

LIVING GREEN IN

Raiderland

**Guide to
Sustainable
Living
at Texas Tech
University**

From here, it's possible.

You can promote change now for a sustainable future for all. We can make it happen here at Texas Tech. University Student Housing and Hospitality Services encourage all students to participate in meeting our current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs. Sustainable behavior is expected of all students. Our efforts are directed at making our campus and community more sustainable, and we hope you will join us in this endeavor.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- OUR CAMPUS 4
- STUDENT INVOLVEMENT 5
- SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES 6
- CONSIGNMENT 6
- TEMPERATURE 8
- TRANSPORTATION 9
- WATER..... 10

OUR CAMPUS

Texas Tech University approaches sustainability via many avenues. For example, there are multiple buildings on campus with certifications from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system designed by the United States Green Building Council, including: The Rawls College of Business Administration Building, Texas Tech University Innovation Hub at Research Park, Terry Fuller Petroleum Engineering Research Building,

West Village Residence Hall, and J. T. & Margaret Talkington Residence Hall. Some visible campus initiatives include bicycle maintenance stations, water refill stations, a recycling center and recycling bins, sustainability awareness events, the Arbor Day celebration, and paper shredding. Other infrastructural efforts include energy management and xeriscaping.



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Students can participate in the R3 (Red Raiders Recycle) program during move-in of each year. The Residence Halls Association (RHA) offers several student-led organizations for students:

The Clean Up the Environment (CUTE) Club works to beautify campus, promote recycling, and raise energy awareness. We offer numerous climate, environment, and sustainability-related courses, and

several degree programs and concentrations focused on environmental sustainability. The club completes service projects on and off campus. Any student can join.

For more information, email:

housing.gogreen@ttu.edu or

visit **housing.ttu.edu/gogreen** to get involved!



SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

CONSIGNMENT

Donating clothing and goods that are no longer worn or used is a method of recycling these materials.

There are multiple locations to donate items locally, and the option is available at the end of each academic year in every residence hall. Items that you donate should be in good and usable condition. If you would or would not give it to a friend, then you should or should not donate it! Some items that can be consigned are: Accessories, books, clothing, entertainment media, furniture, kitchenware, outdoor equipment, and school supplies.

GIVE *before* **YOU GO!**

ELECTRICITY

Ensure all personal light bulbs are LED or CFL. Use smart power strips. Plug electronics into a smart strip, and it will automatically turn off appliances that don't need to be on all the time, like televisions or gaming consoles. Look for the "smart strip" label. Turn off the lights in your room, bathrooms, and common areas. Every time you leave a room, make it a habit. Enable power-saving features on your computer and save up to \$75 in electricity each year. Have the screen turn off after 3 minutes and turn it off at night.



FOOD

Food is an important aspect of living sustainably. Making smart choices about what you eat not only makes you healthier, but it can significantly help in lightening your ecological footprint. Eating less meat, particularly beef, contributes to a reduction of land development and greenhouse gas emissions. Instead, aim to incorporate more natural products

such as fruits, grains, and vegetables into your diet. Buy locally when possible, as a large amount of energy is used for long-distance transportation.

Eat organically when possible. Though slightly more expensive than processed foods, organic foods are produced with far fewer fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides.



TEMPERATURE

If you are hot or cold in your room, submit a Fix It request. Level temperatures save energy. Get assistance with a cold, drafty, hot, or leaky room to maximize energy efficiency. Make sure windows and doors seal tightly. Drafts will make the room cold and waste energy. Close blinds on hot days to keep the room cool, and open blinds on cold days to let in thermal heat. If possible, share a fridge with your roommate or use the common area fridge, and keep temperatures at 35F and 0F in the freezer. Washing with cold water reduces energy use by 90% and makes clothes last longer. Wash only full loads and dry clothes in 30 minute cycles or air dry to reduce wear and tear.



TRANSPORTATION

Be active! Walking our beautiful campus is fast and simple, good for you, and for the environment. Take time to explore your surroundings and acclimate yourself to our university! Dozens of bicycle racks across campus make it easy to ride and park nearly anywhere. You can also mount your bicycle on

campus shuttle buses. All students can ride campus shuttle buses for free, and buses run on weekdays from as early as 7AM to as late as 7PM! Bus routes run both on and off campus. Special buses also run during student holiday breaks from campus to major cities throughout Texas. Link to bus routes:

www.citibus.com/texas-tech-route-schedules.php



WATER

Texas Tech students dispose of millions of single-use cups each year. If every student used reusable bottles and cups, waste and spending would be cut by thousands of dollars and pounds. We have water refill stations located in nearly every building on campus. Refill a reusable bottle with our purified water instead of purchasing bottled water. Keep showers short. A two-minute reduction in your shower time can save ten gallons of water. Using less water also consumes less electricity.





TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
University Student Housing™