

SUSTAINABILITY ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



KLESS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Projects supported by the Kless Sustainability Fund:
2022-

- Zero Waste Stations in Rise + Rooted
- Firewise Garden Signage & Improvements
- UM FLAT Insulated Curtains
- Food Pantry Sustainable Products

2023-

- 30 kW Eck Solar Expansion
- Bear Safe Garbage Cans
- Recommissioning in the Interdisciplinary Sciences Building & Payne Native American Center
- Water Bottle Filling Stations in Schreiber
- Griz Pool Cover

KLESS INVESTMENTS 2022-23:
\$157,986

ZERO WASTE

- "All in the Hall" stations are now installed in Eck Hall, Aber Hall, the Education Building, the UC, and University Hall.
- Waste and recycling were audited to help us "right size" our dumpsters and bins for more efficient service and financial savings.
- Compostable to-go packaging options have enabled the UC Commons to become a model for Zero Waste dining operations. Rise + Rooted also installed compost bins for post-consumer materials.



- UM continues to work with Missoula Compost Collection for our compost services. The UM alum-owned company transports compostable materials to the Garden City Composting facility where materials are composted and redistributed back to the community as fertile garden soil.
- UM hired a Surplus Manager to reevaluate and redistribute still-useful items, reducing the need to purchase items and giving old stuff a new life.

CAMPUS BUILDINGS

- UM has seen a lot of new construction, renovation, and campus investment in 2022-23. More buildings means more materials consumed and more energy used, though the new buildings are designed to much higher sustainability standards than the facilities they are replacing.
- For the first time, physical plant sustainability commitments appear in UM guiding documents. Priority for Action (PFA) 4.2.1 states that UM will create sustainability guidelines for all physical plant projects.
- The Combined Heat & Power facility is due to be online by the end of 2023, allowing campus to generate electrical power and reduce our carbon footprint.
- The new Montana Museum of Art & Culture and a new dining hall are currently under construction, both anticipated to achieve LEED Gold.



- To better equip UM staff and local design professionals with green building expertise, UM hosted a LEED Green Associate training for 24 UM and Missoula-area professionals.
- The University Center and Student Recreation Center both received LED upgrades in 2022, a project funded by the Kless Sustainability Fund.
- Knowles Hall got a big renovation, including new energy-efficient insulated windows, a new roof, and high-efficiency radiators. It also has new LEDs and low-flow indoor water fixtures.

FOOD

- UM Dining has partnered with a local Missoula rancher to provide beef to the UC Market, Food Zoo, Iron Griz, and Big Sky Burgers. They also switched to using Montana-sourced oil from The Oil Barn for frying and cooking oil in the Food Zoo.
- Dining hosted its inaugural South Ave Garden Party on the solstice in 2022 to celebrate the summer growing season and the educational and operational impact of on-campus food production.
- UM Gardens produced 3,183 lbs of food (\$12,560) in 2022.



TRANSPORTATION

- We received 3 new electric buses in Fall of 2021 with accompanying charging infrastructure in 2022. Three of our diesel buses were decommissioned in Fall 2022. This now puts our fleet at over 50% electric and we are slated to save more than 5,000 gal of diesel in 2023-24.
- Twenty cruiser bikes were purchased in 2022 to expand the rental fleet, making more bikes available to students, faculty, and staff.
- The redesign of the Purple and Green lines to serve ROAM and Sawyer apartments resulted in a 28% and 239% increase in ridership from spring 2022 to spring 2023.
- Commuter challenges over fall and spring semesters resulted in 163 participants, 1622 trips logged, 5,123 miles travelled, and 3,406 lbs CO2 diverted.

CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

ASUM Sustainability hosted multiple events for students, faculty, and staff.

- Sustainability Trivia with OOLD
- Senate Sustainability Challenge
- SWAG Luncheon with OOLD
- Earth Week Sustainability Fair
- Gardening Kick-Off Event with Bear Necessities
- Electrify the Big Sky Energy Summit
- Campus Thrift



Climate Response Club and UM FLAT also hosted sustainability events.

- Climate Trivia Game Night
- Zero Waste & Circular Economy Lecture
- Earth Week River Clean-Up
- Class Presentations on Urgency of Climate Change
- Public Transit Scavenger Hunt
- Pizza Party to Save the World