

# President's Committee on Sustainability

February 25, 2009

Andrew Greene, Sustainability Planner, Office of the Architect



**University of Virginia**

President's Committee on Sustainability

## Charge

The Committee on Sustainability advises the President and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, through the Architect for the University, on all matters related to the overall quality, diligence, and progress of the University's commitment to sustainability in the broad sense of environmental, economic, and social impacts, and their relationship to the future of the University. In carrying out this charge, the Committee shall be engaged in the following:



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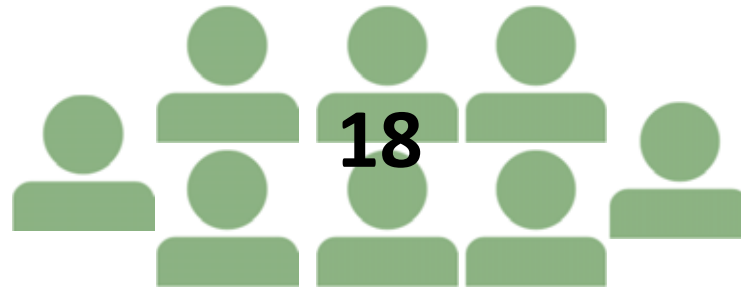
President's Committee on Sustainability

- Recommend **policies, procedures, and priorities** that will promote the highest-standards of sustainable practice across the University including but not limited to business operations, energy production and utilization, and design and management of facilities.
- Provide guidance in the development of **communication plans** with the goal of increasing sustainable behavior among faculty, staff, and students.
- Recommend and encourage the development of new opportunities to **educate** the University community on sustainable thinking and practice.
- Review and comment on the University's progress toward measurable **sustainability objectives**.
- Review and comment on the University's responses to **major national surveys** and/or voluntary compliance with regard to an institutional plan toward the **reduction in CO2 emissions** and related environmental impacts.



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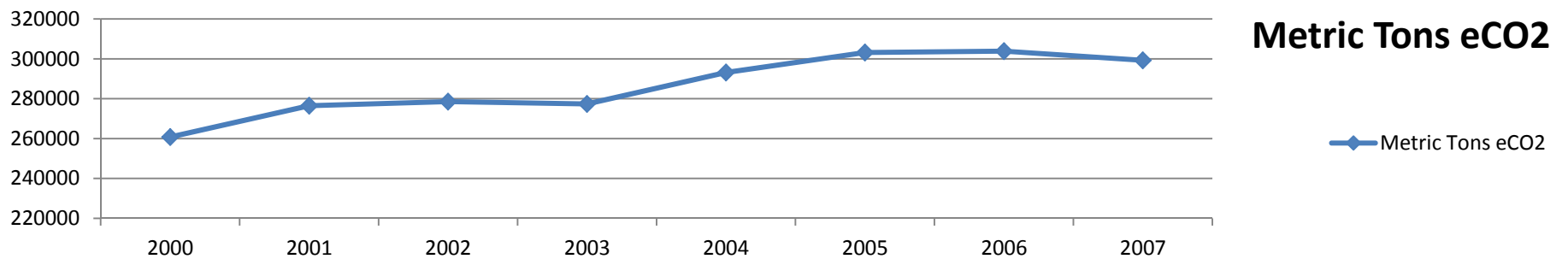
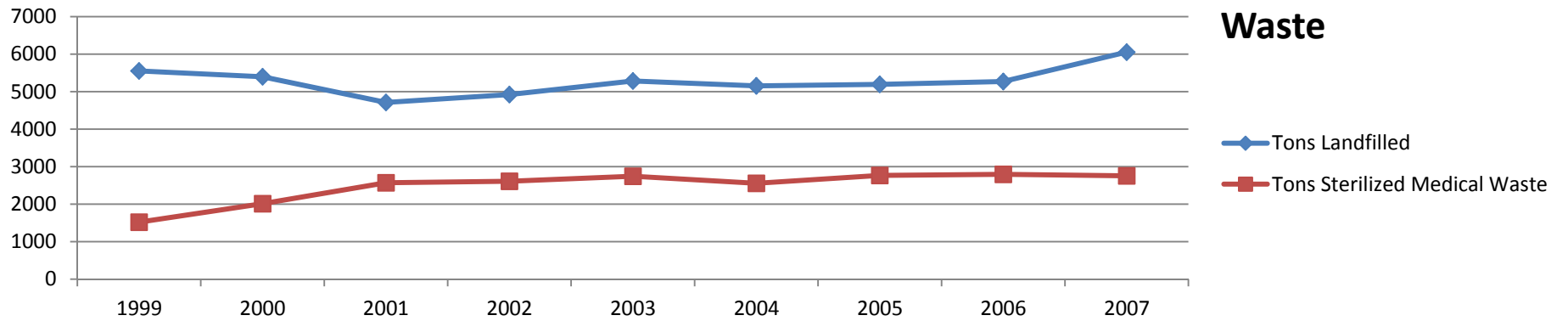
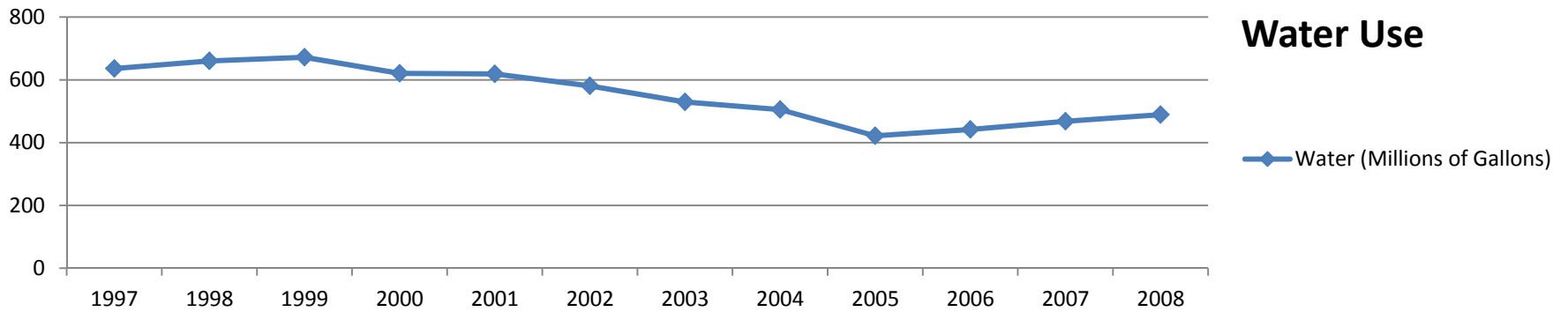
## Environmental Impact

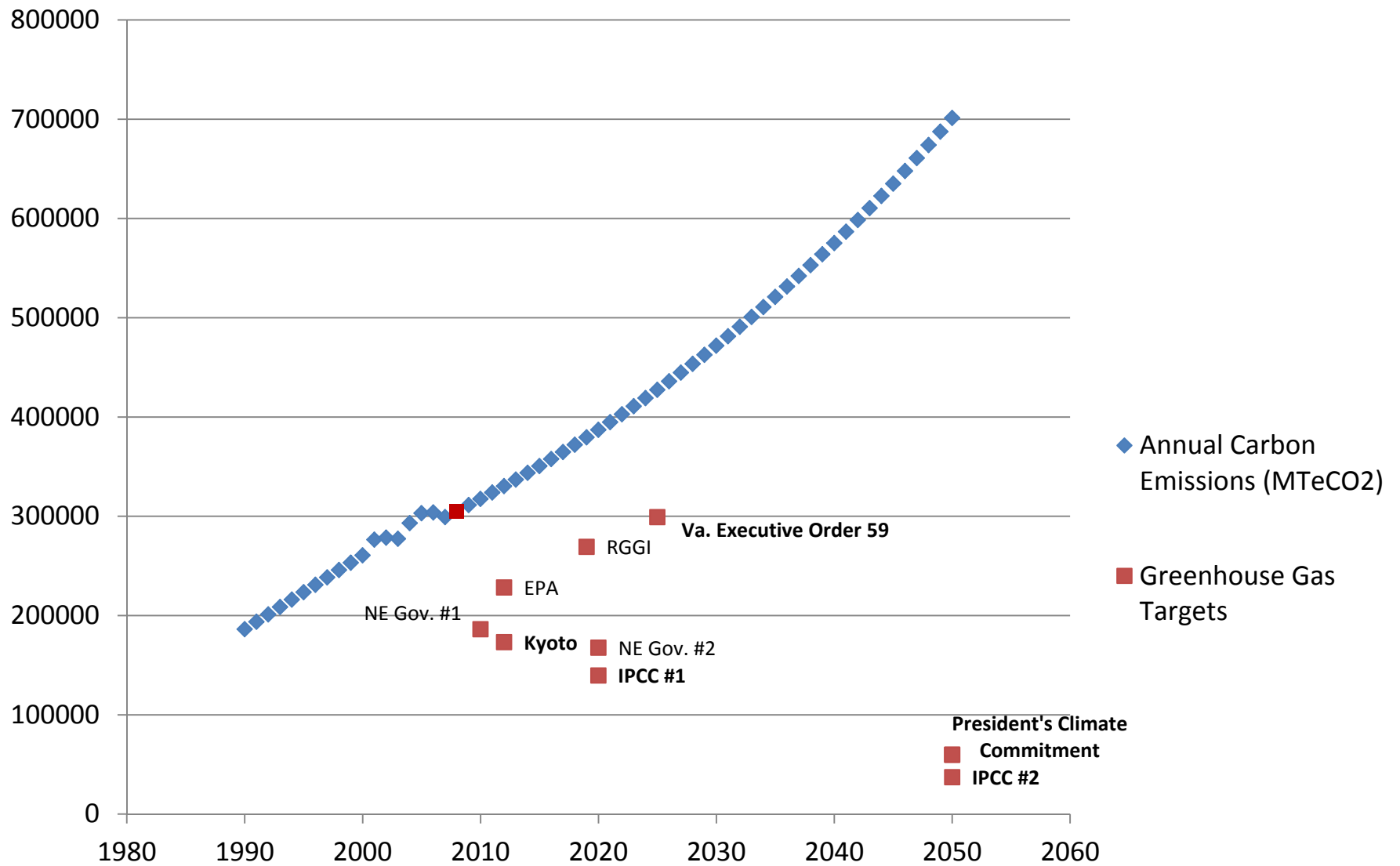
- Establish an Institutional Target for Impact Reductions
- Prepare an Environment Impact Reduction Plan for BOV
- Track Carbon Footprint, Water, Waste, and Nitrogen
- Develop a schedule to review progress towards goals



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## Community Outreach and Communications

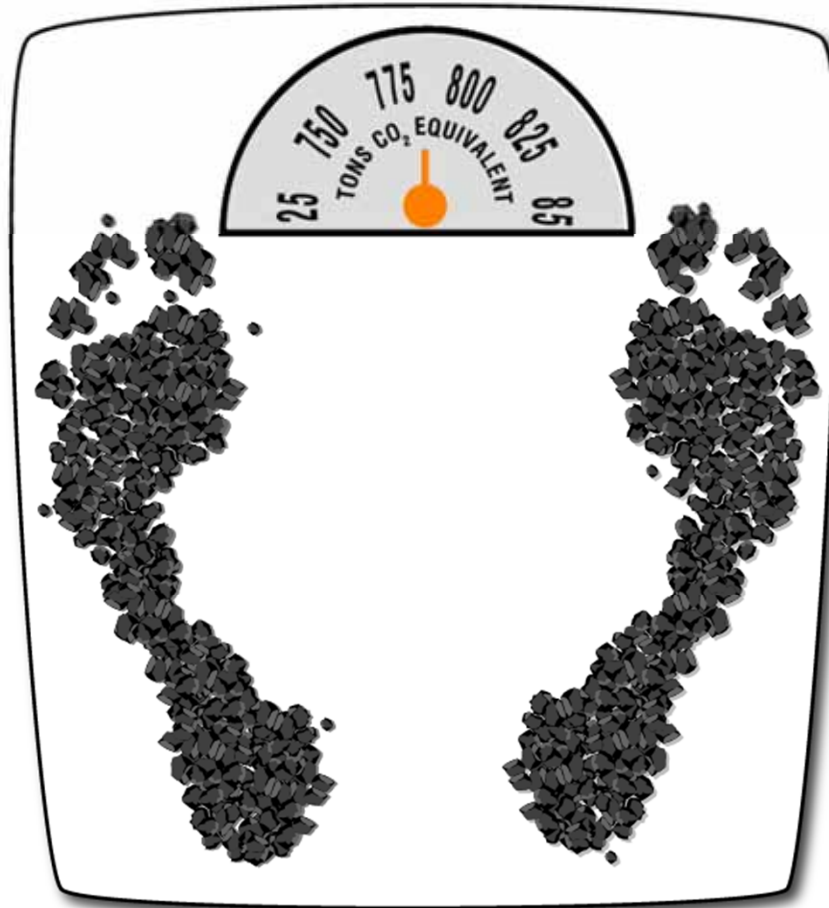
- Craft a distinct sustainability message for UVa
- Develop effective strategies to drive behavior change
- Review responses to major national “green” surveys



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## Help this building with its New Year's Resolution

In 2008, New Cabell Hall's carbon footprint weighed in at 787.3 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions. Help put New Cabell on a diet by turning off lights, setting back thermostats, shutting down your computer at night and using energy wisely. Learn more about what you can do at [www.virginia.edu/sustainability](http://www.virginia.edu/sustainability)



## **A powerful tool in the fight against budget cuts**

The University's annual utility bill rings up at over \$65 million! Simple strategies for conserving energy can quickly save millions of dollars, money better spent on academics. Be sure to turn off the lights when you leave, shut down computers and their accessories, and keep fume hoods closed when not in use.

## School and Department Initiatives

- Look for opportunities for collaboration among Schools and Departments
- Identify aspects of University operations that offer academic and research project candidates
- Study Environmental Literacy Requirement



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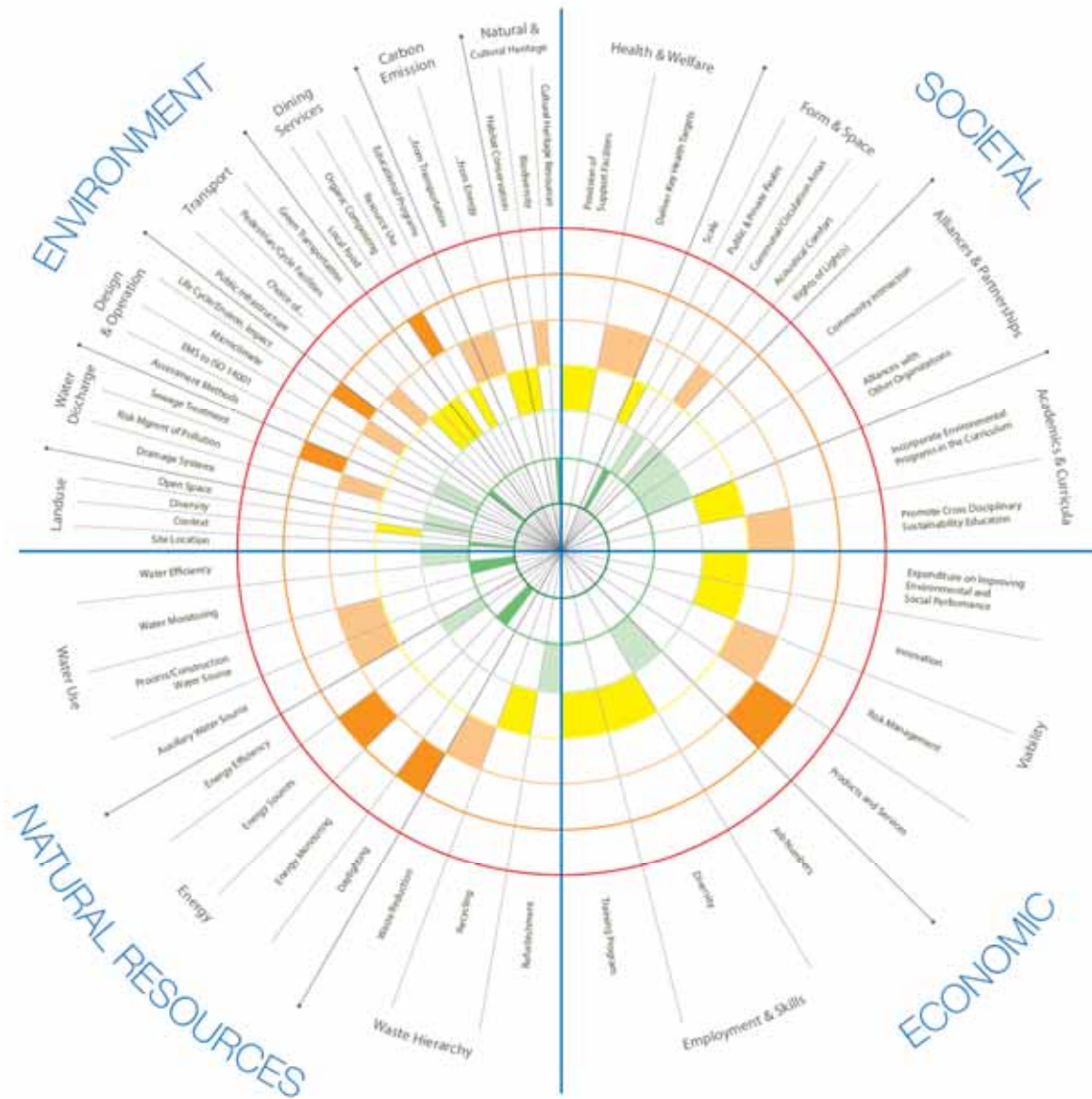
## Policies and Procedures

- Review existing policies with a “green” lens and provide recommendations on policy changes
- Develop and review metrics of UVa’s performance on sustainable initiatives
- Maintain UVa’s SPeAR tool



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## SUSTAINABILITY at the UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

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"America is probably a generation late recognizing just how threatened we are by the accelerating and now obvious pace of contamination of air and water supplies, global warming, and the loss of sustainable space and living conditions for agriculture. Sustainability is an essential activity in any university that wants to be useful in the next generation."



- John T. Casteen III, President, University of Virginia



### WHAT U.VA. IS DOING: GREEN AT U.VA.



**Land Use & Built Environment**  
Since January 2007 the University has been committed to meet USGBC LEED certification for all new and renovation building projects.

**Energy**  
The heating plant is undergoing renovations that meet both current and proposed environmental regulations.

**Dining/Housing**  
There are many ways dining is going green, including using recycled materials, utilizing locally raised animals and produce, using biodiesel in all vehicles, etc.

**Water**  
The University has aggressively pursued initiatives to conserve water and to develop creative opportunities for storm water management.

**Administrative Commitment**  
Since 1991 the University has continuously committed itself to meeting and when able surpassing environmental standards.

**Recycling**  
This program has been awarded a 2007 Virginia Recycling Association Award for Excellence in the College/University category!

**Transportation**  
To help in the effort, Parking & Transportation offers programs that encourage biking, walking, public transportation, and carpooling.

## NEWS & INFORMATION

### Get Involved

There are many vigorous student organizations associated with multiple academic disciplines, focused on sustainable operational and educational initiatives at the University of Virginia. There are many vigorous student organizations associated with multiple academic disciplines, focused on sustainable operational and educational initiatives at the University of Virginia.



#### > 200 Hear University Report to Community on Sustainability Efforts

About 200 local residents and members of the University community attended the session. In addition to the formal presentations, they took in booths and displays from student environmental groups and various University departments promoting their steps toward sustainability, and enjoyed a light lunch of locally grown, organic and fair-trade foods. [Read More](#)

#### > U.Va. Group Fostering Communities that Embody Sustainability

At U.Va., you have only to walk as far as the Lawn to see an example of a sustainable community — Thomas Jefferson's Academical Village. As in all sustainable design, the relationship of structures to the environment was an important consideration for Jefferson. He placed his suite of buildings at the end of a long ridge with an uninterrupted view from the Rotunda to the Ragged Mountains in the south. [Read More](#)

#### > Clean Commerce: Opportunities and Innovation

Andrea Larson, Associate Professor of Business Administration at the Darden School discusses trends driving change in business. [Listen to Audio](#)

#### > Women in Leadership and Philanthropy at U.Va.

The inaugural Women in Leadership Conference was held at the University of Virginia Sept. 25-27, 2008, featuring distinguished speakers and panels on contemporary topics in the worlds of business, public life, science and the arts. [Listen to Audio](#)

# A GREENER GROUNDS

SUSTAINABILITY at the UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

- ABOUT US
- POLICY
- TIMELINE
- DOCUMENTS/RESOURCES
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- AWARDS AND RECOGNITION
- PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE

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*- John T. Casteen III, President, University of Virginia*



**Environmental Initiatives** The University will conduct all operations in an environmentally responsible manner and comply with all applicable State and Federal environmental regulations. [Read More...](#)

### NEWS ON SUSTAINABILITY

- U.Va. Engineering Class is Creating Green Transportation Solutions (2/19/09)
- U.Va. Task Force Implements Energy Savings (2/18/09)
- First-Year Students at U.Va. Cut Electric Use (2/19/09)

### AUDIO/PODCASTS ON SUSTAINABILITY

- Clean Commerce: Opportunities and Innovation (10/18/08)
- Women in Leadership and Philanthropy at U.Va. (9/27/08)

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 There are many ways dining is going green, including using recycled materials, utilizing locally raised animals and produce, using biodiesel in all vehicles, etc.
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