

KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

It was an academic year of trying new endeavors—Knox's first year participating in the national ReycleMania competition, a new staff position with the Sustainability Office, on-campus solar power generation, and a switch away from plastic straws. The following annual report summarizes and highlights the successes achieved in sustainability during the 2017-2018 academic year.



First in Food Organics

For the first time, Knox participated in ReycleMania, a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for colleges and universities to promote waste reduction activities.

Knox took first place in the Food Organics category and also placed 15th out of 229 in the per capita recycling category.



Zero waste Commencement lunch

The 2018 Commencement lunch generated the lowest quantity of waste since the effort began four years ago—only 0.2 pounds. Thanks to dining services for working hard to use reusable and recyclable serving ware.



Food Systems Coordinator Joins Sustainability Office

A staff position was added to support the Office of Sustainability. This part-time staff person supports the office by managing the Knox Farm and student farm crew and works on food-related campus programming.



Knox Drops Plastic Straws

Knox made national headlines as one of the first schools in the nation to stop using plastic straws. The switch to paper straws is a simple step that makes a global impact.



KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY BY THE NUMBERS



9,140

pounds of food donated to local organizations and diverted from the landfill.



99

bikes in the Bike Share program.

331

bike loans processed.



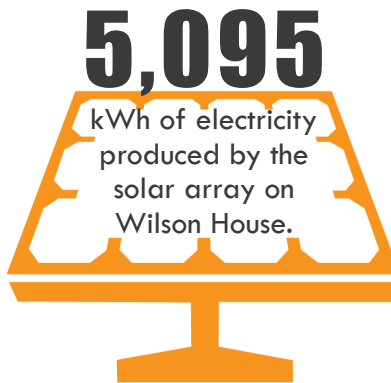
11,597

pounds of still-good items diverted from the landfill. Items are used to stock the campus Share Shop and are donated to local organizations.



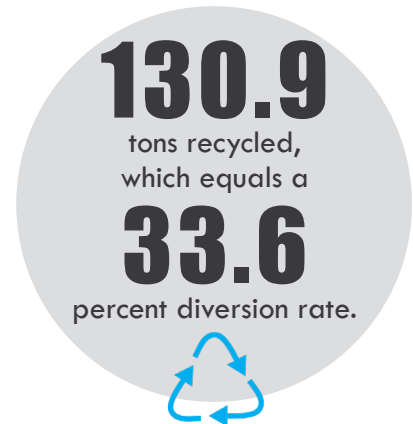
711

pounds of food grown by students on Knox Farm for the Knox community.



5,095

kWh of electricity produced by the solar array on Wilson House.



130.9

tons recycled, which equals a

33.6

percent diversion rate.



OF THE 2018 GRADUATES



77% SIGNED THE PLEDGE

215 of the 278 seniors that graduated in 2018 signed the Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility, sponsored by the Graduation Pledge Alliance (GPA), which was signified by wearing a green ribbon on their Commencement regalia.

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 a Silver level in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS) with a score of 46.12.



SIERRA MAGAZINE COOL SCHOOLS LIST

Knox was ranked #135 out of 227 schools in *Sierra Magazine's* 2017 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 2017 *Guide to 375 Green Colleges*.

Selected schools must receive a Princeton Review Green Rating score of 60 or higher to be included in the Guide. Knox earned 90 out of 99 possible points.