



THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE SUSTAINABILITY TEAM

Sustainability tips, suggestions and facts

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UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

1. University Targets

The University of Cambridge has an [Environmental Sustainability Vision, Policy and Strategy](#) setting out the University's commitment to achieving outstanding environmental sustainability performance. Every member of the University, staff and student, is asked to play their role in helping to achieve this vision. The following tips give some suggestions for how you can help.

2. General Tips

- **Waste and recycling** – most of our rubbish can be recycled. Crisp packets and polystyrene are key exceptions. Look out for posters on or near to bins for guidance.
- **Travel** – walk, cycle, or take the University-subsidised Universal bus to get around the city.
- **Food and drink** – get a KeepCup and try the more sustainable options in University cafés.
- **Energy** – dress appropriately for the season; switch off lights and equipment when not in use.
- **Water** – don't leave taps running, and report any dripping taps to building's maintenance team, or the Estate Facilities Helpdesk.
- **Get more involved** – become a sustainability leader and help take things to the next level.

3. Energy

- In 2019, Cambridge became the first university in the world to adopt a **Science Based Target** for carbon reduction. The target applies to the University's operational estate, and commits the University to reducing its **energy-related (scope 1 and 2)** carbon emissions to absolute zero by 2048.
- The University has also expressed an aspiration to become **zero carbon at least ten years ahead** of its target date (by 2038).
- This can be achieved through some simple steps – such as switching off lights and equipment when they are not being used.
- Always dress appropriately for the season to reduce the need for additional heat or cooling.

4. Food and Drink

- You can buy a **KeepCup** in most of the University cafés or bring a refillable bottle. They reduce use of disposable cups, there is a saving each time you buy a hot drink.
- University cafés have a range of sustainable options (why not try the vegan option?)
- Did you know the biggest impact individuals can make around food is **reducing meat and dairy intake**.
- All University Catering Service administered outlets service no ruminant meat, and follow the **University's Sustainable Food Policy**.
- Why not bring your own tupperware or container when buying takeaway food?

5. Waste and Recycling

The University has targets to:

- To send **zero non-hazardous waste to landfill by 2020**.
- To achieve **continuous year-on-year reductions** in waste arising per FTE staff and students.
- To recycle at least **95% of total waste** produced at the University **by 2016**.
- Across the University there are **separate collections** for:
 - Food waste
 - Glass
 - Mixed recycling (paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, plastic containers, cartons, plastic wrapping, cans and tins)
 - Batteries
 - Printer cartridges
- **Look for the posters** on or near the bins which say what should be placed in each.
- If bins do not have posters, please let your **Department's Sustainability Champion, Green Impact team or facilities staff** know.

6. Water

- The University is committed to a **20% reduction in water use by 2020**.
- Cambridge is in one of the driest areas of the country so saving water is particularly important here.
- Help save water by **not leaving taps running**.
- If you see a leak or a drip, report it to your building's maintenance team, or the Estate Facilities Helpdesk.

7. Get more involved

- Keep up-to-date with news and opportunities by subscribing to the **Greenlines newsletter** or visit the **Sustainability Team's website** to find out about our full list of projects and programmes.
- Sign up to **Green Impact** or become a **Sustainability Champion**.
- Email sustainability@admin.cam.ac.uk with any questions or to find out more about any particular opportunity.