

# KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

This year projects addressed various aspects of the campus food system. We addressed food production through expansions to Knox Farm, consumption by providing campus ways to create less waste from food events, and disposal with continued success in food recovery efforts and the return of compost collection in our dining spaces. The following annual report summarizes and highlights the successes achieved in sustainability during the 2018-2019 academic year.



## First in Food Organics

Knox participated once again in RecycleMania, a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for colleges and universities to promote waste reduction activities. For the second year in a row, Knox received first place in the Food Organics category.



## Food Forest

In celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, the Knox community came together to plant 15 fruit trees (apple, pear, and peach). In addition, raspberry plants and dogwood, persimmon, and hazelnut trees were planted soon after.



## Compost Returns

We were happy to welcome compost collection back to the Hard Knox Cafe and the Gizmo! After a brief hiatus, we now work with a vendor out of Peoria to collect and compost the food waste from food service areas.



## Reuse Kits

We saw the waste that comes from serving food at events and created a program that lends out plates, bowls, cups, and silverware for on-campus events. This collaboration with dining services provides clean, reusable dishes and eliminates the need to purchase disposables - cutting costs and waste!



# KNOX CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY 18-19 BY THE NUMBERS



**12,003**

pounds of food donated to local organizations and diverted from the landfill.



**91**

bikes in the Bike Share program.

**212**

bike loans processed.



**13,510**

pounds of still-good items diverted from the landfill. Items are used to stock the campus Share Shop and are donated to local organizations.

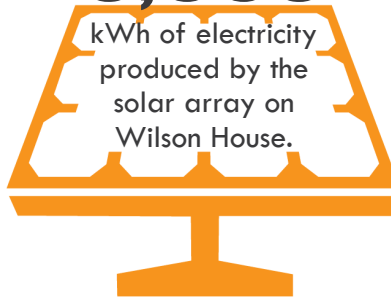
**2,755**

pounds of food grown by students on the Knox Farm for the Knox community.



**8,663**

kWh of electricity produced by the solar array on Wilson House.



**116.3**

tons recycled, which equals a

**22.6**

percent diversion rate.



OF THE 2019 GRADUATES



**77% SIGNED THE PLEDGE**

232 of the 303 seniors that graduated in 2019 signed the Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility, sponsored by the Graduation Pledge Alliance (GPA), which was signified by wearing a green ribbon on their Commencement regalia.

## RANKINGS



### AASHE AND THE STARS RATING SYSTEM

Knox has been a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) since 2012.

In 2018, Knox earned Silver level in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS) with a score of 46.12, which is good for 3 years.



### SIERRA MAGAZINE COOL SCHOOLS LIST

Knox was ranked #223 out of 268 schools in *Sierra Magazine's* 2018 list of Cool Schools. The scoring key is a reflection of Sierra Club's broader priorities and awards more weight in the areas of campus energy use, transportation, and fossil fuel divestment.



### PRINCETON REVIEW GREEN SCHOOLS

Knox was included in The Princeton Review's 2018 *Guide to 399 Green Colleges*.

Selected schools must receive a Princeton Review Green Rating score of 60 or higher to be included in the Guide. Knox earned 93 out of 99 possible points.