

Go Green Week 2019

at Sussex Estates and Facilities

Every year, Sussex Estates and Facilities helps to host Go Green Week: a week of environmental activities and events across the University of Sussex intended to raise awareness of environmental issues, and to promote sustainable practices.

A variety of events were hosted across campus during the week, with the Business School, Students' Union, and the Attenborough Centre for Creative Arts also hosting numerous activities and talks.

The following events were hosted by SEF this year:



University Way Litter Pick

With help and equipment provided by the Business School, volunteers from SEF undertook a litter pick along University Way and by the Sport Centre, cleaning up the west entrance to campus to help give a good first impression to new visitors.

Over the course of just an hour and a half, eight bags of rubbish were collected, including two bags of fully recyclable waste, tidying the road and cycle path.

Solar Panel Tours

Every month, Energy Manager Matt Arnold hosts a campus Solar Panel Tour open to all members of the University. This involves a walk around our award-winning solar panel array in Northfield, with information about our photovoltaic (PV) installation.





Tree Planting Events

SEF Environmental Intern Megan Youngs hosted a tree planting potting workshop this year, on the Student Allotments along the northwest side of campus. This was open to all students willing to help out, especially as an opportunity to relieve stress around mid-term deadlines at the time.

The event was greatly successful with 15 students attending. The trees were specially chosen and resourced to support local wildlife in our unique Sussex Downs environment.

We also hosted another tree planting event with Just Love Sussex, a local organisation in Brighton. Organised with support from Energy Manager Matt Arnold, 20 trees were planted on campus.

Green Impact Awards

The Green Impact Awards took place during Go Green Week this year, with representatives from our Green Impact teams on campus attending to officially receive their awards from a representative of the National Union of Students (NUS) that administrates the awards.

Adam Tickell attended to congratulate our teams, and to give a message of support for how important sustainability is for the University as climate change worsens. The results were as follows:



Working Towards Bronze

Global Health and Infection, SEF Security Office, Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL)

Bronze

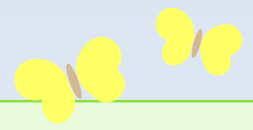
BMEC Student Experience, The Library , SEF Residential Team, School of Media, Film and Music (MFM)

Silver

Estates and Facilities Management, Attenborough Centre (ACCA)

Gold

Life Science (Labs), Sussexsport Sport Centre (Office)



Falmer Village Tidy-Up

Volunteers from SEF and the Estates team tidied up neighbouring Falmer village for Go Green Week, focusing on cutting back overgrown plants spilling over onto roads and footpaths. Many of the properties here are owned by the University.

After a few walkarounds to identify areas in need of attention, and with the help and equipment of our Grounds team, volunteers worked to cut back brambles and vines, clear leaves from our student properties, and collect rubbish from across the village. Our Grounds team also worked to cut back grass spilling over onto Ridge Road.

The tidy-up was a huge success, with a dramatic difference made to the presentation of the village and the pavements especially.

Pedometer Challenge 2019

Following a successful competition last year, SEF once again hosted the Pedometer Challenge for Go Green Week. This involves staff at the University using a smartphone app to measure their steps taken during the week, aiming to promote sustainable travel and wellbeing.



There was strong competition this year, with the competition opened to the Estates team and Sussexsport. However, we did have a clear winner: SEF Grounds Supervisor Laurence Ringsell won the challenge with an astounding 228,432 steps - equivalent to 108 miles!

Congratulations to everyone who took part, with a combined total of 697 miles walked between all participants.