

SUSTAINABILITY GUIDE 2026

EMORY



Undergraduate Students

A sustainable community is one in which economic, social, and environmental systems provide a healthy, productive, and meaningful life for all residents, present and future.

LEARN ABOUT EMORY'S SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENTS

Emory's Sustainability Vision includes

- Zero landfill waste goal;
- 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; net zero emissions by 2050

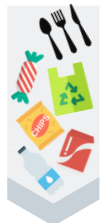
In October 2023, Emory honored its [climate commitments](#) by publishing its 2023 Climate Action Plan and [Resilience Assessment](#). The plan and assessment offer recommendations to guide Emory on its path to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 and bolstering community resilience.

Break Free from Plastic Pledge: Emory is developing a plan to reduce single use plastic.

WASTE



WHERE SHOULD MY WASTE GO?



PLASTICS & METALS



MIXED PAPER



WHITE PAPER

BLUE RECYCLE BINS

Items such as plastic utensils, plastic film, plastic & metal containers to-go food containers, and all other single-use plastic items.

BLACK LANDFILL BINS

For soiled food grade styrofoam, disposable masks, sanitary wipes, disposable gloves, used baby diapers, cat litter and dog waste and multi-material items.

DISPOSABLE MASKS, WIPES, AND GLOVES MUST BE PLACED IN THE LANDFILL BINS TO PROTECT EMORY'S STAFF AND VENDORS.



LANDFILL

KEEP WIPES OUT OF PIPES!
Sanitary wipes should never be flushed, as they clog sewer pipes.

GREEN COMPOST BINS

ALL ORGANIC material (e.g. food, used napkins & tissues, and labelled "compostables" such as **GREEN** utensils & paper to-go containers from Emory Dining

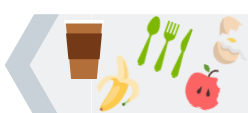
Locations.

SEPARATE YOUR WASTE - DON'T SORT IN WASTE

Plastic containers and bags with food in them cannot be composted.



COMPOST



HARD-TO-RECYCLE MATERIALS

Emory provides a collection area for materials that are **harder to recycle** and cannot be placed in the blue recycle bins. These bins are located in Raoul west lobby and in most major buildings on campus.



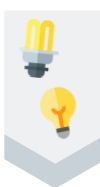
GLASS



BATTERIES



INK/TONER CARTRIDGES



CFL/LED BULBS



PACKAGING STYROFOAM



AEROSOL CANS

RESIDENCE HALL WASTE MANAGEMENT

BEFORE YOU MOVE IN

1

OPT FOR ZERO WASTE.

Instead of packing paper, plastic wrap & styrofoam peanuts, wrap fragile items in your towels & bedding.



2

Communicate with your roommate prior to arriving on campus to **AVOID DUPLICATION OF ITEMS PURCHASED** for your room.

3

Pack in **REUSABLE CRATES, BOXES, and BAGS**. Save them for Move-Out.

4

Consider **BUYING SECOND-HAND**, previously-loved items at bargain prices from local second-hand shops.



MOVE IN DAY

1

EMPTY AND FLATTEN cardboard boxes. Save undamaged boxes for move-out.

2

Bring **UNWANTED BOXES AND STYROFOAM** to designated areas labeled "Cardboard" and "Styrofoam" outside of your residence hall.

3

Place **ALL OTHER RECYCLABLES** in the dedicated recycling space in your hall. If you need help locating them, ask your RA or SA!

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

1

Your room is supplied with one **BLUE RECYCLE BIN**. Fill this bin with recyclables and carry it to the central waste station in your hall to sort into the correct waste streams.

2

Collect food scraps and napkins in your room, preferably in a paper bag. Sort them into the **GREEN COMPOST BINS** located in the recycling room or kitchen.

3

Be **CONSCIOUS and INFORMED** about the items you purchase! Only buy what you need and opt for **REUSABLE** bags, mugs, bottles, and utensils over single-use items.

BLUE TOILET WATER NOTICE

DO NOT FLUSH AWAY BLUE TOILET WATER IN RAOUL HALL!

The water is dyed blue to mark reclaimed water from Emory's **WaterHub**, an on-site water recycling facility.



MOVE OUT DAY

1

DONATE sealed, non-perishable food in donation trucks. **COMPOST** opened, perishable food in the **GREEN COMPOST BINS**.

2

Opt to donate items as part of the **DON'T DUMP IT. DONATE IT** Program. Bins and collection trucks are located all over campus during Move-Out. All donations divert waste from landfills, while benefiting an area nonprofit.



FOOD & DINING



While eating on campus, you have access to nutritious, diverse, and delicious options that keep you full and support local, sustainable food systems.

EMORY DINING SUSTAINABLE FOOD PURCHASES

Emory University aims to purchase 75% of its food from local and/or sustainable sources.

MAKE SURE TO VISIT



1 EMORY DINING LOCATIONS

Emory Dining serves the most local & sustainable food on campus.

2 EMORY FARMERS MARKET

The Emory Farmers Market runs on Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on McDonough Plaza. The Emory Farmers Market allows Emory to support the local small businesses and enjoy delicious, local food.

3 EMORY'S EIGHT EDUCATIONAL GARDENS

The gardens provide free produce and hands-on experience growing your own food. Email gardens@emory.edu to learn about volunteer work days and what's in season.

4 EAGLE FOOD CO-OP

Campus Life supports a free food co-op at Bread Coffeehouse. Students can request food, including produce from the Educational Gardens.

5 EMORY OXFORD COLLEGE ORGANIC FARM

The certified organic farm offers a program in which subscribers receive a weekly box filled with fresh, local produce. Sign up today and visit the farm on Emory's Oxford campus.

6 FOOD SECURITY RESOURCES

Within Emory and metro Atlanta, there are [many resources](#) that support student food security.



TRANSPORTATION SUSTAINABLE COMMUTE OPTIONS



EMORY SHUTTLES

Shuttles are free to all riders commuting on campus. They run on [biofuel](#) made from fryer oil and grease collected from our dining facilities! [Download the Passio Go app to locate your next ride.](#)

TRAIL NETWORK

Paved paths offer a safe, off-road option for cyclists and pedestrians and encourage sustainable commuting.

BIKE EMORY

Emory offers a bike rental program, an on-campus repair shop & station, and student groups that [foster bike culture](#)!

SHARE THE RIDE

Grab a friend and share the ride! Save the need for unnecessary travel costs through carpooling.

WALK OR ROLL

The [Sustainability Map](#) outlines sustainability features on campus to explore. If you are able, opt to take the stairs over the elevator when inside.

ACADEMICS



Integrating sustainability into the academic realm is a priority at Emory. Currently, 79% of departments offer a sustainability-related course, and 95% of students report an increase in sustainability-related knowledge during their time at Emory.

MINORS & CONCENTRATIONS

SUSTAINABILITY INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR

This minor is completed through the Department of German Studies. Students are required to take 2 core courses and at least 4 elective courses for a total of 20 credit hours. Students have the opportunity to engage in research through the mandatory Capstone Seminar.

SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCES MINOR

This minor is completed through the Department of Environmental Sciences (ENVS). Students are required to take 2 foundation courses, a methods course, 3 electives from ENVS course offerings of natural & social sciences, and a practicum course.

CONCENTRATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

This concentration is available through the Goizueta Business School for BBA students and Environmental Science majors. It requires students to take two core courses and two electives outside of their major program, and a capstone course.

GET INVOLVED

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Emory has student groups that focus on sustainable food, social justice, wellness, climate action, and more! Click the header to find a complete list of the many active student groups.

BECOME A ZERO WASTE AMBASSADOR

Join Emory community members who are actively promoting a campus culture that prioritizes reducing and diverting waste through peer-to-peer waste education. apply to become a trained ambassador this school year.

SUSTAINABILITY INCENTIVES FUND

The Office of Sustainability offers innovation grants to empower the Emory community to implement new ideas and research that foster sustainable practices.

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES INTERNSHIP

Interns support research, benchmarking, implementation, and outreach in the OSI initiatives of energy, water, waste, green building, climate solutions, and others.

CERTIFY YOUR OFFICES AND LABS AS GREEN OFFICES AND GREEN LABS

Emory's sustainability goals rely on the commitment of its thousands of employees to choose sustainable behaviors while at work and getting around campus.

CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

Participating in the Sustainable Events Certification program provides access to guidance on sustainable event planning, recognition for your efforts, and an opportunity to win a \$100 Emory Catering gift card each year!

EMORY VOTES INITIATIVE

Emory Votes Initiative supports, informs, and empowers voters in the Emory community! Visit their website to learn more about local and national elections and to get important voter registration information!

SIGN UP FOR OUR
E-NEWSLETTER

VISIT OUR EVENTS
CALENDAR

