

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2022-2023



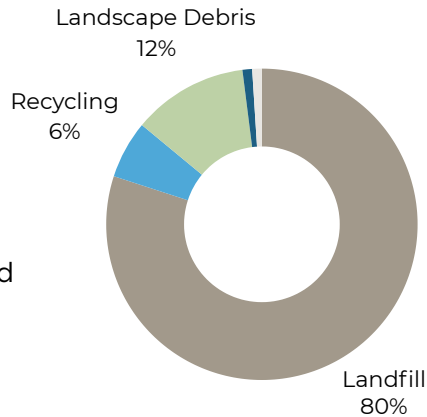
Lafayette College is proud to be the first higher education institution in the Lehigh Valley to set a climate commitment and continue to hold the most ambitious goal in the region. We've made strides toward decreasing emissions, fostering a culture of sustainability, and utilizing our campus as a living laboratory to further educational and operational success. Students, faculty, and staff collaborate to embed sustainability throughout campus life.

TRANSFORMING OUR OPERATIONS

Lafayette employs many strategies to decrease emissions, improve energy efficiency, create material circularity, and decrease waste on campus, among other operational advancements. Our goal, as outlined in the Climate Action Plan, is to achieve carbon neutrality and 60% waste diversion by 2035.

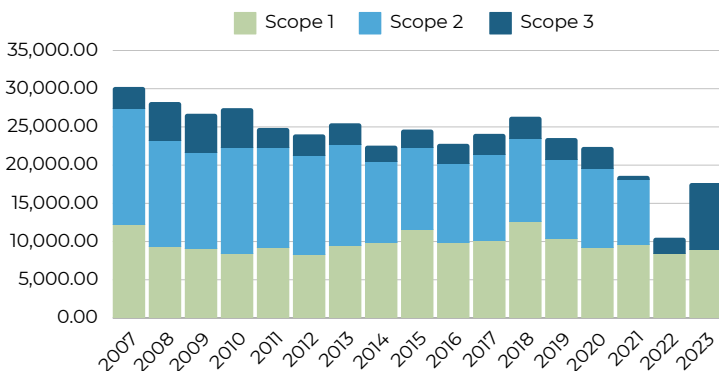
Waste Diversion

This year, 20% of waste from campus was diverted from the landfill through efforts to improve recycling awareness, reduce food waste, and promote circularity of materials.



Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Lafayette reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 42% compared to our 2007 baseline. To account for 100% of scope 2 emissions, the College purchased 34,000 MWh of Renewable Energy Credits. The increase in scope 3 emissions can be attributed to more comprehensive reporting of inputs, which included the addition of purchased goods and services, capital goods, and fuel- and energy-related activities.



Landscape Management

Lafayette's Landscaping Policy establishes standards for ecologically minded practices on campus, requiring all new plantings to be native. This year, Sustainable Impact Fellows, made possible by a fund sponsored by **Daniel and Heidi Hanson '91**, allowed students **Madison Lebish '23** and **Sithandokuhle Ncube '25**, to inventory plantings, update plaques, and map 200+ campus trees. This biodiversity initiative educates the community on the ecological benefits and unique characteristics of our trees.

College Farm

This year, Lafayette's 3-acre farm, LaFarm, opened a new greenhouse made possible through support from **Daniel and Heidi Hanson '91, Capital Blue Cross, and the Spring River Foundation**. This new space allowed for expanded production capacity, season extension, and hosting of the inaugural Spring Plant Sale.

18,800+ lbs
of produce grown
& distributed

80+ events
for the campus &
community

15 courses
with the farm in
their syllabus

1,500 hours
dedicated by
volunteers & visitors

CULTIVATING A LIVING LAB

Lafayette's campus operates as a living laboratory, providing students and faculty the opportunity to conduct applied research, and explore and test new models of sustainable systems.

Applied Learning

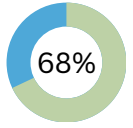
This year students across multiple disciplines studied topics of interconnectivity, emissions, energy, zero waste, economics, and food and farm, creating meaningful solutions in real time on main campus and at LaFarm.

Immersive Experiences

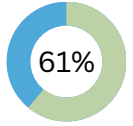
Highlights included trips to New Zealand to study geology, water, and climate, to Ecuador to study oceanographic phenomena, and to United Nations headquarters for the International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly.

Academic Curriculum

In a huge step to integrating sustainability into the curriculum, a goal of the Climate Action Plan, faculty proposed including a "Sustainability" attribute in the Common Course of Study. Changes will be implemented in 2026.



of departments conduct sustainability research



of courses have sustainability content

REDEFINING CAMPUS CULTURE

Providing a lived experience that matches students' wide array of interests is at the core of Lafayette. As we advance we must ensure a just transition by creating an inclusive community.

Student Involvement

Through living learning communities, clubs, organizations, events, and more, students find their passion and make a difference. This year:

80+ events

hosted by departments & clubs

61% of students

engaged by sustainability peer educator in residence

35+ students

employed by the Office of Sustainability

6 student clubs

focused on sustainability themes

Campus Pride

Lafayette achieved **4.5 out of 5 stars on the Campus Pride Index**, indicating a high level of institutional commitment to LGBTQIA+ inclusivity, programs, and practices.

The College also opened a **new residence hall, Lavender Lane**, as a LGBTQIA+ centered special interest house dedicated to creating an inclusive and queer-affirming living space on campus.

IMPACTING OUR COMMUNITY

Lafayette is committed to community outreach, education, and tangible impact on issues related to sustainability.

Community-Focused Fellowships

Made possible through funding from **Capital Blue Cross, Triniti DiSilvestro '24, Josh Joseph '24, and Fatma Elbanna '26** participated in a fellowship program where students helped grow, harvest, and **distribute 4,600 pounds of produce** while surveying and gaining insights into residents' access to fresh produce.

West Ward Market & Sale

LaFarm distributed produce to food-insecure community members, including at the newly established West Ward Market. Additionally, 119 volunteers from 17 departments helped collect, sort, recycle, and **distribute 22,000 pounds** of items through Green Move Out and the West Ward Sale. Remaining items are returned to campus through the student-led Thrift Store.



For more details, visit sustainability.lafayette.edu