

Being Sustainable in Halls



We all have the **power** to make a positive **difference** no matter how small the action

What will you do?

Make your change





Energy Saving

We support sustainable living and expect you to try to save energy. Flats that use an excessive amount **may be charged**.

Energy saving tips

- ⦿ **Make sure** your radiators are not obstructed by objects
- ⦿ **Shut windows & draw curtains** to help keep in heat from the day
- ⦿ **Use a lid** on saucepans where possible to heat more with less energy
- ⦿ **Switch off** lights, TVs, Microwaves, PCs and others when not in use
- ⦿ **Ask your friends** if they also want a cuppa; only boil what you need
- ⦿ **Avoid dryers**; line dry clothes & per year it can **save 90kg of CO2**

We have partnered with NUS and Student Switch Off, with competitions in halls across our campuses. **Win prizes & make a difference!** **Did you know** that between 2015 and 2019 students saved **68,062 kWh**, that is the equivalent to boiling a kettle for **2.1 million** cups of tea!



Recycle & Segregate Correctly

Recycling will be removed by the cleaners on a weekly basis. If it gets full before this time, you are expected to do this yourselves.

Recycling tips

- ♻️ **Always check** the bin posters in your kitchen
- ♻️ **Always wash** items meant for recycling before disposing
- ♻️ **Create a rota** to share responsibilities
- ♻️ **Remember your room**; take recyclable items to the kitchen!
- ♻️ **Get creative**; upcycle or create a hoop to dunk your next recyclable
- ♻️ **Double check**; 70% of waste could be recycled. Is it the right bin?

You are responsible for taking the general black bag waste to the external bins. Small basket bins are in your room. Recycling bins in the kitchen.



Consider your purchases

Always think, do you need it or are alternatives available? We can **save money and help the environment**, from clothes to food.

Purchasing tips

- 🛒 **Check for** the Fairtrade, FSC or other accreditations on products
- 🛒 **Reducing one** red meat meal will **save 6kg of CO2 emissions** per week
- 🛒 **Making lunch** rather than buying could also **save £15 or more per week**
- 🛒 **Bulk make & freeze** to save money or share it around with your friends
- 🛒 **Consider** second-hand, swaps or organic as environmental alternatives
- 🛒 **Use technology**; apps like **TooGoodToGo** can help when on a budget
- 🛒 **Use your reusable-cup** and **save up to £37** a year on campus hot drinks



Reduce water consumption

Water is crucial to us all. 70% of our planet is covered in water but **only 2.5% is drinkable** and **1% easily accessible**.

Water reducing tips

- 💧 **Have shorter** showers, one fewer minute could save 21 glasses of water
- 💧 **Plug it or bowl it;** do not leave taps running when washing up
- 💧 **Share the load,** consider sharing a machine for a full load of clothes
- 💧 **Use enough;** put a lid on saucepans to save on evaporation loss
- 💧 **Drink enough;** plants will love the leftover water from your glass

Did you know that according to Waterwise a dripping tap if left can waste 5,000 litres of water a year? That is the amount of **one pint per day!** Imagine pouring a pint and watching it drain away: no one wants that!



Use public transport, walk or cycle

We need good connectivity between our services, but how can we as individuals use all these travel methods sustainably?

Transport tips

- 🚌 **Use the intercampus buses;** they are frequent, efficient and social
- 🚌 **Cycle locally;** all campuses have multiple bike racks
- 🚌 **Share the journey;** if you need to drive give your friends a lift
- 🚌 **The freedom of walking;** there are plenty of parks and services nearby
- 🚌 **Mix it up;** once your timetables are set try options for the most efficient
- 🚌 **Use technology;** apps like **BetterPoints** give rewards for avoiding the car

Did you know over 60% of 1-2 mile journeys are made by car? Have you calculated your costs of petrol & parking? Your catalytic converter produces more pollution under 5 miles too. Can you travel differently?



Caring for the environment & yourself

Outdoor areas can provide relaxation, fresh air and natural space to socialise. We can help ourselves and surrounding wildlife thrive.

Environment tips

- 🌿 **Do not litter;** plenty of bins are available in and outside
- 🌿 **Cigarette butts** will leach chemicals and include plastic, use the bins
- 🌿 **Chewing gum** does not degrade so aim for the bin
- 🌿 **Remember to think;** would this be acceptable in my parents' house?
- 🌿 **Remember;** free advice is a click away www.greenwichsu.co.uk/advice/
- 🌿 **Accessible 24/7** www.bigwhitewall.com/ is also a safe community



Getting involved

By sharing knowledge, we can all help in making a positive difference. It can also help your studies and future careers.

Ways of getting involved

- 👉 **Speak to your friends;** it can bring some interesting insights
- 👉 **Join Eco-Team;** the university's dedicated student & staff network
- 👉 **Volunteer;** from gardening to campaigning there are opportunities
- 👉 **Become an ambassador;** NUS Student Switch Off has annual teaching
- 👉 **Lead by example;** your actions make a difference and will influence



Learning more

You do not have to study a related degree to learn more. There are plenty of resources that can assist you in making positive changes.

Ways of learning more

- 🔍 **Check out** our Sustainability Team's website www.gre.ac.uk/sustain
- 🔍 **Visit the library;** they have plenty of environmental books to offer
- 🔍 **Keep an eye on the news** for the latest innovations and discussions
- 🔍 **Guest lectures** are a great way to gain new insights into the field
- 🔍 **Calculate your footprint;** <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>
- 🔍 **Ask questions** on your courses to include sustainability in learning

Keep in touch

There are plenty of ways to keep in touch and learn about what we are doing here at the University of Greenwich

Our Sustainability Team

-  Sust_greenwich
-  UoGSustainability
-  UoG_Sustainability
-  www.gre.ac.uk/sustain
-  sustainability@gre.ac.uk

Eco-Team

- A student & staff network
-  Eco Team Greenwich
-  Eco Team Medway
-  Ecoteamgreenwich
-  Ecoteammedway

All figures are from in-house calculations or reliable documented sources.