



Sustainability & Resiliency at Knox

2025 Annual Report



At Knox, we're committed to nurturing a culture of social and environmental responsibility that inspires a commitment to greater resilience on our campus, in our community, and in the world.

In 2025, we completed writing Knox's first Sustainability and Resiliency Action Plan and increased our commitment to renewable energy by installing a 77.7kWh DC solar array at the new Green Oaks Knight Living Learning Center. We significantly increased our volunteer participation at the Knox Farm and in our educational campaign on waste diversion in our 3-way waste systems, expanded our Community Composting Program, and hosted many exciting workshops and events! This report highlights Knox's 2025 sustainability and resiliency achievements.

Research and Curricular Engagement



S4S, the Office of Sustainability, and FRN volunteers conduct waste audits to assess contamination in the waste stream

3
waste
audits



Students in Urban Agriculture learn how to grow shiitake mushrooms

1
new rain
garden



Biophilic and Resilient Design students design a rain garden

1
new herbal
guild



Professor Ferrigno's Landscape Painting Class paints the herbal guilds



30+
student research
projects focused
on sustainability

Students study a wide range of topics, including how bioplastics decompose in small-scale compost systems (left) and how to tap trees on campus to make maple syrup (right)



Volunteers Plant fruit trees and shrubs in the Knox Farm's edible forest garden

The Knox Farm

225

People
volunteered

735+

volunteer
hours served

2,178

lbs of produce
grown

13

Student
Farm Crew
Members

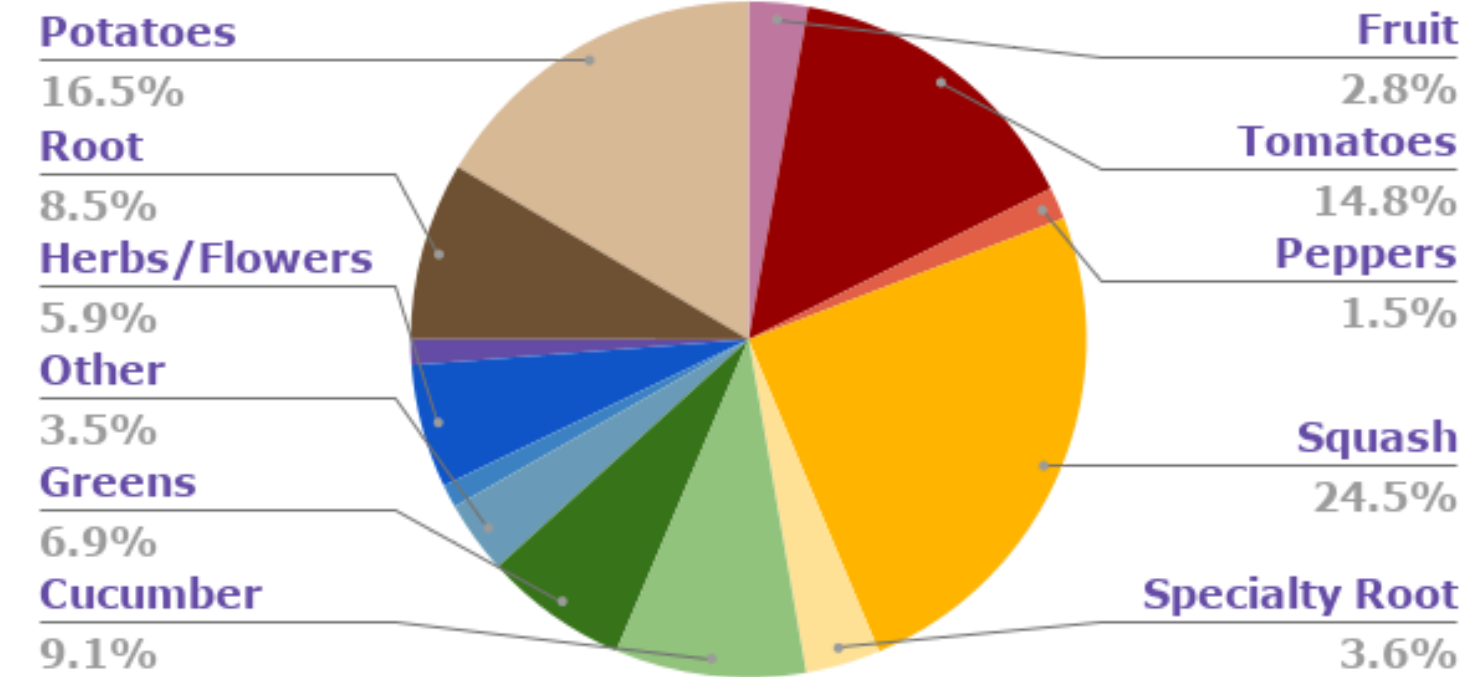
100+

Seedlings
given away

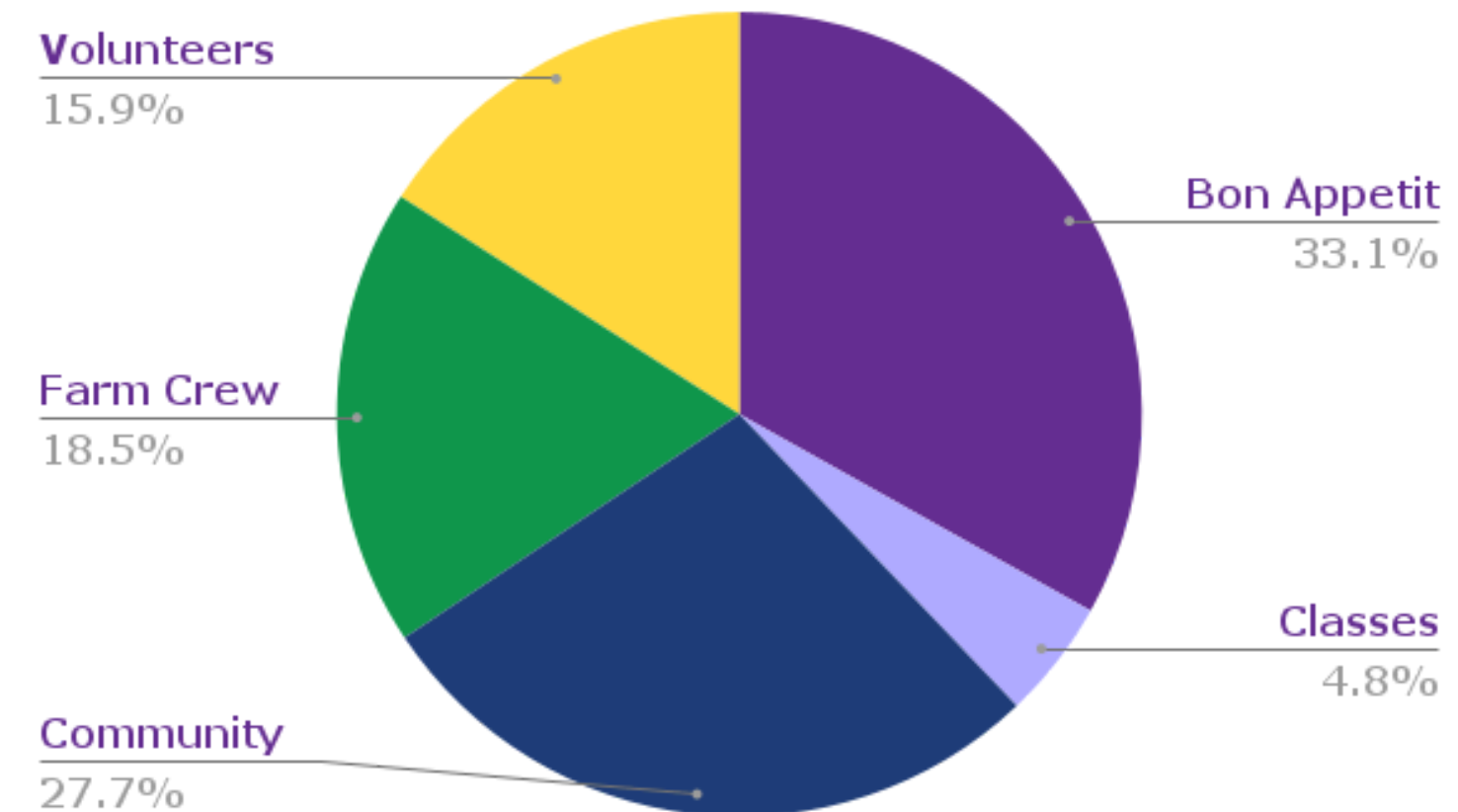


Produce Grown (lbs)

Knox Farm 2025



Produce Distribution (by weight)



Composting at Knox

3770+

lbs of food scraps managed
on campus in the Knox Farm's
community-scale compost
program

including

1,000+

lbs diverted from the
landfill via the annual
pumpkin smash bash

78+

participants in the
community scale
compost program

56,280+

lbs of food scraps and compostables
collected across campus/dining and
industrially composted by
Better Earth Compost



Waste Reduction and Recycling

45%

of **waste diverted** from the landfill and utilized as a resource during the 2025 Campus Race to Zero Waste 8-week campaign

8,546+

lbs of electronic E-waste collected at Knox and recycled or refurbished by PCs for the People

475.75

lbs of food recovered by FRN and shared with the Galesburg Community

2

new **water monster** dispensers to replace single-use plastic water bottles at college events

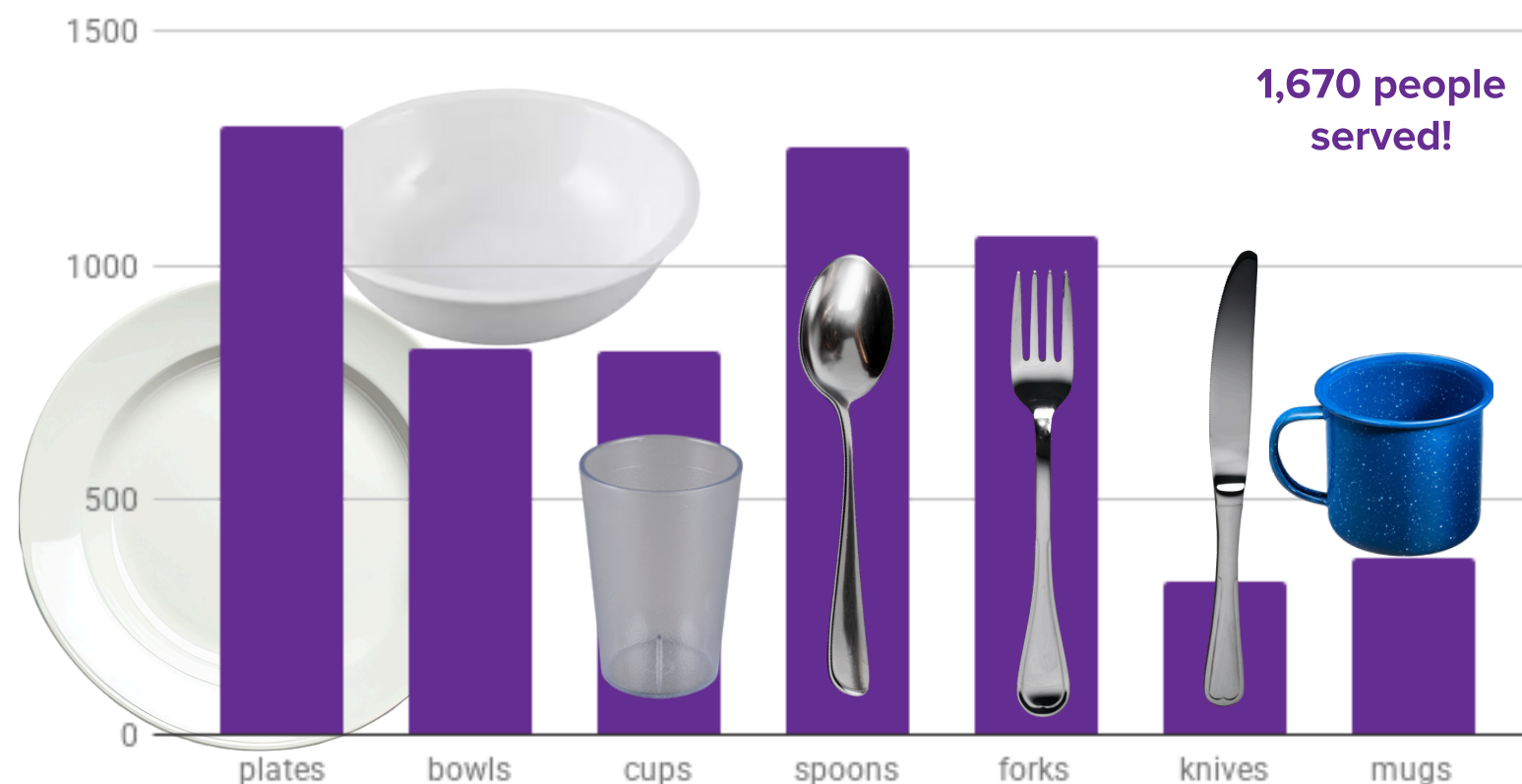
122,160

lbs of conventional mixed recycling

7,180+

lbs of scrap metal recycled by the warehouse and bike shop

Reusable Dishes Borrowed from the ReUse Kit Program in 2025



340

Reusable clamshells distributed at New Student Orientation



Share Shop and Move Out



200+

Volunteer hours organizing
and managing Share Shop

1750+

Visits to the Share Shop



11,877 lbs

of clothing and home goods diverted from the
landfill during Knox's end-of-year MOVE OUT, and
redistributed via Share Shop and local thrift stores



Energy and Transportation



73,257.78 kWh

total solar produced by Knox solar panels, including 64,424 kWh from the Green Oaks Knight Living Learning Center and 8,833.78 kWh from Wilson House

5 student bike mechanics at the Bike Shop

2 bike repair workshops



96

free bike loans to students from the Bike Shop



203

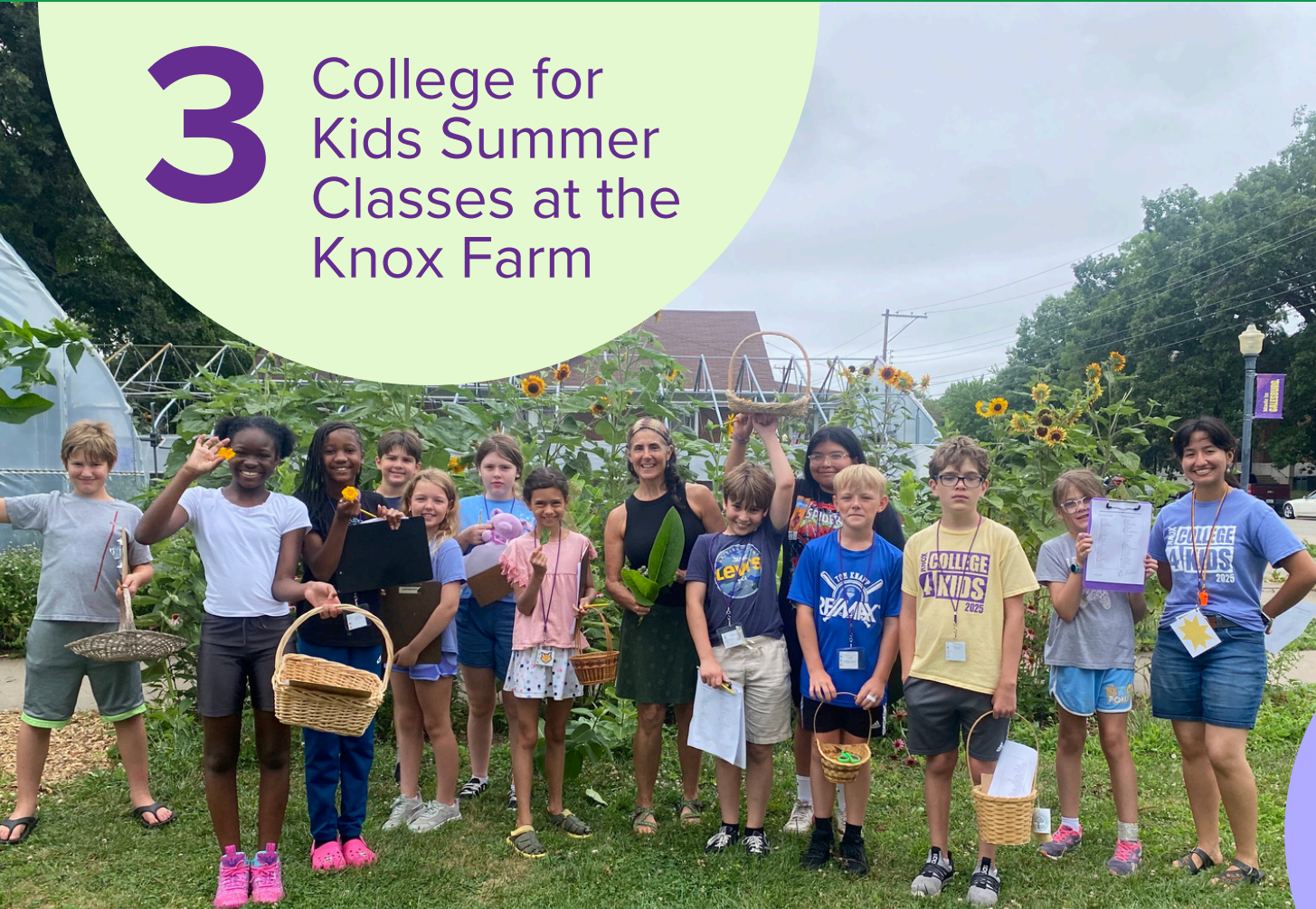
outdoor lamps fitted with custom light shields and low-kelvin bulbs to reduce energy & light pollution.

Completed by the MakerSpace, Student Senate, and Office of Sustainability



Community and Civic Engagement

3 College for Kids Summer Classes at the Knox Farm



6 Farm to Fork Potlucks



Knox Farm Tours and Teas



Community Clean-Ups



9 MakerSpace Skill Share and Repair Volunteer Sessions



Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who's contributed to Sustainability initiatives at Knox College and the Knox Farm! You truly make a difference!

A Special Thanks to:

- Our volunteers, staff, and community members
- Kirsten Ice Mogbo '76: Mogbo Endowment Sustainability Fund
- Mary K. Knight '60: Knight Living Learning Center
- Rick Veague '80 and Ann Veague '79
- The Sustainability Working Group

Stay Connected

Follow us on social media!



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Resources to stay up to date:

Learn more about sustainability,
and read our newsletter archive
at Knox on our website:
<https://www.knox.edu/about-knox/our-values/sustainability>

Recognitions & Memberships



Seed Savers
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