THE FUTURE IS GREEN
George Mason University

Since 2005, George Mason University has strived to become a leader in strategic research, education and services that promote more sustainable campuses and communities around the world. Mason aims to be climate neutral by 2050. Mason's progress in research, academics, energy management and enhanced reduction is paving the future of sustainable growth and practices in higher education. In 2016 and 2017, Mason received a 5 STAR-GS-GH rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

GROWING & GREEN
Mason has made excellent progress in energy efficiency and reduction while investing in projects that improve transportation, reduce emissions, and save money during an unprecedented period of growth.

Since 2005, Mason has grown 64%.

But energy usage has only increased 42%.

The university has invested in 41 energy saving projects that save $2.5 million annually.

11 Mason buildings designed LEED certified or above.

Innovations & efficiencies

Patriot Green Fund
$100K Annual Fund

Greenhouse
Mason grew lettuce, herbs, and greens for its strong foods using a hydroponic system, which uses 96% less water than traditional agricultural methods. Students are able to see the benefits of sustainable local foods through Learning Lab settings.

Innovation Food Forest
This permaculture garden is focused on improving the health and well-being of the campus community by providing organic fruits and vegetables for students to enjoy. Over 200 plants grew in the Mason Food forest, which is run by Mason students and volunteers.

Instruments in the Attic
This program, which refurbishes used instruments donated by the community, provides hundreds of students the opportunity to pursue music and the arts at a lower cost while keeping repairable instruments out of our waste streams.

Honeybee Apiaries
The apiaries at Mason are used in an undergraduate beekeeping research. Mason started with housing four honeybee hives in 2012, and now manages over 50 hives on and off campus.

Green Roof
A research-oriented green roof with solar panels was installed on top of the Rappahannock Parking Garage to test and measure the results of up to 12 variables on the efficiency of the green roof.

Making a difference in...

Sustainable Academics

Innovations in Learning
Mason offers numerous innovative learning experiences focused on sustainability issues, such as immersion trips, independent study and graduate minor programs. Examples include the Washington Internship Program (WIP), the Smithsonian/Mason School of Conservation, and the Diet, Fitness, and Human Behaviors Program.

Housing

Donating Items & Diverting Waste
During Patriot Park Out in 2017, Mason students donated and thereby diverted over 14,500 pounds of clothes, food, and small household items from the local waste stream. In 2016 alone, housing donated over 270 mattresses and 135 bed frames to local homeless communities.

Well-Being

We Thrive Together
The Center for the Advancement of Well-Being conducted student and alumni surveys with Gallup to measure their well-being in the five domains of purpose, financial, community, physical, and social. The survey results showed the rate of 10% undergraduate Mason students felt they were thriving.

To learn more visit www.gmu.edu and green.gmu.edu


18 Bachelor's Degrees
5 Master's Degrees
3 Doctoral Degrees
122 Graduate Minors
121 Sustainability Learning Courses