

How Housing & Dining Services Can Reduce its Carbon Footprint

A Guide for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

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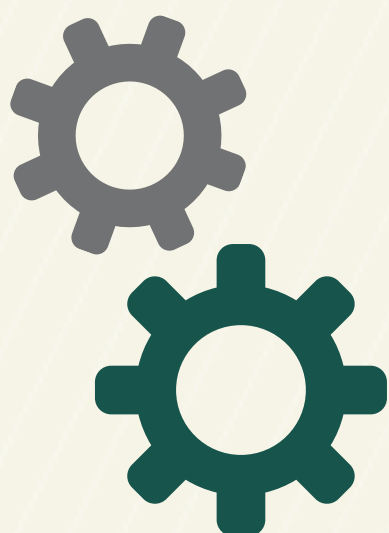
IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR REDUCTION

It's important, both financially and sustainably, to first consider how we can reduce emissions in systems we already have before we look into replacing anything.

Currently, HDS's largest GHG concerns include: natural gas, refrigerants, fleet vehicles, airline travel, and solid waste.



REPLACE/ UPDATE OLD SYSTEMS



After determining everything that can be done to improve existing systems, consider investing in more efficient products. Start with more inexpensive strategies, like updating lighting systems. Then proceed to bigger projects like updating HVAC systems.

CSU will soon be practicing a solution to this aspect with the installation of geothermal energy.

UTILIZE GREEN POWER

Consider indirect building emissions and re-evaluate where the energy supply comes from. Source energy from environmentally friendly power stations and generate renewable energy on site.



PURCHASE CARBON OFFSETS/ CREDITS



As we transition to more environmentally responsible systems, emissions are still inevitable. This can be solved by purchasing carbon offsets, which essentially fund projects that will reduce as many emissions as you are producing. This system provides the incentive that organizations should first be looking for ways to reduce their emissions, so they can buy less offsets, which are costly.

A COLLECTIVE EFFORT

There are many components and details within this strategy that must be considered, and varying perspectives and specialties will be highly valued in the process. The task of reducing our footprint is a collective effort, and cannot be accomplished without careful consideration and action taken by everyone involved.



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