

Sustainability Plan

To Reduce the Environmental, Economic and Human Costs of Prisons

Message from the Secretary

Bernard Warner, Secretary
Department of Corrections

The impact of the Great Recession caused state government agencies to find any and all possible ways to make their operations as efficient as possible. At the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC), we found that sustainable practices not only reduce our impact on the environment, they reduce our operational costs as well.

We have followed the Governor's direction to build energy-efficient facilities that cost less to maintain and operate. We have built and manage more LEED-certified square footage than any other prison facility in the nation. Coyote Ridge Corrections Center in Connell is the world's first prison to have its entire campus certified LEED Gold.

But we have done more than just add sustainable facilities – we have changed the way we operate as well, and have involved the offenders. Seemingly small steps – having offenders scrape food off their plates so that it can be composted, recycling old shoes, purchasing fewer trashcan liners, eliminating our use of Styrofoam in the kitchens, capturing and using rainwater, having offenders sort garbage – have combined to have a significant impact. From 2005 to 2011 we have:

- Reduced the amount of solid waste we send to landfills by 43%
- Increased the diversion to recycling by 89%
- Increased the amount of food waste we divert to compost by 90%
- Decreased the amount of water we use by 100 million gallons annually
- Reduced transportation fuel costs by 30%
- Reduced total carbon emissions by an estimated 40%

Much of what we have achieved has been possible thanks to our collaboration with The Evergreen State College. The partnership, called the Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP), is considered the national leader in the effort to use sustainability to make operations more efficient, reduce prisons' impact on the environment and support important science and conservation research with offender and staff participation.

As proud as we are of our achievements, we will only continue to be the national leader if we have a cohesive plan, one that incorporates both facility operations and programs. I believe the plan you are about to read does that.



Mission Statement

The mission of DOC is to improve public safety.

Vision Statement

Working together for safe communities

Sustainability Commitment

Reduce the environmental, economic and human cost of prisons.

DOC's sustainability efforts have matured to embody three overarching goals and dividends:

- Cost Containment
- Therapeutic Value
- Service to the Community

For more information

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DOC Sustainability Plan 2013 – 2015

Mission | **The mission of DOC is to improve public safety.**

Vision | **Working together for safe communities.**

| Goal | Objectives | Strategies | Measuring Performance |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>To reduce the environmental, economic and human cost of prisons</p> | <p>1 Leader- Leader of sustainability in the correctional environment</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the Sustainability in Prisons Project and look for opportunities to expand network Identify opportunities to expand SPP strategies and corresponding dividends throughout the Washington state correctional enterprise to include community and jail partnerships Improve performance measurement and reporting. Create evaluation and reporting plan by May 2013 Increase awareness and support through news and social media and tours Increase prison safety by providing programs that reduce offender idleness and engage offenders in pro-social activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of project partners and participants Number of community and justice center partners and offender/ violator opportunities to contribute Available metrics. Reports and evaluations Continue to generate positive media coverage Positive impact around metrics such as incidence of violence, infractions, grievance etc. of offenders impacted by sustainability activities |
| | <p>2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions- Reduce GHG emissions by 15% by 2020 and 36% by 2035</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the Department's greenhouse gas emissions are produced from combustion of fossil fuels from transportation and facility energy needs. As such many of the Department's sustainability goals inform the GHG reduction goal. These include facility energy, fleet fuel, waste management and purchasing goals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate of GHG emissions on a per offender metric Report facility energy consumption in Energy Star's Portfolio Manager to the extent practicable |
| | <p>3 Reduced Fleet Fuel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create facility specific action plans Reduce fuel consumption by 20% from 2005 levels. Reduce number of fleet miles driven in both administrative services and offender transport. Increase alternative fuel use Utilize video conferencing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumption data Greenhouse gas report |
| | <p>4 Reduced Potable Water</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce potable water consumption to achieve a maximum consumption rate of 115 gallons per offender per day in minimum camps and 130 gallons per offender per day in prisons. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumption data Wastewater generation data |

State agencies are required to quantify and reduce their carbon footprint to achieve state agency's mandatory targets. ([RCW 70.235.050](#) and [RCW 70.235.060](#))

State agencies are required to establish policies and implement a fuel economy standard for acquisition, operation, and authorized use of state vehicles as well as develop strategies to reduce fuel consumption and vehicle emissions. ([RCW 43.41.130](#))

Certain state agencies must meet building energy performance standards that are benchmarked to national standards and report on their performance. Agencies that fail to meet the standards must perform a preliminary energy audit and implement cost-effective energy conservation measures by July 1, 2016. ([RCW 19.27A.190](#))

Agencies must reduce current paper use, increase paper recycling, purchase 100 percent recycled content paper, and set up conservation and recycling programs. ([RCW 70.95.725](#))

The Department of Transportation must develop a joint comprehensive commute trip reduction plan for all state agency sites located in the Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater urban growth area. ([RCW 70.94.551](#))

| Goal | Objectives | Strategies | Measuring Performance |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>To reduce the environmental, economic and human cost of prisons</p> | <p>5 Reduced Energy - Reduce total building energy use by 20% using 2009 baseline.</p> | <p>Create facility specific plans that include the :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy audits (Prisons, Capital programs) • Identification of cost effective investments • Identification of appropriate and cost effective staff training • Identification of availability of funding resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility plans due by April 2013 • Statewide audit plan and inventory by March 2013 • Inventory of promising investments by June 2013 • Identification of training opportunities timelines and funding by August 2013 |
| | <p>6 Waste Management</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce facility related landfill waste to .5 lbs. per offender by 2015. increase diversion of total waste by 50% statewide by 2015. • Ensure robust waste diversion systems at all facilities by 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor waste management fees, volume of waste land-filled and rates of waste diverted to recycling and compost facilities- |
| | <p>7 Sustainable Purchasing – Improve Sustainable purchasing</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a sustainable purchasing policy, plan and guidance manual • Track sustainable purchasing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed policy, plan and guidance manual • Monitor volume and type of waste for opportunities related to purchasing • Monitor increase in green purchases through vendor tracking systems |
| | <p>8 Reduce factors leading to Recidivism</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase environmental and sustainability literacy among offenders • Build capacity for offenders to participate in science and sustainability projects • Increase offender opportunities for experience, training and certification in green jobs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey offenders participating in science and sustainability-related job placements to assess impacts on interpersonal relationships, cooperation, education, employment outlook and environmental literacy • Track recidivism and employment program participants post-release • Evaluate offender behavior and well-being pre and post program participation (i.e. grievances, infractions, education level, use of medical services, etc.) |

Effective June 1, 2013, all state agencies and local governments are required to satisfy 40% of their fuel usage for publicly owned vessels, vehicles, and construction equipment with electricity or biofuel. By June 1, 2015, 100% these fuel needs are to be met by electricity or biofuel, to the extent practicable. ([RCW 43.19.648](#))

After June 15, 2010, state agencies must, when purchasing new petroleum-based fuel vehicles for vehicle fleets: (a) achieve an average fuel economy of 40 miles per gallon for light duty passenger vehicles; and (b) achieve an average fuel economy of 27 miles per gallon for light duty vans and sports utility vehicles; or (c) purchase ultra-low carbon fuel vehicles. Some vehicles are excluded. (Substitute House bill 3105, [Chapter 159, Laws of 2010](#))

State agencies must develop strategies and recommendations for reducing the number of miles that each employee drives. ([RCW 70.94.551](#))

State must install electrical outlets capable of charging electric vehicles in each of the state's fleet parking and maintenance facilities. ([RCW 43.19.648](#))

State cabinet agencies shall, by 2020, reduce its total building energy use by 20 percent, using a 2009 baseline. (Executive Order 12-06)

Accomplishments

The Washington State Department of Correction's core mission is ensuring safe communities. Part of this mission includes responsibly managing and mitigating the environmental, social and economic impacts of prisons.

To achieve that goal, the Department created the first Sustainability Plan in 2003. The plan set out to reduce energy, fuel and water consumption, reduce solid and hazardous wastes and toxic materials and commit to high efficiency building. Shortly after, the Department created the Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP) in partnership with The Evergreen State College.

As a result of the enthusiasm generated by the partnership, the SPP began to pursue initiatives not identified in the original sustainability plan. All new action items and goals contributed to creating a more sustainable DOC. New initiatives included sustainability education, socialization training, job training and other rehabilitation efforts in support of the agency's core mission.

The return on these efforts directly contributes to DOC's mission of reducing recidivism and improving public safety. Early data shows evidence of positive and lasting effects of sustainability-related programs on offender behavior. In addition, we have achieved documented cost savings and cultivated mutually beneficial partnerships with colleges, other state agencies, federal organizations, conservation and land management groups, animal rescue organizations and even zoos. Due to the continued success of the SPP, the program has become a statewide initiative including all Department sustainability and science related-programs.

The SPP and other Department sustainability initiatives have received national and international attention for developing innovative offender programs and improving facility and operation sustainability. Progress is documented in the annual Sustainability Report and posted at www.doc.wa.gov/sustainability/default.asp. Perhaps the most important lesson gained from the recognition the Department has received is that we have much further to go.

Highlights – Strategy in Action

The following list describes projects and activities associated with the 2013-2015 Sustainability Action Plan strategies.

Reduce recidivism/Improve safety/Change offender behavior

- Provide low-cost programs for offenders through sustainability initiatives (Prisons, SPP)
- Facilitate and create opportunities for offenders to witness and practice pro-social behavior (Prisons, SPP)
- Provide training and re-entry opportunities (Prisons, SPP)
- Provide community service opportunities (Prisons, SPP)
- Model sustainable choices and behaviors (All divisions)

Leader in Sustainable Prisons

- Provide a central core of expertise to assist facilities pursuing sustainability initiatives (Capital Programs, SPP)
- Support sustainability investments in green buildings and energy project investments (Administrative Services)
- Establish more partnerships with other governmental agencies and academia to leverage sustainable initiatives (Prisons, SPP)
- Create protocols and data management plans to facilitate monitoring and verification of sustainable operations-related activities (Prisons, Administrative Services, SPP)
- Continue development of an evaluation program to assess the relationship between sustainability activities and other departmental objectives (SPP)

Improving Sustainable Business

- Utilize cost benefit analysis to quantify expected costs and benefits (Administrative Services, Prisons, SPP)
- Identify industry best practices for sustainable Health Services
- Evaluate potential and value of tele-medicine and centralized pharmacy (Health Services)
- Minimize carbon footprint through the use of properly maintained fuel efficient vehicles (Community Corrections, Administrative Services, Prisons)
- Evaluate feasibility of conversion to alternative fueled vehicles (Administrative Services)
- Create a sustainable purchasing policy, plan and guidance manual (Administrative Services, Correctional Industries)
- Support the Department's sustainable purchasing goals by offering sustainable product choices (Correctional Industries)
- Create facility specific plans to reduce energy consumption (Prisons, Capital Programs)
- Identify energy reduction strategies which are applicable statewide (Prisons, Capital Programs)
- Provide energy conservation training for facility maintenance staff (Capital Programs, Prisons)
- Apply the Lean Process Management concept to support waste reduction, recycling, efficient material utilization and toxics minimization (Correctional Industries, Prisons)