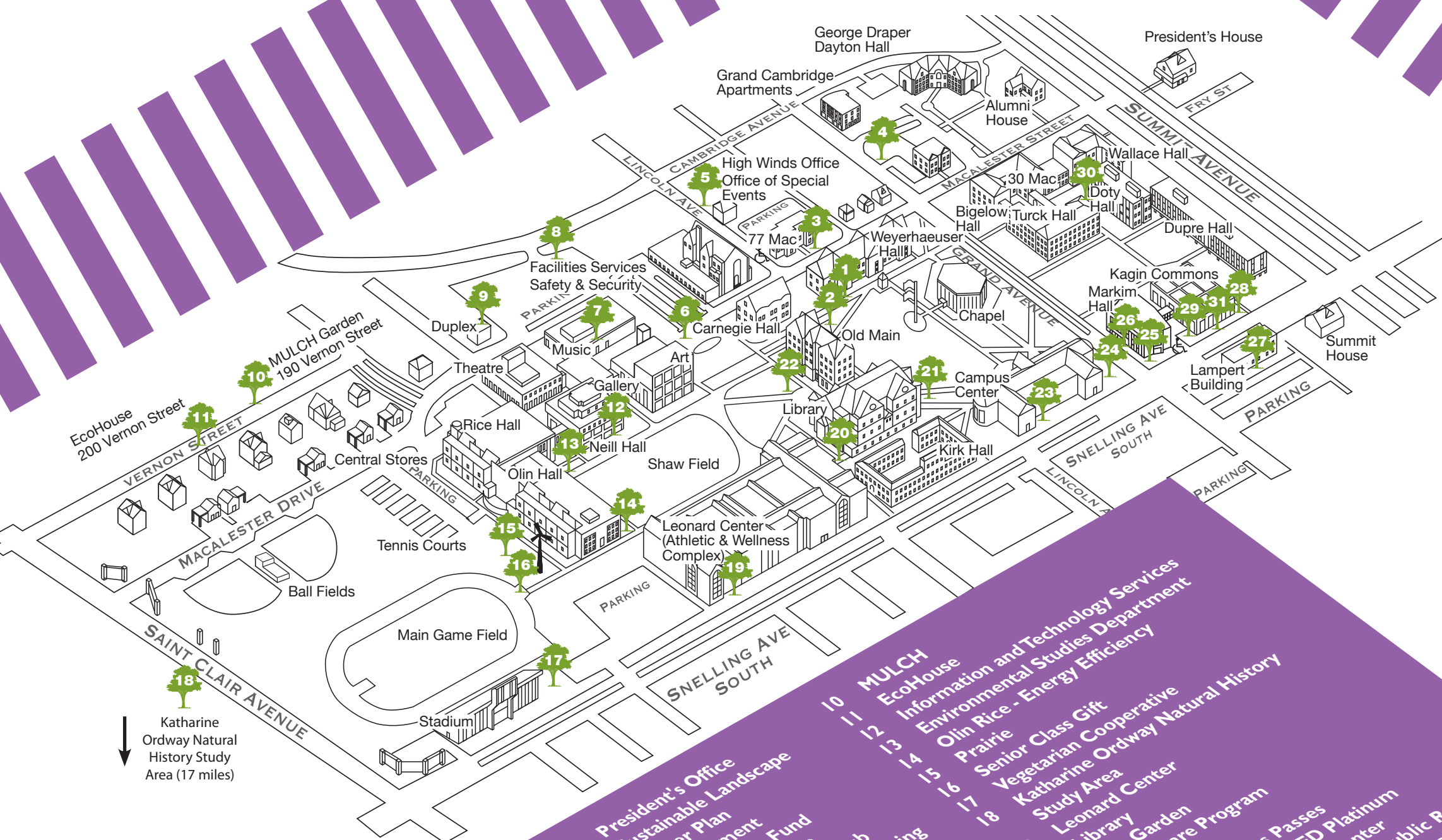




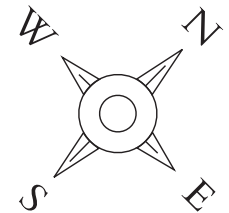
Sustainability Office:  
 Suzanne Savanick Hansen  
 Sustainability Manager  
 651-696-8138  
[macalester.edu/sustainability](http://macalester.edu/sustainability)

MACALESTER COLLEGE

# Macalester Sustainability Tour



Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area (17 miles)



- Sustainability Locations**
- 1 President's Office
  - 2 Sustainable Landscape Master Plan
  - 3 Procurement
  - 4.5 High Winds Fund and Sustainable Transportation Hub
  - 6 Electric Vehicle Charging Station
  - 7 Facilities Services
  - 8 Parking Lot Storm Water Project
  - 9 Food Hub
  - 10 MULCH
  - 11 EcoHouse
  - 12 Information and Technology Services
  - 13 Environmental Studies Department
  - 14 Olin Rice - Energy Efficiency
  - 15 Prairie
  - 16 Senior Class Gift
  - 17 Vegetarian Cooperative
  - 18 Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area
  - 19 Leonard Center
  - 20 Library
  - 21 Rain Garden
  - 22 Bike Share Program
  - 23 Café Mac
  - 24 Subsidized Bus Passes
  - 25 Markim Hall - LEED Platinum
  - 26 Civic Engagement Center
  - 27 Communications and Public Relations
  - 28 Department of Multicultural Life
  - 29 The Sustainability Office
  - 30-31 Green Roof





## 1 President's Office

Macalester College has taken a leadership role in sustainability for higher education. In 2000, President Michael McPherson signed the Talloires Declaration, the first official commitment to environmental sustainability in higher education. In 2007, President Brian Rosenberg signed the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, which commits Macalester to becoming climate neutral (i.e. no net greenhouse gas emissions). In 2012, Rosenberg signed the Commitment to Sustainable Practices of Higher Education Institutions on the Occasion of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. This declaration expressly connects Macalester's history of internationalism with our strong commitment to sustainability. In fall 2012, Rosenberg signed the Real Food Campus Commitment, which requires the college to purchase 30 percent "real food" by 2020. "Real food" refers to food that is local or community-based, fair and humane, and ecologically sound.

## 2 Sustainable Landscape Master Plan

The Sustainable Landscape Master Plan comprehensively addresses the sustainability of the Macalester College campus grounds while maintaining a beautiful landscape. This plan was created with input from students, faculty, administrators, and campus landscape management staff, and is intended to be a dynamic document that will provide direction into the future. It is designed to meet the landscaping and stormwater goals of the Sustainability Plan and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## 3 Procurement

The Purchasing Department seeks to provide the college with sustainable purchasing alternatives that are economically viable and meet the social equity and environmental values of the college. The office is assisted by a procurement sustainability student worker and is developing an environmentally preferable purchasing policy. The purchasing manager is also actively involved with the Worker Rights Consortium's Designated Suppliers Program.

## 4 5 High Winds Fund and Sustainable Transportation Hub

The High Winds Fund is engaged in numerous neighborhood partnerships that support the livability of the neighborhoods surrounding the campus. To promote living near work, the fund provides financial assistance for faculty and staff members who purchase houses within one mile of campus by offering matching grants up to \$3,000 for home improvement projects. In addition, High Winds provided financing to establish the HOURCAR hub, a pay-by-the-hour car share program; NiceRide, a Twin Cities-wide bike share program; and a bike fix-it station. These programs are located adjacent to campus.

## 6 Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Macalester College installed an electric vehicle charging station on campus in fall 2013. The station has two charging ports and is for use by staff, faculty, and community members. The college received a federal and Xcel Energy grant to cover the cost of the station and installation. Macalester is purchasing wind energy from Xcel's Windsource program for the station.

## 7 Facilities Services

Facilities Services has shown significant leadership in implementing sustainability projects involving campus buildings and grounds. Projects include green building and energy efficiency projects, managing the campus commitment to Zero Waste by 2020, and maintaining the grounds in an aesthetically pleasing and sustainable manner. The most recent Facilities sustainability initiatives include the creation and implementation of our Sustainable Landscape Master Plan, supporting the growth of composting on campus as a piece of our Zero Waste goal, and energy re-commissioning of existing buildings.

## 8 Parking Lot Storm Water Project

Through a grant provided by the Capitol Region Watershed District, the runoff of the parking lot is infiltrated into the ground, decreasing the amount of pollutants reaching the Mississippi River.

## 9 Food Hub

The Food Hub includes meeting and living spaces for students to explore food justice, sustainability, and intentional living. The Hub serves as a locus for food-, hunger-, and agriculture-related projects at Macalester. Students use this space to plan campaigns, brainstorm service projects, exchange recipes, and eat together.

## 10 MULCH

Macalester Urban Land and Community Health (MULCH) is a student group with a mission to educate Macalester and the surrounding community about urban agriculture and gardening. MULCH maintains a garden on the Macalester campus and provides fresh produce to student members and Café Mac, the campus cafeteria. The group's members also care for four urban chickens.

## 11 EcoHouse

Macalester's EcoHouse is a student residence renovated to be more sustainable and to provide student research opportunities. The house has a range of green features including extensive insulation, energy-efficient appliances, wise water use, solar-thermal heating, and recycled construction materials.

## 12 Information and Technology Services

ITS purchases all Energy Star hardware to save energy, and purchases products from vendors that promote sustainability. The office also uses server virtualization to minimize the number of physical computers in the operating center. In addition, print release in the library and the Humanities Resource Center reduces paper waste by eliminating accidental printing. Old electronics are broken down by a certified materials recycling vendor.

## 13 Environmental Studies Department

The Environmental Studies Department serves as the academic cornerstone of sustainability work at the college. In 1973 Environmental Studies became an official program and in 2004 it became an official department of the college. The department has supported campus sustainability through classes, events, newsletters, internships, study abroad programs, and campus-wide projects.

## 14 Olin Rice - Energy Efficiency

Facilities Services recommissioned Olin-Rice Science Center, the largest energy user on campus. The lights and vent hoods were placed on occupancy sensors to ensure that the building is only heating or cooling spaces when needed. The electric motors in the heating, cooling, and ventilation (HVAC) system have also been changed to more efficient variable speed drives. These adjustments save the college over \$50,000 in energy costs annually.

## 15 Prairie

Prairies once covered more than a third of Minnesota. The prairie recreated here was established in 2004 by students and alumnus Tom Ibsen '93, based on an idea from an environmental studies senior seminar. The area includes 70 species of upland and lowland prairie plants that provide food and shelter for animals. Prairie plants are low-maintenance perennials that are adapted to the Minnesota climate. The planting helps to slow and neutralize pollutants flowing from the parking lot into the storm drain, which leads directly into the Mississippi River.

## 16 Senior Class Gift

The Senior Class Gift of 2003 financially supported the installation of a 10kW urban wind turbine. Despite its small size, it is a valuable project for studying household-scale renewable energy applications in urban spaces.

The Class of 2008 directed its class gift to a Sustainability Fund to advance the college's environmental initiatives including climate neutrality, zero waste, and clean energy efforts. Alumni have continued to support the Sustainability Fund.

## 17 Vegetarian Cooperative

The Veggie Co-op, located on the second floor of the stadium, houses 20 Macalester students. Co-op members buy and prepare all of their food in an effort to live as sustainably and cooperatively as possible.

## 18 Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area

The Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area is adjacent to the Mississippi River in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, 17 miles from the Macalester campus. It was established in 1967 and includes habitats such as tall grass prairie, oak savannah and woodlands, aspen woodlands, seasonal and permanent ponds and springs, and a backwater lake. The campus office is Olin-Rice 215.

## 19 Leonard Center

The Leonard Center houses Macalester athletics and the Health and Wellness office. When the old recreation center was demolished, 93.3 percent of the 15,171 tons of demolition waste was reused or recycled. The former fieldhouse is now a horse stable, and other building materials were reused in several other projects. The college hired sustainability consultants to assist in the design of the new building, and the final design promotes significant energy reductions.

## 20 Library

The library maintains Digital Commons @ Macalester, Macalester's open access electronic publishing service. Library staff work to raise faculty and student awareness of their rights as authors to choose to publish in open access journals. The library makes available copies of high-demand textbooks purchased by the Mac Student Government.

The library collects discarded, clean one-sided paper to be used in the "Onesies Notebook" project, where used paper is bound and distributed as notebooks. All incoming first-year students receive a onesie, along with information on sustainable printing. The library coordinates reuse of books weeded from its collection or donated from the campus community via Better World Books. Library-sponsored events, including the annual Library Technology Conference, are catered using only compostable or recyclable materials.

## 21 Rain Garden

A small rain garden infiltrates storm water on the northeast side of the library. Rain gardens are planted depressions designed to absorb rainwater runoff from impervious surfaces. Storm water will soak into the ground instead of running off into surface water.

## 22 Bike Share Program

MacBike's Bike Share program allows students and staff to check out free bicycles from the circulation desk in the library.

## 23 Café Mac

Bon Appétit, the food service that runs Café Mac, is a leader in environmental accountability and incorporating sustainability objectives into its business through programs such as Seafood Watch, the annual Eat Local Challenge, the biannual 100 percent compostable picnic, Farm to Fork, and the Low Carbon Diet.

## 24 Subsidized Bus Passes

Subsidized bus passes are sold to the Macalester community at the information desk in the Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center. This program, designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation, is part of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment.

## 25 Markim Hall - LEED Platinum

Markim Hall, home of the Institute for Global Citizenship, is a LEED Platinum building. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a green building rating system and platinum is the highest rating possible. The design for this building includes green building attributes such as native landscaping, daylighting, indoor air quality, and energy efficiency.

## 26 Civic Engagement Center

The CEC provides opportunities to learn about and experience engaged and informed citizenship. Values of sustainability are implemented in both departmental operations and program offerings. Relationships with local environmental organizations are nurtured as opportunities for community-based learning courses, student research, off-campus student employment (work-study), and volunteering. An Action Fund provides funding for students' entrepreneurial community projects.

## 27 Communications and Public Relations

Publications staff within Communications and Public Relations are helping offices across the college to plan greener publications and are working with the Sustainability Manager and Procurement Office to establish new guidelines for sustainable printing.

## 28 Department of Multicultural Life

The Department of Multicultural Life promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion at Macalester, to help foster a sense of belonging on and ownership of the campus. We believe that a commitment to sustainability begins with this shared sense of ownership for the environment. By raising awareness of the related values of sustainability and multiculturalism, the DML supports sustainability efforts at Macalester and more broadly. Creating an inclusive community that recognizes the social and historic experiences of marginalized peoples will encourage a shared responsibility toward both human and natural resources.

## 29 The Sustainability Office

The sustainability manager and sustainability project coordinator support Macalester's sustainability efforts with the help of student workers. Since 2008, the office has been working to increase sustainability in both the college's operations and academics through overseeing the implementation of the Macalester Sustainability Plan. The office also funds sustainability-related projects through the Campus Sustainability Small Project Fund.

In addition to the Sustainability Office student workers, student workers in departments across campus perform sustainability-focused work through the Sustainability Student Worker Network. This network provides a bi-weekly opportunity and meeting space for students working on sustainability to share ideas, troubleshoot, and collaborate.

## 30 31 Green Roof

A student-led group installed the college's first green roof on the "fishbowl" between Turck and Doty residence halls in spring 2006. Later in the year, they received a \$10,000 grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and installed a more extensive green roof atop Kagin Commons. These plants reduce storm runoff and heating and cooling loads on the building. The green roofs also increase roof lifespan and filter pollutants out of the air.