Trinity College Dublin is committed to being a global leader in university sustainability and is a certified European ‘Green Flag’ campus since 2013.

Each student is heartily encouraged to employ environmentally preferable habits both on and off campus in order to minimise our collective environmental impact, thus creating a more just, healthy and sustainable world to live in.

To date, Trinity has reduced water use by 45%, energy consumption by 28%, and recycles 49% of our waste. Less than 3% of our students commute by car. We have set even higher targets to continue to reduce our environmental impact further. Your participation in sustainable work and life habits can help us to further our conservation measures.

Change starts with you! Check out the ‘Lazy Person’s Guide to Saving the World’ by the United Nations, a fun, easy guideline to living a more environmentally friendly life.

Committed to Sustainability.

Sustainability Champions: Trinity has established a group of sustainability champions, known as the Sustainability Champions, who know the best environmental habits to adopt or are eager to learn. Our champions help to spread the word and educate peers as well as report back on the wins and innovations that are spread across Trinity sites. To join up, contact mhallaha@tcd.ie.

Students’ Union: The Students’ Union has an Environmental Officer who can connect students into events, activities and groups around environmental issues. Contact environmental@tcdsu.org (for undergraduate students) or environmental@tcdsu.org (for graduate students) to find out how you can get more involved.

Green Week: Trinity has established an annual event in February to highlight, educate and celebrate all things environmental! This is coordinated by the Students’ Union, various Societies and the Green Campus Committee, and supported by Estates and Facilities and other departments. For more information, visit https://www.tcd.ie/provost/sustainability/
It takes energy to process, filter and transport fresh drinking water so be mindful of your use of water. Conserve water consciously, and conserve whenever you can.

Cooking

Did you know that it takes 4 - 14 litres of water to make a little bottle of drinking water? Save money and precious water resources by refilling your own reusable water bottle at the water fountains across campus. Savings – up to €400 per year. Use refillable drinking water to water plants, indoors and out!

At home

Red warm water consumption by not letting the tap run when you wash dishes by hand or brush your teeth to reduce water. Take shorter showers and only boil the amount of water you need rather than a full kettle (this saves on energy too).

Landry

Run the washer only when full, and wash with cold water as much as possible so that the energy would not be used to heat the water. Modern electric dryers are designed to work as well with cold water as with hot water.

Glass Recycling

Trinity recycles all glass bottles and jars, including their glass lanterns. Please put your clean, rinsed and dry empty bottles in the green bins around campus and other Trinity locations, noted here: Recycling Map.

Power Management

Equipment in standby mode still consumes energy, so whenever possible, turn off computers, monitors, printers (e.g. speakers) and other shared electronic equipment (e.g. printers, copiers, coffee makers, etc.) at the end of the day. Simple actions like using a blank screen saver, tightening up equipment and more.

Rubbish

Recycle clean (i.e. not contaminated with food particles) dried, empty containers in the red bin, including clean lab glassware.

Leaks

Water leaks waste water AND energy. It takes energy to pump water around those pipes. DIY solutions don’t always work, so if you have reported a leak, report any water leaks (including water running from taps) at Trinity (in your block or at the Estates office) or call extension 4000.

Rental

Is there a seawater or swab to swap by up three devices, rather than using it, so you can use a pair of shoes during winter?

Phone chargers do their job in about 2 hours, but leaving the phone continuously plugged in continues to consume electricity. Unplug once it is charged. Phone chargers do their job in about 2 hours, but leaving the phone continuously plugged in continues to consume electricity. Unplug once it is charged.

Bottled water is a bad idea. It takes up to 7 litres of water to make 1 litre of drinking water. Did you know that it takes 4 - 14 litres of water to make a little bottle of drinking water? Save money and precious water resources by refilling your own reusable water bottle at the water fountains across campus. Savings – up to €400 per year. Use refillable drinking water to water plants, indoors and out!