

# Beloit


## Campus Sustainability Map

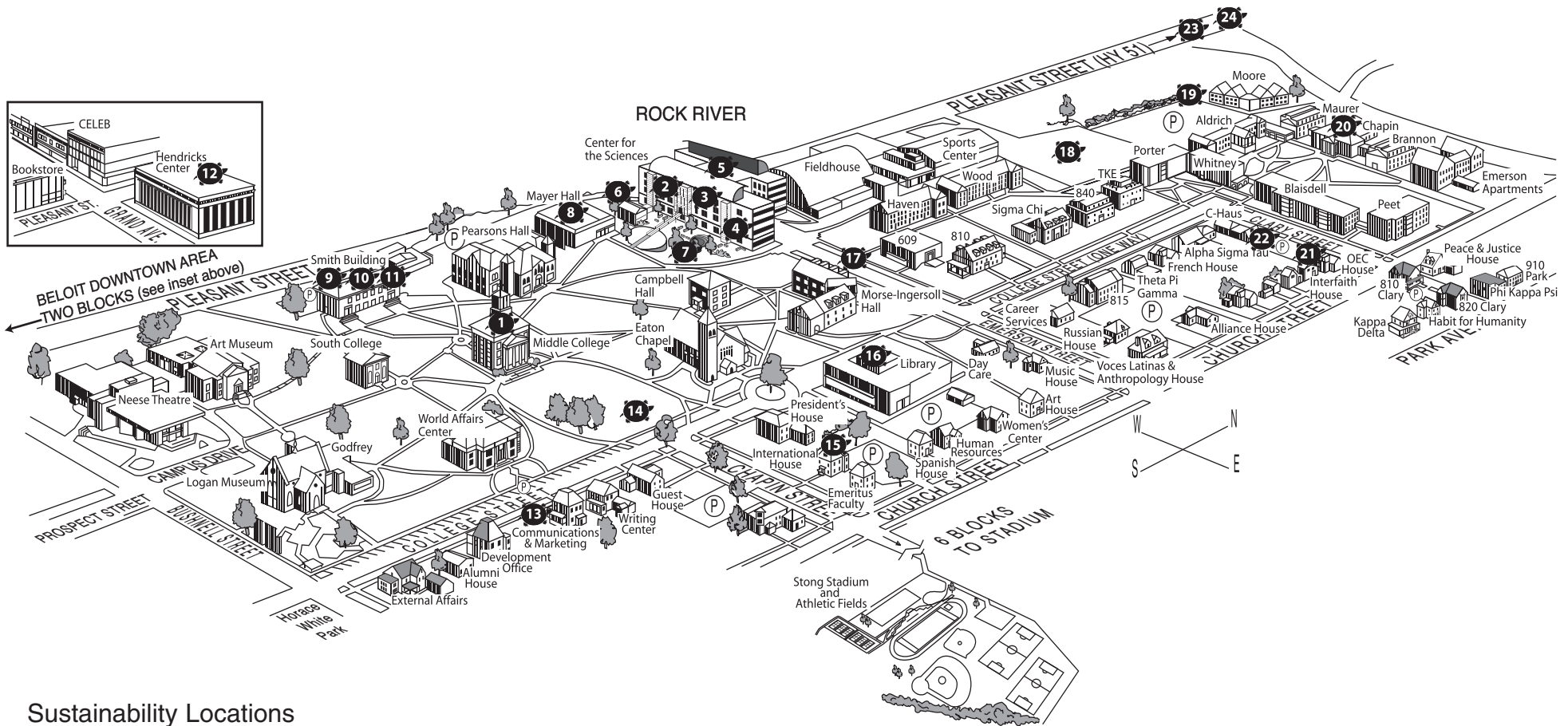


**College**

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I strongly support the current and future sustainable activities at Beloit College. I believe that there are both economic and educational reasons for enhancing efforts to identify sustainability projects. Of particular interest to me are projects that meet reasonable cost-benefit tests; curricular opportunities that introduce environmental issues into courses in a variety of disciplines; and research projects that expand our understanding of the complex interplay between environmental systems and environmental policy.

  
~President Scott Bierman



### Sustainability Locations

- |   |   |  |                                   |
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| 3 Center for the Sciences                   | 9 Campus recycling program                  | 15 Office of International Education (OIE) | 21 Outdoor Environment Club (OEC) |
| 4 Green Touchscreen kiosk                   | 10 Environmentally conscious infrastructure | 16 Morse Library                           | 22 Compost bins                   |
| 5 Green roof                                | 11 Green housekeeping                       | 17 Green streets                           | 23 Newark Road Prairie            |
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(Over)

## 1 Middle College

Middle College exemplifies Beloit College's commitment to its history and to sustainability through restoration and adaptive reuse. As the first College building, Middle College has housed classrooms, students, and administrative activities since 1846. Three models that show how Middle College has "changed its dress" through time with different facades may be viewed on the second floor of the building. Portions of the campus sit within the College Park Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. (5, 10)

## 2 Environmentally related majors and minors

Students interested in environmental studies may select among four majors: Environmental Studies, Environmental Biology, Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Geology, and three minors: Environmental Studies, Biology and Society, and Geology. The College offers many courses that relate to sustainability, and students may pursue a variety of sustainability related projects in classes and internships and through study-abroad programs and independent research. (1, 5)

## 3 Center for the Sciences

The Center for the Sciences provides 116,000 square feet of environmentally responsible, LEED-certified teaching and research space. The building houses the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Physics, and Psychology, as well as the Environmental Studies, Health and Society, and Modeling and Visualization programs. Self-guided green-tour brochures are available in the first-floor atrium of the building. (5)

## 4 Green Touchscreen Kiosk

The "Green Screen" provides access to real-time information about electricity, natural gas, and chilled water usage in the Center for the Sciences with weekly, monthly, and yearly summaries. (6)

## 5 Green roof

The green roof on the Center for the Sciences reduces stormwater runoff by holding up to one inch of rainfall. The planting modules contain a variety of sedum plants in a lightweight medium, providing insulation and prolonging the life of the roof membrane by reducing thermal cycling and absorbing ultra-violet light. (11, 16)

## 6 Greenhouse cistern

Rainwater from some of the non-green portions of the Center for the Sciences roof collects in the greenhouse cistern. This water is used to irrigate plants in the greenhouse. (11)

## 7 Center for the Sciences oak savanna

The oak savanna landscaping south of the Center for the Sciences echoes the 1836 Wisconsin Public Land Survey description of the campus area, "Timber White Black & Bur Oak undergrowth same with grass ..." The oak savanna replaces the former science building, Chamberlin Hall, which served the campus for more than 40 years. During deconstruction, 8,604 tons of building materials (96.8% of the building weight) were recycled or reused. (8, 13, 19)

## 8 Information Services and Resources (ISR)

Information Services and Resources (ISR) promotes campus communication through the Web, buys energy-conserving computers, monitors, and printers that can print on both sides of the page, and sends used machines to Paul's Computer Institute in Bamenda, Cameroon. ISR also helps faculty use Moodle and other electronic resources to communicate with students, reducing the amount of paper used for printing. Computers in labs automatically shut down each night and remain off until they are started by the first user of the day. Information on green computing practices appears at <http://www.beloit.edu/isr/campuscomputing/greencomputing/>. (5, 15)

## 9 Campus recycling program

Beloit College collects paper, plastic, cans, and glass in readily available blue bins. In fiscal year 2009, the campus recycled 76 tons of these materials, representing 15% of the waste stream. An additional 32 tons of yard waste was composted through Rock County Disposal. During "move-out" in the spring, students exchange items through "give and take" boxes. After the residence halls close, remaining items are sorted and usable items are given to a local charity. (3, 4)

## 10 Environmentally conscious infrastructure

Beloit College has saved substantial amounts of energy by replacing all of its fluorescent light fixtures and bulbs and decentralizing steam production. The new light fixtures use substantially less electricity than those they replaced. The new boilers are more efficient than the old steam plant, and heat is no longer lost from long transmission pipes, which could be detected in the past winters by their lack of snow coverage. These projects have saved the campus almost \$1.5 million in the four years since they were installed. The campus also uses low-flow heads in all showers, saving both water and energy. (3, 14)

## 11 Green housekeeping

Housekeepers use environmentally conscious cleaning products in the Center for the Sciences. The Physical Plant intends to implement similar procedures on the rest of campus in the future. (3)

## 12 Hendricks Center

In fall 2010, the campus will open the 48,000 square-foot Hendricks Center to house music, dance, and other educational activities. Beloit's former public library, located downtown, is being completely renovated for this purpose. (5)

## 13 Office of Communications and Marketing

*Beloit College Magazine* and many other College publications are conceived of, created, and produced in the Office of Communications and Marketing. Since it was redesigned in late 2007, the magazine has been printed with a Forest Stewardship Council-certified printer on at least 30% post-consumer recycled paper. As the office that processes the bulk of requests for printing, Communications and Marketing staff members work conscientiously to reduce the quantity of printed copies when possible and to consider the best options for recycled paper in all printed projects. (12)

## 14 Indian mounds

Preservation and study of the 20 Native American mounds on the Beloit campus began shortly after the College founding. Beloit College is committed to careful stewardship of the campus' natural and cultural landscape. (10)

## 15 Office of International Education (OIE)

The Office of International Education employs sustainability practices in its operations and programming, using electronic rather than print communications, recycling, and local vendors. Through the application process and other means, the office encourages students to anticipate their impact on local environments, cultures, and people when they study away from campus. U.S. and international students are encouraged to exercise humility and respect in their engagement with the communities in which they are temporary visitors and to mitigate the negative impacts of travel, particularly by air, to other communities and countries. When they return home, students are encouraged to think about ways they can continue to explore and apply lessons about sustainability. (5, 7)

## 16 Morse Library

Library services such as reserves, electronic journal subscriptions, digital image collections, and the general collection allow resource sharing and reduce unnecessary copying and duplication. Library users control stack and desk lighting, reducing electricity usage to times that lighting is needed. As spaces are renovated, occupancy sensors are installed to control room lighting. Newly constructed seminar and reading room spaces have low volatile organic compound (VOC) carpet and paint and are furnished with low-environmental impact or recycled materials. (17)

## 17 Green streets

Grass pavers flanking a concrete pathway provide a pedestrian-oriented green street, absorb rainfall, and permit access to the Center for the Sciences. (8, 11)

## 18 Campus landscaping

New campus landscaping emphasizes the campus' historical connections to oak savanna and prairie ecosystems. Vegetated low spots called bioswales collect and retain stormwater runoff from Aldrich Field and recently built parking lots. Physical Plant personnel manage the more than 900 trees on campus to maintain their health, minimize damage caused by the gypsy moth population, and prevent mowing damage by maintaining a bare area around each tree. (3, 8, 11)

## 19 Campus vegetable garden

The campus vegetable garden is maintained by students and Food Service staff. Tomatoes and other vegetables are served in the Chapin Hall/Commons dining hall. (2, 18)

## 20 Food Service

Food Service uses locally produced food when it is available, including vegetables from the campus vegetable garden. The Chapin Hall/Commons dining hall introduced trayless dining in fall 2008, which reduced post-dining waste by 35%. DKs and the Java Joint use disposable, cornstarch-based eating utensils, sugarcane-based plates and soup cups, and java sleeves made of unbleached recycled paper in place of less sustainable alternatives. (2, 18)

## 21 Outdoor Environment Club (OEC)

The mission of the Outdoor Environment Club (OEC) is to initiate and facilitate campus dialogue and education on environmental/outdoor issues. The club has a coed house of nine students at 722 Clary St. and runs campus activities throughout the year. (5)

## 22 Compost bins

Five compost bins for raw vegetable material can be found near these special interest houses: Outdoor Environmental Club House, Spanish House, Interfaith House, Peace House, and Music House. All community members may place fruit and vegetable waste in these containers. This project was funded by the Student Activities Capital Fund. (9)

## 23 Newark Road Prairie

Newark Road Prairie is an exceptionally fine remnant of the virgin prairie that originally covered the landscape of the Beloit region. This property is located eight miles northwest of Beloit and consists of 32.5 acres that vary from wet to wet-mesic and harbor more than 300 species of flowering plants, plus many of the small mammals that inhabit southern Wisconsin. Two endangered and one threatened plant species are preserved on this site. Since its purchase by the Nature Conservancy and subsequent transfer of title to Beloit College, the prairie has served as an outdoor classroom for field exercises of many courses and as a research site for many student and faculty projects. (1)

## 24 Chamberlin Springs

Chamberlin Springs, a 50-acre tract of oak and hickory woodland located five miles northwest of the city, was given to the College in 1946 as a wildlife sanctuary for the use of students in their studies and as a recreational area for students and faculty. It serves as an outdoor laboratory, especially for studies in geology and biology, and occasionally for art projects. It is named for the world renowned geologist, Thomas C. Chamberlin, class of 1866, and his family. (1)

## Sources of information:

1. Beloit College catalog
2. Beloit College Food Service
3. Beloit College Physical Plant
4. Beloit College Residential Life
5. Beloit College Web site ([www.beloit.edu](http://www.beloit.edu))
6. Beloit Green Touchscreen ([science.beloit.greentouchscreen.com](http://science.beloit.greentouchscreen.com))
7. Elizabeth Brewer, Director, Office of International Education, Beloit College
8. Civitas, Beloit College Master Plan
9. Gillian Cook-Kuhnhausen, Small-scale Composting Project at Beloit College
10. William Green, Director, Logan Museum of Anthropology
11. Yaffa Grossman, Professor of Biology, Beloit College
12. Susan Kasten, Editor, Beloit College Magazine
13. Madison Environmental Group, Reuse Phase, Chamberlin Hall Deconstruction
14. John Nicholas, Vice President for Administration, Beloit College
15. Kelly Scott, Assistant Director of Information Technology, Beloit College
16. Brock Spencer, Kohnstamm Professor of Chemistry, Beloit College
17. Lisa Viezbicke, Assistant Director for Library Services, Beloit College
18. John Winkelmann, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residential Life and Conferences
19. Wisconsin Public Land Survey ([digicoll.library.wisc.edu](http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu))

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