

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Green Team?

The Green Team is a network of faculty and staff volunteers across Wake Forest University who are leading the grassroots transition to a more sustainable campus. The network provides an opportunity to collaborate with peers to develop creative and practical ways to incorporate sustainable principles into the workplace.

How much of a time commitment is serving as a Green Team captain?

A Green Team captain is asked to attend an hour-long orientation and quarterly hour-long meetings that are hosted by the Office of Sustainability. Apart from those scheduled gatherings, captains' responsibilities consist of sharing at least one practical idea with the members of the department monthly, responding to inquiries that department members have about sustainability campaigns on campus, and any additional departmental projects that a captain's supervisor approves.

What responsibilities does a Green Team captain have?

The Green Team captain's primary role is to empower his/her peers to adopt more sustainable practices and to provide a forum for exploring workplace-appropriate alternatives to current practices. The role can be adapted to meet the needs and level of commitment in each department. Resources and monthly campaign ideas will be developed by the Office of Sustainability to provide guidance to captains and departments.

Does the Green Team captain have to have prior experience/knowledge?

No. After you have selected one or more captains for your department, we will invite them to attend an hour-long orientation offered by the Office of Sustainability. In addition to the initial orientation, the captain(s) will continue to learn through quarterly gatherings, and discussion forums hosted on the team's Sakai project site.

What resources are available to support captains?

The Green Team captains will have access to a variety of resources on the Green Team Sakai project site. Resources include sustainable purchasing guidelines, energy reduction tips, how-to guidelines, and presentation materials. Additional resources will be made available, depending upon the nature of the monthly campaign ideas introduced by the Office of Sustainability. Captains will always have access to Office of Sustainability staff members, who can help answer questions and provide additional resources, as needed.

How will participation in the Green Team affect my department's work flow?

Adoption of sustainable practices should not distract members of your department from meeting preexisting goals or cause interruptions to work flow. Though change can sometimes be challenging for individuals and organizations, the long-term effects of participation should increase the overall efficiency and effectiveness of departmental and campus-wide operations.

What benefits come from participating?

Participating departments will be officially recognized on the Office of Sustainability website. Captains will be identified with placards, acknowledging their efforts to support change in their departments. The public display of your office's efforts will likely be seen in a positive light, by both internal and external visitors. Financial compensation is not available for volunteer captains or departments, and mechanisms are not currently in place to return financial savings incurred by more efficient practices, like energy savings. However, more effective use of the university's resources provides savings that benefit all members of the Wake Forest community.