Get involved.

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 and staff member 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 40%, energy consumption by 23%, and recycles 49% of our waste. Like the vast majority of our students, community of care: We have set even higher targets to increase our environmental impact further. Your participation in sustainable work and life habits can help us to further drive 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 read to kick off an environmentally friendly life.

Committed to Sustainability.

Trinity Green Pages: The Green Pages is your one stop shop for all things environmental and sustainable. Check out Green Week (a festival of environmental events held annually), our Recycling page, the Green Campus Committee and other resources as follows:

Green Campus Committee: The Green Campus Committee comprises students, staff and faculty, united by the desire to make Trinity a leader in sustainability in the university world. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at 1pm in the Civil Engineering Library in the Museum Building. Contact: dhackett@tcd.ie for more information.

Enviro Soc: The Environmental Society is a student group which organises environmental events, activities and political actions. Contact: envirosoc@tcd.ie to find out more.

Sustainability Champions: Trinity has established a group of sustainability champions, mavens who know the best environmental habits to adopt or share. Our champions help to disseminate and instill good habits as we work towards new and environmentally friendly ways of living.

Students’ Union: The Student’s Union has an Environmental Officer who can connect students into events, activities and groups around environmental issues. Contact: environment@tcdsu.org (for undergraduates) or environment@tcdgsu.ie (for postgraduates) 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 Student’s 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 food and drink, so be mindful of your use. Conserve water, conserve and conserve whenever you can.

Regardless of the type of energy source your home uses, there are easy ways to reduce your consumption and lower your overall energy footprint.

Drinking Water
Did you know that it takes at least 1.4 litres of water to make 1 litre of drinking water? Save money and precious water resources by filtering your own reusable water bottle at the water fountains across campus.

Closing all windows, blinds and curtains in the evening to reduce heat loss from your room, as well as the need for temperature adjustments, so if your room seems too hot or cold, please call the Estates and Facilities Service Desk at extension 4000 first, or email estatesandfacilities@tcd.ie before reporting the problem and have it addressed.

Consideration for reuse
Recycle all plastic containers and bottles, aluminium cans and jars. Please put your clean, rinsed & dried, empty containers in the green bins around campus. (Find the ‘Trinity 3’ locations, noted here: Recycling Map)

At home
Reduce water consumption by not letting the tap run as you wash dishes by hand or brush your teeth. Use a basin to minimise water use. Take shorter showers and only boil the amount of water you need rather than a full kettle (this saves on energy too).

Leaks
Water leaks waste water AND energy. If it takes energy to pump water around those pipes, then it takes energy to transport those leaks. If the issue (or issue beyond your building) has been reported, a leak report any water leaks (including those in windows at Trinity) (Industries or Nicky's) to the Water Office (Level 1) or call extension 4000.

In the bathroom
Remove the toilet seat when not in use, so that it is not continuously flushing water into the system. These systems are not always designed to save water.

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Kitchen
At home
Run the washer only when full, and wash with cold water as much as possible. Modern detergents are designed to work as well with cold water as with hot water.

Power Management
Equipment in standby mode still consumes energy, so wherever possible, turn off computers, monitors, peripherals (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 screenavers, leaving your computer/apple/paperless powermode, intentionally filling the kettle and turning your shower down for as little as possible to warm up, all help.

Optimise heat
Some older buildings don’t have the thermal properties of a modern building, and may need temperature adjustments, so if your room seems too hot or cold, please call the Estates and Facilities Service Desk at extension 4000 first, or email estatesandfacilities@tcd.ie before reporting the problem and have it addressed.

Lighting
Unplug once it is charged.

Drinking Water
Did you know that it takes at least 1.4 litres of water to make 1 litre of drinking water? Save money and precious water resources by filtering your own reusable water bottle at the water fountains across campus. Savings – up to €600 per year.

User leftover drinking water to water plants, indoors and out.

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