

## Student Environmental Groups and Programs

*Compiled by the Office of Sustainability*

### Office of Sustainability

The UC Berkeley Office of Sustainability helps to develop, coordinate, and support campus sustainability goals and initiatives. Our work includes fostering a culture of sustainability and helping the campus reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reach climate neutrality.

We strive for excellence in breadth and depth, by:

- Implementing Bright Green programs to reduce our ecological footprint.
- Raising awareness through our Talking Louder campaign.
- Expanding community involvement in sustainability through campaigns like *myPower* to save energy.
- Striving for transparency and accountability through our annual Campus Sustainability Report and Plan.

Website: <http://sustainability.berkeley.edu/os/>

Email: [sustainability@berkeley.edu](mailto:sustainability@berkeley.edu)

### The Green Initiative Fund

TGIF provides funding for projects that reduce UC Berkeley's negative impact on the environment and make UC Berkeley more sustainable. TGIF allocates funds to projects that promote sustainable modes of transportation, increase energy and water efficiency, restore habitat, promote environmental and food justice, and reduce the amount of waste created by UC Berkeley. Portions of the fund also support education & behavior change initiatives, student aid (via return to aid), and student internships. Students, faculty, and staff may submit project proposals, which will be selected for funding by the TGIF Committee.

Mini-Grant Deadlines (\$500-2,000): October 7

Spring Grant Deadlines (\$2,000+): January 31

Website: <http://tgif.berkeley.edu>

Contact Info: Katherine Walsh, [tgif\\_info@berkeley.edu](mailto:tgif_info@berkeley.edu)

Office: LEAD Center Hearst Gym 102

### myPower

myPower is dedicated to permanently reducing the amount of energy used on campus. The money saved from energy reductions goes back into teaching and research. Since the April 2012 launch of myPower and the energy management program, we have saved \$2 million, which exceeds the projected savings of \$1.4 million by more than one third! Building dashboards, which show how much energy individual campus buildings are using in real time data, case studies, and

other news stories can be accessed through our website! myPower always welcomes more volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering for myPower, you can become a Power Agent. Email to find out more information!

Email: [myPower@berkeley.edu](mailto:myPower@berkeley.edu)

Website: <http://myPower.berkeley.edu>

Office: 192 Barrows

### Student Environmental Resource Center (SERC)

The mission of the Student Environmental Resource Center is to strengthen the collective effectiveness and durability of campus sustainability efforts by providing information, opportunities, and services to students and student groups with an interest in sustainability and environmental justice.

Website: <http://www.serc.berkeley.edu>

Email: [sercdire@berkeley.edu](mailto:sercdire@berkeley.edu)

Office: 3rd floor of Mulford, Room 337

### Residential Sustainability Program (RSP)

RSP is a group of students dedicated to educating residents about sustainability in Berkeley and to implementing programs and projects that foster green living in the residence halls. We collaborate with facilities, Cal Dining, and other campus sustainability groups and hope to reach out to more in the coming year. Our plan is to conduct a sustainability audit of the residence halls this semester and, in collaboration with other groups and by studying how other campuses incorporate sustainability, work with RSP volunteers to determine a 2-year plan for how to improve the residence halls. We will also continue some of our normal projects, such as a monthly newsletter, field trips, Earth Week activities, and more. We also are a resource for RAs to incorporate sustainability into their programs.

Email: [RSP-supervisors@berkeley.edu](mailto:RSP-supervisors@berkeley.edu)

### Cal Dining Sustainability Team

We are a small group of students hired by Cal Dining for the purpose of investigating and reporting on ways to make Cal Dining's food service operations more sustainable and less wasteful. We also provide outreach to the student community, in particular the freshmen population that Cal Dining serves, through tabling and flyers, raising awareness about sustainability issues and what Cal Dining has done to improve them. In the past we have raised awareness for water conservation, local

sustainable food (in alignment with the Real Food Challenge), implemented strategies for food waste reduction by both students and staff, and set up a now popular system of reusable to-go containers, as well as put on events for UN Food Day and Water Day.

Website: <http://caldining.berkeley.edu/community.html>  
Email: [jdhubert@berkeley.edu](mailto:jdhubert@berkeley.edu)

### **PowerSave Campus**

The Alliance to Save Energy's PowerSave Campus Program is a student-led initiative that empowers tomorrow's energy efficiency leaders. The program is currently on 19 universities and colleges, engaging and training students to build pathways to green careers, realize measurable energy savings, infuse energy and energy efficiency concepts into academic curricula, & promote energy efficiency outreach. Our projects range from energy audits and assessments, residential and laboratory energy competitions, intern-led and faculty sponsored academic courses, green career fairs, and energy efficiency technology retrofits.

Website: <http://powersavecal.weebly.com>

### **The Compost Alliance**

Compost Alliance is a student group, founded in 2010, that is dedicated to implementing a campus-wide compost diversion system to help UC Berkeley achieve its goal of zero waste by 2020, while helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save the campus money, and encourage sustainable practices. We are in the process of hiring right now. Applications can be found on Callisto or by contacting one of us.

Program Coordinators: Amaia Schultz, [amaiaschultz@berkeley.edu](mailto:amaiaschultz@berkeley.edu) & Amanda Atkinson, [a.atkinson@berkeley.edu](mailto:a.atkinson@berkeley.edu)

### **Berkeley Organization for Animal Advocacy (BOAA)**

BOAA is the campus' only social justice group dedicated to raising awareness about issues of animal oppression. We, at BOAA, firmly stand against the abusive, gendered, and exploitative nature of the treatment of animals in our society. We believe that the ills of factory farming are felt not only by non-human animals, but also by the environment, people of color, low income people, and the health and culture of our society. As a group, we are dedicated to raising awareness and promoting compassionate, socially just, and sustainable diets, and advocating for the liberation of animals, people and the environment from systems of human oppression.

Meetings: Tuesdays, 7-8pm in 202 Wheeler  
Website: [facebook.com/calveg](https://www.facebook.com/calveg)  
Email: [calboaa@gmail.com](mailto:calboaa@gmail.com)

### **Student Organic Gardening Association (SOGA)**

The Student Organic Gardening Association is an organized democratic student association of garden stewards committed to sustainable organic farming and gardening grounded in direct experience. Our mission is to establish continuity of maintenance and support for the Student Organic Garden year round in order to maintain a creative space for experiential education and ecological justice for the Cal student community and greater surrounding community.

Website: [www.facebook.com/soga.garden](https://www.facebook.com/soga.garden)  
Email: [studentorganicgarden@gmail.com](mailto:studentorganicgarden@gmail.com)

### **Berkeley Water Group**

The BWG provides a space to learn and share about water related research and projects happening on and off campus. It's a place for you to share about your interest in water related topics and learn from others as well. Our goals for the group include creating a space for students to meet other students passionate about water issues and involved in water research and projects, network in a casual environment and discuss current events.

Website: <http://blumcenter.berkeley.edu/berkeley-water-portal/research/>  
Email: [bwsil@lists.berkeley.edu](mailto:bwsil@lists.berkeley.edu)

### **Fossil Free Cal**

Fossil Free Cal is a student-led campaign that is leveraging the tactic of divestment to raise awareness on and off campus about climate change and to inspire students, faculty, and community members to take action. We believe that if it is wrong for the fossil fuel industry to wreck the climate, then it is wrong for Cal to be funding and profiting from that wreckage. As such, the Fossil Free Cal's demands are that Cal and the UC system divest their endowments from the 200 largest publicly traded fossil fuel companies and reinvest in a just a sustainable future.

First Meeting: Monday, 9/23 @ 8PM in 337 Mulford  
Website: [www.fossilfreecal.org](http://www.fossilfreecal.org)  
Email: [info@fossilfreecal.org](mailto:info@fossilfreecal.org)

### **Re-USE**

If you have ever seen our reader giveaways, clothing sales, move-outs or ReUSE stations, then you already know a bit about what ReUSE does! We are the (fun) student organization that exchanges reusables to divert waste on campus! This semester we are looking for volunteers as well as innovative leaders to join our Board of Directors. Sounds like you? Email us at [ucberkeleyreuse@gmail.com](mailto:ucberkeleyreuse@gmail.com)

**ASUC Sustainability Team (STeam)**

STeam is a ASUC-sponsored organization at UC Berkeley aimed at making the campus more sustainable. We accomplish this through the creation of and participation in project groups and their events. Each project group is focused on specific issues related to campus sustainability. Our current list of project groups includes: Earth Week, STeam Energy, OSC (one side clean), STOP, and EcoMovies. This semester, STeam, in addition to project groups, will compile a list of sustainable improvements needed on campus to help us reach our goal of zero waste by 2020.

General Meeting: Thursday, Sept 26th (location TBA, meetings are every other week)

Website: <http://calsteam.wordpress.com/about/>  
Email: [calsustainabilityteam@gmail.com](mailto:calsustainabilityteam@gmail.com)

### **Strawberry Creek Community**

The Strawberry Creek Community aims to encourage the widespread participation of members of the Strawberry Creek watershed in the various, diverse activities involved in the ongoing ecological restoration of Strawberry Creek by supporting the cultural, democratic, educational, ethical, and scientific processes important to the wholesome success of the restoration project.

First club meeting during the first week of October  
Email: [strawberrycreekcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:strawberrycreekcommunity@gmail.com)

### **Berkeley Energy & Resources Collaborative (BERC)**

BERC is a multidisciplinary network of UC Berkeley students, alumni, faculty, industry professionals, and advisors who seek to turn world-leading research into world-changing solutions by tackling tough and timely energy and environmental challenges. More specifically, BERC's mission is to connect, educate, and engage its members in order to foster innovation and action.

BERC's next big event is Energy Week (Oct 7-11) at the end of which we hold our biggest event, the Energy Symposium. This year it is themed: California at the Energy Crossroads.

Website: [berc.berkeley.edu](http://berc.berkeley.edu)  
Email: [berc.berkeley@gmail.com](mailto:berc.berkeley@gmail.com)

### **Berkeley Environmental Economics and Policy Students (BEEPS)**

BEEPS is a UC Berkeley student organization for students of the Environmental Economics and Policy major and minor to network, socialize and prepare for post graduation. As a group of friends in the EEP major, we thought it would be fun to have a place where other EEP students could come and meet each other.

This idea grew to not only include community building and socializing, but to provide resources for EEP majors to be better prepared for the professional world. These resources will include talks this semester from professionals, alumni, professors, and graduate students, as well as peer tutoring and study sessions. We're always looking for new members so contact us to get on the list serve, apply for an officer position, or ask general questions.

Website: [facebook.com/calbeeps](https://facebook.com/calbeeps)  
Email: [calbeeps@gmail.com](mailto:calbeeps@gmail.com)

### **Students for Economic and Environmental Justice**

SEEJ is working to create a permanent home for economic and environmental justice studies and advocacy at the law school. Students engage in a number of activities, including several student-initiated clinics, short-term legal research projects, and an annual symposium. SEEJ's student-initiated clinics include the Community Food Enterprises Project, which provides legal information to people interested in creating community-based food businesses in the Bay Area, and the Karuk-Berkeley Collaborative, which provides legal support to Karuk communities on a variety of environmental justice issues. SEEJ welcomes any and all students interested in advocating, studying, or learning more about issues related social, economic, or environmental justice.

Website: <http://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~seej/>  
Email: [berkeleyseej@gmail.com](mailto:berkeleyseej@gmail.com)

### **Environmental Sciences Student Association (ESSA)**

ESSA is a social, academic, and career advising club designed for the student environmentalist to meet others with the same interests. We enjoy doing fun hiking, camping trips, and local volunteering events, and welcome students from all majors to join us!

Our first activity of the semester is volunteering at the International Beach Clean-Up Day starting at 9am at the Berkeley Marina this Saturday, September 21st. New members are always welcome to attend our events, so please email us if you would like to join us!

Meeting: Monday, Sept. 23, 5pm in 260 Mulford and repeat at the same time and place every other Monday

Website: [essa.260m@gmail.com](mailto:essa.260m@gmail.com)  
Email: <https://www.facebook.com/ESSAcal>

### **Berkeley Student Food Collective (BSFC)**

The BSFC is dedicated to providing fresh, local, healthy, environmentally sustainable and ethically produced food at affordable prices to the Berkeley campus and greater

community. We seek to educate students about nutrition and food systems, empower new leaders, and train youth to work in and manage a sustainable business. Through inclusive, democratic decision-making, we operate a cooperative grocery market that promotes community-building and environmental stewardship.

Location: 2440 Bancroft Way, #102  
Hours: M-F, 9am-8pm  
Saturday & Sunday, 12pm-6pm

Website: <http://berkeleystudentfoodcollective.org/>  
Email: [membership@foodcollective.org](mailto:membership@foodcollective.org)

### **Building Sustainability @ Cal (BS@C)**

The Building Sustainability @ Cal (BS@C) Program trains and utilizes students to help reduce the environmental footprint of buildings by educating building inhabitants and identifying structural and operational changes that can be made to the building, in addition to designing and implementing educational projects.

Email: <http://buildingsustainability.berkeley.edu>

### **Greening the Greeks**

Greening the Greeks is a club devoted to promoting sustainability in the Greek system on campus! This includes IFC, PHC, MCGC, and NPHC. Through grants, activities, and educational workshops, we are trying to make the members of the Greek system and their houses more environmentally conscious and responsible. We meet every other week at various chapter houses.

Email: [greeningthegreeks@gmail.com](mailto:greeningthegreeks@gmail.com)

### **Forestry Club**

The Cal Forestry club offers an amazing support group not only for students majoring in Forestry and Natural Resources, but for anyone who shares a curiosity and love for our earth's natural resources. The major, Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR), is offered through the College of Natural Resources and focuses on the conservation and restoration of the earth's natural resources through hands-on study of the ecology, stewardship, and management of forest, woodland, and grassland ecosystems. The Forestry Club hosts bean feeds, competes in logging sports, attends national forestry conferences, and organizes many other excellent campus events.

Meeting: Wednesdays, 12pm at 112 Hilgard  
Website: [facebook.com/groups/2200460829/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2200460829/)  
Email: [calforestryclub@gmail.com](mailto:calforestryclub@gmail.com)

### **Take Back the Tap**

Take Back the Tap UC Berkeley is an initiative to end the sale of plastic water bottles on the UCB campus by 2014, while generating awareness of the social and environmental impacts of the plastic water bottle industry. UC Berkeley's high quality tap water comes from the Sierra Mountain Range - so drink up! Take Back the Tap UC Berkeley is working in partnership with the ASUC and UCB Graduate Assembly, ASUC's S.T.O.P (student towards zero plastic), Residential Hall Association, Residential Sustainability Program, I Heart Tap and Food and Water Watch.

Website: [facebook.com/UCBerkeleyTakeBacktheTap](https://www.facebook.com/UCBerkeleyTakeBacktheTap)  
Email: Lisa Lim, [lisalim@berkeley.edu](mailto:lisalim@berkeley.edu)

### **Sustainable Study Abroad Programs**

Berkeley Study Abroad (BSA) supports the academic and public mission of the University of California to prepare our students to be productive and engaged citizens at home and abroad. We believe that knowledge, skills and experiences gained through academic and cultural immersion offered by studying and living abroad enrich the intellectual preparation of our students and fundamentally enhance the relevance of a Berkeley education.

Drop In Advising: M-F, 8:30am-5pm @ 160 Stephens  
Study Abroad Fair: Sept. 27, 11am-4pm @ I-House

Website: [studyabroad.berkeley.edu](http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu)  
Email: [e-mail-studyabroad@berkeley.edu](mailto:e-mail-studyabroad@berkeley.edu)

### **The Alexander Hamilton Society**

AHS is an independent, non-partisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting constructive debate on basic principles and contemporary issues in foreign, economic, and national security policy. Our Berkeley Chapter aims to engage students in policy landscapes and major topics, and prepare them for future leaderships in academia, business, finance, law, policymaking and journalism. With the society's distinguished speakers and professional chapters, we seek to speak to the diversity of the Berkeley community and build a platform for converting knowledge into action. Come to our first meeting on October 4 to learn more and become involved!

Website: <http://hamsoc.org/about/>  
Events: <http://goo.gl/bPkMTr>  
Email: [Shuyu.Yang.valleyfish823@gmail.com](mailto:Shuyu.Yang.valleyfish823@gmail.com)