



WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

Sustainability: Meeting our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Brundtland Commission 1987).

It has three components – **environmental conservation**, **social responsibility**, and **economic development**. While most people primarily associate sustainability with environmental conservation, it is about people and the health of our communities!



WHY IS SUSTAINABILITY IMPORTANT TO UNTHSC?

Our campus is committed to improving the **health** and **quality of life** of Texans and beyond. Sustainability supports that mission by striving to improve the environmental health and quality of life for our campus and community. Sustainability is important for many reasons including:

- **Environmental Quality** – In order to have healthy communities, we need clean air, natural resources, and a nontoxic environment.
- **Growth** – UNTHSC's enrollment continues to grow, so we require more resources such as energy, water, and space. Sustainability aims to use our resources efficiently to benefit our campus and community.
- **Healthcare** – Sustainability and healthcare are intricately related since the quality of our environment affects public health. For example, many health issues are directly related to air and water quality.

DID YOU KNOW?

We have a LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Gold building on campus.

The MET building was designed and built to improve energy and water efficiency, reduce CO₂ emissions, improve indoor air quality, etc. earning the UNT System its first LEED Gold designation!



THE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

The Office of Sustainability partners with various departments and persons on campus and in the community to implement sustainable practices on campus.

Mission

Our mission is to plan, develop, implement, and assess sustainability efforts on campus that benefit our campus and community now and in the future.

Goals

- Operational efficiency (energy efficiency, water conservation, minimize waste, cost savings, etc.)
- Reduce the environmental impact of the campus
- Increase student and campus engagement in sustainability initiatives
- Support UNTHSC's larger mission and vision

WHAT UNTHSC IS DOING

From energy usage to reducing our paper use, UNTHSC has been implementing sustainable practices for over a decade. Here are just a few highlights:

- UNTHSC has saved **over \$5 million** as of 2011 by implementing an Energy Savings Performance Contract. Sustainability makes cents!
- In 2011, we **recycled 233 tons of waste** which translates to saving 833 cubic yards of landfill space or enough airspace to fulfill the municipal waste disposal needs for 1,069 people for one year!
- UNTHSC offers a **20% discount** on parking permits to drivers of low emission vehicles, and we offer discounted bus and train fares to students and employees.
- Low flow plumbing fixtures have been installed throughout campus to **conserve water**. In fact, the MET Building reduces water consumption by 30% when compared to buildings of the same size.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Please contact the office with questions,
comments or to get involved.**