Establishing A Greenhouse Gas Emissions Baseline at Rutgers University–New Brunswick

Therese Apuzzo, Morgan Mark, and Mollie Passacantado

Acknowledgements

- Food: all edibles purchased by Dining Services Food Buyer
- 18 unique food categories
- Total carbon emissions required to produce, transport, prepare, consume, and compost food

- Transportation emissions from:
  - Rutgers owned vehicles
  - Financed outsourced travel
  - Study abroad travel
  - Commuting

- Aggregate emissions from all assets and buildings in three categories
  - Co-Gen Steam
  - Go-Gen Electricity
  - Other Off-Campus Stationary

What We Have

What We Need

- Incomplete data: local/organic
- No data: other campuses
- No data: some food categories
- No data: non-Rutgers affiliated catering
- No data: food waste
- Data inconsistencies (i.e. units of pounds vs. dollars)

- Incomplete data: outsourced travel
- Incomplete data: Rutgers owned vehicles, only buses included
- No data: study abroad travel
- No data: commuting data

- Incomplete data: natural gas purchases
- No data: building-specific energy consumption and efficiency
- No data: chilled and heated water flow rates

Current Data Collection

- Systematically change data collection methods
  - Defining or placing heavier emphasis on categories such as organic/local
  - Collect data that is not already documented
  - Auditing for building-specific energy efficiency
  - Commuting information for faculty and students

Changes

- Prioritize building audits with cost/benefit analysis
- Prioritize buying from food vendors that document carbon emission-related data
- Collect data from faculty and students to ascertain transportation related emissions
- Prioritize educating students and faculty and involvement in the decision-making process

Outcomes

- Reduce overall carbon emissions
- Increase energy efficiency for buildings utilizing off-campus stationary
- Obtain data necessary to formulate effective emission reduction plans
- Foster a more climate-aware populace across all Rutgers campuses

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