Introduction to Campus Sustainability at Georgia Tech
Sustainability is about using our resources wisely, to achieve the best possible outcomes in all areas – economic, human, and environmental.
About GT Campus Sustainability

- Promote a campus “operational practice” that embodies sustainable principles

- **Guide the Institute’s broad agenda** of sustainability within operational practice and integrate with Academic and Research platforms

- **Empower campus community** to build a sustainable culture on campus through
  - Planning
  - Policy
  - Programs
  - Education and engagement

- **Measure, track and report progress** toward shared sustainability goals
Key Areas

Energy and Emissions

Water

Materials Management

Built Environment

Community and Culture
Energy and Emissions

Energy and Emissions Includes:
- Building consumption of energy
- Vehicle emissions

Vision
The Institute seeks to reduce its dependency of finite fossil fuels for operational practices and promotes energy and transportation options that support human health and contribute to a carbon neutral campus.
Energy and Emissions

How we plan to achieve our vision:
• Increase renewable energy generation on campus

• Encourage students, staff, and faculty to utilize sustainable commuting options (carpooling, public transit, biking, and walking)

• Transform the campus fleet of vehicles to only utilize alternative fuel options
Water

**Water Includes:**
- Water capture
- Water consumption/use

**Vision** | Georgia Tech is a world class leader in water conservation practices, proven through consistent performance and reduction of potable water use on campus. The campus operates to protect and maintain the campus hydrological ecosystem including water basins, vegetation, and wildlife.
Water

How we plan to achieve our vision:
• Install native/adaptable plants in landscaping to reduce water irrigation needs
• Reduce water consumption
• Increase the use of potable water
Materials Management

Materials Management Includes:
- Food
- Waste

Vision | Georgia Tech understands the lifecycle processes of materials and their environmental impacts. The Institute takes responsibility of materials that enter campus and ensures material streams support human and ecological health, and have a way to be recycled, reused, and repurposed rather than sent to a landfill. The campus strives to be a Zero Waste Campus where 95% of municipal waste streams are diverted from the landfill.
How we plan to achieve our vision:

- Divert landscaping, construction, and demolition waste from the landfill

- Increase the food and beverage expenditures that are served on campus to be local or third party certified

- Develop a fully sustainable supply chain by having operational purchases meet GT-specific sustainable criteria and ensure that criteria language is included in supplier selection and contracts
Built Environment Includes:
• Construction of buildings
• Green cleaning practices

Vision | Georgia Tech fosters a physical campus environment that defends safe, healthy, and accessible connections for all and supports the highest standards of design, construction, and operational efficiency and performance.
Built Environment

How we plan to achieve our vision:

• See that 100% of building projects meet third party green building criteria

• Retro-commission existing buildings to ensure they are operating effectively

• Implement green cleaning practices across campus
Community and Culture

Community and Culture Includes:
• Transparent sharing of data
• An Institute supported Sustainability Plan

Vision | The Georgia Tech community of students, faculty, and staff is empowered and engaged to contribute to sustainable outcomes on campus and understands the importance of sustainable actions. Tech utilizes our academic brain trust to create a Living-Learning-Laboratory on campus and invites our neighboring communities, the region, and the world to support us in our journey.
Community and Culture

How we plan to achieve our vision:

• Incorporate sustainability into core classes across all departments

• Embed sustainability into the Institute’s governing and policy making bodies

• Provide and share sustainability education opportunities
What You Can Do:

Partner with Georgia Tech Campus Sustainability by:

• Take the **Sustainability Pledge** (located on our website, sustain.gatech.edu)

• Review and practice sustainable **actions** (located on our website)

• **Get involved** with our office on various initiatives

• **Join** a student group
Proposed Tour Route

- Please note that you can do as many, or as few, of these tour stops
- The entire tour is approximately 1.8 miles, and takes about an hour
- Remember to be mindful of your surroundings, to follow traffic and pedestrian guidelines, and to bring a water bottle
- There is more Sustainable efforts and buildings on campus than listed in this introductory tour; contact our office for more information!