



Facilities and Services

# Office of Sustainability 2015 Annual Report



Environmental Poster-making Party with International Club of NMSU, OASIS, and ESSO

Be a Green Aggie at NMSU!

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*"We have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."*

- Pope Francis, Papal Encyclical

**Wait! Wait!  
Don't print me!**

**2015** was an incredibly busy year.; clean air, water conservation, safe materials, healthy food, and green buildings are just a few of the things that the Office of Sustainability educates about. Read on to find out more about all the things Green Aggies did in 2015 to make our university and the planet a better and healthier place to live, learn, and work.

## Major NMSU Sustainability Accomplishments in 2015

- Continued to hold to our promise to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) to lower our greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere
- Completed Conservation and Modernization project with Ameresco, an energy services company, to implement budget-positive guaranteed energy savings on NMSU main campus
- Placed fourth in RecycleMania competition Grand Champion Division
- Lowered our kW usage despite increasing building square footage by 10,000 sf
- Completed installation of a total of 35 hydration stations since 2011
- Held webinars to educate the campus and Las Cruces community as well as provided speakers and programs through the all-volunteer Sustainability Council



## Letter from the Sustainability Manager

The highlight of the fifth year of the Office of Sustainability was completing the Ameresco “We CARE” (Conserving and Reducing Energy) project to lower energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions as we promised when we signed the Climate Leadership Commitment (ACUPCC). The Environmental Education Center (EEC) has been open for a year and many exciting events took place here: movie nights, environmental webinars, student hang-outs, preparing food from the EEC garden, and Earth Day Fair planning. Thank you everyone for continuing to support our efforts to take care of our planet by taking care of our university environment and beyond.



Photo by xxxx

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## Mission Statement

To educate the NMSU community about climate change and to develop a common vision of sustainability through innovation, education, outreach and action.

## Core Values

- ✿ Respect and love for humanity and all living things
- ✿ Passion for the environment
- ✿ Integrity of actions
- ✿ Exemplify an understanding that the natural and built environments are intertwined
- ✿ Unity of purpose through collaboration and interaction of ideas

## Vision Statement

To empower the NMSU community to care about the environment in which they live, work, and play and to carry that knowledge into their personal lives and future generations.



## Sustainability Initiatives

1. Relationships
2. Energy conservation
3. Waste reduction
4. Climate change resilience
5. Education
6. Food and Health
7. Green buildings
8. Transportation
9. Water conservation
10. Materials
11. Social Justice

## What is Sustainability at NMSU?

*Sustainability at NMSU is a lifestyle and a responsibility. It features ways to improve and maintain the quality of human life while preserving the integrity, stability, and beauty of ecological systems for the future.*



DACC summer Architecture Camp students toured the Environmental Education Center garden at Regents Row.

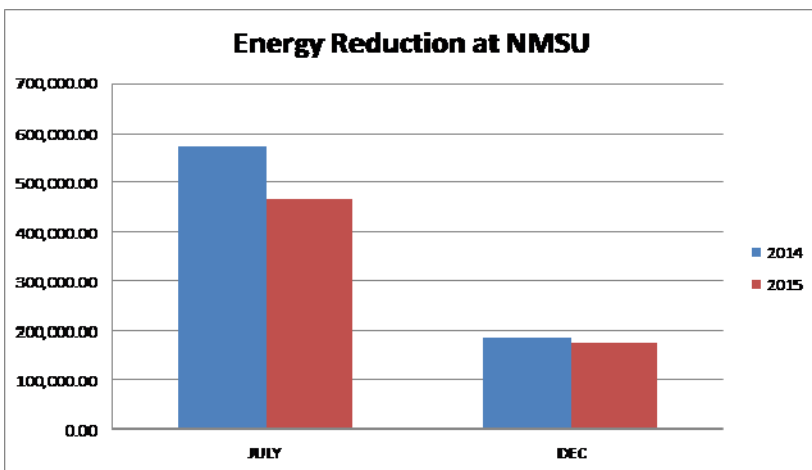
# Energy Management

We began the Energy Services Agreement (ESA) in August 2014. The construction was completed November 2015 and the project sign-off will be early 2016.

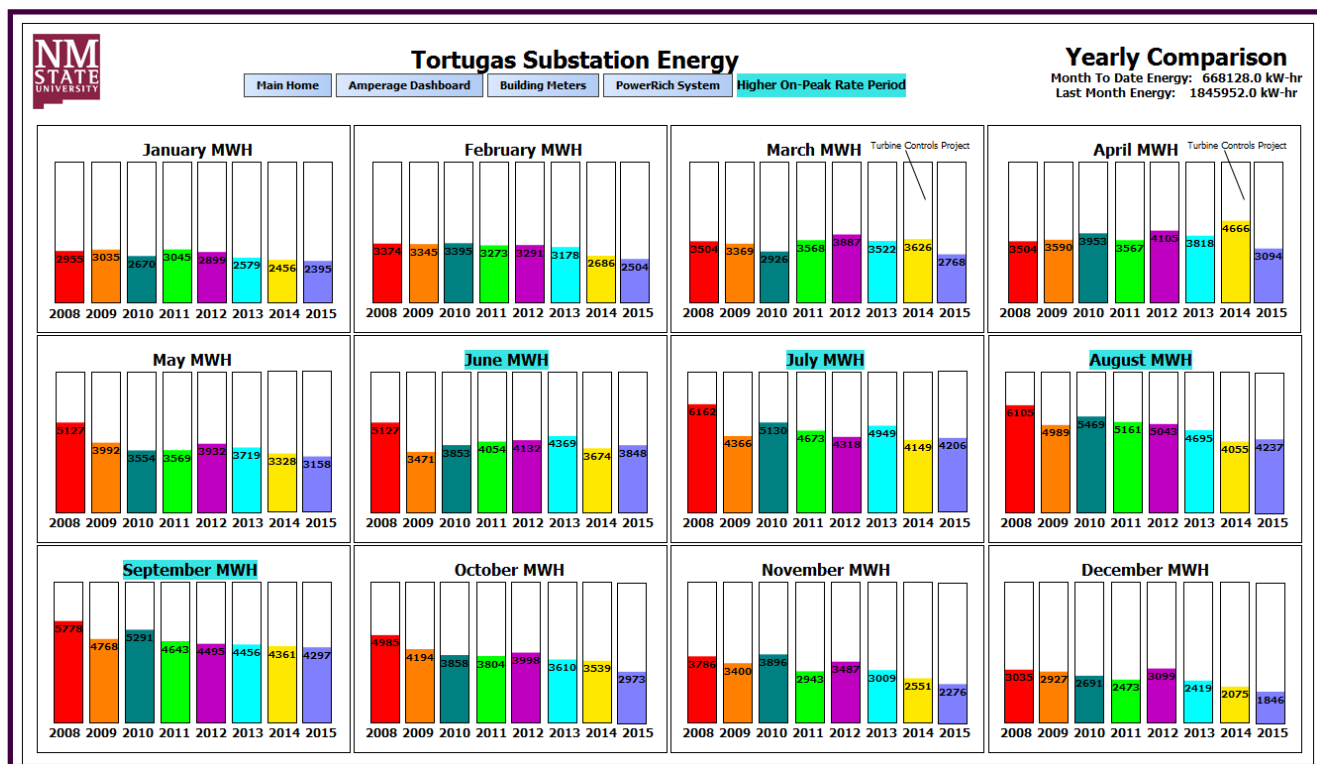
With construction cost savings we were able to add two solar covered parking arrays that were installed in Lot 100 (north of Satellite Chiller Plant). Anyone can park in the shade with the appropriate permit (orange lot - all permits valid). Renewable energy is the future!



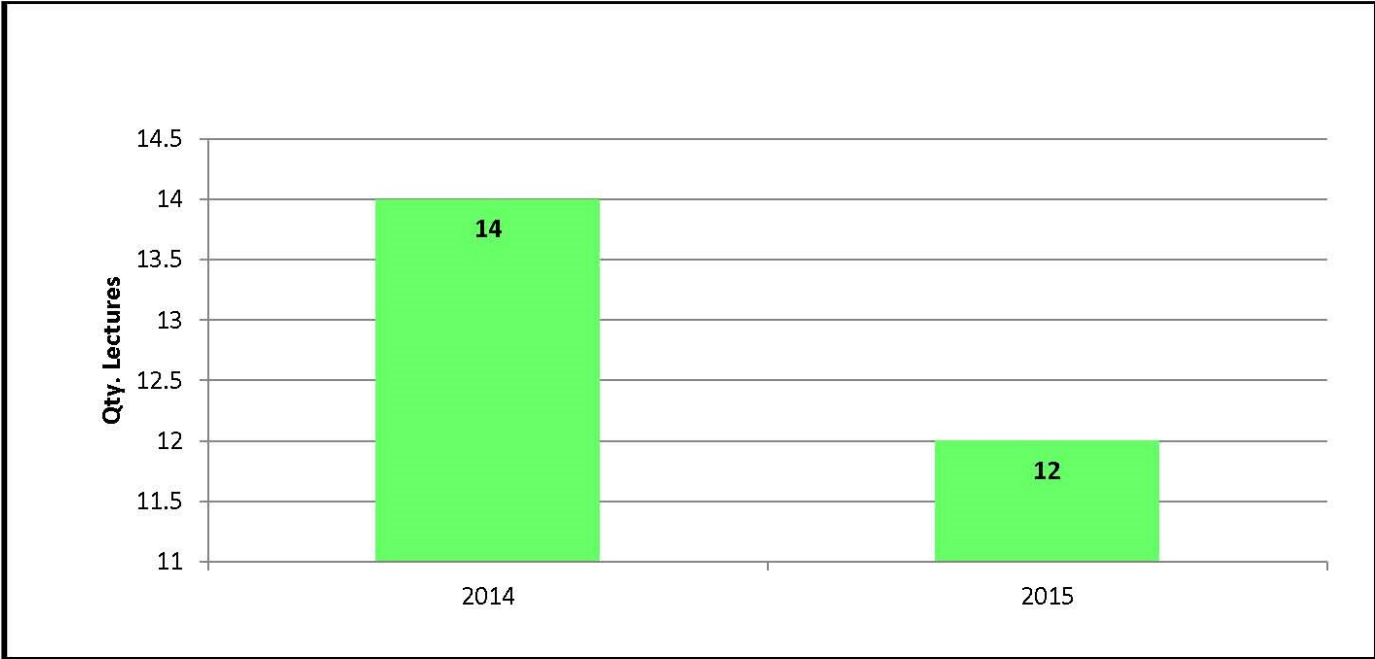
Solar covered parking in Lot 100



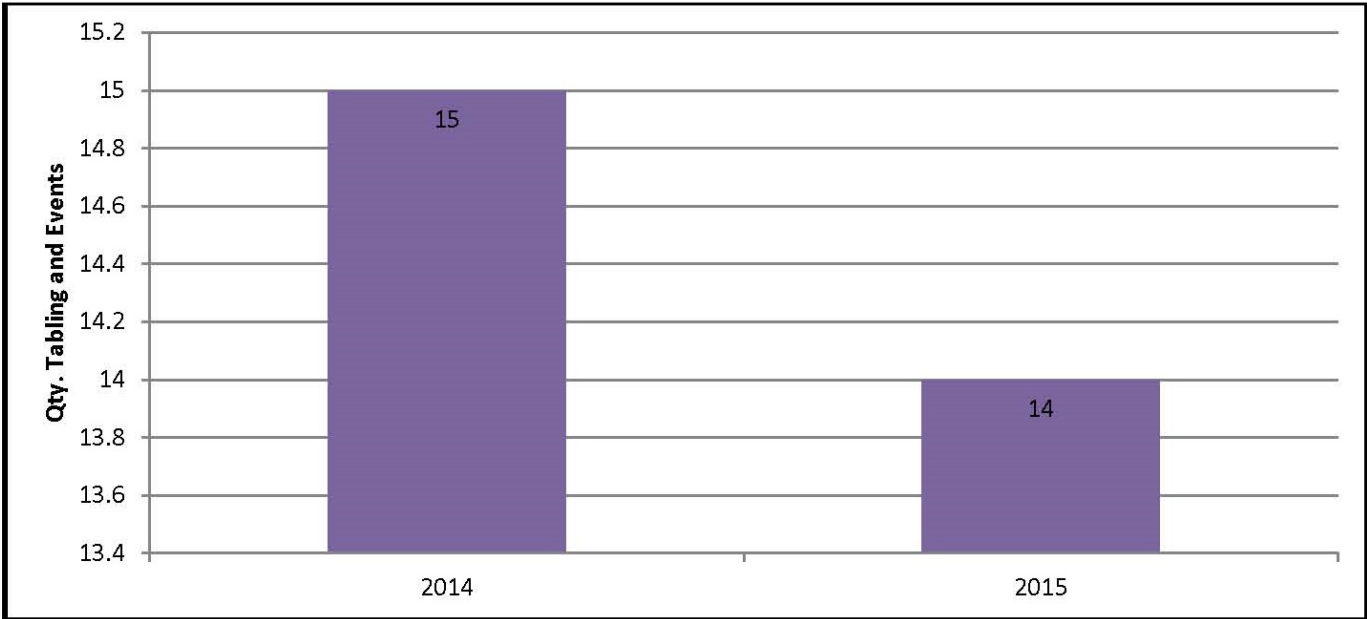
## Lowering Energy Use = Lower Utility Bills



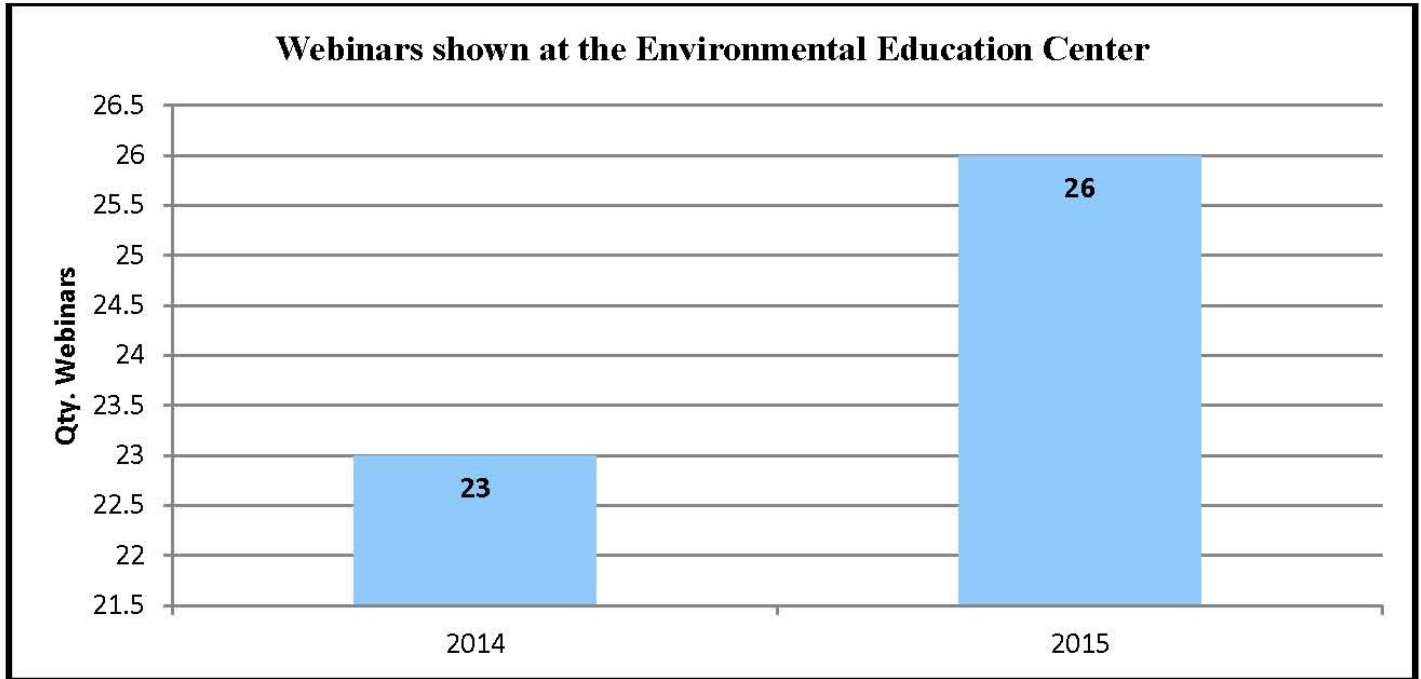
## Guest Lectures by Sustainability Manager 2014 - 2015



## Tabling and Events 2014 - 2015



## Webinars 2014 - 2015

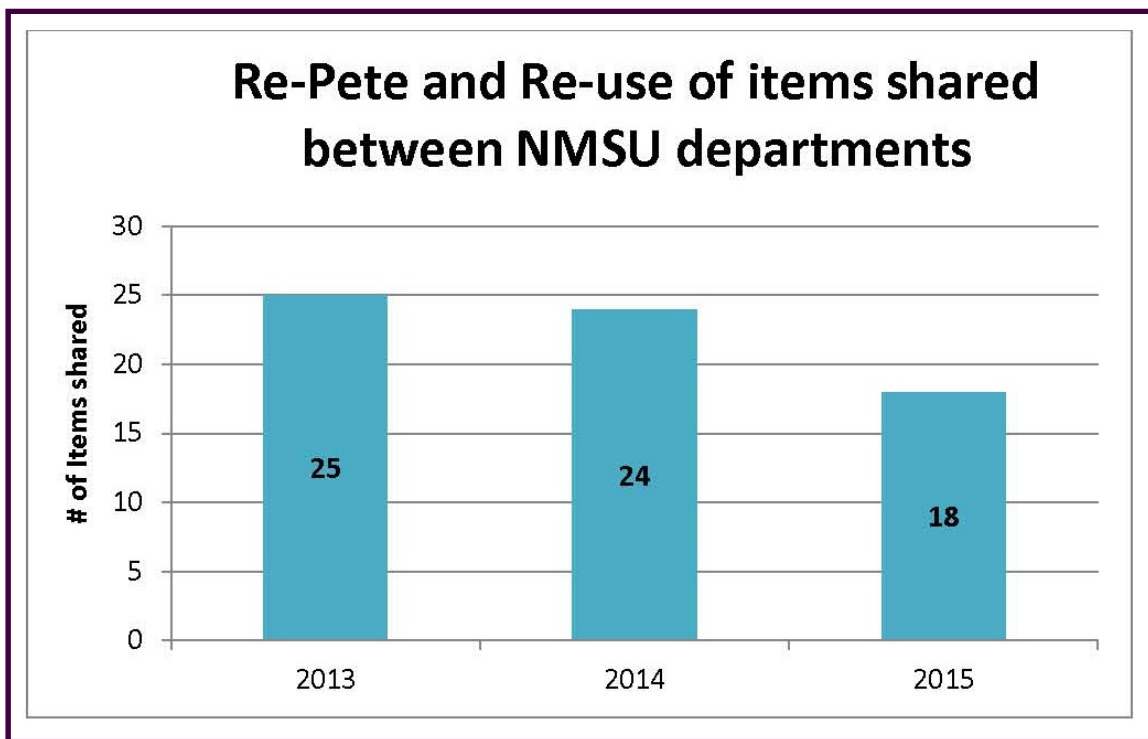
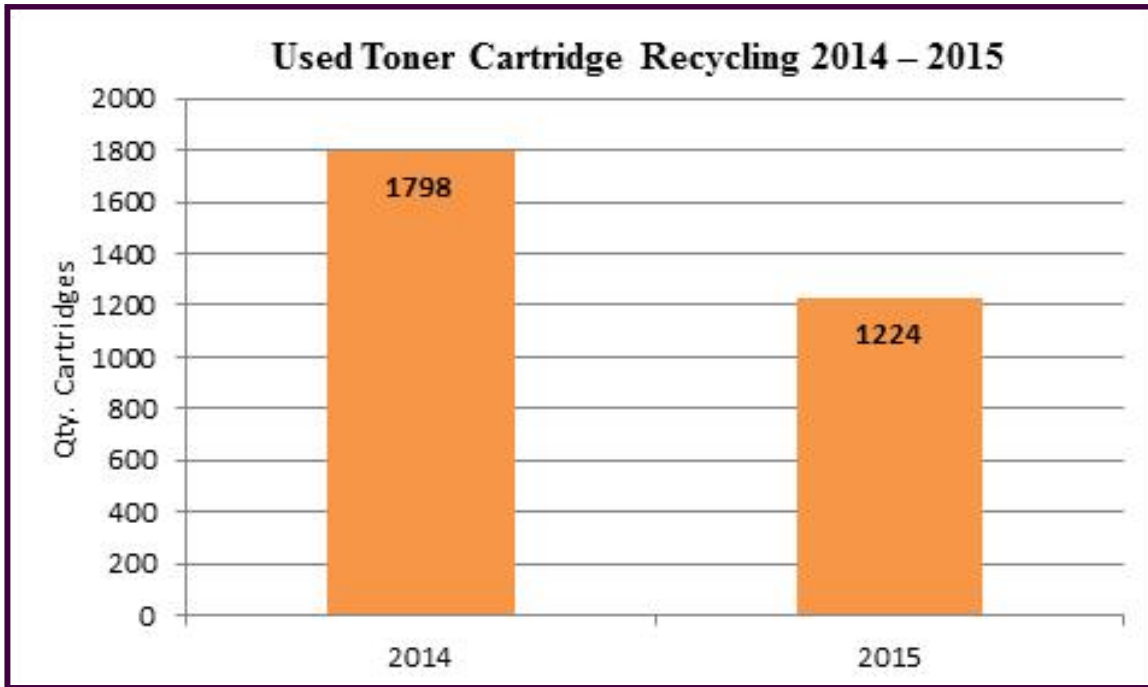


Webinars are a great way to educate these days. During the lunch hours we aired various webcasts from higher education and climate leaders to **learn about the role of campuses in adapting to a changing climate, innovations in climate resilience and mitigation, and community partnerships.** The broadcasts featured presentations and discussions from panelists, touching on leadership and practical issues related to campuses and communities, and addressed both opportunity and responsibility in a changing climate.

The Environmental Education Center is the perfect location to educate! Look for our webinar announcements in the daily Hotline emails.



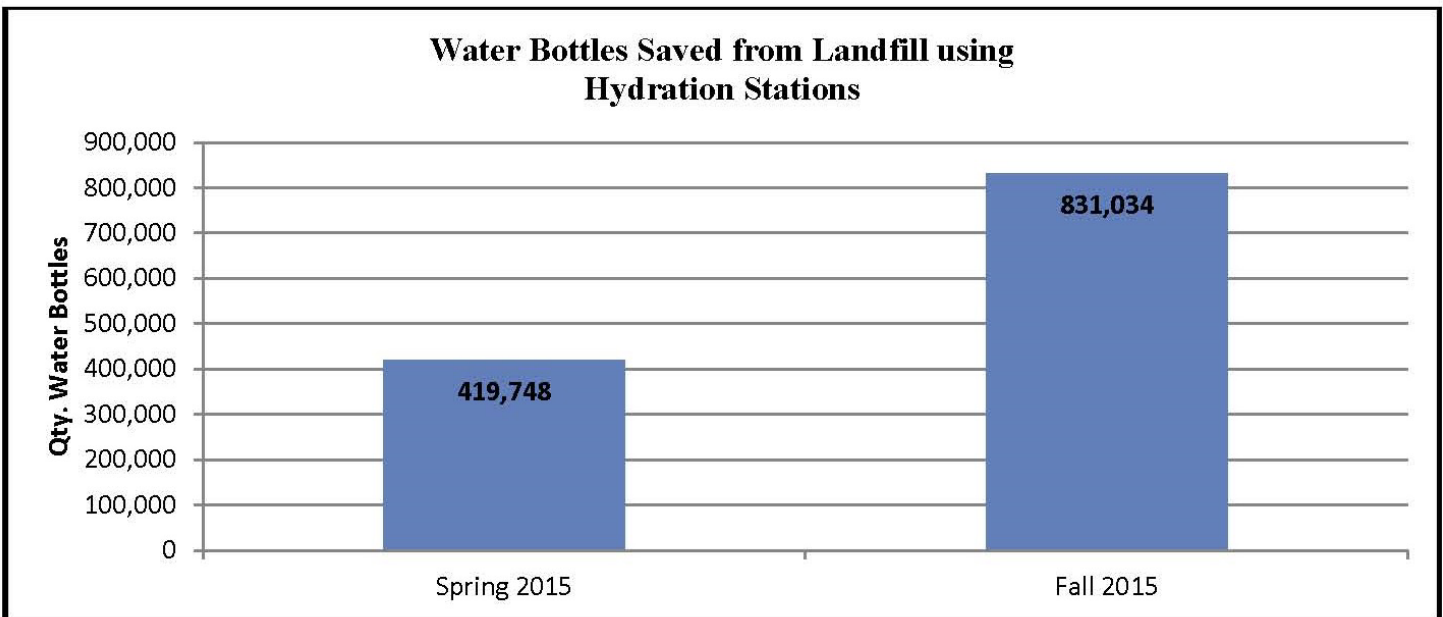
The summer of 2015 Office Max made the decision to no longer provide the large 20X20 recycling boxes to us for free. This put a big damper on our recycling program as most departments weren't willing to provide their own box. We persevered and enough people pitched in and took time out of their busy schedules to keep a large number of toner boxes from the landfill. Thank you Green Aggies for going above and beyond!



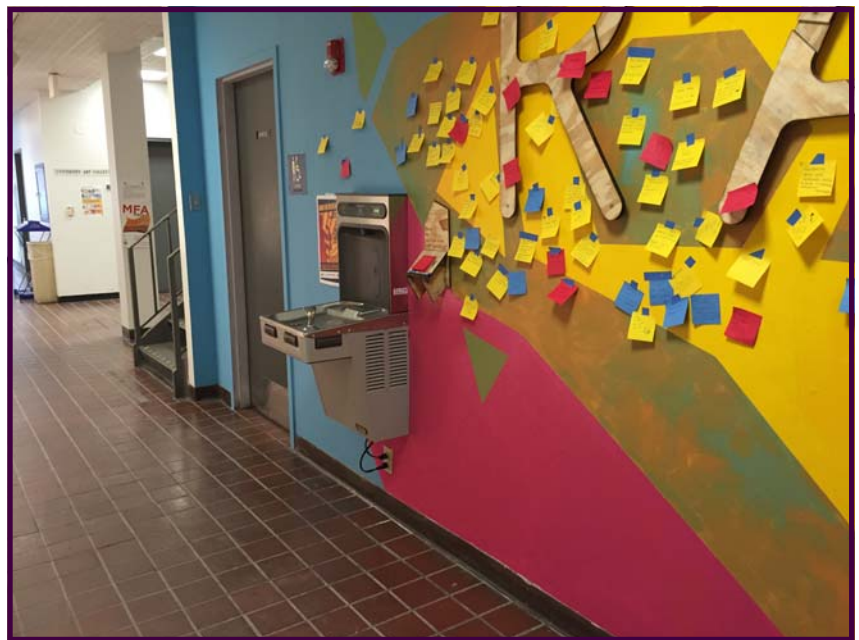


# Hydration Stations

In 2012 our first hydration station was installed in the lobby of the Activity Center thanks to a student group sponsored by the organization "Take Back the Tap". By the end of 2015, **35 hydration stations were installed** in 28 buildings. Facilities and Services continues to install hydration stations all across campus, helping us to decrease the waste that goes to the landfill, by using our own reusable water bottles thus saving the university money in "tipping fees". Go to <https://sustainability.nmsu.edu/hydration-stations/> to find out the



Filling up at Business Complex north hallway



Williams Hall hydration station off main entrance

# Green Aggies



OoS sponsored a poster-making party using re-used materials. This is from Mia, an 8-year old who wanted to do her part for Mother Earth.



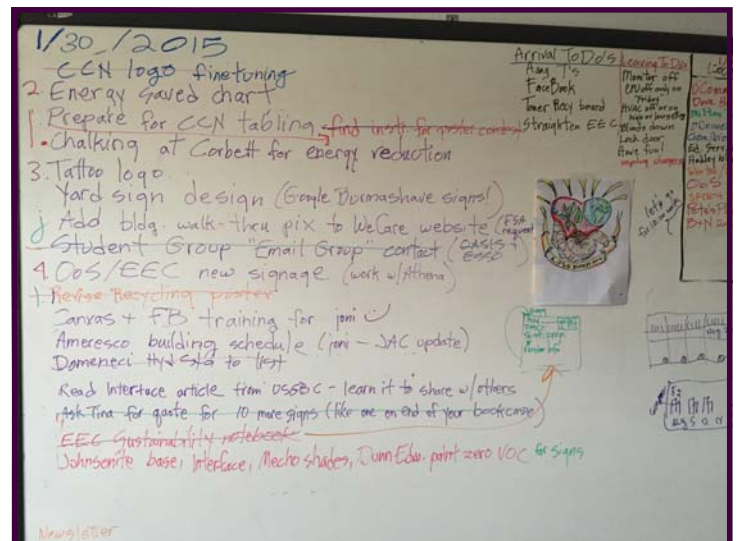
Growing tomatoes, sunflowers, and squash at Environmental Education Center Garden



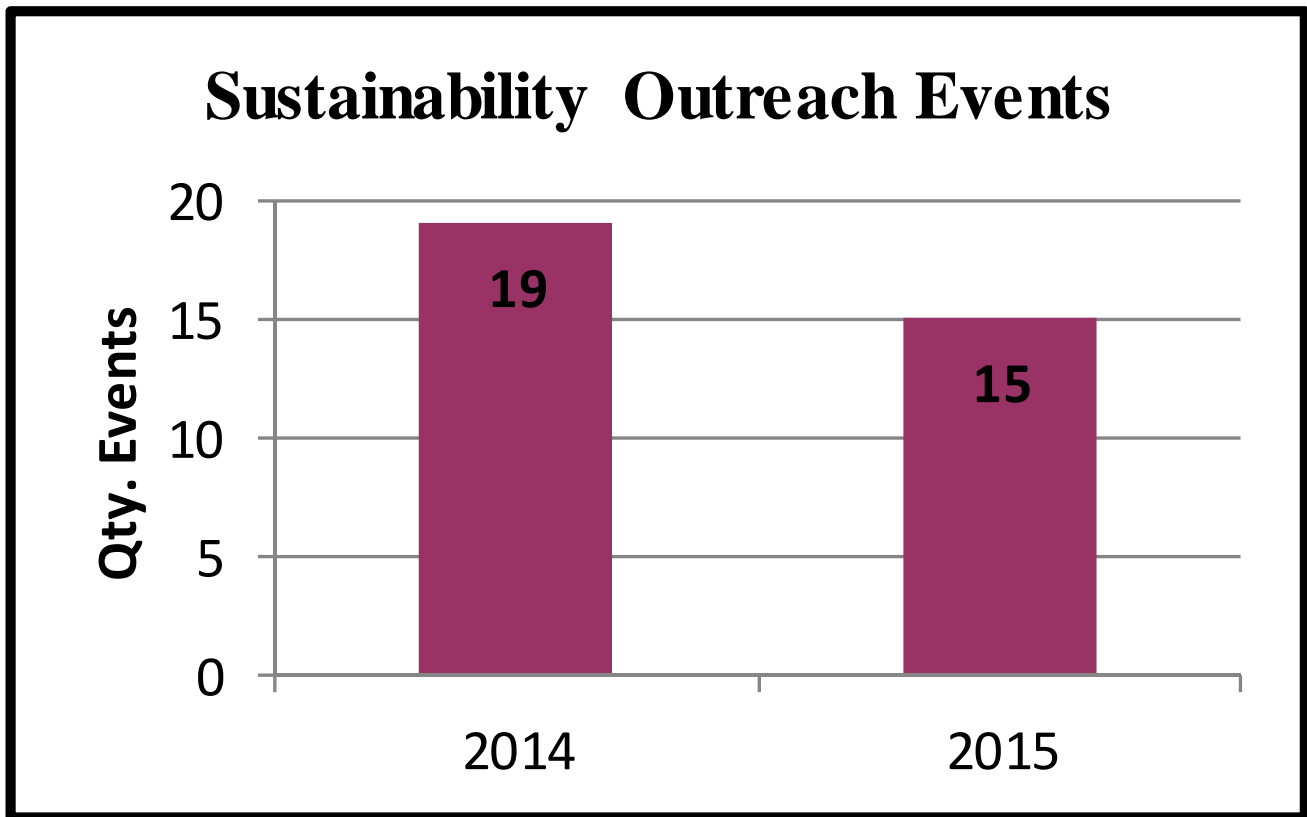
The folks in Foster Hall doing their part to reuse and share



Mark Blachford giving a tour of the Strickland Co-Generation Plant



No lack of things to do at the Environmental Education Center!



The Office of Sustainability reaches out regularly to people and organizations in the community. Here are a few 2015 highlights:

- **DACC Architecture Discovery Camp** - joni sat on the introductory panel and presented on sustainability and green design for middle and high school students during this summer camp where students learn about green building and design.
- Participated in “**Discussing the Future of Water in El Paso del Norte Region**” organized by the Hunt Institute for Global Competitiveness and the Center for Environmental Resource Management (CERM) at UTEP
- Spoke to several NMSU classes and groups about ways to **be a Green Aggie** (Residence Housing Assoc., Ecology Club, Geology 120)
- Supported the **STAR Community** certification process with the City of Las Cruces Sustainability Officer
- **Chaired the Programs Committee** for the Sustainability Council coordinating guest speakers
- Participated in a national **PeopleTowels research study** on waste reduction on campus using reusable towels instead of paper towels

## Join the Fun! Learn about Sustainability at NMSU!



Jamie Lakey talking about Bike Share Program



An active discussion with Marianne McLaughlin, the nutritionist from our local Natural Grocers store

### Council Leadership Team

The Council Leadership Team consists of all volunteers. **We are always looking for people to join us and help make a difference for the planet.** To volunteer on the Council please contact joni newcomer, Sustainability Manager, at [newcomer@nmsu.edu](mailto:newcomer@nmsu.edu)

**Our meetings in 2015 - 2016 are every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month 8:30 - 9:30 AM in Milton Hall Room 85.**

2015 Sustainability Council Programs		
Date	Topic/Company	Speaker
Jan. 14	Welcome back!	Council members
Feb. 11	Sapphire Energy - Biofuels	Rebecca White, PhD
Mar. 11	Campus Sustainability Update	joni newcomer, ND
Apr. 8	Eating and Growing Local/The Farmery	Ben Greene
May 13	Ameresco at NMSU	Michael Boyer
June 10	Sustainability update	Council members
July 8	Food and Health/Natural Grocers	Marianne McLaughlin
Aug. 12	Group discussion	Council members
Sept. 9	Drought in the Rio Grande Valley	Joe Savage
Oct. 14	Planning for the Council's future	David Boje
Nov. 11	STARS report discussion	Council members
Dec. 9	Christmas party!	Council members

In 2015 we had five speakers share their knowledge with us. We had one speaker on Adobe Connect as he was calling from North Carolina (no travel - no GHG emissions!). The programs are free and everyone is welcome. **If you would like to be a speaker for the Council** please contact Programs Chair, joni newcomer at 646-7563 or [newcomer@nmsu.edu](mailto:newcomer@nmsu.edu)

# 2015 in Pictures



Facilities and Services and ASNMSU volunteers make PB&J sandwiches for the Community of Hope sponsored by Sodexo



Sustainability manager volunteering time with Cruceño Cleanup, a local organization that cleans up trash around the city.



The International Club volunteered for sustainability

“Humans build their societies around consumption of fossil water long buried in the earth, and these societies, being based on temporary resources, face the problem of being temporary themselves.”

- Chuck Bowden



DACC Architecture Camp students visit the EEC



Our electric vehicle packed up and ready to go for tabling to new students for AggieFest freshmen welcome event.

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**Go Aggies! Go Green!**

# Acknowledgements

## Special thanks to the following people:

NMSU Board of Regents  
 Glen Haubold  
 José Cerna  
 Pat Chavez  
 Dale Harrell  
 Michelle Lebsock  
 Suzanne Montes

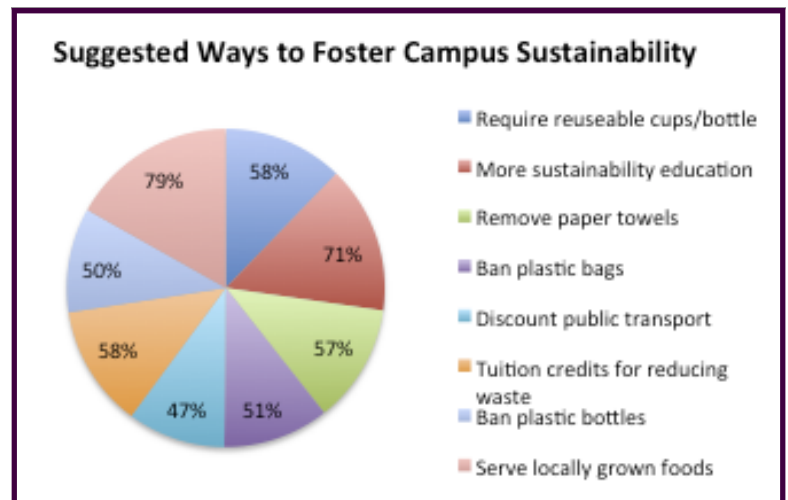
## Individuals

Jocelyn Apodaca	Mother Nature
Mike Boyer	Luis Rios
George Davis	Lulu Saenz
Pat DeSimeo	David Shearer
Tim Dobson	Dario Silva
Arianna Espinoza	Caroline Stapleton
Candace Gilfillan	Bryan Tempel
Dael Goodman	Mark Uchanski
Miley Grandjean	Shelly White
Joyce Gosnell	
Niki Harings	
Doug Hill	
Josh Hittle	
Jack Kirby	
Avinash Kuna	
Mike Luchau	
Bryan Murphy	

## Thanks to the following organizations:

OASIS (Organization of Aggie Students Inspiring Sustainability)  
 ESSO (Environmental Science Student Organization)  
 The Central and Satellite Utility Plant operators  
 Sustainability Council volunteers  
 Facilities and Services (FS)

The longer I am in this position the more I see how many of you are doing environmental work out front as well as behind the scenes. My deepest thanks to you all!



There is always more to do - I encourage you to get involved like the folks on this page and help *be the change* at NMSU!

“As many know, the Chinese expression for ‘crisis’ consists of two characters side by side. The first is the symbol for ‘danger,’ the second the symbol for ‘opportunity.’”

- Al Gore