



## Maryland Green Registry MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

# Bowie State University



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Higher Education  
Member since July 2009

## Management and Leadership

### Environmental Team

*Bowie State University's committee, called C4, consists of faculty, staff, students and community partners who meet monthly throughout the academic year to plan green activities geared toward increasing education and awareness on sustainability initiatives for the campus community. The team also continuously updates the campus community with the latest in climate change information via the Climate Commitment Change Committee (C4) website at <https://www.bowiestate.edu/about/sustainability/climate-commitment-coordinating-committee/>*

*Bowie State also has a student component of C4 called the Green Ambassadors, solely devoted to leading efforts in sustainability among students. C4 encourages all campus members to take the climate action pledge which is customized to individuals' agreement to commit to certain actions (re-designed in April 2021)*

*The University recently completed a new Climate Action Plan entitled the BSU Climate Action Plan 2020 based primarily on actual actions that are taking place and/or are planned to take place within a 5-year period.*

**Environmentally Preferable Procurement**

*The University participates in the Staples toner recycle program. In addition, all electronic equipment purchases are certified Energy Star compliant. All cleaning products and pest control substances are all-green and hygiene products made of recycled paper.*

*Most University buildings feature retrofitted water fountains designed for reusable water bottles.*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*Bowie State has formed relationships with external organizations such as NAACP, Collington Retirement Community, the Prince George's County Department of the Environment and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in relation to environmental sustainability and climate change. The University hosts occasional campus wide educational lecture series geared toward the BSU community. In addition, we sponsor or assist with World Food Day, annual paper shredding events, campus clean ups, area park clean ups, as well as various Earth Day activities during the week of Earth Day such as annual poetry slam and other friendly competitions.*

*BSU is also partnering with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) to implement a trail easement to run adjacent to the campus.*

*BSU has a 25 fruit tree orchard planted by BSU volunteers in the Fall of 2020 thanks to a grant from the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation in partnership with Vitafusion to plant 200k trees worldwide to communities of need and institutions that can help communities in need.*

**Energy**

**Energy Efficiency**

*BSU completed an energy performance contract. The contract included lighting upgrades to energy efficient fixtures, water conservation efforts, building envelope improvements, HVAC control systems upgrades, and several other initiatives. The improvements are estimated to save the university over 2 million kWh in electricity, 107 thousand therms of natural gas, 7.7 million gallons of water.*

**Renewable Energy**

*The campus currently generates between 15-20% of our campus needs from solar energy through a vast network of solar panels ranging from parking lot canopies to rooftop locations. In addition, the University has installed several other solar powered projects including several multi-functional solar charging tables, a solar bus shelter that can charge electronic devices, and solar charging units next to sitting benches.*

*See more information on these projects including our solar dashboard showing 2 million kWh annual generation from our largest solar installation: <https://www.bowiestate.edu/about/sustainability/solar-projects/index.php>*

**Waste**

**Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

*The BSU Bookstore has a rental program which keeps textbooks circulating several times over and reduces the need to print more. Additionally, rather than wasting or trashing used books, the Bookstore buys back books and sends them to another Follett store or (if they cannot be used) donated to Better World Books.*

*Our Dining Hall in our LEED Gold Student Center: 1) features trayless service, 2) utilizes reusable utensils, 3) uses paper straws which significantly cut down on wasteful plastic that ends up in our landfills and waterways, and 4) follows the principle of food waste diversion through our dining services vendor: <https://bowiestate.edudine.com/sustainability2015/>*

**Recycling**

*BSU recycles all eligible materials with the exception of food items and hazardous and toxic waste. Recycle bins have been issued to all residence hall rooms on campus. There are other recycle bins set up around campus in the academic and administrative buildings. In addition, [Big Belly](#) solar trash compactors are located at various points to collect trash and recyclable materials, notifying campus personnel when full, and operating on 100% from solar energy. Annual Shred Day event destroys sensitive and old paper documents and recycles tons of paper each year.*

## Transportation

### Employee Commute/Customer Travel

*BSU Transportation Services seeks to provide efficient, convenient, and safe transportation options for students, staff and faculty and limit individual vehicle usage. The Bulldog Shuttle Service transport students to off-site housing and local businesses in the Bowie area.*

*Electric vehicle charging stations are available for all campus members.*

### Efficient Business Travel

*The BSU Bike Share Program offers free bike rentals to BSU students, faculty and staff to get around campus sustainably, affordably, and quickly.*

### Fleet Vehicles

*In an effort to help reduce the University carbon footprint, the campus is continuing to expand our electric vehicle fleet including maintenance, public safety and mailroom delivery vehicles. Our newer model buses and vans exemplify the latest in fuel efficient technology.*

## Green Building

### LEED

- *LEED Platinum: The Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Nursing*  
Learn more here: <https://bowiestate.edu/about/administration-and-governance/division-of-administration-and-finance/office-of-facilities-management/capital-projects/science-center/sustainable-design.php>
- *LEED Gold: Student Center*
- *Projected minimum LEED Silver: Entrepreneurship, Living & Learning Community*

**Profile Updated April 2021**



*Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.*

*Learn more at [green.maryland.gov](https://green.maryland.gov)*

