

LUX ET SPES



STONEHILL COLLEGE

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT
2017-2019



Welcome to the **Stonehill College Sustainability Report 2017-2019**. This report tracks progress toward the ambitious goals of Stonehill's sustainability plan, [A Sustainable Stonehill 2012-2018](#).

Stonehill College is committed to promoting awareness of environmental issues in our community and around the world through community based learning, educational programs and events, and campus wide initiatives that encourage environmentally friendly practices among students, faculty and staff. By integrating the practice of sustainability into everyday life at Stonehill, students and graduates are able to think, act and lead with courage toward the creation of a more just, compassionate and sustainable world.

This report illustrates the many initiatives undertaken campus-wide in Stonehill's commitment to sustainability. We hope you enjoy celebrating our successes and progress over the past three years as you review this report.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACROSS CAMPUS	4
STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY GROUPS	5
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	6
EDUCATION	8
ENERGY	10
FOOD & WATER	13
REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE	15
PROCUREMENT & GENERAL SERVICES	18
RECOGNITION	20
EVENTS	22
TIPS FOR MAKING OUR COMMUNITY MORE SUSTAINABLE	26

ACROSS CAMPUS

Environmental Stewardship Council - The Environmental Stewardship Council is responsible for leading Stonehill's sustainability efforts through its diversified membership that includes students, faculty, and staff members representing each division of the College. The ESC meets monthly throughout the academic year. Click [here](#) for meeting minutes.

In 2017, the Waste Reduction Sub-Committee was formed to coordinate the rollout of the Green 2Go initiative, a campus-wide effort to reduce single-use to-go containers, among other initiatives.

In 2019, a Sustainability Marketing sub-committee was formed to promote all the great initiatives being done across campus, as well as to encourage more action.

In the spring of 2019, members of the Environmental Stewardship Council worked closely with Planning Committee members to incorporate sustainability into several of the focus areas of the College's Five-Year Strategic Plan, including the *Impact of Generation Z*, *Mission / Holy Cross Identity*, *Academic Program Delivery* and *Campus Master Plan* sections.

Stonehill Goes Green - Stonehill Goes Green is a campus-wide initiative to promote environmental sustainability within the Stonehill community through policies and practices including recycling, efficient energy use, and waste reduction. This effort is being guided by the Environmental Stewardship Council. Detailed information can be found at www.stonehill.edu/green.



Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill - In the fall of 2015, Stonehill embarked on a grassroots initiative called *Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill*, dedicating the next two academic years to a college-wide focus on justice and the environment. A small ad-hoc group of faculty and staff, with the help of many others, organized an exciting series of programs including films, an alumni environmental careers panel, and guest speakers. The idea for this initiative arose from 3 factors: Pope Francis' 2015 environmental encyclical *Laudato Si'*, the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, and the many Stonehill courses touching on environmental justice.



GROWING CLIMATE
JUSTICE AT STONEHILL

Green Fund - In July 2012, the College began a program to provide funding for student driven sustainability initiatives. The volunteer Green Fund Committee consists of a student representative, a faculty member and the Energy Manager. Some approved applications include funding for travel costs related to an Environmental internship, to visit Representatives at the State House, and to attend the Farm to Institute New England Summit, Bikeshare start-up costs, Sustainable Living House events, Real Food Commitment events, prizes for Recycling Trivia, Earth Week prizes, refreshments and supplies, reusable tableware for the SURE program, residence hall bottle fillers, and reusable to-go containers for the Freshmen Green Kits.

STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY GROUPS

Sustainability at Stonehill (an SGA Senate Focus Group) – This group looks at campus wide recycling, dining hall composting, and ways to reduce water usage. They have led the initiatives for filtered water bottle dispensers, multi-stream recycling bins, energy saving motion sensor lights, low flow faucets and showerheads, and more.

SGA Programming Eco-Rep – This individual is charged with brainstorming eco-friendly ideas to bring to campus and works to “greenify” existing programs.

ENACTUS (Entrepreneurial Action in Us) - Stonehill's ENACTUS chapter works to bring together the top leaders of today and tomorrow to create a better, more sustainable world through the use of business principles and business models. The club promotes the awareness of business opportunities to address and solve social problems by creating outreach projects that improve the quality of life and standard of living in our community. ENACTUS focuses on helping out local businesses and entrepreneurial-minded alumni, usually in the marketing and organizational capacities. In 2017, ENACTUS began work on improving the website of a coffee shop that recently opened near campus. In addition, ENACTUS has been increasing its involvement in Stonehill's environmental campaigns, which include promoting the usage of reusable to-go containers and the reduction of food waste.

Their annual furniture fair reduces waste by reusing furniture that would otherwise be thrown away at the end of each year.

Students for Environmental Action (SEA) - This club serves to educate the campus community about different environmental issues on campus and around the world. SEA sponsors campus wide programs and initiatives that make Stonehill a greener school. SEA is committed to campus-wide education/awareness, promoting other clubs such as Food Truth, and reducing Stonehill's environmental impact through planning and action.

Food Truth (includes Real Food, Compost Team and No To-Go sub-committees) – The student formed group called Club Food Truth was created with the mission of actively informing the student body about all the injustices behind the food system and how students can take action within their daily lives to support just practices. Food Truth encompasses all aspects surrounding the food system: production, purchasing, menu planning, composting and waste disposal. Food Truth also serves as an umbrella group combining the smaller student groups Real Food Challenge, Compost Team, and No To-Go. The Farm serves as a hub for this group advised by Farm Manager, Bridget Meigs.



Further information on these student groups can be found at www.stonehill.edu/offices-services/stonehill-goes-green/green-student-groups.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Farm at Stonehill - Using organic and sustainable methods, The Farm at Stonehill grows over 150 different varieties of fruits and vegetables, and distributes it to local organizations fighting hunger and community members who lack access to fresh and affordable produce. The Farm is also a living classroom. Stonehill students, faculty, host schools and community groups visit, tour, and volunteer throughout the season to learn about sustainable practices and help the community. For students, The Farm enriches their academic endeavors, providing them with the opportunity to actively engage in social justice issues pertaining to food in neighboring communities. The Farm has expanded its sustainability efforts by focusing on permaculture gardens, introducing Italian honeybees and hiring an outreach coordinator to coordinate volunteer groups and look for better ways to integrate The Farm's work into the local community.



The Farm has two hoop houses, one mainly serving as an area for seedling propagation and one that has a soil floor and helps to extend our growing season. The second hoop house was constructed during the summer of 2014 through a grant by the Harold Brooks Foundation and a generous gift by the Class of 1964.

Mobile Market - The Farm at Stonehill, through grants from Project Bread, the Vela Foundation, the Inner Spark Foundation, and private gifts, is furthering its mission of providing our neighbors with fresh, affordable produce with the launch of a Mobile Market. For the 2017 and 2018 seasons, we partnered with the Brockton Neighborhood Health Center to host markets at two locations in the City of Brockton. The Farm's Mobile Market provides fresh, healthy, and organic produce for a diverse community of people who do not live near grocery



stores or have access to healthy eating options. It shares information about other efforts to increase wellness in the community by partnering with other organizations to offer cooking demonstrations, recipes, and nutritional information to visitors. Student volunteers and interns who attend the Mobile Market often describe it as empowering and rewarding; engaging with happy market-goers highlights how all of the hard work at The Farm truly makes a difference in people's lives.

Farm Fridays - During the growing season, volunteer hours at the Farm at Stonehill are held every Friday. Members of our community are invited to volunteer to help us grow, harvest and deliver vegetables to our partners in Brockton.

Climate Partners – During the spring of 2017, students of the Climate Change LC partnered with Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Sharon, Holy Cross Church in Easton and 2 others religious institutions to help them find ways to decrease their carbon footprint, helping Catholic parishes to answer the Pope's call for action on this important issue.

Green Schools - In June 2013, Jessa Gagne was elected to the board of directors for Green Schools of Massachusetts (<http://projectgreenschools.org/>). Green Schools is a nonprofit whose mission is to lessen environmental impacts, conserve resources and educate the next generation of environmental stewards. The organization works in connection with a national network of Green Schools. Jessa's primary contribution to the organization is assisting with the development of the Green Schools Annual Summit and streamlining the registration process of their events with an online registration system.

EDUCATION

Green Kits – Beginning in 2013, Stonehill’s incoming freshmen receive Green Kits during their orientation to help instill environmental behavior and values. The kits generally contain reusable to-go containers, drink tumblers, rescued paper notepads, individual recycling bins, laundry detergent pods, hot drink to-go cups, hand towels, pens made from recycled cardboard, reusable grocery bags and information on good green practices for campus living and how to get involved with green groups on campus. A small group of students works with the Purchasing Department, Operations, and Facilities Management to procure donations from Stonehill's vendors. Students then assemble and deliver the kits (approximately 650) to freshman residence halls. The goal of this initiative is to create an environmentally friendly community by educating each student upon arrival about the green culture on campus.



Sustainability Learning Outcomes - In 2019, Stonehill College graduated 21 Environmental major students (Environmental Science and Environmental Studies) and 8 Environmental Science and Studies minor students. Additionally, the College offers over 45 sustainability-related courses ranging from Environmental Geology to Water Resource Management to Food Politics.

Organic Farming - Students in Professor Bridget Meigs’ Sustainable Agriculture class worked in five groups throughout the fall 2016 semester, researching different forms of organic certification for the Farm: USDA Organic, Naturally Grown, Biodynamic, GAP and Food Alliance. Students presented their findings and recommendations.

Craig Binney and Jessa Gagne, guest lecturers in The Ethics and Science of Climate Change LC - On March 20, 2017, Craig and Jessa spoke with Professor Mooney’s class about our campus solar installations, discussing risks, benefits, costs and practical and regulatory considerations.

Student Sustainability Podcast - On November 20, 2017, Craig Binney was interviewed for a student-run podcast as part of an Environmental Science class project focused on the College’s energy footprint. This podcast discussion centered on our sustainability initiatives and setting an example for other colleges.

Climate Change LC Presentations - On April 19, 2018, all were welcome to attend the final presentations of Professors Susan Mooney & Kristi Burkholder’s Ethics & Science of climate Change LC. The students’ projects centered on reducing carbon footprints, which were done in collaboration with several Stonehill staff members throughout their projects. The six projects included green office and green res hall room certification, composting, carbon neutral building, Green2Go rollout, and Catholic climate action at our Chapel of Mary as well as the Holy Cross Parish in Easton.

Sustainable Agriculture Class - On December 4, 2018, Prof. Meigs’ students gave presentations on pollination, manure, composting and The Farm.

Honors Environmental Ethics Class - On April 25, 2019, Professor Mooney's students gave their presentations on improving campus sustainability. The three teams’ presentations were

increasing renewable energy, decreasing bottled water usage, and decreasing meat consumption.

Farmhouse Conversations – Beginning in 2017, Farmhouse Writing Fellows discuss their current projects. Some sustainability-related talks over the past few years include:



- "Changing New England: A conversation about climate change, its local impacts and our joint path forward" discussion lead by Prof. Kristi Burkholder, Environmental Science.
- "Memories of the Landscape: Stonehill College's Environmental History" discussion lead by Jonathan Green, Assistant Director of Archives and Historical Collections.
- Students Elaina McDowell and John Irving discussed their research on climate change and the Gulf of Maine under the guidance of Professor Kristi Burkholder.
- Rachel Hirst, Associate Professor of Biology, discussed her ongoing STEM research.
- Candice Smith-Corby, Assistant Professor of Studio Arts, shared about her book that discusses the origin of resources, pigment making and cooking.

ENERGY

Energy Efficiency Initiatives - Thanks to recent upgrades, we are reducing consumption of natural gas & electricity while cutting costs.

During the 2016 Villa Theresa controls project, a lack of insulation was noted in the attic, which allowed warm, conditioned air nearly unimpeded access to flow directly into the attic. Normally insulation can be placed between the attic and ceiling of the floor just below; however, in Villa Theresa the hallway lights are recessed into the attic and, at the time, were not rated to be covered by insulation. Therefore, in 2017, Operations worked with Facilities Management to install LED fixtures in the hallways that are safe to be covered by insulation. Once this work was complete, an outside vendor laid insulation throughout the attic. The total cost of the project included \$5,000 for light fixtures and \$9,000 for insulation. NGRID provided incentive funding totaling \$12,000, which reduced the cost to the College to only \$3,000. The project is expected to reduce electrical consumption by 37,000 kWh (\$5,575) per year, which gives the project a payback period of less than five months.

In 2017, walk-in refrigeration systems were targeted. There are eight walk-in coolers and six walk-in freezers on campus, spread between Roche Dining Commons, Holy Cross Center and Shields Science Center. The project included replacing older standard efficiency condenser fan motors with new high efficiency motors, and adding direct digital controls (DDC). The new controls are adaptive and optimize the performance of each refrigeration system that provide benefits including increases in energy efficiency, diagnostics, temperature tracking and equipment life. The total cost of the project was \$61,160, of which Stonehill College paid \$32,740 and NGRID paid \$28,420 via incentive funding. The project is expected to reduce electrical consumption by 126,600 kWh (\$19,116) per year, which gives the project a payback period of 1.7 years.

In 2018, the hot and chilled water plant controls at the Shields Science Center and New Residence Hall, which are the two largest on campus, were upgraded to modern Trend controllers with all new programming. Over the past few years, both plants experienced poor performance and have become difficult to troubleshoot due to the limitations of their original controls. The total cost of the two projects was \$55,025. The new controls are already showing improved efficiency, reduced equipment downtime, and increased ease of troubleshooting. Additionally, 23 electric meters were added to the remaining buildings.

In 2019, the campus energy management system Tridium was upgraded from Niagara AX to Niagara N4. The new version uses HTML 5, which makes it less reliant on browser plug-ins, faster and easier to use, especially with regard to access via mobile devices. The total cost of the upgrade was \$11,000.

Also in 2019, Alumni Hall was added to Tridium. Occupancy sensors and adjustable thermostats were added to improve occupancy comfort and reduce energy consumption. Operation of the hot water system is now automatic and is only enabled when zones require heat, instead of running continuously for eight months regardless of need. The total cost of the project was \$51,800.

The Merkert Gymnasium at the College Center was added to Tridium several years ago to increase control over the temperature and humidity within the space. While conditions had improved, we were unable to achieve consistent indoor conditions due to the limited ability to adjust the programming of their integral Trane controllers. As such, when developing the scope of work to add the rest of College Center to Tridium, we included taking control of the outside air dampers of these two units.

The remaining scope of the College Center project is to add occupancy sensors and adjustable thermostats to improve occupancy comfort and reduce energy consumption. With the exception of the Merkert Gymnasium, the building is heated by electricity and runs continuously regardless of actual occupancy. The total cost of this project is \$130,100 and will be completed in the fall of 2019.

Interior Lighting - Lighting retrofits have been installed in every one of our older buildings. It is estimated that 90% or more of the interior lighting has undergone some type of lighting retrofits that reduce energy usage and lower carbon footprint.

Exterior Lighting – For several years, the College had been searching for a suitable replacement for its lantern style outside lights. Fortunately, technology has advanced since the first samples were installed in 2012. Beginning in the fall of 2016, all of the campus’s 494 outside lights were converted to LED. With this energy conservation project completed, the College will save 480,000 kWh each year. The total cost of the project was \$315,000, half of which was covered by the utility company. The balance is spread out on our monthly electricity bills for two years. Stonehill College will save approximately \$70,000 per year in electricity alone. Facilities Management will realize additional savings due to reductions in bulb and ballast replacements. In addition to the LED retrofits, all of the lanterns’ acrylic panels were replaced to provide sufficient lighting while concealing the LED bulbs.



Throughout 2018, all remaining inefficient exterior building lights were changed out. This included the O’Hara basketball court lights, and wall pack and entrance lights from Corr Hall to the Duffy Academic Center. In total, more than 100 metal halide fixtures were replaced with LED fixtures, which will reduce energy consumption by 62,000 kWh and costs by nearly \$10,000 annually.

Solar Canopies at Student/Visitor Parking Lot - Our largest parking lot, with 767 spaces, is now almost entirely covered by five large carports containing 6,500 rooftop solar panels. This 2.7 MW installation was connected to the grid in the summer of 2017. Additional benefits of this project include LED lighting, security cameras, electric vehicle charging stations, underground drainage, covered parking during inclement weather and easier snow removal.



With the addition of this project, our solar installations generate a combined 6.96 million kWh annually, which is 44% of Stonehill's total annual consumption. This is a very important step toward achieving our sustainability goals.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations - In addition to the vehicle charging stations already located at the Sports Complex, in 2017, additional units were installed at the MacPháidín Library parking lot, Student/Visitor Lot and two more at the Sports Complex. Four-hour charging limit signs have been installed, and the units are being utilized very cooperatively.

Carbon Offsets - Stonehill College was one of the first three schools to join the Lighten the Load program with MacGray Campus Solutions in 2008 - its initial year. On Stonehill's behalf, in 2008 MacGray purchased a ten-year carbon offset certificate to offset the unavoidable CO₂ emissions derived from laundry machine usage on campus. Stonehill is proud to be part of a growing program that annually offsets 15,970,467.11 pounds of CO₂ or 7,697.75 tons per year. From 2008 to 2018, the College had offsets totaling 158,958 pounds of CO₂ equivalent annually. In 2018, this program was extended for an additional three years. Due to increases in equipment, the College will have offsets totaling 368,376 pounds of CO₂ equivalent annually from 2018 to 2021.

Information Technology Initiatives - Some of the energy saving initiatives that IT has recently instituted include setting lab computers to go to sleep mode after 30-minutes of inactivity and printers to enter power saver mode after 60 minutes of inactivity. All new computers are ordered with SSD hard drives, which use less power than standard HDD. The College orders only EPEAT Gold or above rated laptops, desktops and monitors. The standard port replicators are powered via USB, eliminating the requirement for external power.

FOOD & WATER

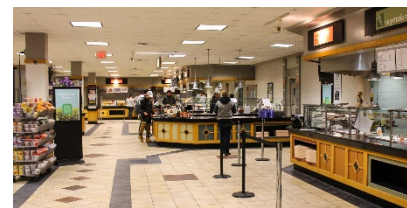
Real Food Campus Commitment - With the signing of the Real Food Campus Commitment in



April 2014, the College seeks to increase its procurement of *real food*, specifically local/community-based, fairly traded, ecologically sound and humane food. By 2020, the goal is to have 20 percent or more of our food purchases be *real food*. In coordination with Sodexo, our food service provider, the student group Food Truth continues to work hard on this initiative using the Real Food calculator. In 2016, the College created internships for students to calculate for the Real Food Challenge and will use this data to increase real food purchases.

Dining Services – The College Meal Plan is a *declining balance plan*, with all a la carte pricing, which has a major impact on reducing food waste.

Sodexo, our Dining Services provider, utilizes a Lean Path-style production, which focuses on removing waste in food prep areas.



The College combines pre-consumer scraps from food production, post-consumer food from cafeteria users and our Farm waste for composting.

In the fall of 2016 and again in 2017, Michelle Guiney of Waste Management along with members of Food Truth helped to educate diners in the Commons with the *Clean Plate Challenge*, teaching how to take only what they will consume and to help clarify what can be recycled and composted. Michelle was encouraged by the plates she observed and believes that our particular meal plan helps to keep food waste to a minimum.

At the fall 2017 event, students dining at the Commons were asked to participate by swiping leftover food into a specified container. The food waste container was weighed after two hours to get an average amount of waste per student. 172 clean plates and 237 food waste plates were counted, and the waste container weighed 58.98 lbs., which resulted in approximately .14 lbs. of leftover food per student. Michelle noted that seeing the actual waste often resonates with people. This Clean Plate Challenge also included information about the environmental impact of food waste along with suggestions on how to reduce food waste.

A recent survey, as part of the Clean My Plate program by Waste Management, showed that Stonehill College is already at the standard that WM is looking for other college accounts to achieve.

Working with our vendors and campus resources, the College has made great strides in reducing our waste to far below requirements for organic waste disposal standards recently set by the Mass DEP.

All coffee products in the main café were Fair Trade certified and coffee beans are processed locally.

Where applicable in season, Sodexo requires local sourcing including dairy, fruit and vegetables. We estimate 15% of our fruits and vegetables come from local sourcing, which can expand to 30% during the northeast growing season. The Dining Services menu cycle features locally grown and processed meat products. In 2015, we defaulted to cage-free produced eggs only, and all dairy comes from locally sourced farms in New England.

Dining Services supports a *Meatless Monday* program, offering many meatless options to aid students in this commitment and to highlight the benefits of a non-meat diet. Additionally, there is a vegetarian station and meatless options for most entrees. Daily vegan options are also offered.

Think Outside the Bottle Campaign – This program was implemented in September 2011 by the efforts of the Activism Club. The policy phased out unnecessary College spending on five-gallon bottled water units, limiting water bottle usage in catering, and increasing the availability of tap water on Campus as bottled water uses millions of gallons of oil in production and results in millions of discarded bottles to our already packed landfills.

Bottle Fillers - The College now provides bottle fillers and water fountains at all eating venues, administrative and student buildings. Facilities is working toward installing bottle fillers in all residence halls.

Dish Machine Replacement Project - The College completed this project in May 2018. Installing this new FT1000 Hobart Flight with its Energy Recovery System will reduce water usage by 50% and energy usage by 20%.



Smart Water Meters - During 2017-2018, the Easton Water Department changed out all of Stonehill's 61 water meters. The new smart water meters operate on cellular data, transmitting readings directly to the Water Division. These meters allow Stonehill College to view consumption by gallons per hour, day, or month. We are also able to set custom alerts for possible leaks or unwanted high usage, which both saves money and conserves water.

Irrigation - During the summer of 2013, ten weather-monitoring devices were installed for the irrigation on campus. The Solar Sync sensors are attached to buildings and are able to adjust water usage based on current weather conditions. The stations will save water and electricity over a period of time.

With the exception of a few locations, our water for turf maintenance comes from well water.

Showerheads - In January 2013, new showerheads were installed in all the residence halls to help drastically decrease the amount of water consumed on a daily basis.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Recycling Program - The Stonehill College Recycling Program has greatly expanded and has achieved much success since it was established in 1991.

The College has a contract with Waste Management to pick up and process our recycled paper products, glass & plastic bottles and tin cans. In 2013, the College went to a **single stream recycling system** where all recycled materials can be mixed in the same container, making it easier for the community to recycle, and in turn, increase our recycling efforts.

There are four **Techno Recycling bins** on campus, two in the Shields Science Center and two in the Merkert-Tracy Building, for the ease of recycling ink cartridges, batteries, CD's, small electronic devices, and unbroken light bulbs. These items are all properly disposed at an off-site recycling facility.



For fiscal year 2018, the College recycled 127 tons and composted 9 tons of waste, which when combined, was 18% of our total mainstream waste. Recycling for the year amounted to 147.87 tons, which is 18.12% of all campus waste.

Additionally, Stonehill Dining recycles over 90% of all cardboard, metal, and cooking oil from the Dining Commons.

Composting - In the fall of 2012, the College's Dining Services began its composting program in the Roche Dining Commons, with a student led group on hand for instruction. Since then, the program has expanded to include all pre-and post-served green waste from our three largest dining venues, as well as coffee grounds from Dining Services and our on-campus Dunkin Donuts. An additional compost bin is located outside of Commonwealth Courts. Approximately 100 pounds of food scraps are collected each day (~18,000 pounds per year) and delivered to the Farm to be used as compost.

Dumpster Dive - Coordinated by Michelle Guiney of Waste Management, this event was held outside of Shields Science Center in January 2017. Volunteers sorted recyclable materials from trash bags collected from several freshmen residence halls. Bottles, cans, fiber products, and real waste were separated into piles providing visual evidence that we can do better at recycling. Disposable to-go containers made up a large percentage of the trash. This was the kickoff event for the year's RecycleMania competition. Similar events were held in November 2017, and again during Earth Week in April 2019.

Clip Exchange - In 2016, Food Truth introduced a clip exchange program for green to-go containers. Students can drop off their dirty containers at several convenient campus locations in exchange for an easy to carry "eco-clip", which enables them to receive their next meal in a clean reusable container at the Commons, The Hill or Ace's Place at their convenience. An informative student-produced video can be viewed [here](#).

Green 2Go - In the spring of 2018, the College piloted the Green 2Go program, which was



designed to reduce the number of single use containers, replacing them with reusable green containers. In the first semester of 2018, the College used about 8,700 single-use containers, compared to about 86,000 in 2017! This extremely successful initiative has become a permanent program.

“Give a Mug, Save the Planet” - In March 2018, this initiative was introduced to provide reusable mugs for use in the Roche

Commons Dining Rooms, as a sustainable alternative to using paper cups for hot beverages. Community members donated ceramic coffee mugs to be re-purposed for use in the Roche Dining Rooms. Those who use a mug save \$.10 on any hot beverage in addition to diverting a paper cup and plastic lid from Massachusetts landfills. Approximately 100 cups of coffee were sold in mugs during the first week of the initiative.

The College also provides a \$.10 per cup savings for students using reusable hot or cold drinking cups at all eating venues on campus, including the main servery, the Hill, Aces Place and Dunkin Donuts as an extra incentive for using reusable cups.

Textbook Rentals - The College Bookstore, operated by Follett, actively promotes textbook rentals, allowing the same books to be reused year after year. Book rental sales have significantly increased over the last few years. Textbook buy-back is promoted as students leave campus for semester breaks, which helps increase the re-use of books within the Follett bookstore system, reducing the need for new books.

Baystate Textiles Bin - In the spring of 2019, the College entered into an agreement with Baystate Textiles to have a bin on campus, just in time for the student’s spring move-out. In the end, 750 pounds were collected. Marketing for this program will expand in order to make a greater difference in 2020.

520 million pounds (10% of waste stream) of usable textiles were sent to Massachusetts landfills last year - of which 95% can be reused or recycled. BST ships donated textiles globally to be re-used, creating jobs and providing affordable clothing in other parts of the world. Donated textiles uses: usable clothing (45%), fiber conversion grade for new products (20%), wiping cloth grade (30%). Participating schools/towns receive \$100/ton (5 cents per pound).

Controller’s Office Paper Reduction - In 2018, the Controller’s office introduced several initiatives that have significantly reduced the amount of paper in the College’s A/P system. The number of electronic (ACH) payments increased by over 30%, saving on cost of producing and mailing checks. All A/P documents are now scanned and maintained, reducing paper and storage needs. A new procurement card and expense reporting system was introduced using Bank of America’s Works application. This process is completely paperless, using scanned receipts and an online approval process.

Additionally, the Payroll Office now offers employees their W2 electronically. This allows employees to send the on-line form with their tax return, is more secure than paper, is available sooner, is accessible 24/7, and reduces the College’s paper usage.

Furniture - Old furniture is donated to local agencies such as My Brother's Keeper, Easton Lions Club, Easton school system and other non-profit entities for re-use in the community. Old metal equipment is disposed through a recycling program.

In 2017, the College demolished the Old Student Union building, re-using or donating over 75% of the existing furniture in the building.

Also in 2017, 780 pieces of surplus residential bedframes, desks and mattresses, totaling 4,597 pounds, were recycled and shipped to relief efforts in San Salvador, El Salvador through IRN's non-profit partners.

In the spring of 2018, the College demolished Stanger Hall and was able to recycle, reuse or donate approximately 80% of its furniture, donating to groups including Easton Lions Club, Brockton and Easton School Systems, and the Cape Verdean Association.

ENACTUS Furniture Fair - Each August since 2010, ENACTUS members hold their annual furniture fair. At the end of each spring semester, ENACTUS students travel from dorm to dorm collecting donations such as refrigerators, TVs, bed risers, lamps, and other small pieces of dormitory furniture from other students to be cleaned, and re-sold to the incoming freshman class on move-in day. This annual event reduces waste by reusing furniture and appliances that would otherwise be thrown away at the end of each year. Many items are also donated to My Brother's Keeper.

PROCUREMENT & GENERAL SERVICES

Document Center - In 2017, the College merged our print and mail centers, and introduced more print controls that greatly reduced our paper volume.

The College's most recent contract reduced overall machines, and introduced 30 additional desktop ColorQubes, which are sustainably built and include solid ink technology to reduce virtually all toner waste. All copiers/printers are Energy Star Certified.

The College instituted print tracking for students and staff, print release stations, and introduced non-print alternatives (E-Learn, central library electronic reserves, etc.). All printers default to print double sided to minimize the use of paper. These aggressive print controls have reduced overall printing by 30%.

Additionally, the College changed standard copy paper to WB Mason's Flagship Recycled paper, which is a 30% recycled paper.

Office Supplies - Working with WB Mason, we have been promoting on line ordering, and non-paper orders is well above the 90% mark. The College also uses online monthly summary billing and history for all orders, removing thousands of paper invoices annually. WB Mason recycles all packaging materials used for furniture at the College.

Laundry - The College began a contest within the residence halls by measuring the wash/dry cycles per student, which serves as the basis for an annual contest that rewards the residence hall having the greatest reduction in cycles per student.

The College continuously promotes the use of cold-water washes, and limited detergents, reducing hot water and energy usage.

The College uses Energy Star rated washers, and by contract the vendor purchases carbon offsets equal to the amount of energy used by dryers during the course of the school year.

Furniture - The College standardizes on New England Woodcraft furniture, which uses wood from sustained yield growth forests, uses non-solvent based finishes, and meets ANSI Formaldehyde Emission Requirements.

Greenguard Certified - The fabric for the 354 seats in May Hall's McCarthy Auditorium is Greenguard Gold Certified. The Greenguard Indoor Air Quality Certification Program identifies low-emitting materials, finishes, and products for indoor environments. All Greenguard certified products are tested for more than 10,000 individual volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

Mass Save Rebates - Many Mass Save rebates were received for purchasing Energy Star appliances for May Hall, Roche Dining Commons and the Meehan Business Building.



Bike Racks - Over the past several years, additional bike racks have been installed at New Hall, Stanger Hall, MacPháidín Library, Shields Science Center, Martin Institute, behind the Dining Commons, the Sports Complex, May Hall and the Meehan Business Building.

Cleaning Products - Eighty percent of our cleaning products are Green Seal certified. Several times we have invited representatives from Clean Green Solutions and Rochester Midland Corporation to train our custodians on green cleaning. Most have successfully completed training and testing in "Rochester Midland's Certified Green Housekeeping Program" which is a recognized LEED program.

RECOGNITION

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) - Stonehill College joined AASHE in October 2011 and began participating in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) survey in 2014. The process of implementing our Sustainability Plan and completing the STARS report has helped us to better link academic study and research with real-world impacts, which only enhances our educational mission. Similarly, by being transparent as we evaluated and benchmarked our sustainability efforts, we saw improved communication and understanding among the various campus departments and community partners on how they can continue contributing to the process.

STARS Silver Rating - Upon submitting our application on Earth Day, April 22, 2016, the College earned a STARS Silver Rating in recognition of our sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System, measures and encourages sustainability in all aspects of higher education.

Stonehill's Sustainability Plan, published in 2014, set goals of achieving a STARS Bronze Rating



in 2015, followed by the STARS Silver Rating in 2018. By the fall of 2015, the College had earned a score well above what was needed to obtain a bronze rating and also very close to achieving a silver rating. Therefore, the College chose to wait and submit the survey at the silver level. Completing the application and providing the required documentation to achieve this

goal required an extensive review of Stonehill's sustainability efforts in academics, engagement, operations, purchasing, and governance. The final report is over 200 pages and is publicly available on the AASHE website. It took one year to pull all of the information together and complete the survey. Input from many departments throughout the College was required. These departments include Operations, Facilities Management, Institutional Research & Assessment, Purchasing, IT, Academics, Intercultural Affairs, Human Resources, and the Mission Office.

Based on our STARS survey, Stonehill College was highlighted as a top performer in the Coordination & Planning of Sustainability Initiatives category of AASHE's 2016 Sustainable Campus Index.

Princeton Review Rating - The Princeton Review has been surveying the green practices of higher education institutions for several years and assigning Green Ratings based on the current year's survey. In 2012, Stonehill College received a rating of 73. Since then, our score has improved over the years to 87 in 2018. Based on Princeton Review's rating criteria, Stonehill College has been included in their publication *The Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges* each year since 2014.

Carbon Offsets - During the 2019 Earth Week celebration Len Blaney, New England Regional Manager for CSC ServiceWorks (our on-campus laundry provider) presented the College with a

Certificate of Recognition: “This certificate is hereby awarded to Stonehill College in recognition of its firm commitment to operating environmentally responsible laundry rooms. In conjunction with CSC ServiceWorks Academic Division, Stonehill College has offset 368,376 pounds per year of the carbon emitted by its laundry equipment over the lifetime of the contract.”



EVENTS

St. Francis Pledge Events:

The St. Francis Pledge of the Catholic Climate Covenant calls on those who study, live and work at Catholic colleges to protect God's creation and to advocate on behalf of people in poverty who face the harshest impacts of global climate change. The Pledge consists of five areas: Prayer, Learn, Assess, Act and Advocate. This Pledge was signed by President Cregan on April 23, 2012. In October 2015, President Denning also signed the pledge, showing the College's increased commitment to the environment.

- **2016 - "Dial Down the Heat: Cultivate the Common Good for Our Common Home"**

This year's St. Francis Pledge event, based on the Catholic Climate Covenant's program, was held on September 28, 2016. A film was followed by a facilitated discussion helping to answer Pope Francis' call for constructive dialogue about our place in God's creation and environmental impacts on poor people and communities. This program was sponsored by the Office for Mission and Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill.



- **2017 - "Befriend the Wolf: Blessing All God's Creation"**

This theme of the 2017 Catholic Climate Covenant's program, which was celebrated on October 4, 2017, encourages us to seek divine guidance on creation care. The event included a short video and facilitated discussion and was sponsored by the Mission Division.

- **2018 - "Who is My Neighbor in a Climate-Threatened World?"**

On 10/2/18 a Feast of St. Francis program was held on campus. The event highlighted Catholic efforts to prevent climate displacement and how to respond to the needs of vulnerable communities displaced by extreme weather and climate change.

- **Blessing of the Pets**

In celebration of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology and animals, each fall the College holds a Blessing of the Pets event on the lawn outside of Alumni Hall. Alumni, faculty, staff and students are invited to bring their pets for a prayer service and blessings by Reverend Anthony Szakaly, C.S.C., Director of Campus Ministry and Alumni Minister.



"Brain Drives, Climate Change, and Doing Good: A Neurosurgeon's Dilemma" – On September 22, 2016, Dr. Ann-Christine Duhaime, the Nicholas T. Zervas Professor of Neurosurgery at Harvard Medical School, spoke about the neuroscience of sustainable behavior. She discussed how our brains are not wired to make sustainable choices and how to counter-act that wiring. This event was sponsored by *Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill*.

Campuses for Environmental Stewardship Best Practices Showcase, held in September 2016 at the University of New England, was attended by Bridget Meigs, Marie Kelly, Adam Lampton and

Breanne Penkala. Discussions surrounded how different campuses implemented an environmental/STEM service-learning project into their courses through Davis Educational Foundation grants and the challenges involved.

Film screening "Racing Extinction" – Sponsored by Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill, this film was shown on October 5, 2016. Filmmaker Louie Psihoyos, along with activists, scientists and others, draws attention to humankind's role in a potential loss of at least half of the world's species.



Clare Walker Leslie, Author & Nature Artist - On October 21, 2016, Clare Walker Leslie hosted a campus walkabout & interactive studio workshop encouraging participants to observe, draw and write. This was followed by an artist talk, reception and book signing of her most recent book, *The Curious Nature Guide*. This *Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill* program was co-sponsored by the VPA Department, Carole Calo Gallery, and the Religious Studies Department.

Avian Distributional Changes Over a Century of Climate Change – On December 9, 2016, Morgan Tingley, ornithologist, conservation biologist and community and quantitative ecologist, gave a talk about climate change's effects on bird populations, among other things. This is a Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill program.

Christopher Hendrickson of the Humane League – On February 6, 2017, guest speaker Christopher Hendrickson spoke about his organization's mission, which focuses on reducing meat consumption and helps to advocate for policy modification with higher ethical standards for animal welfare. They have partnered with many companies, including Sodexo, to create policies and standards for chicken welfare and to make a cage-free eggs pledge. This event was sponsored by Food Truth.

Film screening "Time to Choose" – This film is an uplifting and empowering look at people addressing climate change. Following the film, viewers participated in a discussion on next steps we can take together. This *Growing Climate Justice* program, held on February 7, 2017, was moderated by Prof. Sue Mooney.

Farm to Institute New England (FINE) Summit

- On April 6, 2017, several Stonehill students, staff and Sodexo staff traveled to this summit in Leominster, MA with the goal of learning concrete ways to help the College meet our Real Food Challenge Commitment.
- On February 10, 2018, over 125 individuals, representing more than 25 colleges and K-12 schools with farms gathered at Stonehill College to connect, share stories and tackle common challenges faced by campus farms in New England. This event was sponsored by The Farm at Stonehill, Farm to Institution New England (FINE) and the Vela Foundation.



- In April 2019, several Stonehill staff, students and Sodexo staff attended the 2019 FINE Summit, held at UMass Amherst. While in attendance, they met with Farm Fresh Rhode Island, a hub for local food, who distributes for Easton's Langwater Farm. Sodexo hopes to begin using fruit and vegetables from Langwater Farm for catering this summer and for students next year. We count this as a great success toward supporting local and Real Food Challenge goals.

People's Climate Movement – On April 29, 2017, a busload of Stonehill students, faculty and staff attended Boston's march as part of this massive, nationwide movement calling upon Congress to take action on climate change and create sustainable jobs, healthier communities, and a better future.

“An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power” - On October 26, 2017, Stonehill took part in a nationwide screening of former Vice President Al Gore's latest film. Emily Van Auken '18, a recent participant in Gore's Climate Reality Leadership Corp, introduced the film. Following the screening, there was a Q&A webcast with Al Gore. A light (least eco-impact possible) supper was provided to attendees, and was sponsored by the Growing Climate Justice at Stonehill.



Author Frances Moore Lappé – On November 13, 2017, the Martin Institute presented Frances Moore Lappé, author or co-author of 18 books about world hunger, living democracy, and the environment. Beginning with the three-million copy *Diet for a Small Planet* in 1971, her books include *Democracy's Edge*, *Getting a Grip* (in two editions), *EcoMind*, and, most recently, *World Hunger: 10 Myths*. With a focus on the roots of the U.S. democracy crisis and how Americans are creatively responding to the challenge, her current work includes the online *Field Guide to the Democracy Movement* and the forthcoming book *Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want*, coauthored with Adam Eichen (Beacon Press, Sept. 2017).

Bring Your Own Cup to Dunkins - On November 14, 2017, Professor Susan Mooney's Environmental Ethics class sponsored this event, encouraging everyone to bring their own reusable container to the on-campus Dunkin Donuts to reduce campus waste. While increasing sustainability on campus, all participants saved \$1 on a medium beverage.

“High Performance Building Strategies Towards Carbon Neutrality on Collegiate Campuses” - On March 14, 2019, Energy Manager Jessa Gagne was part of the Energy Conservation Panel for this discussion. The panel included experts in energy, facilities management and net zero building design.

2019 Mass. Sustainable Communities and Campuses Conference: Shaping the Future of Sustainability - Farm Manager, Bridget Meigs spoke at this conference, held in Cambridge on March 29, 2019.

Attorney Kevin Minoli '97 - On April 24, 2019, the Joseph W. Martin Institute for Law & Society presented guest speaker Attorney Kevin Minoli. His presentation was entitled “The Future of Environmental



Protection: Why I Am Not Worried". Attorney Minoli served as the Acting General Counsel of the EPA in 2017.

Jamnesty & Earth Week Events - Many great events are held during the month of April each year to promote campus-wide sustainability initiatives and to encourage student involvement. Many student groups, including SEA, ENACTUS, Mindful Living, Food Truth, Eco Reps and SGA, as well as The Farm, Sodexo, Xerox and off-campus groups and vendors provide informational displays about their initiatives.








Thanks to a great team of volunteers and student involvement, events generally include a nature walk, campus clean-up event, Earth Day Mass at the Chapel of Mary, Eco Craft Night, a Meatless Monday event, Climate Change Trivia, Green Bingo, zero-waste events, guest speakers, film screenings, Trashion Show, and Farm Friday volunteering. Raffle tickets are given out for chances to win prizes such as gift cards, pro sports tickets and student-designed t-shirts.

Annual Trashion Show – This entertaining event, sponsored by Food Truth, is held during Earth Week festivities in April to promote ecology on campus. Students design clothing made of recycled materials.

Earth Day Mass - On Earth Day, Sunday, April 22, 2018, the first ever Earth Day mass was held on campus, where all were welcome to celebrate our planet together in the Chapel of Mary. Mass was followed by surprise treats and table presentations from various on-campus environmental clubs. All were encouraged to wear green and to bring their own drinking cup to reduce waste from the event. Approximately 70 students attended.

"Climate Justice & Practical Steps to Decrease Your Carbon Footprint" - This very informative breakout session was held during Stonehill's Professional Development Conference on May 22, 2019.

TIPS FOR MAKING OUR COMMUNITY MORE SUSTAINABLE

- 1  Turn off lights and computers when not in use
- 2  Adjust temperature set points
- 3  Carpool, ride a bike and walk
- 4  Unplug idle phone chargers and other phantom plugs
- 5  Avoid taking the elevator; use the stairs instead
- 6  Reduce consumption and waste, reuse things and recycle
- 7  Print double-sided and reuse single-sided pages
- 8  Use fuel-efficient and hybrid cars versus gas-guzzlers
- 9  Use ENERGY STAR appliances and electronics
- 10  Do not allow vehicles to idle for more than 5 minutes - It's the law!