

Residence Life DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

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The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) is the leading association advancing sustainability-related issues within higher education institutions. They host a variety of workshops, webinars, an annual conference, and an online resource center for institutions to work towards creating a more sustainable world.

Texas A&M is an active member of AASHE and reporter to STARS. The university also sends a delegation each year to AASHE from a variety of departments, including Residence Life. The university has also had many staff and students present at AASHE through posters and presentation sessions.

AASHE Mission: To inspire and catalyze higher education to lead the global sustainability transformation

AASHE Vision: AASHE will lead higher education to be a foundation for a thriving, equitable and ecologically healthy world

Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System

The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) was developed by AASHE. It is a framework for higher education institutions to measure and report on their sustainability efforts. STARS has over 900 registered institutions across the

globe who are ranked from bronze to platinum (there is also a reporter level where an institution is not given a ranking). The system covers a multitude of areas for institutions to report on from education to



campus engagement to institutional policy and purchasing. Texas A&M's Office of Sustainability has submitted four different STARS reports since 2012. For the past two years, A&M has received a gold rating and are on the cusp of achieving the highest rating possible, platinum. You can find the current and past reports submitted for Texas A&M at https://stars.aashe.org/institutions/texas-amuniversity-tx/report/.

Events in April*:

4/6 & 4/7 - 12th Can Open - 10 am to 4:30 pm
4/11 - Culture Club Dinner at D'Vine Cuisine
4/20 & 4/21 - 12th Can Open - 10 am to 4:30 pm
4/31 - Trex Plastic Film Challenge Officially closes
*Specifics & additional events at https://reslife.tamu.edu/living/sustainability

Conference and Expo

AASHE hosts an annual conference and expo in the fall, typically mid- to late October. Higher education institutions from around the world gather together to discuss challenges and solutions to promoting and incorporating sustainability into the everyday functions of their college or university. The conference has a variety of sustainability-related topics that are presented as informational sessions and posters.

During the course of the conference, there is an expo with dozens of products and services for attendees to see. Companies come to present their products, such as recycling bins and electric, alternative transportation options, for students, faculty, and staff to look at and test while they are attending the conference. Many of the recycling bins you see around campus are showcased at each AASHE conference.

Get in Contact with AASHE Facebook: AASHE Twitter: @AASHENews Website: www.aashe.org



Get in Contact with Res Life Sustainability

Email: <u>sustainability@housing.tamu.edu</u> Instagram: Texas A&M Residence Life Facebook: Aggies Going Green Twitter: @TAMUResLife Webpage: <u>https://reslife.tamu.edu/living/sustainability</u>