



Raritan Valley Community College
Environmental Assessment:
MOU SemiAnnual Report
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Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2

Andrew Bellina, PE
Senior Policy Advisor
212-637-4126

Jose Pillich
Michael Wanser
Research Analysts

Accomplishments

Reductions of 19,801 MTCO₂e



Memorandum of Understanding

On June 16, 2009, Raritan Valley Community College signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pledging to become an environmental steward by implementing a number of green initiatives that would reduce its carbon footprint and further improve our planet's environment. This partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Raritan Valley Community College has resulted in reducing energy, water and solid waste production across campus operations.

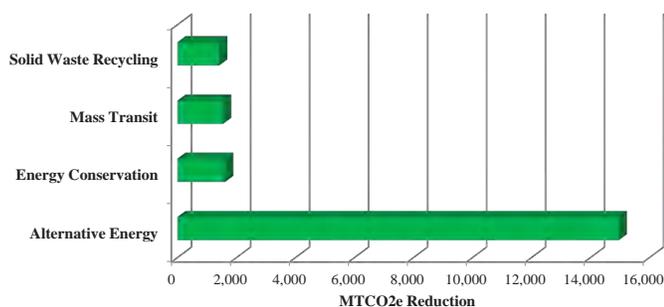
Reduction in Environmental Footprint

In the last few years, Raritan Valley Community College has provided six updates documenting its green initiatives. The EPA has analyzed the submitted information and generated an environmental footprint for the organization. Due to the progressive green efforts of the organization, the college has managed to reduce its carbon footprint by 19,801 MTCO₂e* and saved an estimated \$3.68 million in operating expenses.

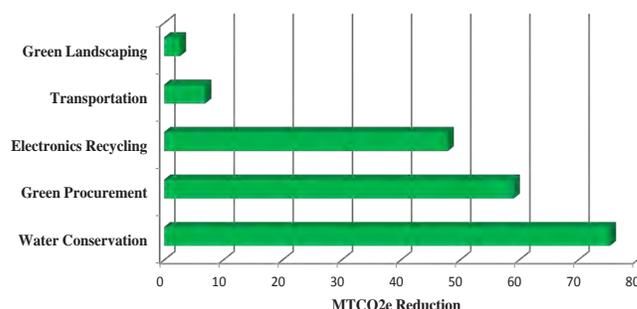
*Metric Ton Carbon Dioxide Equivalent

Environmental Metrics	Total Savings (MTCO ₂ e)
Energy Conservation	1,621.0
Alternative Energy	14,960.5
Water Conservation	75.3
Solid Waste	1,478.5
Green Procurement	59.1
Green Landscaping	2.6
Electronics	47.9
Mass Transit	1,549.7
Transportation	6.9
Total (MTCO₂e)	19,801.5

Primary Initiatives



Secondary Initiatives



Measurement and Continuous Improvements

EPA uses these environmental conversion models to calculate metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents:

Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies (GHG) Calculator converts GHG reductions into scenarios that can be easily communicated to the public.

eGRID Version 1.1 (2007) and the EPA Pollution Prevention (P2) GHG Conversion Tool which convert standard metrics for electricity, green energy, fuel use, chemical use, water use, and sustainable materials management into MTCO₂e.

The EPA WARM Model which helps calculate GHG emission reductions from several different waste management practices, including source reduction, recycling, combustion, composting and landfilling.

The EPA Pollution Prevention (P2) Cost Calculator that estimates cost savings associated with GHG reductions.

Certain environmental data points cannot be converted to MTCO₂e because scientific models do not currently exist. As methodologies improve, environmental assessments will be updated to include any new GHG reduction estimates.

Accomplishments

Reductions of 19,801 MTCO₂e

Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies

What does the reduction of 19,801 MTCO₂e represent ?

The organization's effort is equivalent to any one of the following:

- Annual greenhouse gas emissions from 4,125 vehicles



- Carbon dioxide emissions from 2,219,899 gallons of gasoline



- Carbon dioxide emissions from 46,050 barrels of oil consumed



- Carbon dioxide emissions from the energy use of 1,019 homes for one year



- Carbon dioxide emissions from 825,063 propane tanks used for home barbeques



- Carbon dioxide emissions from gasoline carried by 261 tanker trucks



- Carbon dioxide emissions from burning 85.1 railcars' worth of coal (over 1 1/4 miles long)





Environmental Metrics	June 2009 MOU	March 2010 Update	Nov 2010 Update	Jul 2011 Update	Jan 2012 Update	Jul 2012 Update	Jan 2013 Update	Total Conversion (MTCO2e)	Cost Savings (est.)
Reflective Roof									
Synthetic Turf									
Native Plants									
Leaves Composted									
Electronics / EPEAT									
Total Savings (MTCO2e)		14.6	5.2	7.7	5.3	5.3	9.8	47.9	\$804
Recycling of Electronics		18,250 lbs (400 units)	5,998 lbs	1,917 lbs	337 lbs	830 lbs	3,000 lbs	24.3	\$607
Re-Use/Donation of Used Computers				26 units (208 lbs)			350 units (5645 lbs)	6.6	\$117
Toner/Ink Recycling and Use of Recycled Ink				140 cartridges	105 cartridges	105 cartridges	19 cartridges	15.1	\$30
Battery Recycling			466 lbs	246 lbs	978 lbs	500 lbs	294 lbs	2.0	\$50
Mass Transit									
Total Savings (MTCO2e)			202.3	202.3	303.4	303.4	538.2	1,549.7	\$2,064,130
Miles Avoided			485,500 mi	485,500 mi	728,250 mi	728,250 mi	1,291,653 mi	1,549.7	\$2,064,130
Transportation									
Total Savings (MTCO2e)		1.5	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	6.9	\$2,828
Hybrid Vehicles		1 car (9 mo.)	1 car (8 mo.)	1 car (8 mo.)	1 car (1/2 yr)	1 car (1/2 yr)	1 car (1/2 yr)	6.9	\$2,828
Electric Vehicles									
Biodiesel Vehicles									
Clean Construction Vehicles									
LNG Vehicles									
Alternate Fuel Vehicles									
Smartway Transporters									
Bike Racks									
LEED Projects									
Total Savings (MTCO2e)									\$0
Silver - 10%									
Gold - 17%									
Platinum - 20%									
MTCO2e Savings									
Total (MTCO2e)	1,750.2	3,413.3	2,880.6	3,315.7	2,505.7	2,708.2	3,227.1	19,801.5	\$3,677,936
Energy	0.0	125.2	125.6	494.3	316.4	292.0	267.4	1,621.0	\$215,120
Alternative Energy	1,750.0	2,626.5	2,334.8	2,334.8	1,751.5	1,955.6	2,207.3	14,960.5	\$1,310,063
Water	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	10.1	33.9	30.3	75.3	\$62,499
Solid Waste	0.0	634.6	194.8	269.3	106.9	104.1	168.2	1,478.5	\$20,844
Green Procurement	0.0	10.9	16.3	5.6	11.1	11.6	3.6	59.1	\$1,628
Green Landscaping	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.3	2.6	\$20
Electronics	0.0	14.6	5.2	7.7	5.3	5.3	9.8	47.9	\$804
Mass Transit	0.0	0.0	202.3	202.3	303.4	303.4	538.2	1,549.7	\$2,064,130
Transportation	0.0	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	6.9	\$2,828



2013

Raritan Valley Community College Additional Green MOU Accomplishments and Cost Savings

GreenPower Partnership

Raritan Valley Community College is now an EPA GreenPower partner and, as of October 1, started purchasing 10% green power (in addition to the standard power mix). The College is purchasing Green-e certified RECs through Direct Energy Business's Make Me Green™ program. The purchase contract is for 1600 MWh over two years, or roughly 10% of current usage.

WasteWise Partnership and Solid Waste Recycling

RVCC installed three more filtered water bottle filling stations (in the Arts, West, and Phys Ed buildings), for a total of six stations on campus. The stations enable people to fill reusable water bottles with filtered chilled tap water, reducing the cost and waste of disposable water bottles.

RVCC continues to be a WasteWise partner and participates in the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network. RVCC has signed up for WasteWise's Food Recovery Challenge program.

Sustainable Design, Construction, and Operations Practices

Construction continues on the new Student Center, which will be LEED Gold and include a rainwater harvesting system.

The College also intends to pursue LEED Gold certification for the West Building. This is an improvement from previous plans for LEED Silver certification.

GreenScapes

RVCC is working to incorporate its GreenScapes policy into its bidding process. One expected outcome is increased recycling of construction debris.

Following the GreenScapes policy, the College has been recycling wood pallets.

National Clean Diesel Campaign & Clean Construction USA

Construction continues with the campus student center, which is on track to be certified as LEED Gold. The construction vehicles use ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD) and the onroad vehicles have diesel particulate filters (DPFs).

Campus and Community Involvement

The RVCC campus has an active student body with over 20 student organizations. Students participate in Social Justice Club, R.E.A.L. (Raritan Environmental Action League) and contribute to sustainability efforts through estuary clean-up projects, Habitat for Humanity and the Outdoor Clubs. There is also a college-wide Environmental Sustainability Committee (composed of faculty, staff and students) that recommends green initiatives.

Green activities on campus are highlighted on RVCC's sustainability web site. The R.E.A.L. club, ecology and environmental studies students, and others have been involved in many campus and service learning projects. Recent activities include continuing to develop the organic garden, campus trash cleanups, and participating in Clean Ocean Action's beach cleanup.