

13 conservation

GOAL 1: It is the University's goal to ensure the conservation, protection, and wise use of all natural ecosystems and natural resources on University property.

Objective 1A: Protect the natural ecosystem

- **Policy 1A-1:** Areas of development shall be reviewed for evidence of plant and animal species that are listed as endangered, threatened, rare, or as species of special concern by federal, state, regional, or local agencies. If found, these areas shall remain protected from development and all other activities that may diminish their natural value and functions.
- **Policy 1A-2:** Continue to remove all non-native invasive plants identified in the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council List of Invasive Plant Species from the grounds.

Objective 1B: Conserve, appropriately use, and protect the quantity and quality of current and projected water sources.

- **Policy 1B-1:** Continue to expand the use of the existing reclaimed water (gray water) for irrigation to reduce the use of well groundwater with the goal of ultimately eliminating the use of groundwater wells for irrigation.
- **Policy 1B-2:** Conserve water resources and reduce chemical use through the use of xeriscape design principles including use of drought tolerant non-invasive and native plant material, zoned irrigation systems, low volume irrigation systems, moisture sensors and rain switches, drought tolerant ground cover, and soil amendments and mulch to retain soil moisture. See Element 16, Landscape Design Guidelines for further guidance.
- **Policy 1B-3:** Continue to comply with South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) water conservation program requirements and implement voluntary initiatives when feasible.
- **Policy 1B-4:** Complete a basic water usage audit with the help of resources such as the SFWMD Self-Assessment Guide for Commercial and Institutional Water Efficiency Improvement.
- **Policy 1B-5:** Implement water-saving measures requirements for new building construction such as use of ultra-low volume fixtures and xeriscape landscaping procedures. See Element 15, Architectural Design Guidelines for further guidance.
- **Policy 1B-6:** Protect water quality in campus lakes by providing vegetated littoral zones composed of native vegetation.

Objective 1C: Mitigate University-generated stormwater and minimize Stormwater-born pollutants

- **Policy 1C-1:** Establish procedures to properly dispose of contaminants and guard against accidental dumping or spillage of soils, solvents, paints, or other byproducts by Physical Plant.
- **Policy 1C-2:** Minimize the development of facilities within the 100-year floodplain. Limit, or mitigate for, impacts to the 100-year floodplain with all developments and redevelopments on campus.
- **Policy 1C-3:** Continue to meet or exceed water quality criteria as established by SFWMD when developing and redeveloping the campus.
- **Policy 1C-4:** Update the SFWMD Environmental Resource Permit with the future improvements and implement stormwater improvements in conjunction with projects to meet those requirements.
- **Policy 1C-5:** Continue to implement Best Management Practices for Stormwater in coordination with SFWMD and the Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District (NPBCID). See Element 9, General Infrastructure, Sub-Element Stormwater Management for further guidance.
- **Policy 1C-6:** Require construction practices that minimize soil erosion in accordance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Such practices generally consist of the use of erosion screens; inlet protection; sod, seed, or mulch; phasing and limiting the removal of vegetation; minimizing the amount of land area that is cleared; and wetting soils to prevent wind-borne erosion during construction. Strategies for minimizing soil erosion shall be included in the Soil and Water Resources Protection Guidelines.

Objective 1D: Reduce air emissions and preserve the quality of air on campus.

- **Policy 1D-1:** Reduce use of single occupant internal combustion vehicles for commuting to and from campus and encourage the use of public transportation by the campus community (students, faculty, and staff), including continued and expanded relationships with Tri-Rail, PalmTran, on-site shuttles, and other public transportation services. Continue to provide shuttle services to mitigate single occupant vehicle trips within campus. See Element 11, Transportation for further guidance.

conservation

- **Policy 1D-2:** Implement additional parking garages to reduce the number of standalone surface parking lots. Implement additional parking strategies to reduce the number of students with cars on campus.
- **Policy 1D-3:** Transition FAU's vehicle fleet to less polluting fuels (i.e. electric, LNG, hydrogen, etc) by 2028.
- **Policy 1D-4:** Encourage walking, biking, and skateboarding as the preferred forms of transportation within the campus by providing appropriate infrastructure, shade, and landscape elements that encourage these forms of travel. See Element 16, Landscape Design Guidelines for further guidance.
- **Policy 1D-5:** Continue to increase the number of trees on campus. See Element 16, Landscape Design Guidelines for further guidance.
- **Policy 1D-6:** Design and maintain facilities that use exhaust ducts for air discharge to minimize the discharge of pollutants. Install appropriate filtering devices on fume hoods and minimize the storage and use of volatile and hazardous materials in campus buildings.
- **Policy 1D-7:** Implement a program for the monitoring of indoor and outdoor air quality. Indoor sampling shall occur at chemistry laboratories, kitchens, and other sites where fumes are produced. Outdoor sampling sites shall include parking lots and congested intersections. Failure to meet air quality standards established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) shall result in an assessment of the probable cause and the preparation and implementation of a plan to improve and maintain air quality.

Objective 1E: Conserve and appropriately use energy.

- **Policy 1E-1:** Continue to reduce campus-wide energy consumption expenditures through a combination of reducing the cost of the energy consumed and reducing total energy usage to comply with State and Federal mandates for energy use reductions.
- **Policy 1E-2:** Invest in energy conservation measures such as those outlined in 1013.23, F.S.
- **Policy 1E-3:** Continue to use campus-wide Energy Management Control System to monitor, control, and optimize energy usage.
- **Policy 1E-4:** Transition all campus lighting to LED technology.

- **Policy 1E-5:** Require all new buildings to incorporate energy conservation fixtures, systems, and other energy use and management techniques. See Element 15, Architectural Design Guidelines for further guidance.
- **Policy 1E-6:** Institute review procedures for mechanical and electrical equipment replacement that guarantee improved energy efficiency with the incorporation of new equipment.
- **Policy 1E-7:** Upgrade campus chillers and boilers to more efficient equipment.
- **Policy 1E-8:** Pursue cogeneration of electricity and generation of steam from waste heat where it can be demonstrated that energy savings will result.
- **Policy 1E-9:** Pursue grants to assist in the implementation, study, and development of renewable energy and energy conservation technologies and procedures (eg. The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Technologies Grant Program)
- **Policy 1E-10:** Consider use of photovoltaics in the development of new facilities and implement when appropriate.

Objective 1F: Maximize on-campus reclamation of consumer products and hazardous materials.

- **Policy 1F-1:** Determine and implement appropriate measures to assist compliance by all University community members with the Florida Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA), including efforts to expand, enhance, and promote existing programs to recycle suitable materials collected on campus.
- **Policy 1F-2:** Integrate facilities to accommodate collection, storage, and disposal of recycled materials in all new buildings.
- **Policy 1F-3:** Coordinate on-campus recycling programs with those of local government in regard to materials collected, and disposal/ collection procedures.
- **Policy 1F-4:** Provide on-campus facilities for the collection and storage of hazardous materials used in University operations as required by federal, state and local regulations.
- **Policy 1F-5:** Implement hazardous materials handling and storage procedures to include as a minimum the proper containerization, classification and labeling of all hazardous waste.
- **Policy 1F-6:** Utilize only licensed hazardous waste transportation and disposal companies.