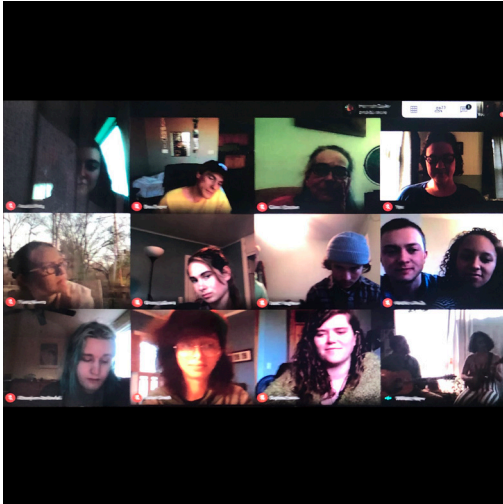


# KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT

This academic year started out strong, but many plans were stopped short due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While programming didn't happen in the ways we had anticipated, we found ways to connect and ways to provide healthy food to the students remaining on campus. This annual report summarizes and highlights campus sustainability during the 2019-20 academic year.



## 50th Anniversary of Earth Day

The Knox community observed Earth Day from home this year, but that didn't stop us from recognizing this special anniversary. From a collection of vegetarian and low waste recipes to an Earth Day Live event, where students, faculty, and staff read, played music, and drew, we found ways to celebrate together.



## Food Share Pantry

Knox College partnered with River Bend Foodbank to stock the campus food pantry with shelf-stable basics.

The pantry provides temporary supplemental food assistance to the Knox community at no cost to the user.

This service is in an effort to help alleviate hunger and aims to reduce the impact of food insecurity on academic and personal success.



## Healthy Harvests

Knox Farm continued to thrive and employed a crew of student workers. The Farm offered a healthy way to be involved and be active after stay at home orders were lifted. Students shared Knox Farm's work with others still at home through social media videos of their culinary explorations.



## Campus as Living Lab

Knox Farm collaborated with faculty to integrate hands-on learning into their curricula. A history class grew modern and ancient wheat varieties, the Urban Ag class worked each week on seasonal tasks, and shrubs and herbs were planted that would become the first guild, a natural growing system of perennial plants, in the Edible Forest Garden for students to study.



# KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY 19-20 BY THE NUMBERS\*

\*Some efforts were paused or underutilized in spring 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic



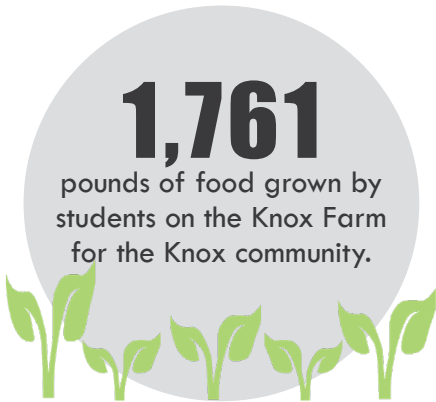
**39.9**  
tons of food waste composted  
by a local commercial composter  
and diverted from the landfill.



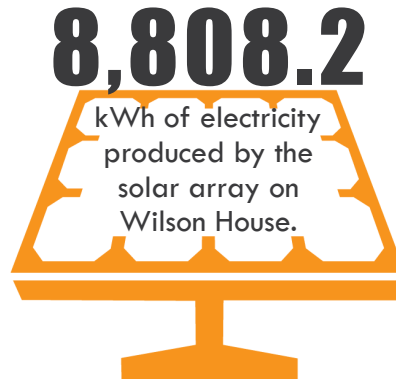
**143**  
individuals received  
food from the Knox  
Food Share Pantry



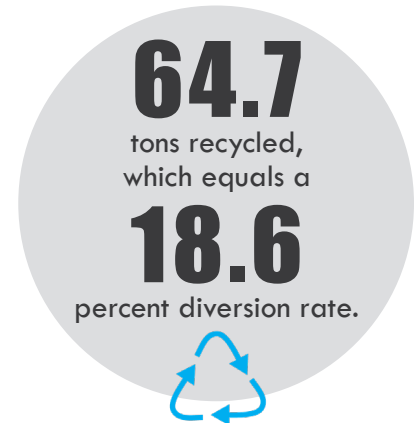
**7,595**  
pounds of food donated  
to local organizations  
and diverted from the landfill.



**1,761**  
pounds of food grown by  
students on the Knox Farm  
for the Knox community.



**8,808.2**  
kWh of electricity  
produced by the  
solar array on  
Wilson House.



**64.7**  
tons recycled,  
which equals a  
**18.6**  
percent diversion rate.

OF THE 2020 GRADUATES



27% SIGNED THE PLEDGE

81 of the 303 seniors that graduated in 2020 virtually signed the Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility, sponsored by the Graduation Pledge Alliance (GPA): *I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work.*

## RANKINGS



### AASHE AND THE STARS RATING SYSTEM

Knox has been a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) since 2012.

In 2018, Knox earned Silver level in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS) with a score of 46.12, which is good for 3 years.



### SIERRA MAGAZINE COOL SCHOOLS LIST

Knox was ranked #234 out of 282 schools in *Sierra Magazine's* 2019 list of Cool Schools.

The scoring key is a reflection of Sierra Club's broader priorities and awards more weight in the areas of campus energy use, transportation, and fossil fuel divestment.



### PRINCETON REVIEW GREEN SCHOOLS

Knox was included in The Princeton Review's 2019 *Guide to 413 Green Colleges*.

Selected schools must receive a Princeton Review Green Rating score of 80 or higher to be included in the Guide. Knox earned 93 out of 99 possible points.