SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY

Sustainability Facts

As a mercy, Catholic institution of higher education, Salve Regina is committed to advancing environmental stewardship and sustainability on campus and in the community by integrating the social, economic and ecological values of sustainable development into institutional policies and practices.

SUSTAINABILITY TRACKING, ASSESSMENT & RATING SYSTEM (STARS)

Salve was awarded the **Bronze rating** by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) offered through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) in 2023. This self-assessment tool designed to help colleges and universities provides a framework for understanding sustainability, uses a common set of measurements for discussion, creates incentives for improvements and builds a more diverse campus sustainability community.

LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM

Salve is enrolled in the **Laudato Si' Action Platform**, an initiative through the Vatican. Through the Action Plan, Salve pledges to respond to the Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, Ecological Economics, Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles, Ecological Education, Ecological Spirituality and Community Resilience and Empowerment.

LEVEL II ARBORETUM

Salve Regina's **Level II Arboretum** has been recognized by the Morton Arboretum accreditation program and designated as a Tree Campus institution by the Arbor Day Foundation since 2016. We have over **1,700** Trees of more than **100** different species. Salve's signature tree is the Beech!

Salve's 80-acre campus features Mature/Semi-Mature and rare exotic trees. The ongoing professional care and conservation of this historic landscape distinguishes Salve Regina among liberal arts institutions.

COP DELEGATIONS

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the UN entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change. The Conference of the Parties (COP) brings together countries to address climate change. These countries are parties to the UNFCCC. Annually, Salve sends delegations to the UN Climate Change Conferences:

COP26 (Glasgow, Scotland)
COP27 (Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt)
COP28 (Dubai, United Arab Emirates)

MILEY

Miley Dining Hall is Green Restaurant Certified!

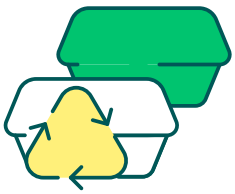


COMPOST



All food scraps and waste from meal preparation is composted through **The Compost Plant** to create soil for local farms and gardens.

TO-GO BINS



Use a **Planet Ozzi Green To-Go Bins**, return used container for kitchen staff to disinfect and return to the service line, and receive a replacement container!

FUEL



Miley Dining's fryer oil is recycled into bio diesel and converted into **sustainable heating fuel**.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Salve offers student run groups that are focused on sustainability, which includes diversity, equity and inclusion

- ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB
- HYDROPONICS CLUB
- PROTECT OUR WILDLIFE CLUB
- TREEHAWKS
- THE BLACK STUDENT UNION
- ALLIANCE
- THE HISPANIC AND LATINX STUDENT ORGANIZATION
- THE MULTICULTURAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION

TRANSPORTATION

54% of students use carpooling options like shuttles and public transportation as their primary mode of transportation

44% of students use non-motorized methods as their primary mode of transportation like walking and cycling

ACADEMICS

76%

of academic departments offer coursework related to sustainability

28%

of academic departments conduct sustainability research

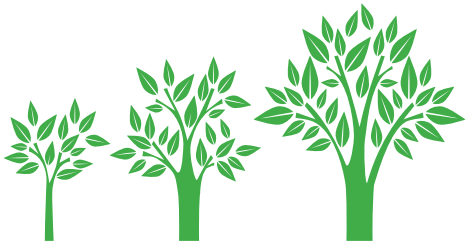
100%

of employees at Salve are offered orientation guidance materials that cover sustainability topics at New Employee Orientation

FACILITIES

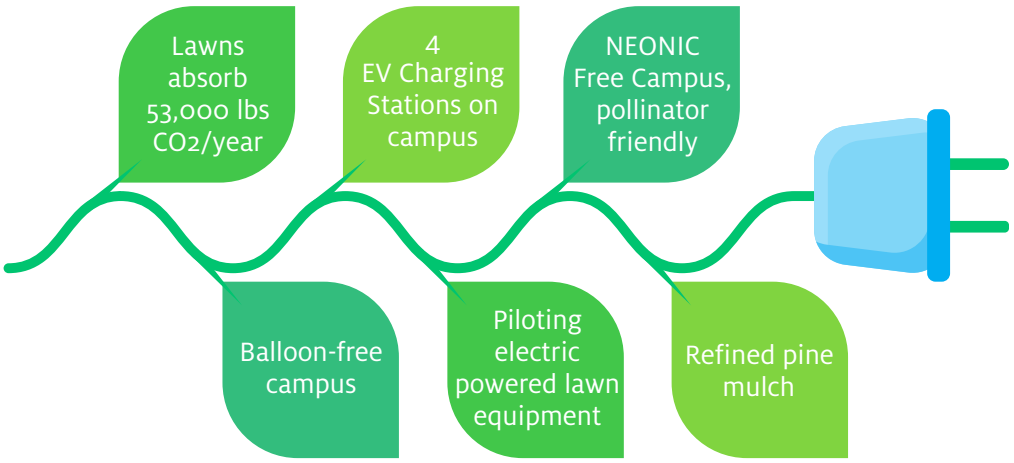
- Interface Carpet Tile (Carbon Neutral Enterprise) is used when replacing flooring.
- The Mattress Recycling Council is used to recycle approximately 100 mattresses annually from residential halls to avoid landfills.
- Shower heads and toilets were converted to low-flow units and energy efficient washers and dryers were installed.
- 25 water filtration dispensers were installed across campus to reduce plastic bottle waste.
- An agreement with a shared solar farm, which produced 757,137 kwh, gives Salve credits to its renewable energy.
- Facilities manages a furniture inventory to continue to reuse office furniture.

GROUNDS



15.3% Young | **44% Semi-Mature** | **39% Mature**

The diversity and maturity of Salve's Arboretum allows its trees to absorb **106,000 lbs** of CO_2 a year!



EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

The Sustainability Committee, **Sustainable Salve**, offers annual programs, events and experiences to celebrate Earth Day, Arbor Day, the Feast of St. Francis and more.

In 2023 ~20 different events with over 600 attendees:

- **Earth Month Keynote**
- **COP27 Roundtable**
- **Annual Tree Planting**
- **Blessing of the Animals**
- **Lunch & Learn: The Salve Beech Tree**
- **Earth Champion Awards Ceremony**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

8,000 hours of service completed by all students

30,000 hours of service completed by Service Advocate Leadership

Salve partners with numerous organizations to advance sustainability in the **Newport community**:

- SAVE THE BAY
- NORMAN BIRD SANCTUARY
- AQUIDNECK LAND TRUST
- AQUIDNECK COMMUNITY TABLE
- GOD'S COMMUNITY GARDEN
- ROSE ISLAND

OTHER FACTS

Salve was featured in the Princeton Review's 2023 "Guide to Green Colleges."

Salve offers sustainability-focused immersive programs for students such as in Vermont and Belize.

Housekeeping uses Green Seal certified cleaning and janitorial paper products.

Annually students in the Humans and Their Environment course analyze the water usage on campus.

The bicycle loan service allows students to loan a bike for a semester.

There are used battery collection bins located in the Garden Level of the McKillop Library.

Want to get more involved? Reach out to Sustainable Salve at **sustainability@salve.edu**