

SUSTAINABILITY

Grounded in Place and Purpose

Since 1894, Warren Wilson College has grown from a farm school for boys into a four-year liberal arts institution committed to engaged learning, productive work, meaningful service, cross-cultural understanding and environmental responsibility that, together, form our sustainability foundation.

Sustainability Principles

- We acknowledge that a complex web of economic, social, cultural, spiritual and environmental factors determines the well-being of our community.
- We recognize our power as individuals, and in community, to influence these complex, interdependent relationships.
- We strive to make responsible decisions that take into account the multiple dimensions of sustainability in order to ensure quality of life now and for generations to come.



WORK

The Green Walkabout®
WARREN WILSON COLLEGE



ACADEMICS

The Triad: Sustainability in Action

Warren Wilson's educational program, the Triad, is singular in higher education. The Triad consists of three interwoven strands of experience: academics in the liberal arts tradition, a campus-wide work program, and service to the community.

Through the Triad, students gain a meaningful education that feeds their intellectual hunger and guides them to collaborate and solve complex problems during and after college. Led by faculty and staff, students learn how to implement environmentally and socially sound solutions in the classroom, in the forest and fields, and in the wider community—locally and internationally.



SERVICE

History

1893: The Presbyterian Church Women's Board of Home Missions purchases 420 acres in the Swannanoa Valley for a new mission school.



1967: Warren Wilson becomes a four-year liberal arts college.



1997: The Environmental Leadership Center is founded.



2006: WWC is recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education as the nation's leading sustainability college with under 1000 students.

2011: WWC sets a goal of 80% reduction in campus emissions by 2020 for climate-neutrality.

1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

1894: Asheville Farm School opens with 25 students and a staff of 3.



1942: Dorland-Bell School of Hot Springs merges with the Farm School to create Warren Wilson Vocational Junior College.



1980: The Environmental Studies Department is established.

2000: WWC signs the international Talloires Declaration, committing to broad and intensive sustainability programs.

2003: EcoDorm, the first dorm in the nation to receive LEED EB Platinum certification, is completed.



2007: WWC signs the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment to become a climate-neutral campus.