SCOPE OF THE PLAN

- Ithaca campus
- All students, faculty & staff (prospective students, alumni, retirees?)
- Plan is revised every 5 years (2018-2023)
- But, goals may be more long term
- High level goals. No tactics or projects.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Presidents’ Sustainable Campus Committee and a Steering Committee will guide the creation of the plan, finalize goals, and help oversee the final product
- The entire campus community is responsible for helping input creative ideas and implementing actions to make our goals a reality

LEARN MORE:
sustainablecampus.cornell.edu > about > sustainability plan

PROVIDE FEEDBACK:
tinyurl.com/csp2018
PLAN OUTLINE

• Our Commitment
• Our Visionary Aspirations
• Our Goals
• Our Plan for Implementation

GOAL AREAS

Climate Leadership
Neutrality, Literacy, Adaptation & Resiliency

Sustainable Campus
Buildings & Energy
Food
Land & Water
Purchasing & Waste
Transportation

Campus Community
Engagement, Diversity & Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing, Leadership

Living Laboratory
Teaching & Research, Engaged Learning, Demonstration

Governance & Finance
Governance Structures, Sustainable Investment
YOUR ROLE

To create goals for the next 5 year sustainability plan update which are time bound, metric based, and some brilliant combination of achievable yet visionary and grounded in science.

• Review and comment on Commitment & Aspirations
• Review, create, edit, and comment on Goals

CONSIDER

• Goals need to be high-level, aspirational, and SMART.
• Think with your head and your heart.
• Be bold.
• Consider leading science & research.
• Is there a good balance of goals across our quadruple bottom line:
  – That support people, justice, and wellbeing?
  – Increase prosperity and economic stability?
  – Help us serve our academic purpose and innovation potential?
  – Create and support a more sustainable planet?
HOW TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK

• **Ponder.** Use post-its to create new goals.
• **Perfect.** Write on existing goals with edits or changes.
• **Prioritize.** Vote on up to three of your top choices.
• **Punt.** What could we get rid of?

**ALSO...**

*Who should be involved in goal setting?*
Leave suggestions about people, clubs, committees, centers, classes, other plans, science, and research that can help inform and create the plan.

*Provide feedback online...*

tinyurl.com/csp2018
Our commitment

Our people and planet face unprecedented changes of immense scales, especially our rapidly changing climate – it is urgent and necessary that we take action.

At Cornell University, we embrace these challenges and we commit to work toward sustainable futures for all. Our campus will serve as a living laboratory for such a transformation. Every individual will play a role in re-imagining the way we learn, work, and lead our lives, integrating sustainability into the culture of the university.

As members of the Cornell community, we must grasp our unique opportunity to empower one another, become the leaders of today and tomorrow, and partner for greater impact in the pursuit of a sustainable campus, community, and world.

We must be brave enough to learn, live, and lead in ways we have never done before.
OUR VISIONARY ASPIRATIONS

By fulfilling our commitment, we will achieve:

1. **Bold leadership through discovery and demonstration of solutions for a low-carbon, resilient, and climate-adapted future.**

2. **A powerful living laboratory for sustainable solutions through research, learning, and demonstration on our campus and in our community.**

3. **An accessible campus that responsibly uses resources, mindful of our ecological footprint and the need for natural spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and well-being.**

4. **Demonstrated culture of sustainability through personal leadership, behavior, and inclusion which are second nature to every member of the Cornell community.**

5. **Climate change and sustainability literacy for every person, in every study and every role cultivating scholastic curiosity and dialogue among Cornellians and community members.**

6. **An equitable and sustainable future for the Finger Lakes region, New York State, and beyond through collaboration and innovation.**
CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

Campus Carbon Neutrality
Goal: Create a carbon neutral campus by 2035 using the existing Climate Action Plan to guide our work.
Goal: Cornell will serve as a champion for carbon neutrality solutions, innovation, and leading practice by convening consortia of federal, state, private, utility, and civic partners.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience
Goal: Develop a climate adaptation plan for Cornell by 2023 as a model for how surrounding communities can manage the risks, and take advantage of new opportunities created by our changing climate.

Climate Literacy
Goal: By 2023, 100% of students will be measurably climate literate before graduation.
Goal: By 2023, 100% of employees will be measurably climate literate within two years of their start date.
BUILDINGS & ENERGY

Energy Supply & Demand

Goal: Meet 100% of campus energy needs with renewable energy by 2035 through implementation of Earth Source Heat and development of wind, water and solar power.

Goal: Reduce annual electric power use to 200k MWh by 2035.

Goal: Reduce annual heating use to 700 billion BTUs by 2035.

Building Design & Construction

Goal: 100% of new and renovated buildings will meet or exceed Cornell Design and Construction Standards.

Goal: 100% of new and renovated buildings will meet at least LEED Silver standards and Cornell annual metered energy use targets.

Culture of Care

Goal: Develop and begin implementation of a program by 2020 which enables facility managers to create building-wide cultures of sustainability in which empowered building occupants are aware of and accountable for their contribution to a high-performance building.
BUILDINGS & ENERGY

Operations & Maintenance

Goal: Create and adopt sustainable operations and maintenance guidelines and polices for all campus buildings which promote cutting-edge standards for low-impact, healthy, comfortable, and productive built environments by 2020.

Goal: Maximize the use and allocation of campus space to minimize impacts associated with the construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of buildings.
FOOD

Health & Access

Goal: By 2023, food available in all Cornell Dining facilities will have no additives or artificial colors.

Goal: 100% of Cornell community members have equitable access to nutritious, affordable, holistic, and culturally appropriate food on campus by 2019.

Goal: Fully implement the Menus of Change Guidelines in 100% of Cornell Dining facilities by 2020.

Operations

Goal: All food units, dining and retail, will reduce food and food-related waste to less than 20% by 2020.

Goal: Increase partnerships with suppliers that ensure local job development and sustainable food sourcing by an additional 40% by 2020.

Goal: Lead our state and higher education partners by creating and adopting a Local Suppliers Standard which emphasizes long-term sustainable food and business partnerships that enrich our local economy and environment. Steward adoption with a group of our peers by 2025.
FOOD

Education & Access

Goal: Adopt standard policies across all Cornell owned and affiliate dining services on campus by 2020 which streamline packaging, waste disposal, and signage.

Goal: 100% of the Cornell University community will understand the principles of food systems and have the operational capacity to make sustainable choices by 2020.

Goal: Adopt standard signage across campus for allowing consumer evaluation of the carbon impact, organic, regional, and local partnerships in their food choices (prioritizing protein) by 2020.

Goal: Increase support for local agriculture and sustainable farming operations by increasing the total percentage of Community Supported Agriculture shares 20% by 2020.
LAND & WATER

Planning & Design

We will plan, design, and construct our campus so that it has major beneficial impact on its long-term environmental sustainability.

Goal: Create a sustainable landscape and water management plan for campus by XXXX.

Goal: Create designation criteria for land attributes which protect, preserve, and enrich ecosystem services by 2023.

Goal: Create and adopt a series of campus-wide soil and vegetation management policies which protect critical resources during construction, reduce erosion and natural systems loss, emphasize use of resilient campus ecological design in the face of a changing climate, encourage biodiversity, measure ecosystem services, and advocate for accessibility and exploration by the campus community & visitors.

Goal: Establish biodiversity goals and metrics by 2020.

Goal: Replace XX% of turf area with species adapted for climate change and use intended by YEAR.

Goal: All new landscape projects achieve a SITES certification or equivalent by 2030.
LAND & WATER

Planning & Design

Goal: Create and enhance outdoor spaces that foster social interaction for various activities—outdoor classes, dining, group discussions, etc.

Goal: Create a culture of NatureRx where natural spaces are seen as and used as part of living a happy, well, and naturally-connected life by increasing the percentage of students and staff who utilize campus sustainable landscapes by XX% by YYYY.

Goal: Integrate edible plants into the university landscape by adopting 10 new edible landscaping sites by 2020.

Management

We will make choices about management and maintenance to positively impact the quality and condition of our land and water resources

Goal: Reduce potable water use per gross square foot/meter of floor area and per acre of vegetated grounds by 30% compared to a baseline. Minimize or eliminate the use of potable water for irrigation, including use of recycled/reused campus water. For new landscapes eliminate use of potable water after landscape establishment @3 years).
LAND & WATER

Management

Goal: Minimize waste generated from land management practices by composting 100% of vegetation trimmings and/or mulching waste from groundskeeping.

Goal: Reduce operational water usage on campus by XX% by YEAR compared to 2004-2005 baseline.

Goal: Reduce per capita water consumption by XX% from 2004-2005 baseline levels.

Goal: Increase area managed in accordance with an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan to 100% of campus grounds.

Goal: Increase percentage of grounds managed in accordance with our landscape management program.

Goal: Reduce the use of inorganic fertilizers and chemical pesticides, fungicides and herbicides in favor of ecologically preferable materials on the campus landscape.

Goal: Increase use of environmentally preferable materials — utilizing reused, recycled and local and sustainably produced landscape materials to 80% by 2019.

Goal: Implement technologies or strategies to reduce the environmental impact of snow and ice removal/explore alternatives to de-ice pavements.
LAND & WATER

Living Laboratory

Expand the use of campus ecological spaces and resources as living laboratories for learning, design, and exploration. Benchmark the existing campus condition so that we can evaluate our campus practices, as well as establish a baseline for new technologies and techniques that we will implement on campus to study and advance sustainability research.

Goal: Establish green infrastructure for storm water management.

Goal: Collect and compile existing data of Fall Creek watershed surveys.

Goal: Create XX new interactive landscape areas (natural areas, city trails, etc.) to increase interaction with the watershed and ecology of the Cornell Ithaca campus.

Goal: Create and deploy a comprehensive set of strategies to engage the community in highlighting green infrastructure, such as QR codes and signage, to increase engagement with natural resources and encourage use of natural landscapes for research and place-making.

Goal: Increase the literacy of the campus in water quality and reducing bottled water use by fully adopting the plastic bottle water ban (Take Back the Tap).
PURCHASING & WASTE

Minimization

Goal: Develop and implement a campus-wide, full life-cycle material management strategy/policy by YYYY in order to (metrics relative to a 2013 baseline):

Goal: Reduce overall waste XX% per capita by YYYY.

Goal: Achieve a XX% waste diversion rate by YYYY.


Purchasing

Goal: Fully implement our sustainable purchasing guidelines to increase the proportion of sustainable purchasing made throughout campus 50% by 2020.

Goal: Develop a Sustainable Purchasing Certification program and administer to 100% of Cornell University procurement card holders by 2020.

Goal: Increase percentage of purchases made from disadvantaged businesses, social enterprises, or local community-based businesses from 16% to 25% of all purchases.

Goal: 100% of approved Cornell Vendors adopt our sustainability standards by 2035.
PURCHASING & WASTE

Consumer Education & Accountability

Goal: Develop and administer educational training to 100% of Cornell employees on waste literacy measures they can take in their offices, labs, and homes by YYYYY.

Goal: Secure commitment from 100% of major event planning committees to administer training in Event Waste Reduction planning tools, developed by Cornell, to their members by YYYYY.

Goal: Explore and scope potential district recycling solutions in order to launch XX new Living Lab initiatives by YYYYY.
TRANSPORTATION

Campus Fleet

Goal: Transition XX% of campus fleet vehicles to alternative fuels by YYYY.

Commuting

Goal: 75% of employees and 95% of students use alternative more sustainable modes of transportation as their primary method of commuting by YEAR.

Goal: Minimize the financial and environmental impacts of parking and transportation by increasing adoption of the following options 50%: flexible work arrangements, ridesharing, remote participation in meetings and events.

Goal: Adopt a voluntary parking permit system pilot with varying prices to promote cost equity and resource efficiency, including EV charging stations.

Business Travel

Goal: Reduce vehicular traffic on central campus by developing a more robust and efficient campus circulator, and implementing central delivery and distribution by YYYY.

Goal: Implement a mechanism to enable carbon offsets for air travel by employees by 2020.
CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Campus Engagement

Goal: By 2021, 100% of colleges/units adopt the College and Unit Engagement Program, thereby creating and supporting a dedicated Sustainability Team comprised of employee and student volunteers, to integrate sustainability into the personal behaviors, operation, and culture of the college/unit.

Goal: By 2023, 100% of campus spaces and events are Green Certified.

Goal: By 2018, conduct an annual assessment of sustainability culture and climate literacy that is administered to a representative sample of students and employees longitudinally to measure change over time.

Student Leadership

Goal: By 2019, establish a sustainability student leadership program including experiential opportunities aimed to develop sustainability knowledge, skills, and abilities that may be utilized in any career/field.

Goal: By 2023, 100% of students are sustainability literate before graduation.
CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Inclusion & Diversity

Understanding that we need a safe and productive community culture to achieve our aspirations...

Goal: By 2019, represent campus compositional diversity within campus sustainability organizations.

Goal: Enhance new and on-going diversity and inclusion initiatives by integrating concepts of climate & environmental justice and STARS Diversity & Equity metrics by 2021.

Employee Development

Goal: By 2019, establish a sustainability employee leadership program including experiential opportunities aimed to develop sustainability knowledge, skills, and abilities that may be utilized in work and personal lives.

Goal: By 2023, 100% of supervisors are equipped to evaluate sustainability competencies of employees, and employees are evaluated annually on how they meet those competencies.
CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Health and Wellbeing

Goal: Integrate STARS metrics on health and wellbeing into university programs that enhance and promote personal sustainability initiatives for students and employees by 2020.

Goal: Create or explore metrics for measuring overall happiness and integrate this as a central measure of our sustainability success.
LIVING LABORATORY

Teaching

Goal: By 2020, implement programs to assist employees in creating sustainability-oriented living laboratory projects and integrating those projects into their work and/or curriculum.

Goal: By 2023, provide opportunities for 50% of students to participate in immersive and sustainability-focused educational study programs addressing the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainability.

Research

Goal: By 2019, identify new opportunities for innovation and multidisciplinary research focused on active learning and community partnerships.

Goal: By 2019, utilize the living laboratory community to advance sustainability investment and finance initiatives for the university.

Goal: By 2020, establish a university open access policy that ensures scholarly articles and research done by faculty and employees is centralized in a designated open access repository.
LIVING LABORATORY

Demonstration

Goal: By 2019, create an accurate and searchable database to document, share, and promote campus living laboratory projects and their outcomes.

Goal: Every college/unit provides living laboratory projects for students and employees to engage in applied research and experiential learning, and accelerate operational innovation by 2020.

Public Engagement

Goal: By 2018, advance inter-campus collaboration and public engagement in adopting sustainability solutions by serving as a leader, collaborator, and advocate.

Goal: By 2021, establish network for employees to identify and explore living laboratory projects across disciplines, colleges/units, and the broader Ithaca and NY State community.
Governance & Finance

Participatory Governance

Goal: Establish processes and procedures for communication and collaboration channels between the assemblies, faculty senate and the President’s Sustainable Campus Committee by 2020.

Sustainable Investing

Goal: Charge a multi-stakeholder committee on investor responsibility by 2019 to make investment recommendations with regard to aligning the social and environmental aspects of our investments with our institutional mission and goals.

Goal: Ensure all employees have access to sustainable investment opportunities for personal retirement portfolios by 2019.

Goal: Invest at least 30% of the university’s endowment in businesses and industries that have a focus on sustainability or follow sustainable practices by 2023.

Goal: By 2020, create an annual public snapshot of Cornell’s investment holdings.