

Eco-Pokes is a quarterly newsletter of the Campus Sustainability Committee that shares success stories and best practices for creating a more sustainable UW campus.

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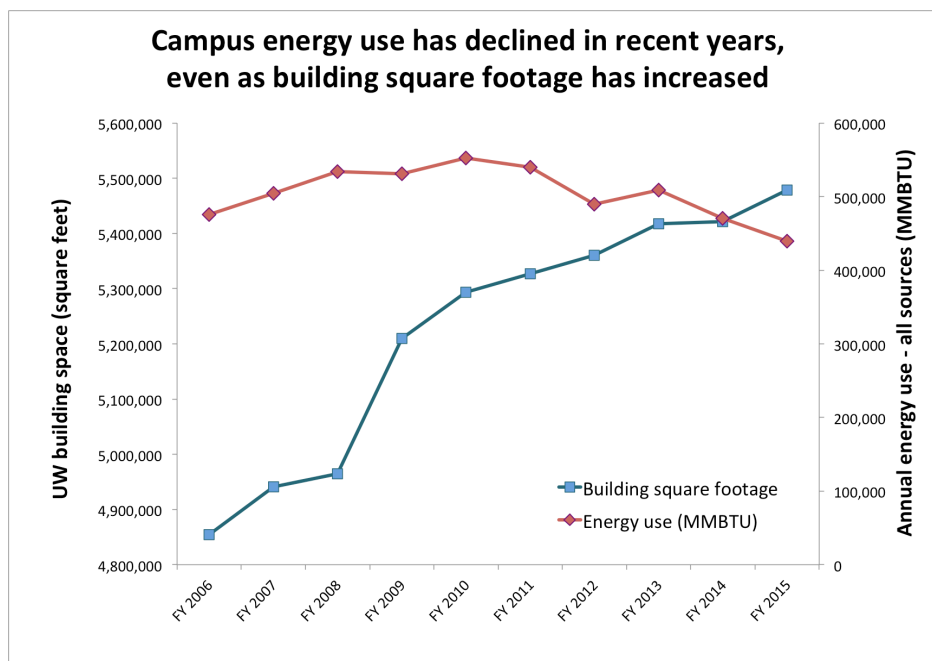
Energy Efficiency = Smart Money

### Did You Know?

The University of Wyoming's utilities bill is \$9,000,000 annually. Electricity accounts for \$5,000,000 of that bill, but costs can be reduced through behavioral changes of building occupants and technologies that improve efficiency.

### What UW is doing to improve energy efficiency

Physical Plant staff are in the business of tracking UW's energy use and finding ways to reduce costs. While UW has built 300,000 sq. feet of new building space in the last three years, UW has still managed to curb its energy bill, saving \$250,000 in fiscal year 2015 compared to fiscal year 2014.



Three ways UW has managed to improve energy efficiency include:

- Variable Frequency Drives – controls for electric motors, such as those in heating systems, which match the speed of the equipment to the load requirement.
- LED Lighting – LED bulbs can cut energy consumption by 80% compared to incandescent bulbs and can last 20 years or longer, which greatly reduces maintenance costs.
- Building Automated Systems – computerized systems to manage energy use and reduce energy waste in unoccupied buildings. They minimize energy consumption and provide improved comfort and lower maintenance costs.

## What you can do to save money and be more energy efficient

Treat campus like your home:

- Consolidate printers and refrigerators.
- Use sleep mode and turn off your screen, instead of relying solely on a screen saver.
- Turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- Minimize the use of personal space heaters, as they consume a large amount of the most costly form of energy, and unplug it when not in use.
- Dress in temperature-appropriate clothes.

Is it too cold, hot, or bright in your office? Please report concerns to Physical Plant: [svsdesk@uwyo.edu](mailto:svsdesk@uwyo.edu). “We can’t fix something we don’t know about,” says Frosty Selmer, Deputy Director of Utilities Management and Engineering.

## Conservation and Efficiency Revolving Fund (CERF)

The CERF is a revolving fund for projects to enhance efficiency, conservation, and sustainability on campus. Funded CERF projects must make measureable energy, water, and/or waste efficiency or conservation impacts, such as waste diversion, heating and cooling improvements, or behavior-based programs. This is an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to implement their sustainability ideas that demonstrate clear reduction in resources and cost at UW.

To learn more about the CERF and how you can propose a sustainability project at UW, [visit the CERF website](#). The deadline for proposals is May 6, 2016.

## Campus Sustainability Committee Member Profile



Forrest “Frosty” Selmer, Deputy Director of Utilities Management and Engineering, maximizes energy efficiency throughout campus operations.

Frosty has been involved with the Campus Sustainability Committee since the committee’s inception in 2005. Frosty provides the engineering expertise and systems perspective to achieve sustainability projects on campus. He thinks efficiencies in utilities have the most potential for energy and financial savings.

Frosty led the utilities master plan that surveyed the entire UW campus for system and utility deficiencies, and provided long-range planning for projected building growth. He was also instrumental in crafting UW’s climate action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

*Tell us about the best energy saver on campus*

Building automated systems. They save energy, allow for service notifications, and service a massive amount of square footage with minimal personnel. “It’s just smart maintenance,” said Frosty.

*Frosty’s commitment to energy efficiency*

Frosty’s personal commitment to sustainability is riding his bike even if it’s 30 below. “It just makes sense. I am needed on campus at any moment’s notice. I don’t have to scrape my windshield or find somewhere to park a car. I can be anywhere on campus in five minutes.”

[Check out the University of Wyoming’s commitment towards sustainability.](#)