

SUSTAINABILITY AT WORK

Sustainable business practices play a key role in helping organizations achieve their triple bottom line of social responsibility, economic value, and reduced environmental impact. Businesses of all sizes have the ability to implement sustainable actions which benefit the company, its employees and customers, and the environment. When implementing sustainability practices, employee engagement is vital to ensure practices are understood, adopted, and maintained.

Below are some ways your business or organization can make a difference at work:



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Purchase ENERGY STAR equipment
- Schedule a Commercial Energy Audit
- Join the COSE Energy Choice Program, Cleveland 2030 District, and other initiatives focused on energy efficiency for businesses



CLEAN ENERGY

- Join EPA's Green Power Partnership
- Conduct a feasibility study for on-site renewable energy potential
- Purchase power from Icebreaker Wind, Cleveland's offshore wind project



LOCAL FOOD

- Offer Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) at your workplace
- Purchase local food for your workplace cafeteria
- Host a local food potluck or cooking contest at your workplace



ZERO WASTE

- Conduct a waste audit - learn more at a Business Recycling Workshop hosted by Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District
- Implement a workplace program for recycling and composting
- Host zero or reduced waste events and meetings



CLEAN WATER

- Sponsor or participate in an Adopt-A-Beach clean-up
- Install low flow water fixtures that are EPA WaterSense certified
- Install a rain cistern or garden, permeable pavement, or green roof to capture stormwater runoff and save money on your sewer bill
- Eliminate single-use bottles and serve tap water at meetings
- Track your water usage in real time through Cleveland Water Department's Clear Reads Program



TRANSPORTATION

- Provide electric vehicle charging stations
- Become a certified Bicycle Friendly Business or University
- Participate in the Commuter Choice Challenge
- Offer preferential parking to carpools or efficient vehicles
- Offer incentives for employees to ride RTA, UH Bikes, and other forms of sustainable transportation



VIBRANT GREEN SPACE

- Ensure green space with trees is at or near your facility
- Engage your employees in community efforts such as park clean-ups or Arbor Day events
- Plant trees and native vegetation to reduce impervious surfaces and help keep your building cool during high heat days



VITAL NEIGHBORHOODS & PEOPLE



- Encourage employees to volunteer and commute sustainably
- Learn how your neighborhood can take action with the Neighborhood Climate Action Toolkit
- Support the Cleveland Climate Action Fund or propose a neighborhood climate action project
- Start a green team in your organization
- Participate in the Annual Sustainable Cleveland Summit
- Share Sustainable Cleveland events and actions on social media

