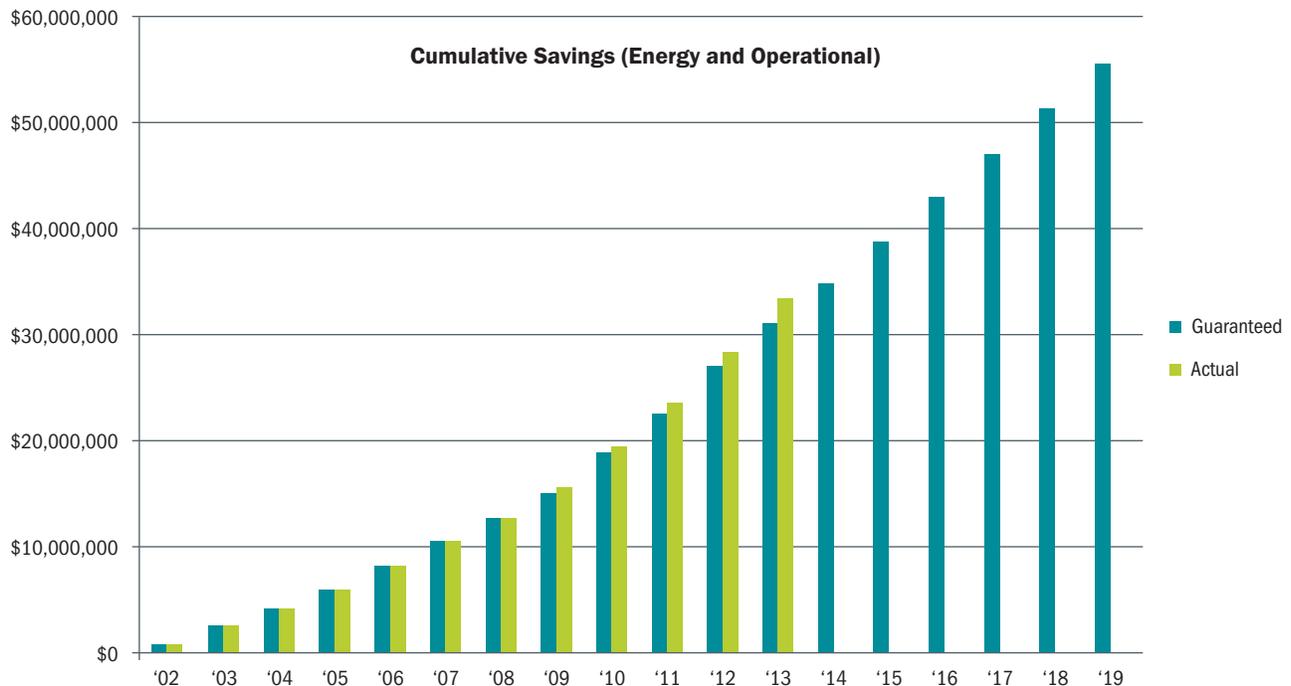
- Plant Operations (energy)
- ITS & TLCs (energy)
- Student Life (commuting)
- Enrollment Centers (commuting)
- HR (commuting)
- Plant Operations (fuel use)
- Campus Police (fuel use)
- Supplier Managed Services (fuel use)

## Achievements to date

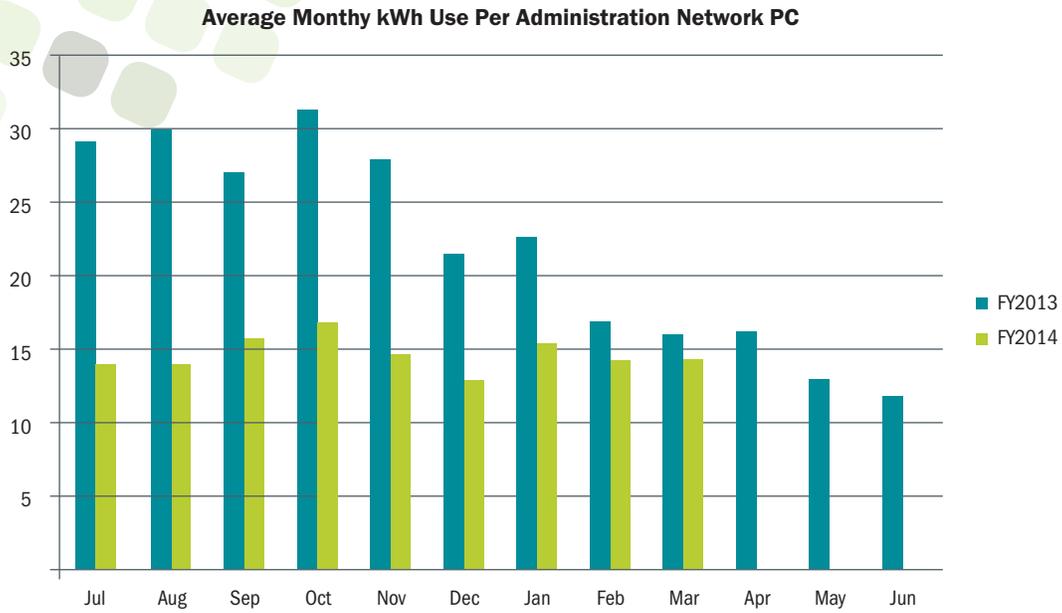
- Over \$32 million saved due to energy efficiency improvements since 2002. (*Figure 7*)
- Improved energy efficiency of network computers due to enterprise-wide energy management. (*Figure 8*)

- Free RTA passes available to paid, credit students starting Spring Semester 2014.
- Bike racks, locker rooms, and showers at most campuses.
- Pedestrian connectivity between several campuses and the surrounding neighborhoods.
- Ability for employees to videoconference or conduct a web meeting rather than traveling to meet in person.
- Priority carpool parking or “low emitting/fuel efficient vehicle” priority parking at several new LEED project sites.
- Energy modeling software used in the design process for Tri-C’s LEED certified buildings to improve energy efficiency. (*Figure 9*)

**Figure 7: Tri-C's Savings From Energy Efficiency**



**Figure 8: Tri-C's Savings From IT Energy Efficiency**



**Figure 9: Tri-C's LEED Certified Buildings**



**Advanced Technology Training Center**



**East Campus HCT**



**Brunswick University Center**



**Westshore Campus**

# Energy, Climate, & Transportation

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Energy Efficiency

### Potential long term strategies for energy efficiency include:

- Re-commissioning buildings to ensure equipment is running efficiently and as designed
- Updating Tri-C’s Energy Master Plan to prioritize future energy saving projects
- Evaluating ground-source heat pumps as an option to improve heating and cooling efficiency

### Strategy #1

Continue to track and regularly report on energy use per square foot by energy meter to better identify positives and negatives between campuses and buildings and identify opportunities for improvement.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/ Plant Operations

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Decrease in energy use per square foot, GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
1,000 tons CO2e possible

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/ Deliverables**  
Analyze energy use in detail by campus and by building (where possible). Identify processes in more energy efficient buildings that could transfer to other locations. Evaluate potential benefit of submetering. Sign on as a Cleveland 2030 District Founding Member to share information & lessons learned with other members.

### Strategy #2

Ensure computers & monitors are set to go into sleep mode or can remotely be shut down.

**Responsibility**  
ITS/Technology Learning Centers

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Avg kWh use per month per PC, total kWh reduction, GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
250,000 kWh savings /175 tons CO2e

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/ Deliverables**  
Windows 7 upgrade has allowed this, track results.

*(continued on next page)*

# Energy, Climate, & Transportation

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Energy Efficiency

### Strategy #3

Improve space utilization in existing buildings to reduce the need for new construction. Combine space utilization information with energy use per square foot to see if there are correlations.

**Responsibility**  
Capital & Construction

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Space utilization percentages

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

Avoids future increases due to new facilities

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Combine space utilization reports for current facilities with energy use information to understand the correlation and better understand if additional facilities are truly needed.

### Strategy #4

Evaluate new lighting technologies (including LED) to continue to improve efficiencies.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Capital & Construction

**Cost**  
High

**Priority**  
Moderate

**Measures**  
kWh saved, GHG reduction

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

High: potential reduction of over 5,000,000 kWh annually/3,800 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Stay informed of potential energy savings compared to existing lighting for possible future retrofits.

### Strategy #5

Create energy reduction outreach campaign to encourage students and employees to conserve energy.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Integrated Communications

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Electricity & natural gas use reduction, GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

1,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e possible

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Use better data to send a stronger message about the importance of energy efficiency and how individuals can contribute to improvements

### Strategy #6

Shift to cloud computing/thin clients to improve energy efficiency of computer fleet.

**Responsibility**  
ITS

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
kWh use reduction, GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Thin clients have been rolled out for some kiosks, and are being put in conference rooms, and some academic and workforce training locations. More to roll out in future as desktop computers are replaced.

# Energy, Climate, & Transportation

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Energy Supply

### A potential long term strategy for energy supply

is purchasing carbon offsets to help meet the 2050 climate neutrality goal.

### Strategy #1

Find innovative ways to bring renewable energy installations to campus to increase the amount of renewable energy generated and used.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of installations, % of total electricity use, GHG reduction

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Depends on size of projects, high GHG reduction potential

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Provide on-site solar or wind power at or below cost of grid purchase. Continue to investigate possibilities for installations.

### Strategy #2

Research opportunities to purchase renewable energy from off-site energy providers at a rate comparable to existing electricity grid rates.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Medium

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
kWh of renewable energy, GHG reduction

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
High

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Research renewable energy sourcing contracts that could provide renewables at similar cost to grid purchase cost.

### Strategy #3

Support legislation or other public policy initiatives that move utility electricity generation away from coal in an environmentally responsible way.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Government Relations

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
GHG reduction due to changes in regional energy supply

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
High

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Ongoing effort to support this does not need to be particularly active. The price of natural gas is driving much of this shift, but so are regulations that account for the pollution and health effects of coal-fired power plants. The Ohio renewable portfolio standard will ensure 12.5% of electricity purchased from a utility will come from renewable sources by 2020.

# Energy, Climate, & Transportation

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Commuting

### Potential long term strategies for reducing commuting impacts include:

- Improving community connectivity to Tri-C’s campuses to encourage walking and biking
- Evaluating the need for a shuttle service between campuses
- Providing priority parking for carpools

### Strategy #1

Survey students to better understand commuting modes and needs.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Integrated Communications

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Survey results

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None directly

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Planning and Leading; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Get detailed breakdown of students using mass transit, carpooling, biking, walking, or driving alone and gauge interest in potential new programs to reduce single-occupancy vehicles. Perform annually to monitor progress.

### Strategy #2

Encourage use of public transit.

**Responsibility**  
Administration/ Sustainability/Marketing

**Cost**  
Medium

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
RTA ridership, survey results converted to GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Moderate

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**  
Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Monitor success and impacts of free RTA U-Pass for paid credit students starting in spring 2014.

### Strategy #3

Encourage carpooling or ride sharing.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of participants in carpools, miles saved, survey results converted to GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Moderate

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Evaluate online ride matching services for feasibility to improve ridesharing/carpooling and improve the feeling of community on campuses.

### Strategy #4

Provide better information about the benefits of walking or biking to campus.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/ Wellness/ Student Life

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Survey results

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Valuing Employees; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Create a biking/ pedestrian resource guide with better information about bike or pedestrian routes, bike rack locations, and changing facilities.

# Energy, Climate, & Transportation

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Transportation for Tri-C Operations

### Strategy #1

Promote video conferencing/conference calling in lieu of traveling to meetings.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Integrated Communications/ITS

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Number of video conferences or internal conference calls held

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Valuing Employees; Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Educate employees about how to use Tri-C's existing video conferencing system and the existing Cisco MeetingPlace Express system.

### Strategy #2

Purchase fuel efficient vehicles for Tri-C operations.

**Responsibility**  
Purchasing/Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Fuel use

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Evaluate life cycle cost of vehicle ownership when considering purchase options, including expected fuel use over life of vehicle.

### Strategy #3

Create anti-idling policy for Tri-C vehicles to reduce fuel waste.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/ various operations departments

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Difficult to measure

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Create a reasonable anti-idling policy, work with employees to make it feasible and educate about its importance.

# GOAL 3: Green Buildings and Grounds

Reduce the impacts of Tri-C's buildings by following the USGBC's LEED standards and other best sustainable design and construction practices; creating healthy spaces and programs; and improving stormwater management.

## Goal Background

Cuyahoga Community College is committed to building and operating sustainable and healthy environments for learning and work. Tri-C has adopted the USGBC LEED system for new construction and is developing internal renovation standards to ensure this commitment is met in all projects. Improving the sustainability of grounds maintenance and stormwater management will reduce impacts on sewer infrastructure and provide highly visible examples of the College's sustainability efforts. Also included in this category are strategies to reduce potable water use and to utilize healthier cleaning products.

## Metrics for Reporting

- Number of LEED certifications achieved

- Space utilization reports (annual)
- Potable water use reports (annual, if data available)
- Percentage of green cleaners used (annual)
- Pervious vs. impervious surfaces (acres or Equivalent Residential Units)
- Percentage of stormwater retained or treated on site
- Number and size of areas used for agriculture (community gardens)
- Percentage of sites that provide open space/habitat

## Departments Engaged

- Plant Operations
- Capital & Construction
- Plant Science & Landscape Technology

- Environmental Health & Safety Technology

## Achievements to date

- 4 LEED Certifications - 3 Gold, 1 Silver. (Figure 10)
- 53% green cleaners used in the 2012 calendar year.
- Stormwater captured in a cistern at East HCT for landscape watering. (Figure 11)
- Westshore campus designed so 90% of annual stormwater is managed on-site.
- ATTC building site designed so all stormwater is managed on-site. (Figure 11)
- Community garden at Western Campus.

Figure 10: Cuyahoga Community College LEED-certified Buildings



**Brunswick University Center**  
LEED Silver achieved  
June 2012



**East Campus HCT**  
LEED Gold achieved  
July 2012



**Westshore Campus**  
LEED Gold achieved  
December 2012



**Advanced Technology Training Center**  
LEED Gold achieved  
August 2013



# Green Buildings & Grounds

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Buildings

**A potential long term strategy for Buildings** is setting a goal for carbon neutral (net zero) buildings which produce as much energy on-site as they consume.

### Strategy #1

Design and build all major new construction projects to a LEED Silver standard at a minimum.

**Responsibility**

Capital & Construction/  
Sustainability

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

High

**Measures**

LEED rating, energy savings

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment,  
Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

Varies by project

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship;  
Quality Review

**Action Description/  
Deliverables**

Standard is in place, 4 buildings LEED certified as of August 2013; remains as a priority for future new construction.

### Strategy #2

Create Tri-C internal building efficiency standards for renovations and other smaller projects.

**Responsibility**

Capital & Construction/  
Sustainability

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

High

**Measures**

kWh savings, GHG

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

TBD

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship;  
Quality Review

**Action Description/  
Deliverables**

Draft complete at end of FY13, roll out for future projects.

### Strategy #3

Increase the percentage of green cleaners used.

**Responsibility**

Sustainability/ Plant  
Operations

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

Medium

**Measures**

% of total cleaners considered “green”

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment,  
Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship;  
Quality Review

**Action Description/  
Deliverables**

Track and report on rollout of green cleaning products as part of 2014 custodial contract.

### Strategy #4

Continue to improve potable water use efficiency by installing water saving equipment and technology.

**Responsibility**

Capital & Construction/  
Sustainability

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

Medium

**Measures**

Potable water use reduction

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/  
Deliverables**

Fixture retrofits where needed, consider drought-resistant landscaping where appropriate.

# Green Buildings & Grounds

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Grounds and Stormwater

### Potential long-term strategies for Grounds include:

- Creating sustainable landscape plans for each campus
- Protecting and enhancing natural areas through preservation and habitat rehabilitation
- Using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to reduce the need for chemical treatments
- Testing alternatives to salt for winter de-icing activities.

### Strategy #1

Evaluate the potential for cost-effective projects to reduce stormwater runoff.

**Responsibility**

Plant Operations/ Sustainability/Capital & Construction

**Cost**

High

**Priority**

Medium

**Measures**

Acres of impervious surfaces captured/ treated on-site

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**

Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/ Deliverables**

Look for opportunities to engage students from PST & EHST in stormwater management projects. Follow NEORSD stormwater fee situation to monitor cost of no changes.

### Strategy #2

Evaluate opportunities to capture stormwater for later use in irrigation.

**Responsibility**

Plant Operations/ Sustainability/Capital & Construction

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

Low

**Measures**

Acres of impervious surfaces captured/ treated on-site

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**

Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/ Deliverables**

Cisterns, retention ponds, etc.

### Strategy #3

Evaluate opportunities for Plant Science & Landscape Technologies program to perform landscaping work.

**Responsibility**

Plant Operations/ Capital & Construction/ Plant Science & Landscape Technology

**Cost**

Low

**Priority**

Medium

**Measures**

Number of projects completed by students

**Sustainability Benefit**

Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**

None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**

Access & Engagement

**AQIP Category**

Helping Students Learn

**Action Description/ Deliverables**

Develop a system of determining projects for students to take on and the process that needs to be followed to get projects planned and completed.

Figure 11



Stormwater collection cistern at East HCT



Stormwater infiltration basin outside ATTC

# GOAL 4: Procurement

Apply sustainability to procurement by:

1. Adopting clear and transparent criteria so that full life cycle impacts will be considered in purchasing and contracting decisions;
2. Reducing consumption of goods and reducing the impact of chemical usage; and
3. Providing training and necessary tools and resources to procurement staff.

## Goal Background

Through the volume of goods and services it procures, Tri-C has the ability to influence the economy of the surrounding area and enhance the educational and social awareness of its students, faculty and staff.

Sustainable procurement occurs when an organization uses its buying power to give a signal to the market in favor of sustainability and bases its choice of goods and services on more than just initial cost, by also considering: lifecycle cost; social effects of a purchase on issues such as poverty, equity, labor conditions, or human rights; and environmental effects over the life cycle of a product or service. Improving purchasing efficiency by reducing consumption is an approach that melds Tri-C's procurement goal with its waste reduction goal.

While purchasing changes may be tangible and noticeable, they will not significantly affect Tri-C's GHG emissions as currently measured.

## Metrics for Reporting

- Number of green procurement contracts
- Number of green office supplies purchased and percent of total purchases in each category
- Reduced consumption of goods in key categories
- Number or percent of products purchased containing recycled or local content

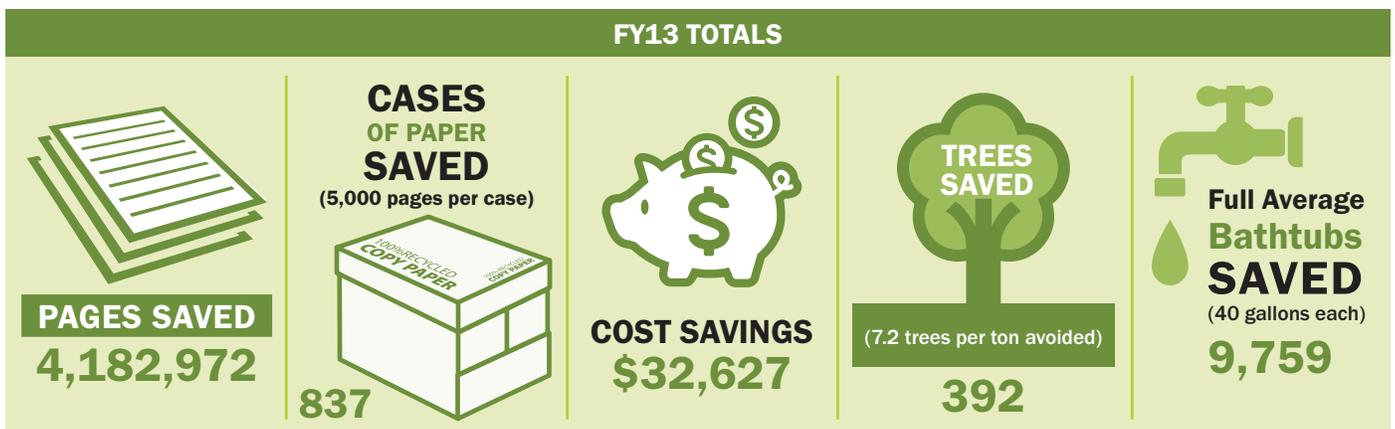
## Departments Engaged

- Supplier Managed Services
- Food Service
- Campus Services and Retail Operations

## Achievements to date

- College-wide standard of purchasing copier/printer paper with at least 30% recycled content. In Tri-C's purchasing system, paper complying with this standard come up as the top results.
- Over 45% of purchased office products contain recycled content.
- Networked printer/copier hubs that scan hard copies of documents for digital distribution.
- "Print to PDF" functionality available to all faculty and staff so documents can be printed to digital files to be saved.
- Duplex printing capability through Xerox networked printer hubs that reduced paper use by over 4 million pieces in the 2012-2013 academic year, saving money, and trees and water that would have otherwise been used to make new paper. (Figure 12)

Figure 12: Duplex Printing Savings



# Procurement

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Procurement & Supply Chain

### Potential long term strategies for Procurement include:

- Creating sustainable procurement performance measurement metrics based on guidelines created
- Limiting items stocked by vendors to those which comply with sustainable procurement standards
- Creating guidelines for sustainable event planning and catering to reduce consumption

### Strategy #1

Evaluate supply chain sustainability impacts to prioritize areas of focus.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Completion

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Minimal based on how GHGs are measured

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Find appropriate approach for evaluating sustainability criteria from supply chain. Start with high-volume suppliers to determine areas where procurement changes could have the most impact from a sustainability perspective.

### Strategy #2

Establish Sustainable Procurement Guidelines.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Completion

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Minimal based on how GHGs are measured

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Basic guidelines have been established. Continue to enforce in sourcing decisions and contract awards that suppliers should be environmentally and socially responsible.

### Strategy #3

Establish ITS procurement/leasing sustainability guidelines.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/ITS

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Percent of equipment achieving EPEAT Silver rating or higher

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Minimal based on how GHGs are measured

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Continue to evaluate ITS procurement by EPEAT criteria and use results in making RFP and contract decisions. EPEAT's evaluation criteria include: energy efficiency, reduction and elimination of environmentally sensitive materials, materials selection, design for end-of-life, product longevity and life cycle extension, end-of-life management, corporate performance, and packaging characteristics. Energy Star preference on non-EPEAT rated products.

### Strategy #4

Incorporate sustainable procurement language and requirements into specifications and Requests For Proposal.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Completion

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Minimal based on how GHGs are measured

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Ensure suppliers are aware of information they are required to provide during the bid process as well as reports they will be asked to provide once under contract.

### Strategy #5

Increase percentage of cafeteria food sourced locally.

**Responsibility**  
Aramark/ Sustainability

**Cost**  
Medium

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Percent locally sourced food purchased

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Minimal based on how GHGs are measured

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Support Aramark's efforts to use more locally produced food; help them communicate their efforts.

# Procurement

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals – Reducing Consumption

### Strategy #1

Reduce paper consumption.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Paper purchasing report by department, building, or campus comparing use over time.

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Create paperless campaign educating about available resources and benefits of going paperless. Create case studies of success within Tri-C and create a report on paper purchases by department, building, or campus to track progress. Educate employees about “print to PDF” function and ability of copier hubs to scan documents and print double sided.

### Strategy #2

Minimize individual printer purchases.

**Responsibility**  
ITS/Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of individual printers remaining

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Benefit: Environment/Community/Economic**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Encourage employees to use central hubs, reduce printing, and print double-sided. If an individual printer purchase is justified, the printer must meet EPEAT standards and print double sided.

### Strategy #3

Work with primary vendors to reduce packaging for regular deliveries.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of vendors with the program in place

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Analyze products and vendors used most frequently for opportunities to reduce packaging used.

### Strategy #4

Review items with high volume purchases to target for consumption reduction.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/  
Procurement

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
TBD

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Analyze purchasing data for potential targets beyond paper.

# GOAL 5: Recycling and Waste Reduction

Increase Tri-C's waste diversion rate to 50% by 2025.

## Goal Background

Recycling is the most visible, tangible, and basic of all sustainability programs. **Diverting waste from the landfill allows the 'waste' to be used in some way rather than being buried forever, and recycling saves energy and resources while providing valuable inputs for many manufacturing processes and their associated jobs.** While the energy savings associated with recycling, composting, and waste diversion will not result in significant GHG reductions for Tri-C, these visible programs are the gateway to sustainability programs with greater impacts, such as energy use and consumption reductions.

## Metrics for Reporting

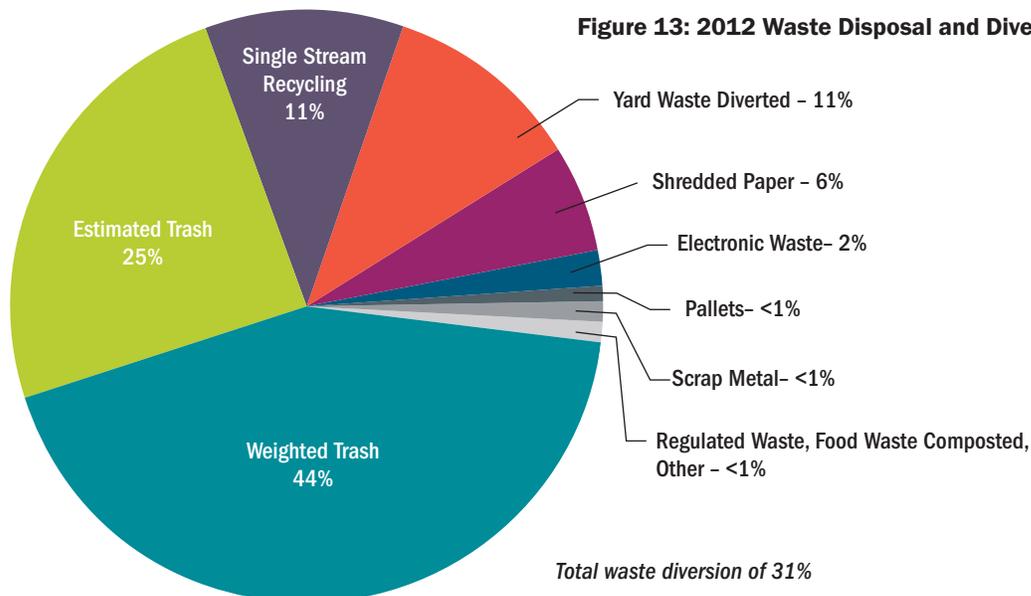
- Total diversion rate (tons recycled, composted, or otherwise kept out of landfill compared to tons going to landfill)
  - Tons Recycled (all items)
  - Tons of Solid Waste Landfilled
  - Tons Composted
  - Tons Otherwise Diverted (yard waste, pallets burned)
  - Assets diverted/recycled

## Departments Engaged

- Plant Operations
- Campus Sustainability Teams
- Food Service
- ITS
- Asset Management/Supplier Managed Services
- Integrated Communications
- Campus Services and Retail Operations
- Environmental Health & Safety

## Achievements to date

- 31% waste diversion rate. (*Figure 13*)
- Mixed (single stream) recycling collection has simplified the recycling process.
- Composting food waste from Hospitality program on-site at Eastern Campus.
- Composting food waste from Metro Campus cafeteria at nearby urban farm.
- Yard waste composted on-site at campuses.
- Pallets saved for reuse or for fuel at the Fire Academy.
- Surplus materials collected for reuse, sale, or recycling



# Recycling and Waste Reduction

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goal

### Potential long term strategies include:

- Incorporating sustainability strategies into event and meeting planning to reduce waste
- Creating a zero waste goal to guide future decisions

### Strategy #1

Improve accuracy of waste stream measurement.

#### Responsibility

Sustainability/ Plant Operations/ Others

#### Cost

Low

#### Priority

High

#### Measures

Diversion rate using more actual data and fewer estimates

#### Sustainability Benefit

Environment, Economic

#### Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction

None

#### Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area

Quality & Innovation

#### AQIP Category

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

#### Action Description/ Deliverables

Improve measurement of front load dumpster weights or volumes with better data from hauler or through better internal estimates. Work with Plant Managers and others who handle or divert waste to track weights, volumes, or quantities diverted.

### Strategy #2

Expand outreach, education, recycling and waste reduction efforts.

#### Responsibility

Sustainability/ Marketing

#### Cost

Low

#### Priority

High

#### Measures

Diversion rate

#### Sustainability Benefit

Environment, Community, Economic

#### Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction

Low

#### Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area

Quality & Innovation

#### AQIP Category

Planning and Leading

#### Action Description/ Deliverables

Work with custodial contractor to ensure their employees understand the importance of recycling to Tri-C and have the necessary tools to recycle properly. Educate students & other members of the Tri-C community about what can and cannot be recycled.

### Strategy #3

Collect food waste for composting from cafeterias.

#### Responsibility

Sustainability/ Aramark/ Plant Operations

#### Cost

Low

#### Priority

High

#### Measures

Weight of food waste composted

#### Sustainability Benefit

Environment, Community, Economic

#### Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction

Med

#### Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area

Quality & Innovation

#### AQIP Category

Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

#### Action Description/ Deliverables

Already composting food waste from Hospitality Management at Eastern Campus and from Metro Campus cafeteria. Research other options for food waste composting from additional locations.

### Strategy #4

Improve recycling and waste collection in cafeterias.

#### Responsibility

Sustainability/ Aramark/ Plant Operations

#### Cost

Low

#### Priority

High

#### Measures

Visual assessment of success, waste volume breakdown

#### Sustainability Benefit

Environment, Economic

#### Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction

Minimal

#### Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area

Quality & Innovation

#### AQIP Category

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

#### Action Description/ Deliverables

Provide combined recycling, trash, and (potentially) compostable waste collection bins.

### Strategy #5

Print fewer materials, especially time-sensitive materials such as course catalogs.

#### Responsibility

Marketing/ Access, Learning, and Success

#### Cost

Low

#### Priority

High

#### Measures

Printing cost savings

#### Sustainability Benefit

Environment, Economic

#### Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction

None

#### Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area

Quality & Innovation

#### AQIP Category

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

#### Action Description/ Deliverables

Already underway. Monitor changes over time to communicate successes and to identify additional reduction opportunities.

### Strategy #6

Monitor waste stream to determine opportunities for diversion or reduction of waste.

#### Responsibility

Sustainability/ Plant Operations

#### Cost

Low

#### Priority

Medium

#### Measures

Waste audit results

#### Sustainability Benefit

Environment, Economic

#### Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction

None

#### Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area

Quality & Innovation

#### AQIP Category

Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

#### Action Description/ Deliverables

Waste audits analyzing what is being thrown away that could be recycled, and what wastes could be eliminated. Look for opportunities for reuse or upcycling.

## GOAL 6: Communications and Community

Increase awareness of sustainability issues among campus and community members through education and outreach and empower sustainability action both on campus and within the broader community.

### Goal Background

Communicating Tri-C's sustainability efforts both internally and externally is critical to the success of the initiatives, since momentum needs to build in all goal areas for progress on sustainability to occur. As a community college, communications and partnerships with the surrounding community on sustainability efforts are especially critical to our success.

### Metrics for Reporting

- Annual number of sustainability related events hosted on campus
- Annual number of sustainability-related community partnerships
- Annual number of sustainability events sponsored or involved with
- Annual number of external presentations related to Tri-C's sustainability efforts

### Departments Engaged

- Community and Government Relations
- Integrated Communications
- HR
- Access, Learning, and Success
- Workforce and Economic Development Division
- Foundation
- Food Service
- Campus Green Teams

### Achievements to date

- Sustainability web pages updated regularly with relevant information.
- Annual Earth Day events held at all campuses.
- Tri-C involvement in numerous Cleveland-area sustainability efforts.
- Interpretive signage identifying "green" design and construction elements installed in all buildings which have achieved LEED certification.
- Regular sustainability communications in Inside Tri-C and through other channels.

**Figure 14**

In Partnership with the Cleveland Foundation, the City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability, and The City Club of Cleveland, Tri-C hosted a presentation from Dr. Raquel Pinderhughes, Professor of Urban Studies and Planning at San Francisco State University, on the value of integrating environmental literacy into education and job readiness programs.



**Figure 15**

Food waste from Tri-C's Metro Campus is composted in partnership with the Rid-All Green Partnership, a nearby urban farm and youth education center.

# Communications & Community - Increase awareness of sustainability issues among campus and community members

## Key Strategies for Reaching Goals

### Strategy #1

Keep sustainability communications current.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Integrated Communications

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Traffic to sustainability pages

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Update sustainability web pages regularly and add additional pages as necessary; produce updated digital and printed materials as necessary.

### Strategy #2

Develop an ongoing sustainability outreach initiative to increase knowledge of Tri-C sustainability efforts.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Marketing

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Surveys of awareness

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Regular presence in Inside Tri-C, my Tri-C space, Hi-Viz, social media, student life, Tri-C Voice; consider an internal sustainability newsletter or a dedicated section of my Tri-C space.

### Strategy #3

Host events and provide tours of Tri-C's sustainable projects.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of events hosted and tours given; attendance

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Planning and Leading

**AQIP Category**  
Leading and Communicating; Building Collaborative Relationships

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Host relevant sustainability meetings or events and conduct tours as requested or as part of special events.

### Strategy #4

Collaborate with Deans to integrate sustainability information into new student convocation.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/ Access, Learning, and Success

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Completion

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Cover the basics of recycling, energy efficiency, and other key program information, along with what sustainability means to the larger community.

*(continued on next page)*

**Communications & Community** *(continued)*

**Key Strategies for Reaching Goals**

**Strategy #5**

Collaborate with HR to integrate sustainability procedure information into new employee orientation.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/ Human Resources

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship

**Action Description/ Deliverables**  
Cover the basics of recycling, energy efficiency, paper use reduction (duplex printing, print to PDF), and the importance of sustainability to Tri-C.

**Strategy #6**

Host annual Earth Day and other sustainability education events on Tri-C campuses.

**Responsibility**  
Campus Green Teams/ Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of events & participants  
**Sustainability Benefit**  
Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
Low

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading

**Action Description/ Deliverable**  
Collaborate with campus teams to produce Earth Day events and other sustainability events.

**Strategy #7**

Share Tri-C's sustainability implementation story with regional and national communities.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of presentations

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading

**Action Description/ Deliverables**  
Ongoing effort to get the word out about Tri-C.

**Strategy #8**

Promote student involvement in sustainability at Tri-C.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Student Life

**Cost**  
Medium

**Priority**  
High

**Measures**  
Number of students involved

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None directly

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**  
Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Planning and Leading

**Action Description/ Deliverables**  
Work with Campus Life offices to get involved with relevant student clubs and events.

**Communications & Community** *(continued)*

**Key Strategies for Reaching Goals**

**Strategy #9**

Host sustainability events, speakers, or movies open to the Tri-C community and the larger community.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Medium

**Priority**  
Medium

**Measures**  
Number of events and participants

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None directly

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation; Completion & Success

**AQIP Category**  
Meeting Student & Other Key Stakeholder Needs; Planning and Leading

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Partner with outside groups to broaden the scope of events and pull in larger audiences. Look for opportunities to bring these events directly to classes to guarantee an audience.

**Strategy #10**

Improve and increase sustainability signage.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Low

**Measures**  
Number of new sign projects

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
LEED educational signs are an example of this. Look for other non-intrusive opportunities to message sustainability efforts.

**Strategy #11**

Organize a "Sustainability Speakers Bureau."

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability/Community Outreach

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Low

**Measures**  
Number of presentations/ speeches

**Sustainability Benefit**  
Community

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Access & Engagement; Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Aid in the creation of a sustainability topic category that can be offered to the community as part of the Speaker's Bureau

**Strategy #12**

Create a sustainable investment policy.

**Responsibility**  
Sustainability

**Cost**  
Low

**Priority**  
Low

**Measures**  
Percent of investments in socially responsible funds or not invested in fossil fuels

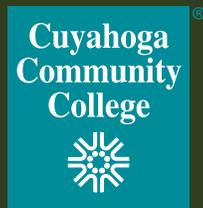
**Sustainability Benefit**  
Environment, Community, Economic

**Estimated Annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction**  
None directly, high theoretically

**Tri-C Strategic Plan Focus Area**  
Quality & Innovation

**AQIP Category**  
Planning and Leading; Knowledge Management & Resource Stewardship; Quality Review

**Action Description/Deliverables**  
Follow fossil fuel divestment campaigns; assess how much of Tri-C's investment portfolio is in "green" investments compared with "non-green" investments and whether change is worthwhile.



**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

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