

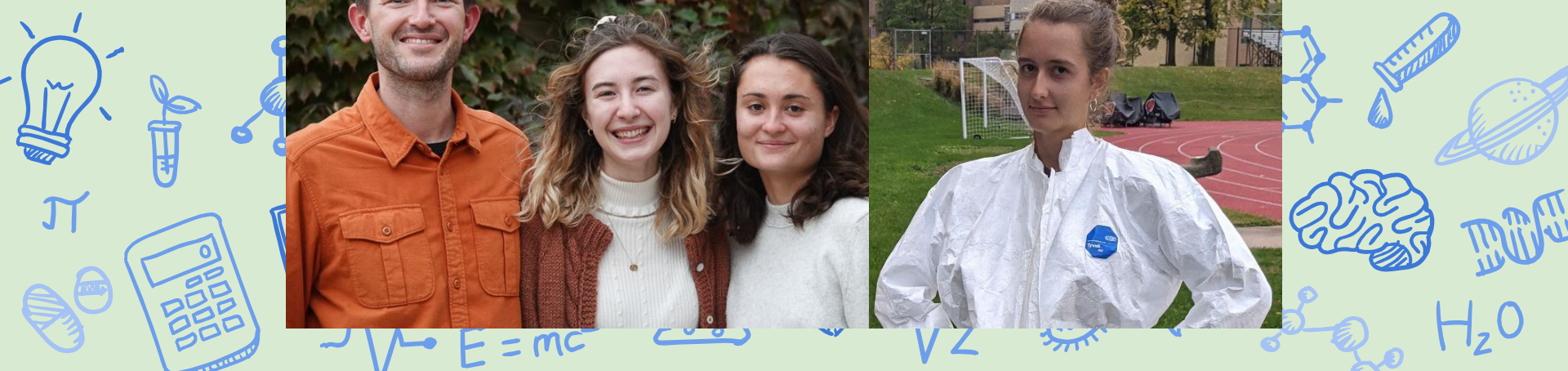
UW-Madison Green Labs Team & Program



Green Labs
UW-MADISON OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY



Office of Sustainability
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



About the Team & the Certification Program

~ 10 staff members



~ 15 student interns

~ 10 intern teams

Student Intern Program



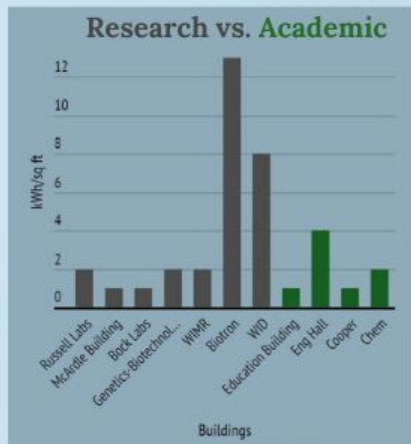
Suzie Kazar

- Green Labs team (and lab certification program) began in 2018/2019
- Grassroots certification program
- Team members consult with campus labs to complete a certification checklist
- Also perform research related to labs & sustainability

ELECTRICITY USE In Labs Across Campus

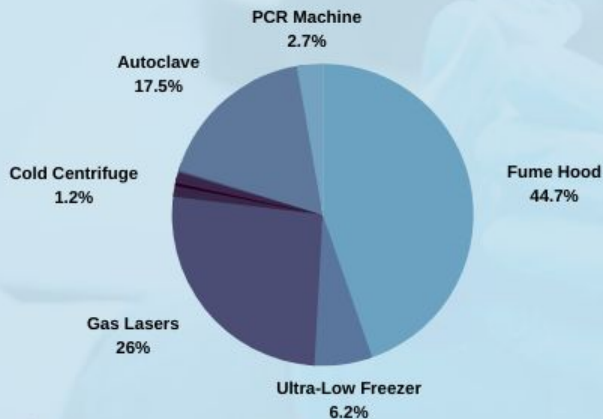


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Academic vs. Research Buildings

On average, research buildings use approximately 2.5 kilowatt hours per square foot more than academic buildings.



Lab Equipment

Research labs require many energy intensive machines, leader to higher energy use than academic buildings (source: USCS Sustainability).

Top 10 Tips to Green Your Lab

- 1 Shut the Sash**
One fume hood can use as much energy as three homes.
- 2 Maintain Your Freezers**
Free up space and reduce energy use by cleaning out freezers and discarding old samples.
- 3 Recycle**
Recycle nitrile gloves, pipette trays, and old electronics and batteries.
- 4 Separate Your Waste**
Obtain the proper bins for your lab so you can divert material from the landfill.
- 5 Reduce Paper Use**
Reuse packaging materials and remove your lab from unnecessary mailing lists.
- 6 Update Your Chemical Inventory**
If you know what you have, you can avoid buying unnecessary extras.
- 7 Be Mercury-Free**
Whenever possible, use mercury-free equipment to prevent runoff into the water system.
- 8 Purchase Efficiently**
Whenever possible, buy Energy Star certified equipment.
- 9 Reduce Electricity Use**
Turn off lights when leaving the room and unplug equipment when not in use. Powerstrips make it easy!
- 10 Run When Full**
Only run dishwashers or autoclaves when they're full.

If you're interested in learning about how you can implement more sustainable practices in your teaching or research lab, please reach out to the Green Labs Team at greenlabs@g-groups.wisc.edu. We look forward to working with you!

Our Certification Program

Water and Energy
Conservation

Education and
Collaboration

Proper Waste
Disposal

Sustainable
Purchasing

Certification Program Process

1. Initial meeting & walkthrough of the lab
2. Access to checklist
 - a. Labs work on checklist with designated lead
 - b. Must complete 7/9 action item groups for certification
3. Check-ins with Green Labs team whenever questions or issues arise
4. Final walk-through of lab with Green Labs team
5. Certification (framed certificate & website shout-out)



Certification Program Impacts

- 6 labs have completed certification
 - ~100 employees
- 6 labs are completing certification
 - another ~100 employees
- Big pause during virtual instruction
- Recent swell of interest among campus labs
- No other impact metrics are currently being measured
 - labor-intensive (not insurmountable) to get granular data on lab energy/water/waste etc.
 - could be integrated into the certification process
- So.....My Green Lab?



Thanks!



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