

The university will be an environmentally literate community whose members think critically and act, individually and collectively, as model stewards of the natural world.



You will be hearing a lot about JMU's commitment to becoming a model steward of the natural world. The three most frequently asked questions on this topic are ...



## WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Nearly all human activity affects the planet in one way or another. Taking a shower and blowing your hair dry, driving to work or to school, eating a take-out lunch – just about everything we do in a regular day affects our Earth's ecosystems.

Human life depends upon the health of our ecosystems.

Reducing our impact on the natural world and its ecosystems is not easy or simple. But you can make a difference if you try. Individual actions in the aggregate matter a lot.



## WHAT IS JMU DOING?

James Madison University is committed to becoming a steward of the natural world. A few of the many efforts include:

- The Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World was created in 2008 as result of a JMU presidential commission and is taking the lead to advocate for change and coordinate the many stewardship and sustainability activities already taking place on campus.
- Comprehensive campus emissions, operations and education inventories were conducted during the 2008-09 academic year and will serve as a benchmark to measure the effectiveness of stewardship programs.
- By becoming the headquarters of the Virginia 25x'25 State Alliance, JMU has taken the lead in the statewide effort to produce 25 percent of Virginia's energy from renewable resources by the year 2025.

**Cycling to class, using reusable bottles and bags, and helping in a campus trash sort to improve JMU's 35 percent recycle rate are ways students are making a difference.**



Many more activities are taking place and more are beginning all the time. To keep up with what JMU is doing, visit [www.jmu.edu/stewardship](http://www.jmu.edu/stewardship) often.

## WHAT CAN I DO?



### Conserve energy

Use compact fluorescent lights, turn off unused lights, enable the energy saving settings on your computer, turn off your monitor if not in use for more than a few minutes, purchase energy-efficient appliances with the ENERGY STAR label, avoid space heaters and mini-fridges, and unplug appliances that are not in use. Produce renewable energy and stay fit by using the elliptical machines at UREC that have been specially outfitted to produce electricity.



### Conserve water

Reduce the length of your showers, watering and dish washing. Reduce the amount of water you let flow into the sink as you wash your hands or shave. Report leaks to your building coordinator.



### Consume wisely

Buy locally produced products. Avoid canned and bottled beverages and use the water fountains. Buy in bulk.



### Reuse

Avoid disposable cups, utensils and bags by carrying your own mug, utensils and reusable cloth bags. Use reusable containers at select dining locations. Actively participate in recycling on campus.



### Move efficiently

Walk or bicycle. Ride transit in Harrisonburg and on the inner campus shuttle for free with your JAC card.

## GET INVOLVED

Visit [www.jmu.edu/stewardship/involved](http://www.jmu.edu/stewardship/involved) to find out how and to download cool tools such as a local foods guide, campus walking time/calories burned map and a recycling guide. Submit suggestions, questions and recognitions to [stewardship@jmu.edu](mailto:stewardship@jmu.edu).

### About the Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World

The mission of the ISNW is to facilitate sustainability by coordinating environmental stewardship efforts across campus, advocating for priorities, and challenging all members of the JMU community to think critically about their role in achieving the long-term stewardship of Earth. More than 100 JMU citizens are working in the institute's five cross-divisional committees.