



LSC Sustainability

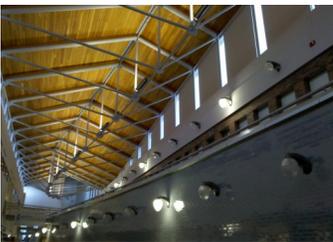
Lake Superior College

Winter 2011, Volume 1

LSC Has New Lights. So WHY Aren't They ALL ON?

LSC has undertaken a project that will make lighting in parts of the college more energy-efficient.

First, over the winter break, the Main Concourse was fitted with new, energy saving lighting fixtures. This will allow lower-watt bulbs to more efficiently cast light.



The concourse lights also utilize photocell technology, a high-efficiency function that allows natural lighting

to determine whether the light stays on...or off. When sufficient daylight permits, a number of the lights in the concourse will switch off—in turn, further reducing our energy needs.

Second, the library added a new row of ultra high efficiency T-5 fixtures to a space that was in need of more usable light.



Finally, in some hallways where ballasts permit, inefficient compact bulbs have been replaced with more efficient lower watt bulbs.

Once the entire lighting project is complete, our energy consumption will be reduced by almost 224,000 kWh per year, saving \$13,000 annually! This project also utilized an almost \$10,000 rebate. Total payback from energy savings is expected in 3.6 years.

What happened to the old lights? Currently, they're being stored on-campus. The LSC Foundation is looking for interested parties to take them off our hands.

Inside this issue:

<i>Do You Feel a Draft?</i>	2
<i>LSC's Sustainability Website</i>	2
<i>Ink & Toner Cartridge Recycling Program</i>	2
<i>LSC Composts!</i>	3
<i>Say NO to Styro</i>	3
<i>Duplex Printing & Recycled Content Paper</i>	3
<i>Spring Newsletter</i>	4

More Lighting Retrofit FACTS:

- *The old wall-mount concourse lights used 100W of electricity each, the new ones use only 42W each (and sometimes zero)!*
- *The old concourse fixtures illuminating the ceiling used 460W each and now use only 54W each!*
- *Some library fixtures used 175W each, the new ones use 54W each!*

Hot Energy Tips

Heating each room in our very large building to optimal temperatures can be a real challenge. Do you compensate on colder days with a space heater in your office? Did you know that, depending on the efficiency of your heater, it could cost \$10 a month to run just one space heater?

Before you turn that that space heater on, talk to one of our friendly maintenance staff about regulating the temperature in your area or adjust the thermostat on your wall.

These thermostats adjust your room temp +/- 3 degrees



If that doesn't work, look into [heated floor mats](#). They use 90% less energy than space heaters!

If you're curious about your energy consumption, check out a "Kill-A-Watt" Meter from LSC's library to use here or at home—and find out if you really are a savvy consumer!

Check out this [Energy Star website](#) for more tips!

Curiosity Q & A: Do You Feel a Draft?

Question: Several of the vestibule doors have been propped open this winter, that doesn't seem very energy efficient!?

Answer: Contrary to popular belief, the doors aren't left open because the entrances are too warm.

Actually, the inner doors are propped open at night and over the weekends to reduce the chance of cold air drafts from the outside freezing the pipes leading to the vestibule heaters. Heat from the building tends to more quickly equalize the huge temperature differences that occur in the vestibules during the winter.

Question: That all makes sense, but do those inner doors need to be propped open ALL DAY?

Answer: They really don't need to be left open all day every day, but the potential cost of fixing a broken pipe far outweighs the cost of the energy lost during these coldest Duluth winter months.



LSC's Sustainability Website

If you haven't had a chance, check out LSC's Sustainability Website at <http://www.lsc.edu/sustainability>. You can also get to it from LSC's main page. The Environmental Council tab links directly to our blog where you'll find the most up-to-date info on projects we're currently working on. We'll be adding more to each tab this year, and with the help of our brilliant work-study you'll see a new campus-wide Sustainability Map! You can also send Questions & Comments to our email directly from the Q & C tab!



Home	▶
Environmental Council	▶
Facilities & Energy	▶
Land & Water	▶
Policies	▶
Questions & Comments	▶

Memberships:



Lake Superior College S Building Built to LEED Green Standards

Mission Statement:

We, the Lake Superior College community, believe our campus has an opportunity and responsibility to provide leadership to our college and local communities by conducting education and business as responsible stewards of the physical environment. To this end, we are committed to:

- Conserve natural resources and support their sustainable use.
- Conduct college activities in a manner that safeguards the environmental health and safety of students, faculty, staff, and our surrounding communities.
- Promote environmental awareness, local action, and global thinking.

VIDEOS

NEWS

Meeting Minutes 1/21/2011... [read more](#)

Ink & Toner Cartridge Recycling Program

We've teamed up with Innovative Office Solutions to start a new ink, toner, and cell phone recycling program at LSC.

This program is completely free to the college (we don't even pay for shipping) and proceeds benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

We also encourage you to bring any of these items from home and simply drop them in the cardboard boxes you'll find throughout campus.

Contact sustainability@lsc.edu if you have questions.

ALSO: A friendly reminder from *Duluth Typewriter*: the cartridges you purchase from them need to be returned to them, so please don't put these in the recycle boxes.

LSC Composts!

With construction of the new Health and Science Building underway, a new home for our composting worms has been established in the Atrium under the stairs.



Worm composting, or vermiculture, uses red wiggler worms to turn all of LSC's pre-consumer kitchen scraps into nutrient rich soil. The soil is then used to start seedlings for LSC's annual plant sale.

The bins are covered to conserve moisture and keep out unwanted rubbish. Any food placed in the bins needs to be buried so the worms can do their job. There is no smell involved (unless you count the smell of dirt), so feel free to lift the lid and take a look inside.

Thanks to the kitchen staff, maintenance crew for hauling the scraps,



Facilities Management for providing compostable bags, and Deanne Roquet, Theresa Hornstein, and Carol Johnson and for all the time put in to maintain this project and lighten our footprint on the landfill!

Say No To Styro!

In a perfect world, styrofoam (or polystyrene) in all its forms would no longer be produced. Styrofoam cannot be recycled or downcycled and is incredibly toxic to burn; and the chemicals released from a long breakdown cycle are almost as harmful.

Unfortunately, many products we purchase come with "free" styro packaging, leaving the burden of discarding it up to us. Luckily, LSC's Integrated Manufacturing Program took the initiative to design and build a polystyrene shredder almost four years ago. This shredder extends the life of styrofoam packaging

by breaking down large chunks to a more re-usable size. The current machine does have limitations in the type of styro it can shred and produces in-constant pieces making it less appealing to commercial companies looking for packing peanut alternatives. A new and improved machine is currently in the design process and will remedy some of these issues.

Until then, the manufacturing club has been using the original shredder and has been able to save over 7,000 cubic feet of would-be trashed styrofoam from reaching the landfill for at least for one

more life cycle.

The shredder is currently housed in the garage behind building construction. If you have a need for shredded packing material, please email Integrated Manufacturing instructor [Max Udovich](#).



Duplex Printing & Recycled Content Paper Trial

Students can now receive a discount on printing in the labs where PaperCut software has been installed. By choosing to duplex print, a 2¢ discount is applied to the 2nd, 4th, 6th...page printed.

Instructors, please discuss with students your formatting preference for papers they hand in. Also consider the online drop-box to further cut our

paper needs.

Additionally, the copy center is trying new 30% recycled content paper in select copiers and printers on campus. If quality is consistent to virgin paper, Mike will make a full scale switch to recycled content paper across campus!



Questions? Contact your
Environmental Sustainability Coordinator: Kristi Heintz

Phone: 733-7731
E-mail: sustainability@lsc.edu

We're looking for STUDENTS!

Check out the NEW [Student Environmental Club page on facebook](#) and leave us a message for more info on upcoming projects and activities!

<http://www.lsc.edu/sustainability>

LSC Environmental Mission Statement

We, the Lake Superior College community, believe our campus has an opportunity and responsibility to provide leadership to our college and local communities by conducting education and business as responsible stewards of the physical environment. To this end, we are committed to:

- conserve natural resources and support their sustainable use.
- conduct college activities in a manner that safeguards the environmental health and safety of students, faculty, staff, and our surrounding communities.
- promote environmental awareness, local action, and global thinking.

Next LSC Sustainability Newsletter Issue

Look for our next Sustainability Newsletter in the spring. Here's a look at the stories we're working on:

- ⇒ LSC Earth Day: April 14th, 2011
- ⇒ Sustainability Plan of Action Update
- ⇒ Annual Rain Barrel Sale & Watershed Festival
- ⇒ Carpool Parking Spots
- ⇒ Stormwater Projects
- ⇒ Disk Golf Course Updates
- ⇒ Annual Tree Campus Planting & Interpretive Trail Update
- ⇒ Daycare's Newest Edible Landscape Plot
- ⇒ From the Grounds: Grass-clippings, no-mow, and [Rain Gardens](#)

If you have an idea for our next newsletter or a question that needs answering, email the address above.

