

TUS Athlone Green Charter

Introduction

The TUS Athlone campus is committed to promoting environmental awareness, responsible global citizenship and sustainability in all parts of campus life. This charter reflects the achievements and ambition of the TUS Athlone Green Campus Committee to continually improve the environmental performance of the campus as part of the An Taisce Green Campus Programme. The initial focus of the Green Campus is on litter and waste. This charter is a living document and is expected to evolve as the Green Campus Committee continues to grow and focus on a variety of environmental themes in the years ahead.

Litter and Waste

- Monitor litter status across the campus each semester and highlight emerging issues
- Monitor waste data supplied by waste management provider and highlight progress and areas for continued improvement
- Reduce the volume of waste generated and increase the proportion of waste recycled and composted.
- Reusable cups to be used in the main canteen
- Phase out all remaining use of disposable cups across the campus and utilise compostable cups in the interim
- Encourage the use of reusable cups and reusable cup washing stations
- Promote the use of water coolers and reusable water bottles
- All food packaging provided by the canteen to be compostable
- Organise litter pick each year to raise awareness
- Campaign to educate students and staff to use segregated waste bins correctly to be run annually
- Use double sided mode for all photocopying and printing
- Replace paper student induction pack with digital version
- Replace student resource centre induction brochures with digital versions
- Increase the number of My Green Labs ambassadors across the campus
- Build upon the My Green Certification obtained for the APT centre and research chemistry labs and apply for My Green Labs certification for teaching labs
- Promote the use of recycling bins in labs

- Dispose of biodegradable zinc taping in compost bins
- Recycle lab consumable polypropylene plastic waste at Applied Polymer Technologies facility on campus
- Improve availability of segregated bins across all areas of campus
- Bins to be clearly labelled to encourage correct segregation of waste

Teaching, learning and research

- Integrate the UN sustainable development goals into educational provision
- Encourage all staff Green Campus Committee members to devise final year projects related to Green Campus themes and activities
- Create a national sustainable campus student digital badge to promote sustainability across TU sector

Campus and Community Engagement

- Celebrate Green Week each year with a series of events to raise awareness of environmental issues and the actions of the Green Campus
- Showcase student work related to the environment, sustainability and climate action during Green Week
- Inform and involve the TUS Athlone campus community of sustainability initiatives across the campus by email, Moodle and social media
- Invite staff and students to join the Green Campus Committee annually during induction and Green Week
- Engage with the local community in Athlone and the surrounding region to champion sustainability and raise awareness of environmental issues
- Inform class reps about Green Campus and how to get involved during Students Union training

How to get involved

Membership of the Green Campus Committee is open to all TUS Athlone students and staff. You can join our mailing list and become a member of the Green Campus Committee by scanning the QR code.

TUS ATHLONE Green Campus Sign up



Alternatively, you can click the link below to sign up:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ahmLB1ctf0CnDTwFccMmatpqaHhi04xAs5FRoclEsNtUNzITSTQ2UkE2WINYUVk3NEFNU1RBVEdYMC4u>

Moodle

TUS Athlone students and staff can also join our Moodle page at the link below to stay informed of current events and activities:

<https://moodle.midlands.tus.ie/course/view.php?id=9939>

Social Media

You can also follow us on Instagram @tusathlonegreen

Contact us

You can get in touch with the Green Campus Committee by email at greencampus.athlone@tus.ie.

You can also contact the current Green Campus Committee members using the details below.

Chairperson: Gary Stack, gary.stack@tus.ie, 090 6442546

Vice Chairperson: Maeve O'Reilly, maeve.oreilly@tus.ie, 090 6448011

Secretary: Marese Gilhooly, marese.gilhooly@tus.ie, 0906468089

Treasurer: Teresa O'Hara, teresa.ohara@tus.ie

Adoption of the Charter



Professor Vincent Cunnane, President of TUS

DATE: 06/12/2024