



The team at the Sustainability Unit wishes you a very Merry Christmas, and a safe and happy break. Thank you for your contribution to achieving a Sustainable Campus during 2011, and we look forward to building on that success in 2012.

In this edition, find out about our success this year, and learn about our savings in energy and water consumption, as well as waste generation. With the warmer months approaching, we explain the University's temperature set points, and bring you up to date with news about Sustainability research, plus tips on how you can make your Christmas more Sustainable.

We encourage you to forward the Sustainability Update to your colleagues, and we welcome your feedback. In the New Year, we will be focussing more on what departments or local areas are doing about Sustainability, and we will be introducing a Reward and Recognition program recognising teams and individuals who are contributing to our Sustainable Campus.

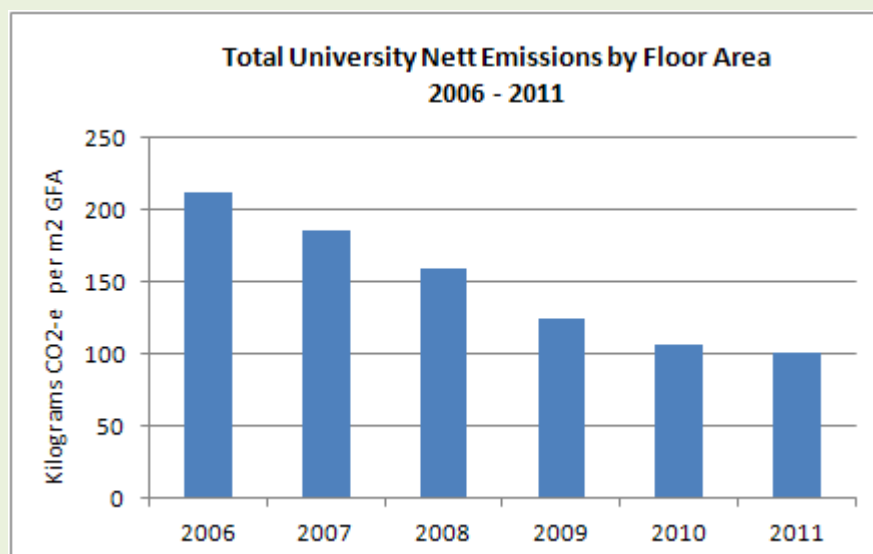
Around the Campus



Energy

As University space has grown by 21.3% during the period 2006 – 2011, performance in reducing energy and emissions is measured by the University's resource intensity, i.e. usage per floor space. However, even in absolute terms, we have achieved significant energy and emissions reductions and usage per floor area has reduced by 23% since 2006.

The University reduces its carbon emissions through efforts to reduce energy consumption, the purchase of Green Power and investment in external abatement projects. In 2011, 100% Green Power was purchased for the Burnley, Creswick and Dookie campuses and 20% for all remaining campuses. The combined contribution of Green Power and abatements in 2011 reduced the University's carbon footprint by 38,000 tonnes per year.



Note: 2011 energy usage data is provisional, as it is based on actual figures for the first half of the

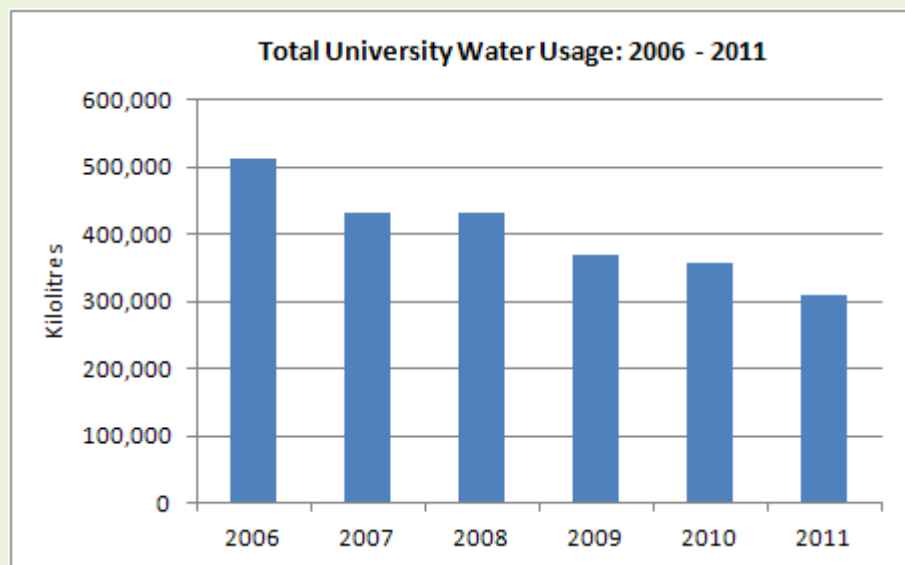
year only.



Water

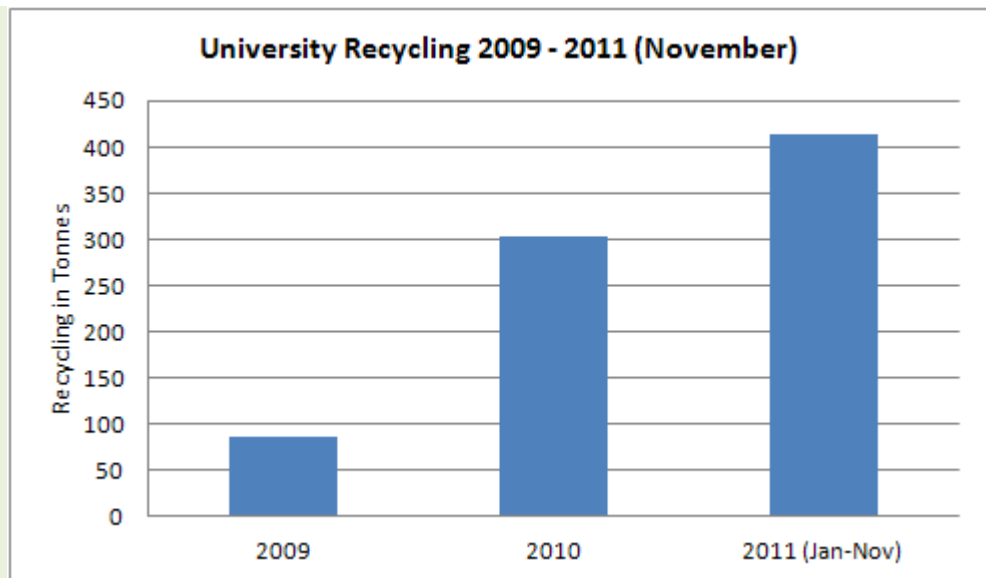
In 2011, the University has achieved a decrease of approximately 5.6% in potable water consumption. Overall, total consumption is down approximately 40% compared to our 2006 baseline.

The University reduces its overall potable consumption through the ongoing roll-out of tap restrictors and dual flush toilets programs. In addition, significant savings were made from the upgrading of the domestic water mains and with the fire ring main project to ensure the most efficient water usage process. While the former programs were being instated, we took the opportunity to install purple piping, laying down infrastructure for water recycling that will be integrated into our water programs in the future. In addition, changes to the HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air conditioning) equipment and operational schedules have also contributed to our water savings.



Great Results for Recycling

Public Place' recycling stations and other infrastructure and process changes have enabled significant increases in mixed recyclables being diverted from landfill, as demonstrated in the graph below. Waste diverted from landfill into recycling has increased from 86 tonnes in 2009 to 413 tonnes in January to November 2011 across the Parkville, Southbank, Burnley and Werribee campuses.



This significant increase in recycling can be attributed to:

- The new standardised 'Under-Desk Mixed Recycling Bins' and 'Desktop Landfill Mini-Bins' rolled out across the Parkville campus.
- Old cardboard bales being replaced with a better system of large VISY Cardboard Wheelie bins – more capacity, easier to use and more visible.
- Replacement of the old blue and red VISY commingled bins with MORE Yellow-topped mixed Recycling bins for all buildings and adding bins for cafes and events.
- More awareness on campus due to education and higher profile of recycling.

For more information, visit the [website](#)



Bottle Water Free at Southbank and Burnley



Students from the Southbank Campus

As of the beginning of December, Burnley Campus has stopped selling bottled water on campus, following on from Southbank's (VCAM) lead in early October. 18 new drinking water fountains have been installed across both campuses, ensuring that staff and students have access to the fresh and free resource.



Burnley Campus

Minimising bottled water has many environmental and social benefits. For example, producing and delivering a litre of bottled water can produce up to hundreds more times of greenhouse gases than a litre of tap water. The University is the first in Victoria to reduce its environmental footprint in this way and has future plans for rolling the initiative across the entire University.

For more information, visit the [website](#)



Monash Road Closure

To promote a more sustainable and pedestrian friendly campus, Monash Road will be closed to vehicle traffic as of 2pm on Thursday 22nd December 2011, in line with the University Parkville Master Plan 2008.

For further enquiries, please call Anh Castles on 8344 7774 or email traffic-security@unimelb.edu.au.



The University of Melbourne is now a signatory of FluoroCycle

The University of Melbourne is now recognised for its commitment to reducing the amount of mercury entering the environment from the disposal of waste containing mercury-lighting.

[Download the FluoroCycle Signatory Commitment](#) (pdf 75 kb)



Temperature Settings in University Buildings

As part of the University's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint, air conditioned buildings across campus are scheduled to maintain temperatures **within the range of 20°C to 26°C**. As a result of this initiative, less energy is used by the heating and cooling systems. This means that you may notice minor temperature changes in your working environment.

We encourage you to dress accordingly so that you can feel comfortable in this temperature range.

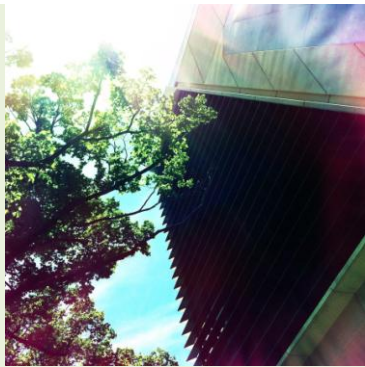
For more information, please visit our [website](#).



Winner Announced for Sustainability Photography Competition

Congratulations to Rebecca Lee from the Office for Environmental Programs for being the winner in the 2011 Sustainability Photography Competition. She will receive \$200 for her contribution. Rebecca framed Sustainability using a camera on her iPhone to produce abstract images of Sustainability at Parkville Campus.

Many thanks to all of those who participated in the competition.



Photograph of the Melbourne Brain Centre, by Rebecca Lee.

Research News



New iPhone app to assist with your gardening

University of Melbourne researchers have launched a new iPhone app that factors in local rainfall information and plant type to help gardeners remember how much to water and when.

For more information, please check the [website](#).



Engaging Environments

November's *Voice* investigates how the University of Melbourne researchers are working on designing more engaging and sustainable classrooms to improve learning environments, implementing an ambitious program to revamp University student spaces for the next century.

Read more on the [Voice website](#).



MSSI 'Societal Transformations' Funding Opportunity

To research some of the transformations needed to drive a rapid transition to a sustainable society, the Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute is building research capacity in the area of Resilience and Societal Transformation. \$30,000 - \$60,000 for 12 month projects will be offered.

For more information visit the [website](#)

Sustainability Events



Sustainable Christmas

Have a Sustainable festive season by celebrating this Christmas the green way! We have prepared some tips to ensure that Christmas can be both Sustainable and enjoyable:

- Purchase a native tree or buy a potted Christmas tree and decorate it or purchase your live tree from a charity group.
- Save any wrapping paper to use next year.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).



Campus Sustainability Centre opening in April

PLEASE NOTE: Change of date from February 28th to April 18th 2012.

Please join us on April 18th, 2012 for the opening of the Campus Sustainability Centre. The Centre will showcase and reflect the research projects currently undertaken at Parkville, and aim to embed and promote operational, behavioural change for sustainability across the University.

Please keep an eye on our [website](#) for more updates closer to the event.

Staff Environment Advocates

Minutes

Please see link to [Minutes of the Staff Environment Advocates Forum](#) held on Tuesday 6th December 2011.

Meeting Dates 2012

Staff Environment Advocates (SEA) is a forum for the communication of Sustainability issues, and for Advocates to raise Sustainability issues. Interested staff members are also welcome to attend.

Month	Date	Time	Venue
February	Tuesday 14th	10.00am-11.00am	TBA
May	Tuesday 22nd	10.00am-11.00am	TBA
September	Tuesday 4th	10.00am-11.00am	TBA
December	Tuesday 4th	10.00am-11.00am	TBA

Update of Staff Environment Advocates List

Please keep your department's representatives' information up to date by emailing changes to sustainable-campus@unimelb.edu.au.

Our current list is reflected at

<http://sustainablecampus.unimelb.edu.au/involvement/docs/StaffEnvironmentAdvocates2.pdf>

Training - Introduction to Sustainable Practices

Aim: This course will outline the initiatives the University has undertaken towards Sustainability and provide you with practical Sustainability applications you can take back to your workplace.

Objective: To provide Staff with the skills and knowledge needed to embed and advocate Sustainability practices in their workplace.

For more information visit the [website](#)

What are you doing to be Sustainable in your Local Area?

If your Faculty / Department is being sustainable then please let us know about it. Send us your news, ideas, reports, announcements, etc, to sustainable-campus@unimelb.edu.au

Report a Sustainability Improvement Opportunity

Let us know your ideas and observations about sustainability opportunities in the University environment around you. http://sustainablecampus.unimelb.edu.au/form/report_opp.html

Contact the Sustainability Unit sustainable-campus@unimelb.edu.au