



BENTLEY UNIVERSITY

Sustainability

An aerial photograph of the Bentley University campus. The central focus is a large, red-brick building with a prominent white clock tower. The building has a classical architectural style with a portico supported by columns. In the foreground, there is a large, well-maintained green lawn. The background shows a dense forest of trees with autumn foliage in shades of orange, yellow, and red. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

SUSTAINABILITY GUIDE

SUSTAINABILITY AT BENTLEY

The Bentley University Office of Sustainability was established in 2010 after the university signed the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). Since then, Bentley has made significant, concrete strides toward becoming a more sustainable organization.

Sustainability is often defined as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Here at Bentley we think about sustainability from a business standpoint, the “triple bottom line”: people, planet, and profit. Through integrating sustainability into Bentley’s blueprint, we aim to set an example for sustainable business practices.

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USE LESS AND RECYCLE THE REST

There are more people on the planet today than ever before, consuming more single-use items that are filling our landfills at an alarming rate. Simply put, waste is inefficient for business as recycling not only keeps resources in the product cycle but also saves both energy and money when compared to harvesting virgin resources. Below are ways in which you can use less and recycle the rest.

Reduce

- Use a reusable mug at Einstein’s in the Library or Starbucks in LaCava to receive 25 cents off your daily coffee, tea, or hot cocoa.
- Buy a reusable water bottle instead of single-use plastic bottles and take advantage of the 40+ water filling stations located across campus.

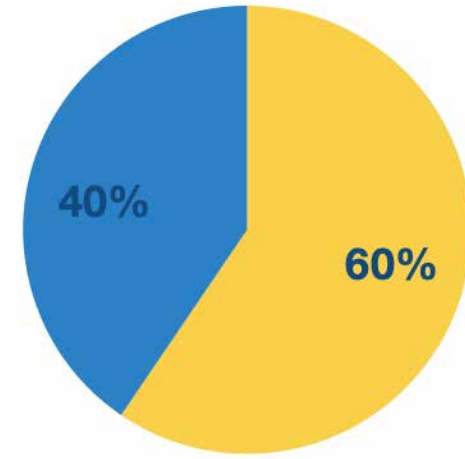
Reuse

- Purchase reusable dishes, utensils, and cups rather than spending additional money on single-use paper or plastic items.
- Use reusable shopping bags every time you go to the grocery store.
- Buy used (and often less expensive) items through sites such as Facebook Marketplace, Poshmark, ThreadUp or your local thrift store.

Recycle

- Empty and rinse out recyclables before placing them in a recycling bin. This guards against contaminating a whole dumpster of recycling.
- Collect all recyclables in your room/apartment/suite recycling bin and take them to the large recycling dumpsters located next to the trash dumpsters near each building. Remember, please do not put loose plastic bags or material in plastic bags in the recycling dumpster.
- Recycle batteries, ink jet cartridges, cellphones, and small handhelds at the electronics recycling stations in the Library and Morison Hall.

Bentley’s Average Waste Profile



■ Trash ■ Diverted



Give 'N Go donates on average

23K

lbs of useable material annually for the community benefit at move out

7

preferred carpool parking spots for commuters

Bentley composts an average of

130

tons of food waste annually



ENERGY CONSERVATION

About 41 percent of Bentley's carbon footprint (the amount of greenhouse gases released from our school's operations each year) comes from the electricity that we use in our buildings. That's around 8,300 tons of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere every year just from using electricity. Bentley typically uses about 20 million kWh and spends about \$2.3 million on electricity alone. Conserving your energy use is not hard and has a multitude of benefits. Below is information and tips on how to do so!

Lights

- Turn off the lights whenever you leave a room.
- Open your blinds to bring natural light into your room instead of turning on the lights. Studies show that natural light relieves stress.

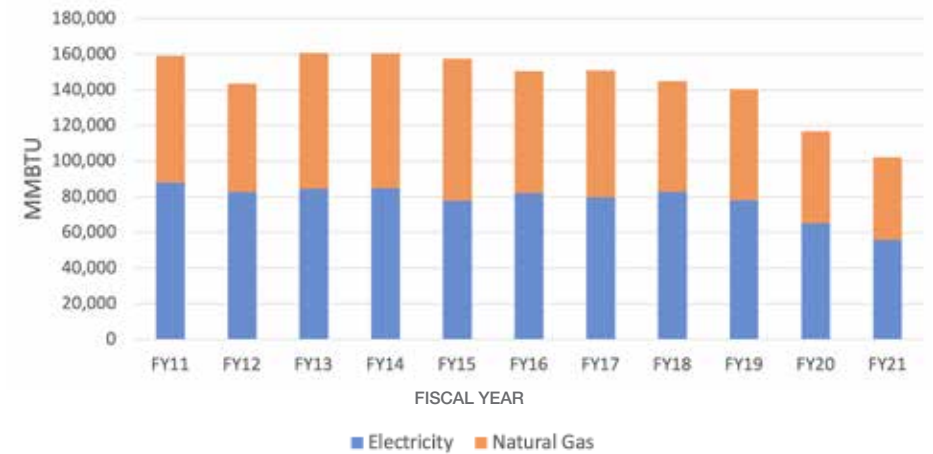
Heating/Cooling

- Set it and forget it! Keep your thermostat set between 68F and 75F. The Energy Management System will automatically adjust heat or cooling to keep the room temperature within this range.
- Keep windows closed when the heat or cooling is on.
- Turn the fan speed to low on your heat or cooling when leaving your room/apartment/suite.

Computers, Cellphones, and Other Electronics

- Unplug chargers when not in use or plug them into a power strip that you can switch to "off" when finished charging. Chargers left plugged in draw electricity when not in use.
- Turn off your computer, printer, TV, and speakers when not in use.

Bentley's Energy Consumption



LEDs or CFLs last
10-20
times longer than
standard light bulbs

Since 2008
Bentley has reduced
its carbon footprint by
70%

40%
of the Bentley Arena's
energy needs are
produced by
solar panels
on the building



WATER CONSERVATION

Only 1 percent of Earth’s water is suitable for drinking. Due to this, we need to reduce water waste. On average, an American consumes more than twice as much water as people in other nations. The average American family uses about 400 gallons of water per day. Below are ways in which you can reduce your water usage here on campus!

Laundry

- Don’t do laundry until you’ve got a full load. Filling the washing machine completely saves you money and time and is the most efficient way to run it.
- Use cold water in the washing machine. Most laundry detergent is just as effective on the cold cycle and you reduce wear and tear on your clothing and save energy by using cold water.

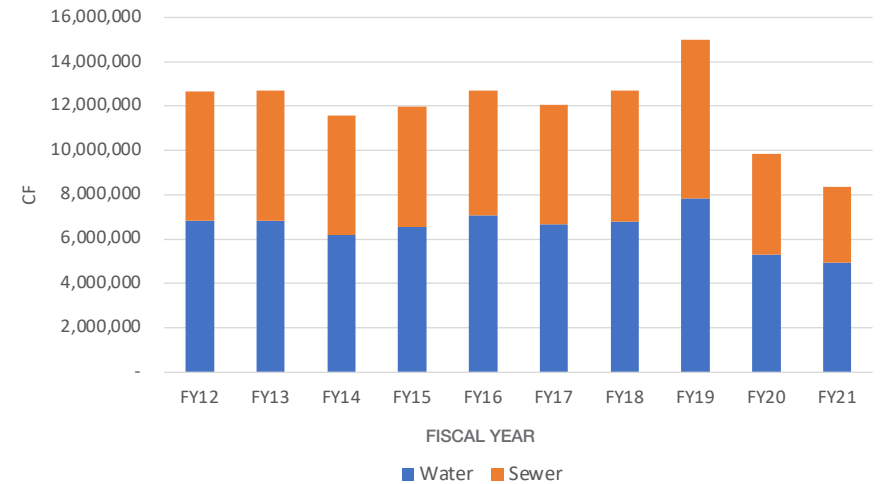
Bathroom and Kitchen

- Use the small flush as frequently as possible whenever you encounter a dual flush toilet. Save the big flush only for times when you really need it.
- Switch up your dishwashing. Instead of running the faucet while scrubbing dishes, fill the sink with warm soapy water and use this to clean plates. Once scrubbed, the dishes simply need a quick rinse with warm water.

Everywhere

- Report that leak! Faucets that leak one drop per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water per year. A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons per day. Put in a work order on the Facilities Management website to report leaks.

Bentley’s Water Consumption



On average Bentley uses about

50M

gallons of water, spending \$1.4M on water consumption

50%

of bottled water is repackaged tap water

Bottled water is

2K

times more expensive than tap water



CONSCIOUS COMMUTING

There are many positives for consciously commuting and taking alternative transportation to campus. By walking, biking, carpooling, or taking the bus, you will save money on gas and reduce your carbon footprint. If you are walking or biking, you are also getting a workout. As for your carbon footprint, each gallon of gas burned in a car releases 20 pounds of greenhouse gases, thus the average car releases five tons of greenhouse gases each year.

Getting to and Around Campus

- Take the Harvard shuttle to access Harvard Square or use the B-line for a quick trip around campus.
- Download the Transloc Rider mobile app to track the Bentley shuttles and receive updates or information. bentley.transloc.com
- Get a free Charlie Card at the Card Office. This entitles you to cheaper trips on the MBTA bus and Subway.
- MBTA semester passes are available through the Card Office. These unlimited passes are available only at the beginning of the semester and can reduce the cost of your entire semester travel.

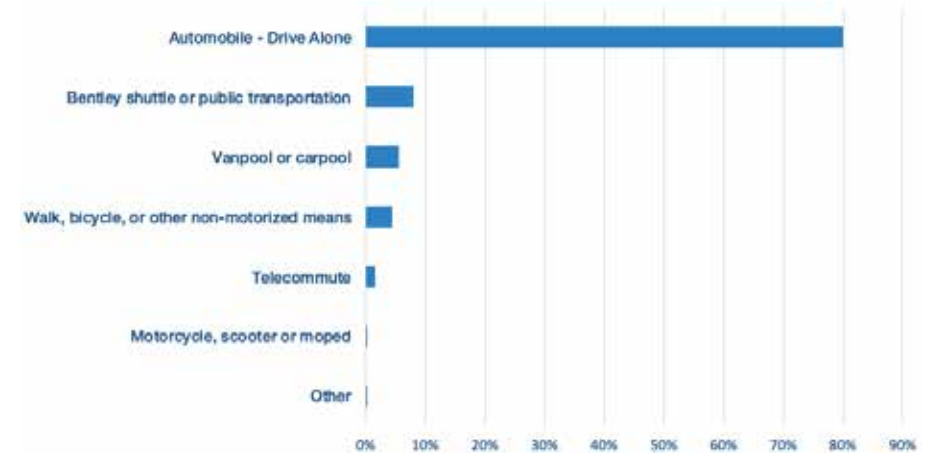
Carpool

- Register with Bay State Commute (baystatecommute.com/Bentley) to find students or co-workers who live near you to carpool with.
- Apply for a free carpool pass at the Card Office in the Police Station to receive a hangtag to park in seven preferred carpool spots around campus.

Commuting Choices

- Bring your bike to school to travel around (and off) campus. There are bike racks near almost every building so that you have a place to lock your ride and a bike fix-it station on the west porch of Morrison Hall.
- Register with ChargePoint to charge your electric vehicle on campus. The stations are, found on College Drive behind LaCava.

Bentley Community's Transportation Activities



29%

of commuters take alternative transportation to campus

7

preferred carpool parking spots for commuters at Bentley

10

locations on campus with bike racks for bike commuters



STEP INTO SUSTAINABILITY

There are many ways to get involved in sustainability at Bentley. Depending on your interest and commitment there are student organizations that focus on sustainability as a whole, sustainable investing or social sustainability topics. There are many paths to incorporate sustainability into your Bentley education and professional development opportunities with the Office of Sustainability.

Student Organizations

- Students for Sustainable Business, Bentley Sustainable Investment Group.
- People Respecting Individuality and Diversity through Education (PRIDE), Students Advocating Gender Equality (SAGE), Equity Center Educators (ECE), Center for Women and Business – Men of Alliance, Black United Body and Bentley Non-Profit Society
- There are also numerous cultural organizations on campus that do important work educating the Bentley community on the importance of different people, traditions and perspectives.

Majors/Minors

- Earth, Environment, and Global Sustainability (EEGS) is offered as an academic minor and as a concentration within the Liberal Studies Major.
- Diversity and Society is offered as a concentration within the Liberal Studies Major. Studying social sustainability issues is important to overall sustainability.
- Sustainability Science is an academic major through which students analyze the Earth’s environmental systems against the broad backdrop of societal and business activities.
- Sustainable Investing is an academic minor or a concentration within the Finance major.

Professional Development

- Apply to be a part of the Office of Sustainability’s Student Sustainability Leadership Program (SSL).
- Participate in Bentley Service–Learning and Civic Engagement Center (BSLCE), or Bentley Brave programming.



7
paid sustainability leaders are hired annually by the Office of Sustainability

On a recent survey
83%
of the Bentley community feels empowered to contribute to sustainability

18
student organizations on campus that focus on sustainability



CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY HIGHLIGHTS

Bentley aims to lead by example through continuous improvements and actions to reflect our institutional commitment to sustainability. Below are examples of this continued improvement in the areas of sustainable building, food waste and greenhouse gas emissions.

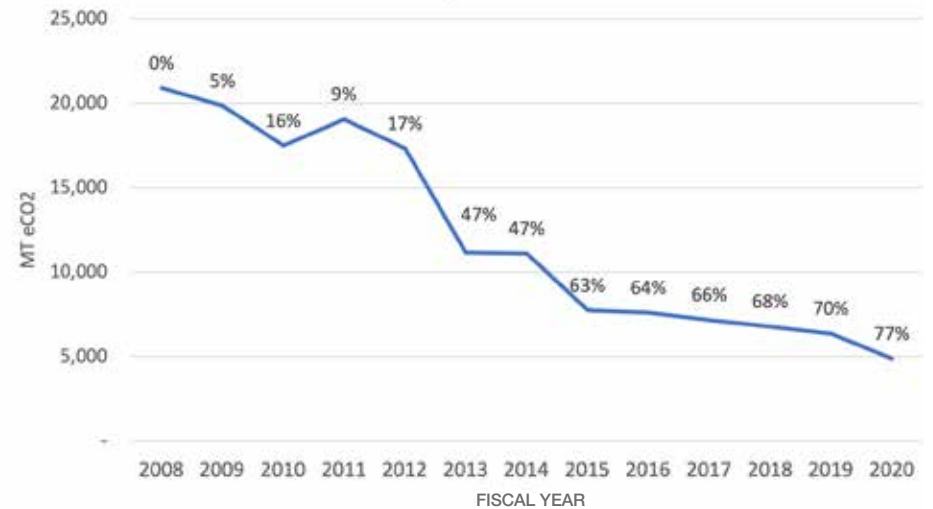
Sustainable Building

- The Bentley Arena has half the carbon footprint of similar buildings thanks to a combination of high efficiency heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment; high efficiency ice making equipment; a state-of-the-art heat reclamation loop; smart LED lighting systems and a 504-kilowatt rooftop solar array.
- The solar array on the Bentley Arena (consisting of 1,400 solar panels) provides the building with 40 percent of its annual electricity needs.
- The Bentley Arena uses 50 percent less water than similar type buildings and provides the perfect venue for students to explore the impacts of various sustainable technologies on natural resource use and operating costs.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Bentley purchases Verified Emissions Reductions Credits (VERCs) from the New Bedford Gas-to-Energy Project, which produces 3.3 megawatt hours of clean electricity per year. The project produces power for the regional electricity grid and reduces the amount of methane released into our atmosphere.
- By purchasing VERCs to support this project, Bentley is able to offset greenhouse gas emissions from airline travel and contributes to reducing pollution from the local electricity grid.

Bentley's Carbon Footprint



1st

LEED-Platinum certified standalone ice arena in the country

32

Bentley students graduated in 2021 with sustainability majors or minors

On a recent survey

81%

indicated that it is important for Bentley to encourage sustainability