

PCC Sustainability Update March 2026

This is the text for the PCC Sustainability updated for FY 2025, dated March 2026. The original pdf is not numbered, but they are ordered from left to right and top to bottom in two rows. The original pdf has an icon for each area type to represent that area.

1. **Climate Action:** Since 2006, PCC has reduced its direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions from Building Operations by **60%** from **22,959 Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (MTCO₂e)** to **9,174 MTCO₂e**.
2. **Energy Management:** PCC has decreased its building energy use by over **62%** per square foot since 2006. Strategic Energy Management and green building efforts led the college to save over \$1.1 million in FY 2025 alone.
3. **Events:** In 2025, PCC hosted over 500+ guests at the Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference. PCC also annually organizes on-campus events such as Earth Week and Harvest Fest.
4. **Green Building:** PCC's green buildings provide environmental benefits while providing cost savings, a win-win for the college. These employ clean energy technology, six solar arrays and advanced stormwater technology.
5. **Ecosocial Justice Grant:** Students have provided over \$1.2 million for sustainability projects through the EcoSocial Justice Grant.
6. **Renewable Energy:** With community solar and renewable energy purchases, and onsite solar arrays, PCC is replacing about half of its grid electric utility purchases with 100% solar and wind power.
7. **Resiliency:** At PCC, resiliency takes an intersectional approach to ecological health, wellness and belonging, supported by initiatives like the Basic Needs Sustainability and Leadership student program.
8. **Electrification:** PCC is transitioning college vehicles to electric. Over 24% of the miles traveled by the college's fleet were in electric vehicles, with another 7% in hybrid vehicles.
9. **Ecological Stewardship:** PCC is Bee Campus and Tree Campus USA certified. Our grounds and the Rock Creek Environmental Studies Center are home to about 15,000 trees.
10. **Learning Gardens:** PCC has learning gardens on each of its four main campuses, which provide food for the college's food pantries, hands-on learning and community engagement. PCC also supports a community garden at the Newberg Center.
11. **Sustainable Transportation:** PCC supports inter-campus shuttles, access to frequent service bus routes, subsidized transit passes for students, bike rental and repair shops, carpool programs, and electric vehicle charging stations.
12. **Waste Management:** PCC has composted nearly 1.7 million lbs and recycled just over 10.7 million lbs since 2012. This is due in part to our many specialty waste diversion programs, including plastic film, electronic waste, pens and markers, batteries and free food alert.

13. **Sustainability Education:** PCC offers over 145 sustainability courses across 46 departments, a Sustainability Focus Award and technical degrees in areas such as Landscape Technology.
14. **STARS Rating:** In 2025, PCC earned a gold rating for sustainability from AASHE STARS, a rating system that tracks sustainability across the college in areas such as curricular and co-curricular education, operations and planning.