



# GREEN CERRITOS

## College Sustainability Initiatives

Cerritos College is an environmental leader. The District is dedicated to adhering to sustainability practices and policies that conserve the planet's diminishing natural resources. The District is creating a campus environment that fosters sustainability through conscious decision-making strategies, focusing on:

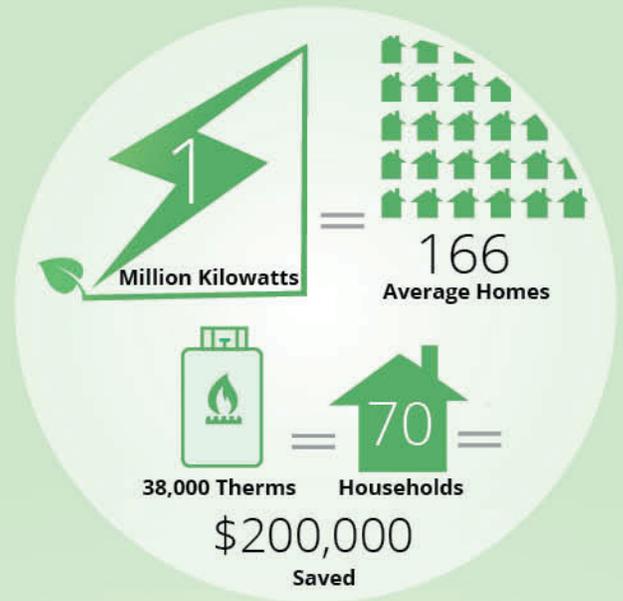
- Green facilities that meet the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) standards
- Energy efficiency and alternative energy sources
- Waste management
- Water conservation
- Instructional programs
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

### GREEN CAMPUS POLICIES

- The California Community Colleges/Investor Owned Utilities (CCC/IOU) partnership selected Cerritos College for a pilot study to pursue a complete building energy study/retrofit called a High Opportunity Project (HOP). Currently, Cerritos College is the only community college selected for this pilot study, joining University of California and California State University pilot projects.
- *June 1, 2016* - The Board of Trustees approved the Cerritos College Sustainability Plan, a holistic, site-specific guide to promoting sustainability on the campus. The plan will ensure that the College meets the ever-changing educational and facilities needs of its students and community, and expand the learning environment to support student success and completion.
- *September 16, 2015* - The Board of Trustees approved a long-term Integrated Energy Master Plan (IEMP) that complements the Facility Master Plan. The IEMP is a comprehensive strategic plan that identifies various energy related projects and methodologies to be employed by the College in support of the campus building and modernization program.
- The campus established a Sustainability Task Force to develop and implement a campus sustainability plan, establish goals, and track progress.
- *September 17, 2014* - The Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 14-05 Declaring Design and Development of Facilities to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified for new buildings in excess of **\$5 million**. LEED certification is set by the [U.S. Green Building Council](#). The Health & Wellness Complex, scheduled to begin construction in March 2017, will be the first LEED certified building at Cerritos College.
- *June 18, 2014* - The Board of Trustees adopted [Board Policy 3580](#). The campus-wide sustainability policy is focused on developing practices that promote conservation and energy efficiency.
- *June 4, 2014* - The Board adopted Resolution No. 14-14 to authorize the creation of a Cerritos College CalRecycle Program. Income generated from the student-led recycle program will go to support the Associated Students of Cerritos College.
- *May 5, 2014* - Associated Students of Cerritos College adopted a sustainability policy to develop students into global citizens through the knowledge, skills and values of sustainability concepts.

## ENERGY SAVINGS MEASURES

- Cerritos College has received over **\$895,000** in utility incentives from 2006-2015, significantly reducing electricity and natural gas consumption.
- Cerritos College has secured over **\$1.5 million** in state funding from Governor Brown's 2012 Green Jobs Initiative. These funds have allowed the College to retrofit lights to LEDs, fine tune building mechanical systems, and reduce electrical consumption by over **1 million kilowatts** (equivalent to the annual electrical use of 166 average households). The College's natural gas use has also been reduced by 38,000 therms, which is equal to **70 average household's** natural gas use for one year, saving the College more than **\$200,000** annually.
- The College will use the Green Jobs Initiative funding to retrofit campus lighting, expand chilled water cooling systems, and enhance energy management.



## WATER CONSERVATION

In the midst of California's historic drought, Cerritos College is taking steps to reduce its water use:

- In 2016, the College redeveloped the landscaping along Alondra and Studebaker with drought-resistant and low-water use plants. Potable water systems were replaced with the College's re-claimed water irrigation system. This project, totaling nearly one acre of land, was supported with over **\$500,000** in state grant funds.
- To reduce water, the College features a variety of drought-resistant plants in its landscape, including California native species such as live oak trees, echervia, euphorbia, aloes and hesperia.
- Over **95 percent** of the campus landscape and athletic fields are irrigated with re-claimed water purchased from a local municipality provider.
- The College was recognized with the 2014 Green Community College Leadership Award for this resource conservation measure. By using re-claimed water for landscape irrigation, Cerritos College saves more than **30 million** gallons of potable water per year. This is equivalent to saving the same amount of water that **185 families** of four would use for one year.



## GREEN EDUCATION

- Cerritos College is one of five recipients of the Collision Repair Education Foundation's 2014 Sustainability Challenge Grant. The **\$5,000** grant provides resources to assist school collision repair shops with ways to create a more sustainable campus community by "greening" their operations, including recycling, reinventing processes that reduce carbon emissions. The projects will be driven by a student team.
- The Advanced Transportation Technology and Energy Center offers training to the auto industry on Alternative Fueled Vehicles (Electric Vehicle, Compressed Natural Gas, and Hybrid Vehicles) through a **\$150,000 grant** awarded to the College by the California Energy Commission. Cerritos College's technicians train industry technicians on servicing alternative fuels vehicles.
- Cerritos College is a training provider through the California Advanced Lighting Control Training Program. The statewide initiative aims to increase the use of lighting controls in facilities through education.

## CENTRAL PLANT

- Cerritos College utilizes a chilled water central plant to provide cooling to the campus buildings. This centralized method of cooling is considerably more cost efficient compared to individual building equipment.
- The College's swimming pools are heated through solar blankets that warm the water when the pool is not in use through a heat exchanger with the central plant. The condenser water heat is essentially a free byproduct of mechanical cooling, which reduces the need for gas heating. As a result, there is a reduction in use of natural gas of approximately 17,000 therms per year, or an annual savings of **\$14,450**.

## SOLAR ON CAMPUS

- The College has expanded the use of stand-alone solar devices on campus. All parking permit dispensers are now solar-powered, and two solar-powered electronic device charging stations have been installed. These solar charging stations allow for multiple phones or other device to be charged using sun power.

## GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTIONS

- In April 2014, Cerritos College installed eight Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) stations for public use. For \$0.32 cents per kilowatt hour, electric vehicle owners can charge their vehicles at the College. Through electric vehicle charging, the College has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 11,254 kilograms, which equals the reduction of carbon monoxide released into the atmosphere created by 12,009 pounds of burned coal. The Electric Vehicle Charging stations were partially funded by the South Coast Air Quality Management District that provided **\$8,000 rebate** upon successful implementation of the units for public use.
- The Associated Students of Cerritos College established a campus recycling program in 2013. Students collect, transport and sort recyclables and use the funds to support student activities on campus.
- The campus has nine water hydration stations that allow users to use refillable bottles with fresh drinking water, thus reducing the number of plastic bottles from landfills. As of July 1, 2016, these stations have eliminated the use of **171,000 plastic bottles**.



For more information about Cerritos College's green efforts, please visit:

[www.cerritos.edu/greencerritos](http://www.cerritos.edu/greencerritos)

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