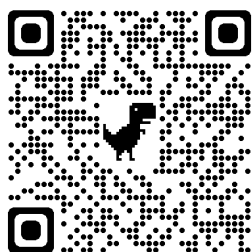




Ohio Wesleyan University | Environment & Sustainability | Fall 2022

Environmental Science | Environmental Studies | Geography | Food Studies (minor)



sustainability.owu.edu

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A selection of ongoing activities focused on environmental and sustainability by Ohio Wesleyan students, staff, faculty, and off-campus collaborators. OWU E&S has over 75 majors who participate in program and campus efforts:

OWU Courses focus on the environment from a broad range of perspectives: new courses at top!

ENVS 499: Topics: Environmental Racism & Climate Justice

GEOG 191: Geospatial Analysis with Desktop GIS, GEOG 192: Geospatial Analysis with Web GIS

GEOG 112 and 369: Mapping and GIS and Remote Sensing - Drones

ENVS 110: Introduction to Environment & Sustainability

ENVS 198/498: Conversations Toward a Sustainable Future Links new students to upperclassmen, faculty, campus staff, and our regional partners.

ENVS 111: Introduction to Earth Science | ENVS 112: Ecology & the Human Future | ENVS 399: Sustainability Practicum

Environmental courses in Biology, Chemistry, Politics & Government, Economics, Philosophy & Religion, History, HHK

We have a growing number of **local and regional externships and internships** that can be taken as a full credit course during the semester or summer. We are happy to consider talented freshmen for these externships if they come in with relevant experiences. Some examples:

- Seminary Hill Farm (@ MTSO Campus): Organic farm + food justice
- Stratford Ecological Center: Organic farm + environmental education center
- Delaware Preservation Parks: seasonal naturalist positions, environmental education, etc.
- City of Delaware: Interns working on city projects, environmental projects & mapping
- DelCo Water Co.: Infrastructure mapping & water quality



Travel Learning courses: **Bahia Ballena, Costa Rica** (left)

BIOL 355 Plant Responses to Global Change in Alaska

BIOL 344 Plant Communities and Ecosystems in Utah

GEOG 347 Environmental Alteration in Costa Rica

ZOOL 345 Marine Biology in Belize

Environmentally-themed campus life: Tree House Small Living Unit, OWU Citizens Climate Lobby, OWU Outdoors Club, Food Recovery Network, Annual Green Week events, Sustainability Task Force

A Collaboration between OWU student Janelle Valdinger and the City of Delaware led to the construction of **three Bioretention cells** (rain gardens, right). The cells were designed with plants that appeal to local pollinators and are low maintenance.



Ohio Wesleyan University alum Brianna Graber spent her last three semesters at OWU conducting water-quality research on the Delaware Run, which flows through the university campus. Her work included collaborating with the City of Delaware to install a 4-foot-high, 18.5-foot-wide, concrete-weighted **storm drain net** directly into the waterway. The 13,000-pound trapezoidal net captures trash and green debris (organic waste such as lawn clippings and leaves). The net is one of the first installed in Ohio and the nation.

OWU ENVS is working with the **Delaware Entrepreneurial Center (DEC)**, a collaboration between OWU and the city and county of Delaware, on green entrepreneurial and business startup efforts which fully engage students.

A student and alumni project to construct a large brick **Chimney Swift Tower** (right) on the residential side of campus is fully funded and scheduled to be completed in Fall 2022. The tower will be designed with custom ceramics created by our campus Art Department faculty and students, with tiles representing the ecosystem and history of OWU.



E&S participates in a **daylong regional watershed conference** each fall, the Olentangy Watershed Forum. This allows students to connect to and network with regional environmental professionals. We also work extensively with the OWU Career Connection.

Ohio Wesleyan University Sustainability Plan

As a liberal arts institution, Ohio Wesleyan University must be a leader in progressive sustainability initiatives through educational, technical, and social means. The Ohio Wesleyan Sustainability Plan is created to engage and expand a culture of sustainability that has a positive impact on the environment.

1. **Commit to a Sustainable Future on Campus**
 - Fulfillment Sustainability Coordinator with support & facilities by 2018
 - Environment & Sustainability program with Sustainability major and faculty position by 2019
 - 15% yearly growth in repairs and repairs in Environment & Sustainability
2. **Reduce Our Impact on Global Climate Change**
 - Convert to energy efficient building investments
 - Utilize 25% solar or renewable energy on campus by 2020
 - Install solar panels on campus for learning purposes
 - Annual student-led energy reduction challenge initiated Fall 2017
3. **Increase Our Health and Well-being**
 - Connect to a Farm and Forest Collaborative with Southern Biological Center and the Mohonk Mountain State Park by 2017
 - Successful student-led organic garden by end of 2016
 - Maintain and grow student-run Food Recovery Network
4. **Live Better on Campus and on Earth**
 - Develop Sustainable Living Model Residence Option by 2020
 - OWU Activity courses on Sustainable Practices by Spring 2017
 - Monitor and expand May Move Out
 - New campus bird, animal, insect and plant habitat enhancements each year

OWU Sustainability Plan (left): As a liberal arts institution, Ohio Wesleyan University must be a leader in progressive sustainability initiatives through educational, technical, and social means. The Ohio Wesleyan Sustainability Plan created largely by students as part of their coursework at OWU was officially adopted in 2017 and is currently being updated.

May Move Out: A student-initiated project, in collaboration with Goodwill, to divert usable materials from the trash as students move off-campus in May. We divert about 10 tons of reusable furniture, appliances, clothes, bikes, etc. on average, each May.



More information at sustainability.owu.edu