



University  
of Victoria

# SUSTAINABILITY

## at the University of Victoria



At UVic, we strive to be a model of environmental sustainability in everything we do. We think of our campus as a “living laboratory” of how to live, work and go to school while treading lightly on the environment.

Here are the

## TOP TEN TIPS

for reducing your  
environmental  
footprint at UVic

1. Carry your own coffee mug and water bottle (drink tap water).
2. Turn off the lights when you leave your room, classroom or study space.
3. Recycle all paper products, bottles, cans, glass and hard plastics.
4. Challenge yourself to take shorter showers.
5. Turn off your computer or set it to go sleep, when not in use.
6. Only do laundry when you have a full load.
7. Compost all leftover food, napkins, coffee cups, and compostable cutlery.
8. Rethink your need to print, and double-side it.
9. Don't create needless waste. Take only what you need — napkins, paper towel, straws etc.
10. Take the bus and/or bike instead of driving.



Sustainability in action.

[www.uvic.ca/sustainability](http://www.uvic.ca/sustainability) | Email: [action@uvic.ca](mailto:action@uvic.ca).



# RECYCLING & COMPOSTING

## in Student Residences

The garbage bins in your rooms are for GARBAGE only. Students are expected to sort all of their recyclable materials (mixed paper, bottles, cans, hard plastics) and compost (all food waste, coffee cups, paper towels, compostable cutlery and take-out containers) and take it to the appropriate location on your floor or into the recycling enclosure nearest your building. See below for more info on how it works!



Here's a handy reference of what gets sorted where. Remember it's up to YOU to make the system work!

Please do not deposit unacceptable items in recycling or composting bins – a contaminated bin goes straight to the landfill.

Any questions please contact the Waste Reduction Unit at [wastenot@uvic.ca](mailto:wastenot@uvic.ca)



**BLUE TOTE - MIXED PAPER** Collect in your handy recycling bag and bring down to the closest enclosure

**ACCEPTABLE** ✓

- White Paper
- Cereal boxes (remove inserts)
- FLATTENED Cardboard
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Books

**UNACCEPTABLE** ✗

- Bottles and cans
- Hard plastics (#1-7)
- Soft plastics (e.g plastic bags)
- COFFEE CUPS
- Food waste
- General 'garbage'



**BROWN TOTE or BLUE BOX with Orange Sticker**  
**On Each Floor - BOTTLES/CANS/HARD PLASTICS**

Deposit in the box on your floor or bring down to the closest enclosure

**ACCEPTABLE** ✓

- Glass bottles
- Aluminum cans
- Plastic bottles
- Milk cartons
- Tetrapaks
- Hard plastics (e.g sushi containers, water bottles, coffee cup LIDS)

**UNACCEPTABLE** ✗

- Styrofoam
- Soft plastics (e.g plastic bags)
- Mixed paper
- Cardboard
- General 'garbage'
- Coffee cups



**GREEN TOTE - COMPOSTABLE WASTE** Collect and deposit in the closest enclosure

**ACCEPTABLE** ✓

- All food waste
- Paper Towels
- Paper plates
- COFFEE CUPS
- Compostable items (e.g bags, cutlery)

**UNACCEPTABLE** ✗

- Bottles and cans
- Hard plastics (#1-7)
- Cardboard
- Soft plastics (e.g plastic bags)
- General 'garbage'



**GREY TOTE - GARBAGE** Collect and deposit small items wrapped in garbage bags

**ACCEPTABLE** ✓

- Foil lined bags
- Chip bags
- Soft plastics
- Styrofoam
- Non-recyclables and non-compostables

**UNACCEPTABLE** ✗

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Bottles and cans
- Hard plastics (#1,2,3,4,5 and 7)
- Food waste



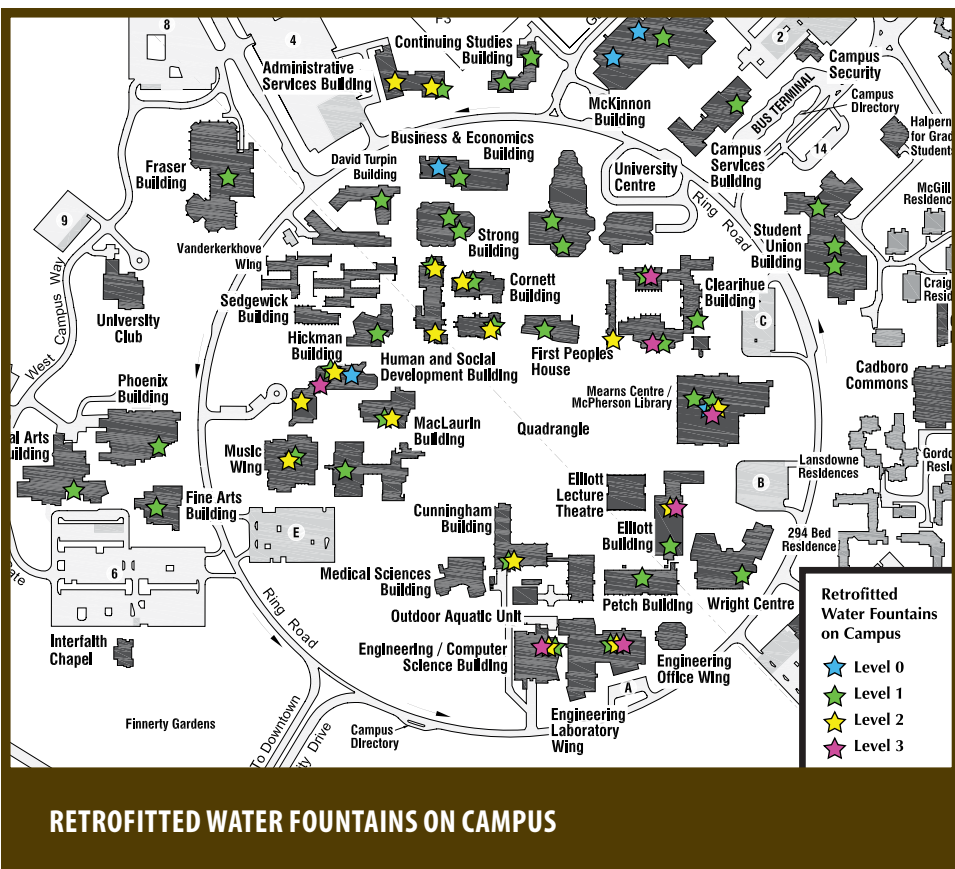
## UVIC FREE STORE: RE-USEVIC

At the end of every term, the UVic residence waste collection area fills up with 8-month old microwaves, kettles, mini fridges, textbooks, clothes, and stationary supplies. Student leadership at UVic has created the UVic FREE STORE prevent those items from being landfilled. It will provide a place for students, faculty, and staff to drop off good and re-usable items, and an exciting and lively place to thrift shop for FREE!

**WHERE?:** Student Union Building (SUB) Basement. Look out for the exciting signs!

**WHEN?:** Hour of Operation and grand opening will be posted in the SUB in September

**WANT TO HELP?:** The Free Store need volunteers! Come gain valuable experience by VOLUNTEERING for the Free store.



## RETROFITTED WATER FOUNTAINS ON CAMPUS

# CARRY YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE & COFFEE MUG!

### BUYING COFFEE?

The campus dining areas that offer coffee provide a discount for bringing your own mug. If you forget your coffee mug don't forget that disposable cups used at UVic can be composted.






### VICTORIA HAS GREAT TAP WATER.

It's free to you, so why not fill up your water bottle at one of the many retrofitted water fountains around campus? See the map for locations.





# TIPS FOR SAVING ENERGY IN YOUR DORM

-  Unplug your devices when you're not using them, or turn off the power bar/surge protector. This will prevent "phantom load" or the electricity that some appliances use even then they are switched off.
-  For all new electronics or appliances, ask yourself whether you really need all the extras. Do you really need a toaster oven in your room or will the common spaces be sufficient?
-  Next time you upgrade, buy a laptop instead of a desktop. A typical desktop PC and monitor consumes as much as 10 times what a laptop uses. Ensure the laptop has an ENERGY STAR® label.
-  Wash your clothes in cold water. About 90 per cent of the energy your washer consumes goes to heating water. If you wash with cold water, you'll save that energy, and your clothes will come out just as clean.
-  Choose daylight over artificial light; if daylight is unavailable, use table ("task") lights instead of ceiling ("overhead") lights. And, if you need that task lighting, don't forget to turn it off whenever you leave a room.

## GETTING WATTWIZE

UVic's Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability wants you to become Wattwize. We offer a program that will help you become more aware about electricity in the Province of BC.

Contact [action@uvic.ca](mailto:action@uvic.ca), title your email **Wattwize** and we will provide a presentation and help you audit your dorm's energy use with our Kill-A-Watt energy meters.



# GET INVOLVED!

Are you interested in action? Join a campus group and contribute to change by meeting and working with other like-minded students and volunteers; check out one of these groups:

## **UVic Sustainability Project**

([uvsp.uvic.ca](http://uvsp.uvic.ca))

A student led non-profit working on many campus and community sustainability projects each term.

## **UVic Cycling Club**

([web.uvic.ca/~cycling/](http://web.uvic.ca/~cycling/))

Get involved in UVic cycling culture while you join the UVic Cycling Club on group rides, and info sessions for new and experienced cyclists.

## **SPOKES**

SPOKES is a unique bicycle recycling program where volunteers give new life to old bikes. If you are interested in learning bike repair skills, and willing to share your skills with the SPOKES program, we welcome you! Volunteers of all experience levels are welcome. No tools or supplies required. You can help refurbished bikes and distribute them to UVic students, faculty and staff on a first come, first serve basis.

## **UVic Community Garden**

([www.web.uvic.ca/~ccgarden](http://www.web.uvic.ca/~ccgarden))

Get a plot to grow your own produce, or volunteer for a work party.

## **Environmental Studies Student Association**


([web.uvic.ca/~essa](http://web.uvic.ca/~essa))

For Environmental Studies students interested in networking with others.

## **University of Victoria Students' Society**

([uvss.ca/](http://uvss.ca/))

The UVSS, as it is known, provides services, hosts events, and advocates for undergraduate students at the university but also runs the Environmental Sustainability Council, which provides a forum for the various on-campus environmental groups to connect and collaborate on projects related to sustainability.



# CYCLING

## at the University of Victoria

UVic is a very bike friendly campus and we invite you to try our many cycling features to make riding safe, smooth and easy.

### BIKE STORAGE OPTIONS FOR RESIDENCES:



Group bike lockers have space for about 15 bicycles and rent for \$60 September to April. The areas are enclosed and accessed by a locked gate. All users have the same key and you rely on each other to maintain security.



Individual bike lockers are completely enclosed with a high quality locking system. They rent for \$40 per term.

Both rentals require a \$25 key deposit. Contact [housing@uvic.ca](mailto:housing@uvic.ca) to register for a bike locker.



### CAMPUS BIKE CENTRE

The Bike Centre is the ultimate cycling resource on campus, open 24/7. Located directly underneath the University Centre, It features over 230 covered bike parking spots, and rentable bike lockers for extra security. Also check out the new "Bike Kitchen" a stand-up tool cabinet complete with all the tools to carry out basic tune-ups.

### SPOKES

SPOKES has lovely new home inside the Campus Bike Centre. Contact [spokes@uvic.ca](mailto:spokes@uvic.ca) for info about bike rentals, loans, sales, and volunteer opportunities more details.



### SAFETY FIRST

Wearing helmets and carrying lights for riding after dark are the law in BC. Be safe, not sorry!