

2018 Leadership Award Winner University of Maryland

Center for Environmental Science





About University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) is a leading research and educational institution with a network of laboratories and scientists across the state that provide sound advice to state and national leaders in managing the environment while preparing future scientists to meet the global challenges of the 21st century. The UMCES Environmental Sustainability Council includes faculty, staff, and students who assess the sustainability of its four research labs and guide the development and implementation of the Center's climate action plan.





Achievements

Climate Commitment: UMCES is a signatory of the Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitment, which commits institutions of higher learning to develop and implement action plans to achieve carbon neutrality. In working toward this goal, UMCES has implemented building system upgrades like the new geothermal HVAC system at its Center Administration building, green construction projects like the new RV Truitt Laboratory building, and the generation on-site renewable energy at a 2MW solar field at the Horn Point Laboratory.

Energy Efficiency: UMCES has reduced energy usage at its four research labs through a variety of measures including energy efficient lighting and HVAC systems, occupancy sensors on lighting and fume hoods, and by maximizing existing space. The new, upgraded RV Truitt Laboratory Building includes energy efficient building features and cooling systems that were designed to achieve a 28% energy savings.

Renewable Energy: The Horn Point Laboratory campus has installed a 10-acre, 11,000 solar panel installation that produces an average of 3,750 MWh of electric power annually, more than half the power consumed by the campus. A solar parking canopy also provides access to four electric vehicle charging stations.

The Maryland Green Registry Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have shown a strong commitment to the implementation of sustainable practices, the demonstration of measurable results, and the continual improvement of environmental performance.



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