At Portland State, we strive to have everything we build teach us, and everything we learn help us create a better world. Our 50-acre urban campus is a vibrant, living laboratory for practicing sustainability, extending beyond the classroom into offices, eateries, plazas, and gardens. Our goal is to innovate and be a model of sustainability both locally and internationally.



It all starts here. This self-guided tour will take you to many of the sustainability features on our campus.

Urban Center & Plaza SW MONTGOMERY BETWEEN 5TH & 6TH

With the streetcar passing diagonally through the plaza, numerous bus stops, and three light rail lines, the Urban Plaza is one of the busiest transit hubs in the state. More than 40 percent of all student and employee trips to campus are made by transit. The neighboring Urban Center Building is the first existing building at PSU to receive LEED certification under the LEED Operations + Maintenance program.

Academic & Student Rec Center SW 6TH & MONTGOMERY, IN THE URBAN PLAZA

Built in 2010, the ASRC is LEED Gold certified. Toilets flush with rainwater collected from the roof, all wooden materials are sustainably harvested and/or sourced Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified, and the track and climbing wall are made from recycled materials. Campus Rec supports inclusion programming accessible at low cost to PSU and the surrounding community.

Bike Hub SW 6TH & HARRISON

The PSU Bike Hub is a place where students, faculty, and staff learn to maintain and repair their bikes and have access to a full-service repari shop. The Bike Hub provides quality tools, workspace and instruction, and sells bicycles, parts and accessories— all with the goal of keeping riders and bikes on the road, empowering bicyclists of all sorts, and promoting the bicycle as a tool for recreation, fitness and efficient transportation.

Karl Miller Center

SW HARRISON BETWEEN 6TH & BROADWAY

Home to PSU's School of Business Administration and Office of International Affairs, the Karl Miller Center's (KMC) major renovation and addition was completed in 2017. Certified LEED Platinum, KMC contains many innovative sustainability features. During construction, 80% of the old building's walls, floor, and roof structure were reused, while over 95% of construction and demolition waste was diverted from landfill. Many resource conservation features are present in the building, such as sensor-controlled low-flow faucets and lighting fixtures controlled by daylight and occupancy sensors. The new portion of the building is cooled through natural ventilation, an application of passive design strategies.

Native American Student & Community Center SW BROADWAY & JACKSON

The Native American Student & Community Center provides a place for students, faculty, and community members to gather, find social and academic support, and engage in cultural traditions and ceremonies. Built in 2003 with sustainably harvested wood and local stone and brick, the building features abundant natural light, original artwork by Native American artists, and a rooftop garden with medicinal and ceremonial plants used for smudge ceremonies, tea, healing salves, and interactive education for Indigenous Nations Studies classes.

Robertson Life Sciences Building SW MOODY, JUST NORTH OF THE TILIKUM CROSSING

The Robertson Life Sciences Building, opened in 2014, is a LEED Platinum science facility shared by Portland State University, Oregon Health and Science University, and Oregon State University. The building features suspended walkways, copious natural light, and communal spaces with panoramic views. Sustainable features include green roofs, storm water collection for non-potable water uses throughout the building, and energy-efficient lighting and climate control. The building is a quick bike or streetcar ride from PSU's main campus.

7 Vikir

Viking Pavilion & Scott Community Field SW HARRISON BETWEEN 6TH & BROADWAY

The Viking Pavilion was completed in 2018 and is certified LEED Gold. Low-emitting materials were used throughout the building and most wood is reclaimed or FSC certified. Efficient fixtures are slated to reduce water consumption by 46% and energy consumption by 25%. Next door, the Stott Community field may look like an ordinary turf field, but is made of 20,000 recycled tires. The turf requires no chemical fertilizers and reduces PSU's carbon footprint by eliminating the need for fuel-powered maintenence.

8 Epler Hall & Splash Boxes SW 12th & MONTGOMERY

Stephen Epler Residence Hall was Portland's first mixed-use LEED Silver certified building, containing classrooms, a child care facility, and student housing. The building features passive heating and cooling systems and energy efficient lighting. Rainwater flows from the roof to several river rock filled "splash boxes" in the public plaza, then channels between brick pavers to planter boxes that filter the water before it goes into storm drains and, ultimately, the Willamette River.

Community Orchard & Campus Apiary SW 12th & MONTGOMERY

The Community Orchard contains more than 30 species of fruit trees and is home to the campus apiary, buzzing with bees since 2016. Student volunteers in the Student Sustainability Center manage the orchard and apiary in partnership with Bridgetown Bees. Orchard harvests are given to the PSU Food Pantry. More information on campus gardens is available at:

pdx.edu/student-sustainability-center/student-gardens.

Bike Garage with Living Roof SW 11th & MONTGOMERY

One of 10 secure bike parking facilities on campus, the Montgomery Bike Garage was created through a partnership between Metro, the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, and Portland State. The garage stores up to 75 bikes on two-tiered bike parking racks and features a green roof. Also, check out another bike garage at SW Harrison & SW 10th, on the North side of the Millar Library. This site also hosts a local food truck pod.

South Park Blocks

SW PARK AVENUE

This grassy, tree-lined area of campus has been a defining feature of downtown Portland since the mid-nineteenth century. These days, the Park Blocks are an essential campus open space, providing a green space for students and community members to gather. Portland's largest Farmers Market is held here every Saturday. Hundreds of trees line the park, providing shade, absorbing carbon dioxide, and reducing pollutants. Approximately 200 energy efficient street lamps line these blocks.

Smith Memorial Student Union SW BROADWAY & HARRISON

Smith is a hub of student activity and is home to the Student Sustainability Center (SSC). SSC offers leadership and volunteer opportunities that engage students in social sustainability, waste reduction, campus gardens, and more. PSU Eats provides dining services in Smith and offers meal options that draw from locally-sourced, organic, and plant-based ingredients. Smith is also home to PSU's first all-gender restroom. Several cultural and resource centers are housed in Smith, serving our diverse campus community. Visitors to Smith can also take advantage of compost bins, available for food scraps here and across other campus locations.

1

Reuse Room CRAMER HALL ROOM 180, SW MILL & STARK

The Reuse Room is PSU's on-campus resource for donating and acquiring used office, school, and home supplies. The door is always open, so students and employees can find free binders, notebooks, coffee mugs, and other supplies anytime—helping to reduce waste while saving money. The Supply Studio, run through a partnership with College of the Arts, is also a reuse room dedicated to art supplies.

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Lincoln Hall

SW BROADWAY & MILL

In 2011, Lincoln Hall became PSU's first LEED Platinum certified building. Originally built in 1911, Lincoln Hall is a shining example of making a building more efficient while preserving its historic features. Renovations include major seismic upgrades, an efficient heating and cooling system, and double-paned windows, which were custom-built to match existing architecture. The building also features a more than 4,000 sq. foot solar array on the roof.

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Broadway Cycle Track

SW BROADWAY & MILL

Along Broadway, a "cycle track" provides bicyclists separation from car traffic by locating the bike lane between parked cars and the sidewalk. The green "bike boxes" give cyclists a visible and safe location to wait at intersections.

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Fourth & Montgomery

SW 4th & MONTGOMERY

The Fourth & Montgomery Building (FMB) is expected to be certified LEED Gold following the building's completion in fall 2020. Home to PSU's College of Education and departments from the City of Portland, Portland Community College, and Oregon Health & Science University, design and construction of FMB was a collaborative process throughout. There are several sustainable design highlights at FMB, including an eco roof covering almost two-thirds of the roof; solar tubes and other design strategies to make daylight the primary lighting source inside the building; and a variety of energy and water-saving systems and fixtures.



PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Campus Sustainability Tour

Follow this self-guided tour to learn all about innovations at PSU

