



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**[®]

**OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES**



GVSU's Values

- ✓ Effective Teaching
- ✓ Liberal Education
- ✓ Scholarship
- ✓ Service
- ✓ Inclusiveness
- ✓ Community
- ✓ **SUSTAINABILITY**

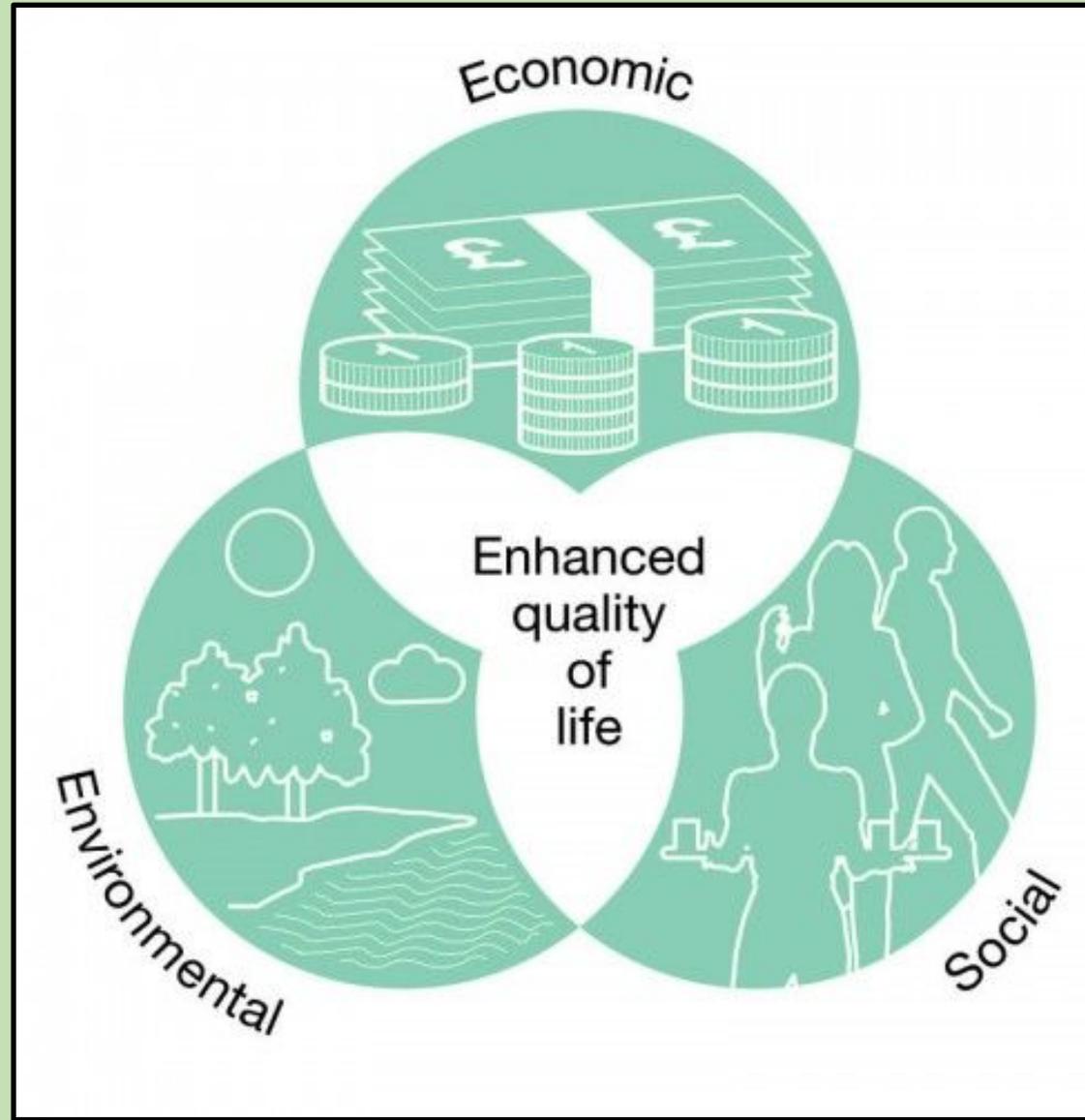


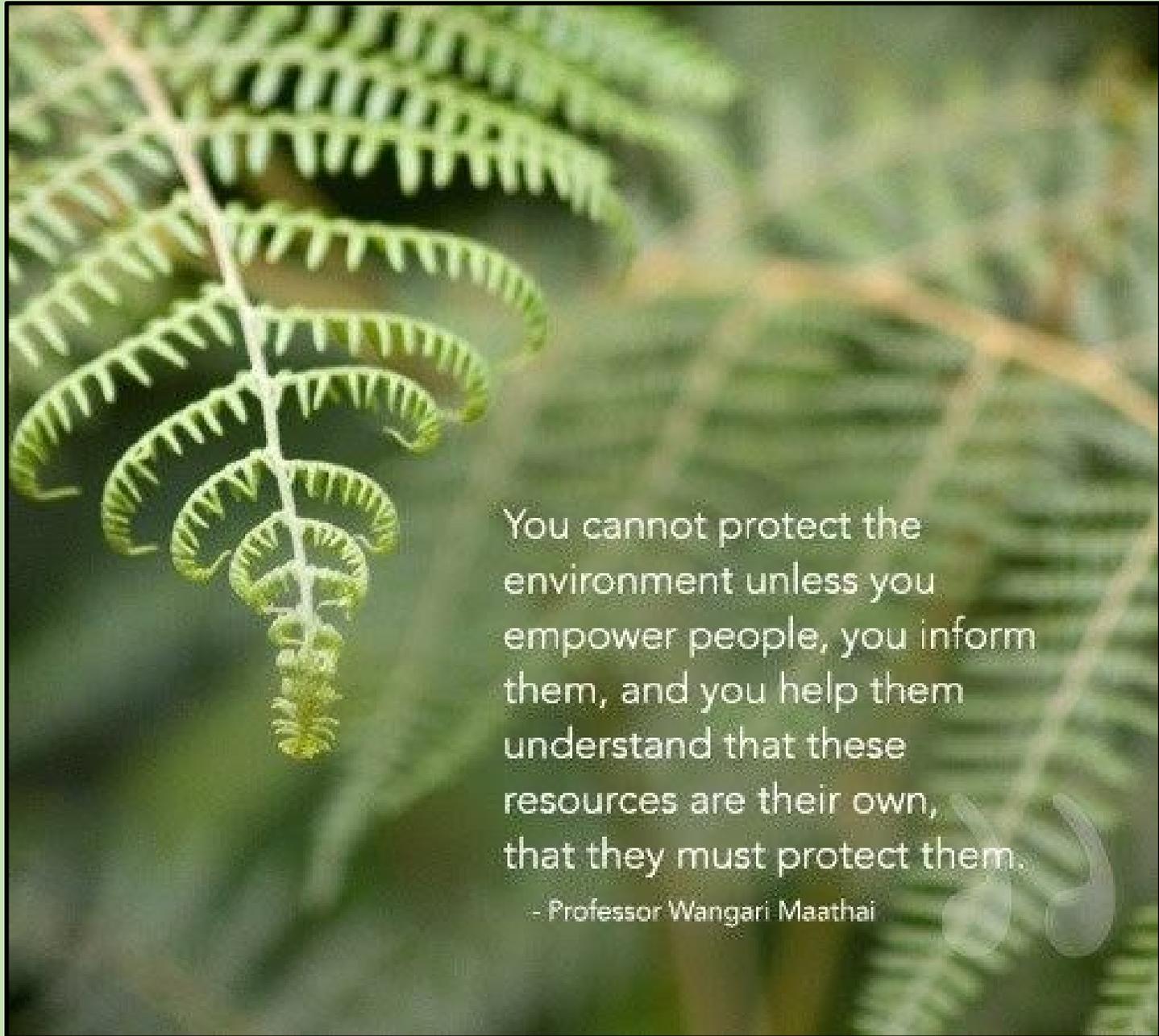
"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Brundtland Report, 1987



We do not inherit
the **earth** from
our ancestors,
we borrow it
from our **children.**





You cannot protect the environment unless you empower people, you inform them, and you help them understand that these resources are their own, that they must protect them.

- Professor Wangari Maathai

Education

- GVSU offers more than 200 sustainability-related courses in 36 academic departments.
- Courses include Food for Thought, Wicked Problems of Sustainability, and the Sustainable Agriculture Practicum



Sustainability As A Lifestyle

- 8 week 1-credit course
- 29 students
- Mostly first year students
- Sustainability through an academic lens
- Opportunities on campus



Campus Operations

522
tons

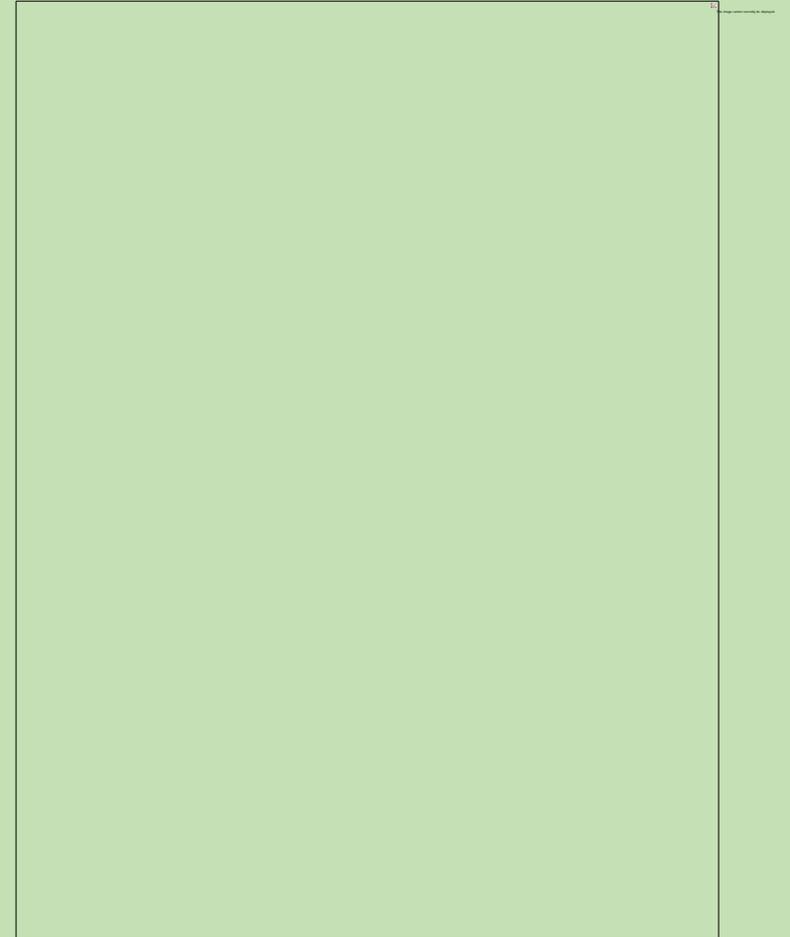
481
tons

63
tons

GVSU diverted 50%
of all waste from the
landfill in 2013/14

GVSU's Approach

- Planning
- Purchasing
- Education
- Sorting



Campus Dining



Zero-Waste Football Games

- 60+ volunteers from student organizations
- 69% average seasonal diversion rate
- Composted 4,250+ lbs.
- Recycled 3,800+ lbs.



Student Organizations

Dozens of GVSU's 350+ Registered Student Organizations give their time and energy to sustainability-related projects



- ✓ Farm Club
- ✓ Student Environmental Coalition
- ✓ Backpacking Club
- ✓ Soil & Water Conservation Society
- ✓ Green Team
- ✓ Beekeeping Club
- ✓ Nutrition Club

Zero Waste Convocation & Picnic

- 4000+ people
- 1 bag of garbage



Lubbers Cup Regatta

- 10 Teams
- 500+ Spectators
- 77% Diversion Rate



Reduced Waste Whitecaps Game

- 35+ volunteers
- 555 pounds of waste diverted
- Tremendous educational opportunity



Surplus Store



Bike Project



Sustainable Reinvestment Fund

Funds are available to students, faculty, and staff for projects that promote a sustainable lifestyle at GVSU



Bike Shop

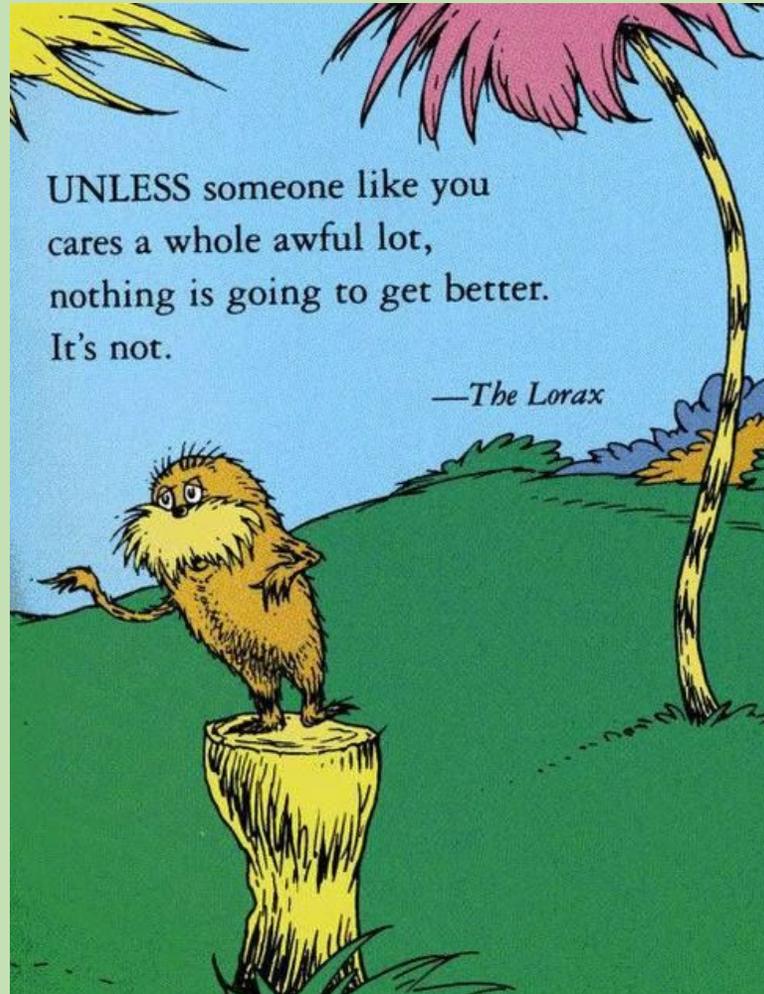


Apiary



Water Bottle Filling
Stations

What can students do?



Purchase Wisely



Practice Sorting

Compost  Compost is biodegradable organic material which is turned into plant fertilizer.



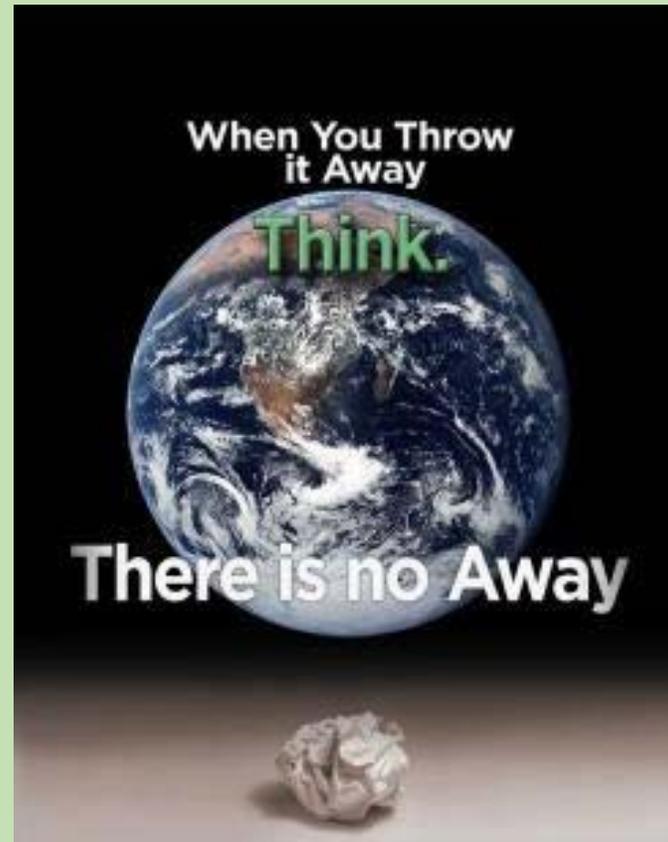
 Food scraps

 Paper: plates, napkins, condiment cups, wrappers

 Pizza boxes

 Biodegradable plastics: water, fountain cups, Express Store bags, to-go containers

 No: Bottles, cans, plastic, metal, glass, foil, styrofoam



Recycling  Recycling turns waste, plastic, metal and glass into new valuable products.



 Plastic and glass bottles

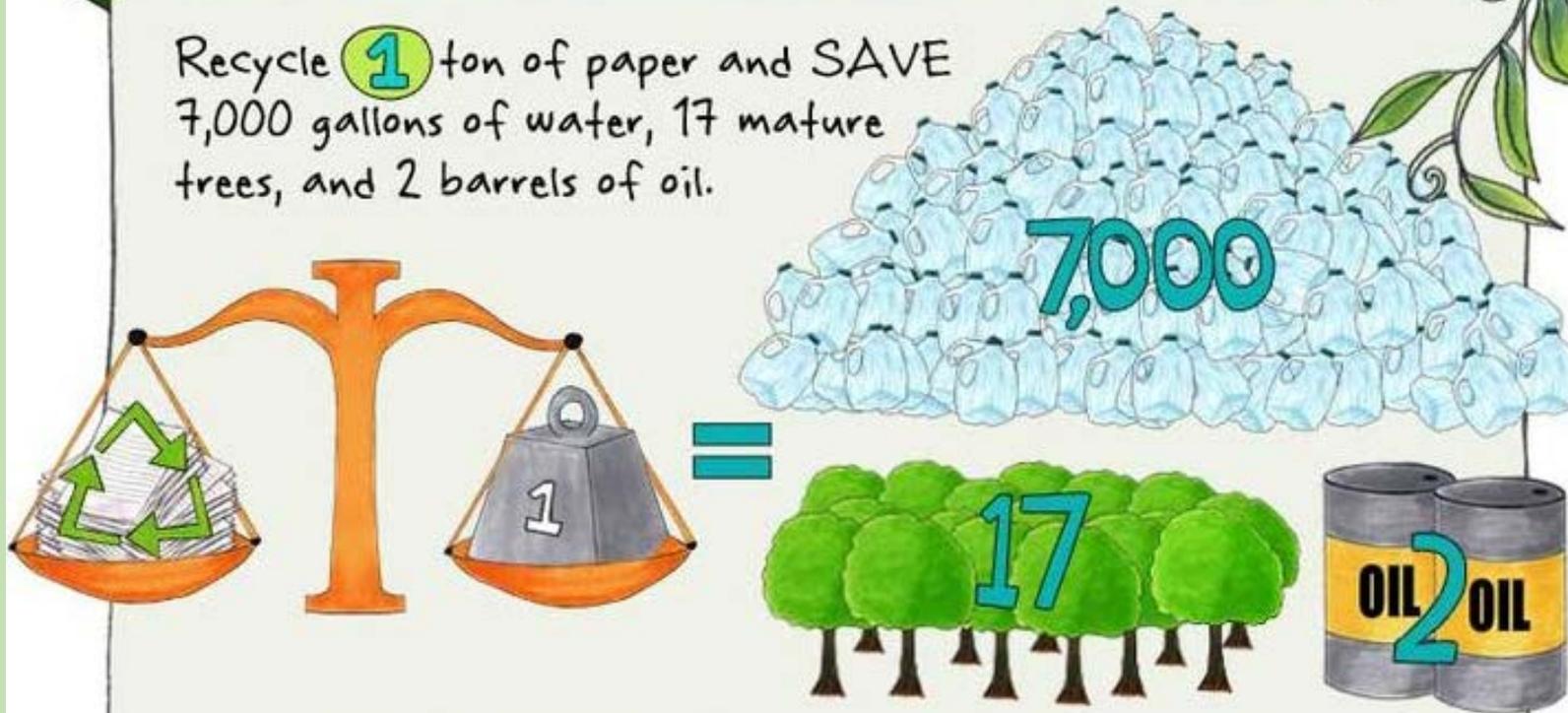
 Aluminum cans

 Recyclable plastics

 No: Food scraps, paper, cardboard, foil, styrofoam, non-recyclable plastic

Recycle Your Paper

Recycle **1** ton of paper and SAVE 7,000 gallons of water, 17 mature trees, and 2 barrels of oil.

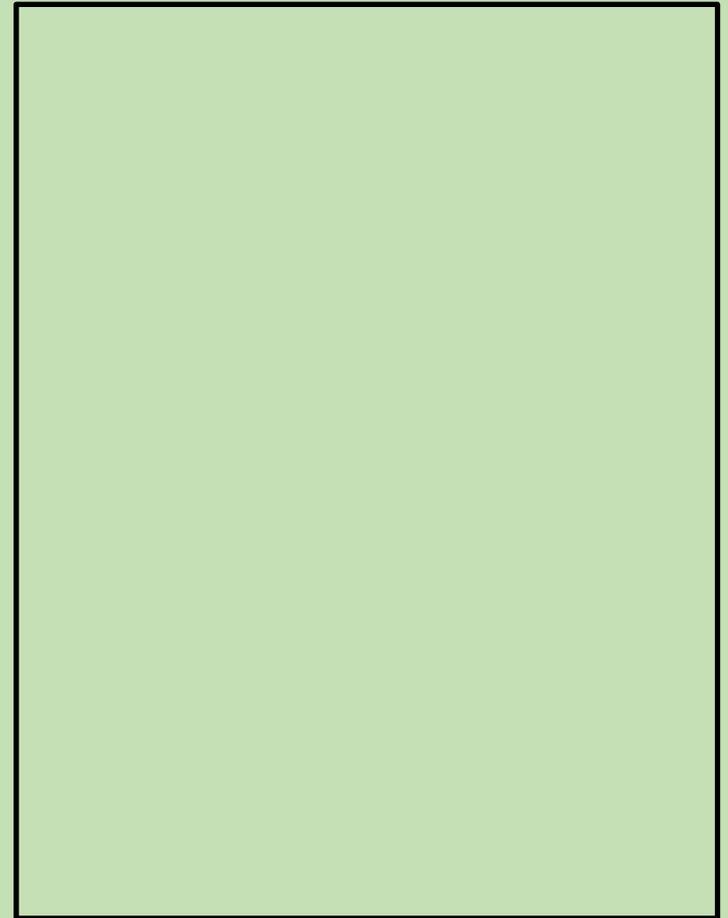


The average American uses 110 lbs. of paper at the office a year. This means roughly **19** people use 1 ton of paper at the office.

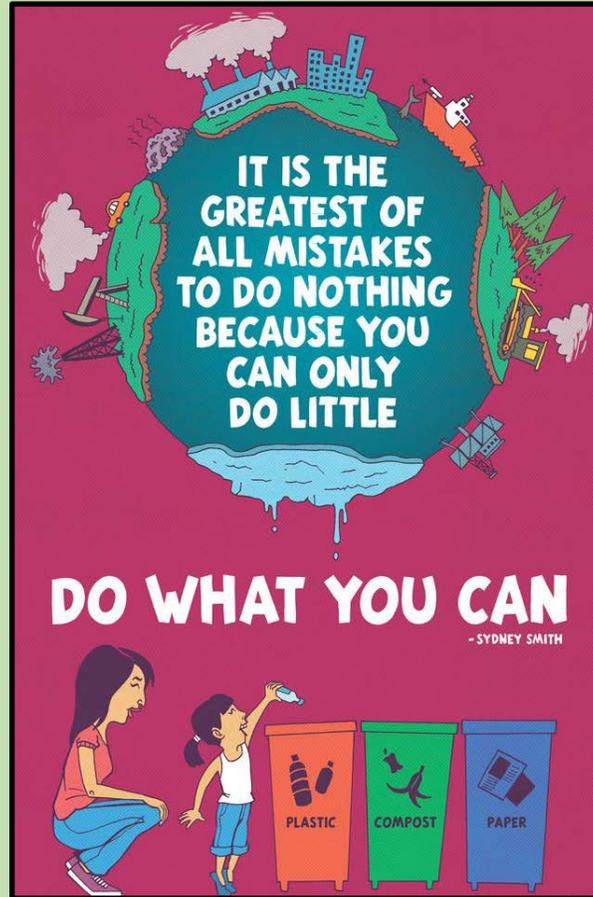
Information Experts recycles paper! We also use scrap paper for notes and recycled paper to print our documents on both sides.



Upcycle



Spread the Word!



I'm cleaning the air!

RecycleMania

Every spring GVSU competes in a national campus competition. In 2015, GVSU ranked 24th nationally in the waste minimization category.



Social Media



GVSU Office of Sustainability Practices
Community Organization · 65 Likes · February 11 ·

[Profile](#)

5 West Michigan trails to share \$232,000 in private funds



5 West Michigan trails to share \$232,000 in private funds

The money comes from the non-profit West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition.

[MLIVE.COM](#)



GV Sustainability 11 Mar
@GrandValleyOOSP

Don't forget about the Sustainability Champion Awards Breakfast!
pic.twitter.com/TITBN6uOBW

Show Photo



GV Sustainability 4 Mar
@GrandValleyOOSP

GVSU introduces sustainable food systems certificate. Read more!
grbj.com/articles/81738...

Expand



GV Sustainability 18 Feb
@GrandValleyOOSP

Don't forget student scholars day!
gvsu.edu/ours/ssd/day-o...

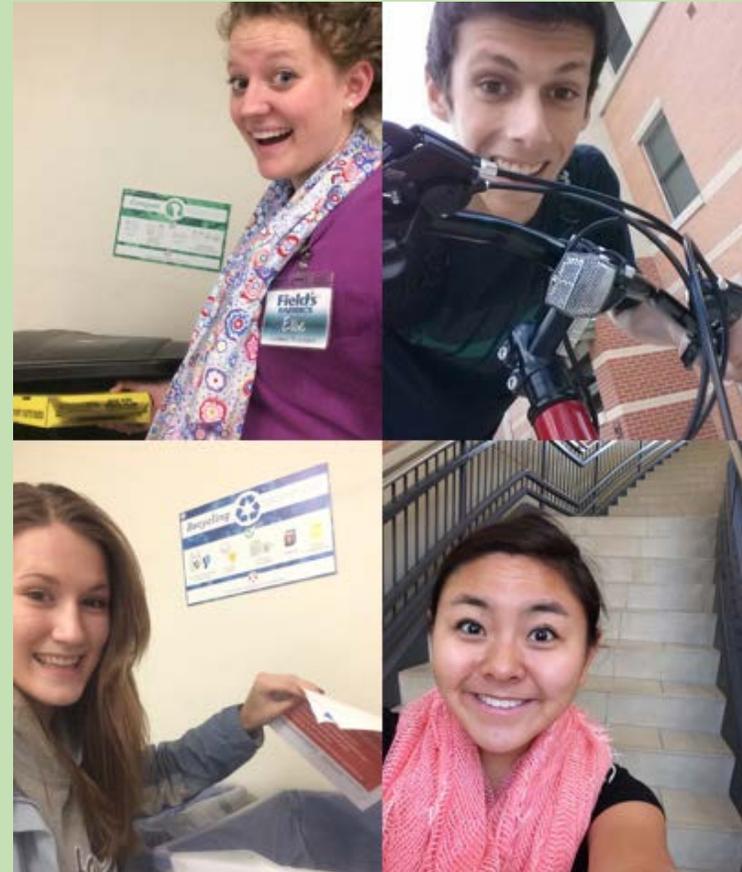


GV Sustainability 16 Feb
@GrandValleyOOSP

lanthorn.com/article/2015/0...

Engagement Opportunities

- Housing & RA's
Citizenship Mentors
- Student Senate
- Guest Lectures
- Freshman orientation
- Grad student
orientation



Please Visit!

Please come visit the Office of Sustainability Practices
in 224 Lake Ontario Hall or contact us via email at
sustainability@gvsu.edu.

