



## SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

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STASH IT, DON'T TRASH IT

reuse, donate, recycle  
@ your local Res hall

Did you know CSB+SJU Libraries have a book donation program? All students and employees are welcome to donate personal books to the libraries by dropping off at the Alcuin or Clemens front desks. Library staff send donations to the organization, Better World Books, who seeks to reuse them first, before recycling. A summary of Sustainability Metrics in the ten-year partnership:

CSB+SJU Libraries account (Aug 2012-Feb 2023)	End Destination of Book	Total Books Reused or Recycled	Books (lbs) diverted from landfill	Trees saved	Water (g) conserved	Greenhouse Gas (lbs) emissions avoided	Landfill Space (cu yd) saved	Electricity (kwh) saved
	Recycled*	30,300	41,472	482	175,998	63,709	66	98,418
	Reused**	15,696	21,483	257	204,899	34,023	35	52,559
Grand Totals		45,996	62,955	739	380,897	97,732	101	150,977

\*Recycled books are deemed unsalable and not appropriate for donation. Recycling books is considered waste reduction. Better World Book recyclers report that 97% of books are recovered to produce usable fiber. The resource savings reported in this table are based on using 100% recycled book fibers (post-consumer material) compared to 100% forest fiber (raw material) when producing new fiber products.

\*\*Reused books are ones Better World Books can sell or donate as received. Reusing books is considered waste prevention. Resource savings occur upstream due to less supply needed to meet demand, and downstream due to the avoidance of environmental impacts caused when disposing or recycling books.

CSB+SJU students reported during Earth Week how they care for the Earth & how they want to be more sustainable:

- Link bus donate
- garden green products
- composting
- reusable dishware
- avoid single use plastics
- biodegradable products
- sustainable fashion
- carpool
- educate
- renewable energy
- mindfulness
- equity
- reduce consumption
- thrifting
- conserve water
- recycle
- volunteer
- bike



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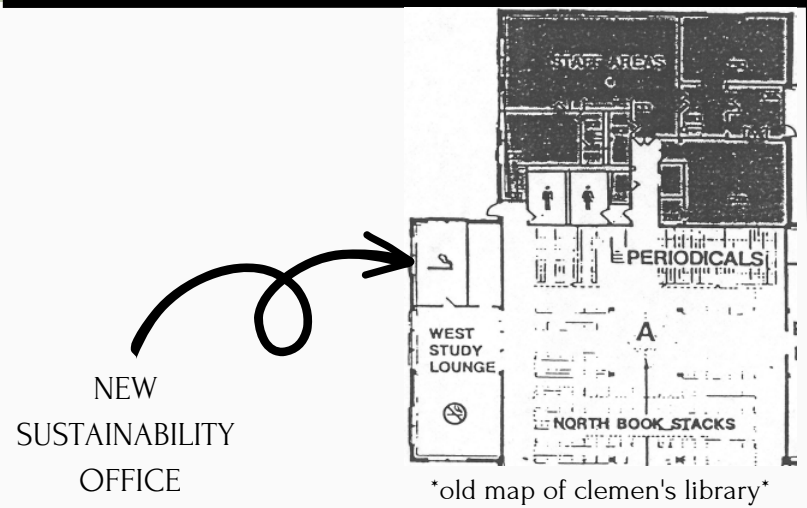
# Energy Conservation

Saint John's Physical Plant recently worked with their engineering consultant to assess the benefits of energy projects implemented over the past 25 years (nearly 100 separate projects assessed). The report shows positive gains in the reduction of carbon emissions, resource usage, and financial savings. Energy projects include campus-wide lighting retrofits, HVAC efficiency upgrades, and power plant mechanical upgrades. Consuming less natural gas and electricity to power our campus needs results in carbon emissions avoidance. The table below represents aggregated energy and financial savings per energy source along with emissions avoidance:

	Energy savings per year	Financial savings per year	Carbon emissions avoided per year
Natural gas	69,860 MMBtu	\$349,300	3,499 metric tons
Electricity	5,014,817 kWh	\$451,333	3,595 metric tons
Totals		\$800,633	7,094 metric tons*

\*The 7,094 metric tons of avoided carbon emissions is roughly equivalent to taking 1,500 passenger cars off the road per year according to the EPA carbon calculator.

## The Greenest Building is the one Not Built



To many people's surprise, when the original Clemens Library was built in 1986 they incorporated a Smoking Lounge! This was a space for people to relax and smoke indoors at a time when adverse health effects of smoking were less known. When the Clemens Library became connected to Gorecki Dining/Conference Center, this passing area became even more popular. Eventually the Smoking Lounge became Clemens Perk and most recently renovated into the Sustainability Office! By repurposing campus spaces, we avoid the environmental and financial impacts that building new spaces require.

Full Circle Greenhouse at CSB went airborne recently as the building needed to be moved to allow for underground utility service where it stood. The transportation of the building went smoothly and it's now resting peacefully while plans are made for a new greenhouse site this summer. CSB+SJU have had a long history of reusing buildings instead of building new. The action of reusing and repurposing buildings and spaces is an important sustainable practice in avoiding greenhouse gas emissions and reducing waste. Some of the ways that CSB+SJU have used this practice in the past was when Guild Hall was moved across the street in 1937 and the relocation of Schoenecker Commons in 1957. The historical photos in the top banner of this newsletter are of Guild Hall at SJU on the left and Schoenecker Commons at CSB on the right.

These sustainably conscious practices are great examples of Benedictine stability, stewardship, and frugality. They also provide educational opportunities as we seek sustainable development.

