



MIAMI 2040: Miami University's Climate Action Plan

MIAMI UNIVERSITY IS COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING CARBON NEUTRALITY ON ITS OXFORD CAMPUS BY 2040.

- Miami will reduce carbon emissions from energy use, commuting, and university-financed air travel as much as possible by 2040. The unavoidable remainder will be offset or addressed by renewable energy credits (RECs).
- Our commitment to reaching carbon neutrality on the Oxford campus by 2040 is, notably, a decade sooner than all other Ohio public universities.
- More than ever, prospective students expect colleges to take initiative on environmental issues and may consider choosing an institution based on its commitment to environmental sustainability (Inside Higher Ed, Jan. 2023).

MAJOR SUCCESSES

- At Miami, thanks to the Utility Master Plan, we have reduced energy-based carbon emissions by more than 50% since 2008.
- Miami has realized more than \$100 million in accumulated cost savings (2008-2023) from building improvements, conservation and energy systems conversions.



\$100 million

ACCUMULATED COST SAVINGS
2008-2023

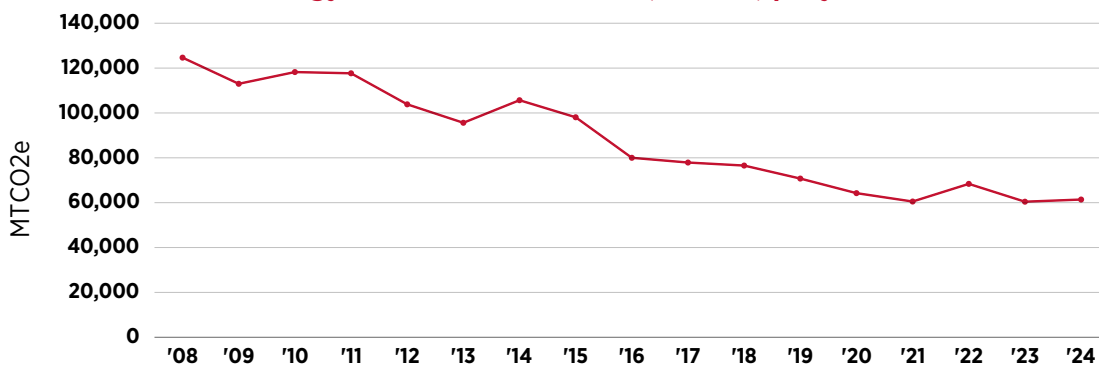
51%

REDUCTION IN ENERGY-BASED CARBON EMISSIONS
SINCE 2008

63%

REDUCTION IN ENERGY-BASED CARBON EMISSIONS PER GROSS SQUARE FOOT
SINCE 2008

Energy-based carbon emissions (MTCO₂e) per year



It's time to take our work to the next level, spreading deeper and wider across the Miami community through curriculum, research, and outreach.

READ MORE ABOUT THE PLAN →

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

As a signatory of Second Nature's Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitments (PCLC), our Climate Action Plan outlines the goals, targets, and actions that will lead Miami's Oxford campus to carbon neutrality by 2040 for energy-based emissions (Scopes 1 and 2) and emissions from commuting and university-financed air travel (Scope 3).



Progress and Projects

The North Geothermal Conversion project (above left): 520 geothermal wells, 850 feet deep, are being drilled under the front lawn of Millett Hall, and the North Chiller Plant will be converted to support the geothermal exchange. The project broke ground in June 2024 and will be completed by Summer 2026. It will reduce Miami's annual emissions by 5,810 MTCO₂.

Chestnut Street Multimodal Station: The Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), with Miami University and the city of Oxford, broke ground in January 2024 for this unique facility. To be completed by late 2025, the transportation hub will be an asset to the commuting goals of the Miami 2040 Plan and the city of Oxford's Climate Action Plan.

Announcement of the Sharon and Graham Mitchell Sustainability Park (above right) celebrated in September. Western Geothermal Solar Field project will break ground in early 2025.

Miami 2040 Plan Strategic Goals

- 1 Emissions from energy use and production.**
Further reduce energy consumption; complete the transition of building heating and cooling systems off steam; electrify campus systems to reduce burning fossil-fuels on site; generate electricity from solar energy (zero-emissions energy) on-site; procure purchased electricity from renewable sources; and offset the remainder.
- 2 Emissions from commuting and university-financed air travel (Scope 3).**
Reduce barriers to and equitably increase accessibility of alternative transportation modes and reduce the campus drive-alone rate. Reduce as much as possible Miami's commuting and university-financed air travel emissions, and offset the rest.
- 3 Offset Miami's remaining carbon emissions.**
Establish a Carbon Offset Fund Committee to recommend an annual carbon fee and select offset projects; Establish a university-wide policy for Purchasing of Carbon Offsets by 2035.
- 4 Curriculum and Research**
Through offerings from the Institute for the Environment and Sustainability, Miami Plan Signature Inquiry courses, and other initiatives, we will aim to provide opportunities for all Miami students to learn about climate change.
- 5 Student Engagement and Outreach**
Create a new Student Sustainability Outreach Coordinator position, and, with the support of Associated Student Government, implement a modest Student Sustainability Fee. These resources will help in projects to educate and motivate behavior change and build a culture of sustainability on campus.
- 6 Resilience and Community**
As part of the PCLC Climate Commitment, we conducted a Campus-Community Resilience Assessment. Our Resilience Monitoring Plan will be embedded in the Miami 2040 Plan.
- 7 Implementation**
Implementing the Miami 2040 Climate Action Plan begins with institutionalizing the Plan's goals, from the Office of the President and across the Miami community, and embedding sustainability responsibilities into select positions.



Scan the QR code to visit the Sustainability at Miami website, and learn more about the Miami 2040 Plan.

MiamiOH.edu/Sustainability