

Sustainability Report FY 2007

Washington State School for the Blind

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These reports are conducted annually for the Fiscal Year (FY) that just ended (the FY runs from July 1st through June 30th) by the various agencies of the State of Washington in fulfillment of Executive Orders 05-01, 04-01, and 02-03.

Green Buildings

Statewide Goals:

- The requirements in E.O. 05-01 regarding green building are superseded by the High Performance Public Building bill (ESSB 5509). ESSB 5509 requires all construction or remodeling projects of any occupied or conditioned space larger than 5,000 square feet to conform to the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Standard (or equivalent) The legislation applies to remodeling projects costing more than 50% of the assessed value.

Agency Goals:

- It is the goal of WSSB to meet or exceed LEED requirements in all campus construction projects.

Agency Actions and Programs:

- Fiscal year 2005 WSSB remodeled the Ahlsten building and Boiler house. Neither of these projects exceeded the buildings 50% assessed values. Fiscal year 2007, WSSB remodeled a 2500 square foot art and industrial arts building.

Progress to Date:

- Previous construction did not require certification and planned construction has yet to be submitted for LEED evaluation.

Barriers and Challenges:

- The building remodeled in 2007 was of historical significance. Remodel of this building required minimal change to the original building while increasing energy efficiency.

Success Factors:

- While maintaining the exterior, the interior walls were furred out to allow for additional insulation. The interior ceiling was also dropped for better insulation and reduction of open areas requiring heating and cooling.

Documented Savings:

- No documented savings to date from projects after 2003.

Buildings (Remodeled or New Construction)

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Conventional Buildings	1	0	2	0	1
LEED Silver	0	0	0	0	0
LEED Gold or Higher	0	0	0	0	0
Total LEED Certified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	2	0	1
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> # of buildings <input type="checkbox"/> ft2				

Space

Statewide Goals:

- No listed statewide goals

Agency Actions and Programs:

- As a school for the blind, we have a variety of uses for our campus buildings. The majority of space is dedicated to the school, gymnasium, residential cottages and support structures.

Total Space Use

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Office Space	13,022	13,022	13,022	18,244	18,244
Non-Office Space	149,293	149,293	149,293	144,071	144,071
Total	162,315	162,315	162,315	162,315	162,315
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> feet2 <input type="checkbox"/> meters2 <input type="checkbox"/> miles2 <input type="checkbox"/> kilometers2				

Comments: WSSB transformed warehouse and storage space to office space in 2005 which is now leased by Vancouver city police detectives.

Transportation

Statewide Goals:

- Reduce petroleum consumption by 20% from FY 2003 levels by FY 2009
- Use minimum 5% biodiesel for agency vehicles using diesel, and replace standard diesel with a 20% biodiesel blend by 2009.
- Replace pre-1996 light duty vehicles (those under 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight) that are driven more than 2,000 miles a year by January 2008.)
- Give priority to fuel efficient / low emissions vehicles
- Freeze Four Wheel Drive (4WD) purchases (exempting those with fuel economy greater than 30 mpg or those purchased for law enforcement or emergency response purposes). All others must be approved by agency director.
- Request fuel efficient, low emission vehicles for employees from commercial vendors.
- For all agencies with a fleet of 100 or more light duty vehicles (vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of less than 8,500 pounds), submit a Fleet Management Plan. For agencies with less than 100 light duty vehicles, consider transferring vehicles to or contract with GA.
- Optional: Increase Employee Participation in Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Programs

Agency Goals:

- To reduce the amount of petroleum used and thus save operating money for increased direct services to blind and visually impaired students.

Agency Actions and Programs:

- WSSB has modernized its fleet of vehicles and replaced the majority of conventional gasoline vehicles with hybrids. Non-hybrid vehicles have been assigned predominantly for local travel and hybrids for long distance use.

Barriers and Challenges:

- Demand for Outreach services to local school districts has increased every year. The Prius hybrid is different enough to give some of our staff problems in starting and driving.

Success Factors:

- WSSB now has twelve hybrids as part of its fleet of 32 vehicles.

Documented Savings:

- Fuel efficiency numbers have increased which is directly translated to savings.

Total Gasoline (non-diesel)

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Ethanol					
Petroleum	9,562	8,541	9,056	7,063	6,883
Total	9,562	8,541	9,056	7,063	6,883
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gallons <input type="checkbox"/> liters <input type="checkbox"/> \$				

Diesel Fuel

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Ultra Low Sulfur (Highway)				205.5	195
Off-Road	0	0	0	0	0
Biodiesel	0	0	0	0	0
Total				205.5	195
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gallons <input type="checkbox"/> liters <input type="checkbox"/> \$				

Miles Driven

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Personally Owned Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Owned Vehicles				187,196	221,282
Motor Pool Managed Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0
Total				187,196	221,282
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> miles <input type="checkbox"/> kilometers				

Comments: No records kept of mileage prior to 2005. Increase number of miles traveled reflects an increase in Outreach department's number of school districts served and corresponding teacher increase.

Agency Owned Fuel Efficiency

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Fuel Efficiency	?	?	?	25.76	31.26
Units	Miles per gallon (MPG)				

Comments: Increase in the fuel economy is a direct result of the increase in hybrid fleet vehicles.

Agency Owned Fleet Size

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	22	25	29	28	32
Units	# of Vehicles				

Pre-1996 Vehicles Remaining

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	10	7	5	4	2
Units	# of vehicles				

Comments: One of the remaining pre-1996 vehicles on campus was sold just after the end of the fiscal year the other one is a lift van used for transporting students confined to a wheelchair.

Vehicles Purchased

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Conventional	2	1	4	2	0
> 30 MPG	0	1	2	5	3
4WD (note exception purchases)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	2	6	7	3
Units	# of vehicles purchased				

Paper

Statewide Goals:

- Purchase office paper with a minimum of 30% post consumer recycled content by Sept. 1, 2005. Include all white 8.5x11 paper. Provide justification for all purchases of virgin paper. If you have made changes in other paper purchases, please describe at right.
- Reduce use of office paper by 30% by Sept. 1, 2009, based on FY 2003 plans
- Increase the percentage of environmentally preferable paper (EPP) purchased to at least 50% by Sept. 1, 2006. (EPP is defined as 100% recycled content paper with a minimum of 50% post consumer waste.)
- Recycle 100% of used office paper
- Increase use of post consumer recycled janitorial paper products.

Agency Goals:

- It is the goal of WSSB to use the most cost effective paper product while at the same time reducing waste and meeting the needs of the blind students and staff who rely on Braille printed information.

Barriers and Challenges:

- WSSB is required to purchase its' paper products from Central Stores. The price of 100% recycled paper is cheaper than virgin paper but more expensive than 30% recycled. This difference would have diverted operating funds away from direct services to children. Also, to print Braille, a special paper is required

Paper Purchased (8.5 x 11)

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Virgin					7
30 -40% recycled					757
100% recycled / EPP					6
Total				922	770
Units	<input type="checkbox"/> sheets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> reams <input type="checkbox"/> cases <input type="checkbox"/> tons				

Amount of Office Paper Recycled

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	DK	DK	DK	DK	DK
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pounds <input type="checkbox"/> kilograms <input type="checkbox"/> tons				

Comments: WSSB has a campus wide recycling program for paper and soft drink cans. This program is operated by students with the assistance of teachers and teaching assistants. No records are currently kept as to the weight of paper being recycled but estimates are over 75% for every year.

Janitorial Paper

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Non-recycled				0	0
Containing recycled content				278	200
Total				278	200
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cases <input type="checkbox"/> tons <input type="checkbox"/> Other				

Energy

Statewide Goals:

- Reduce energy purchases by 10% from FY 2003 by September 1st, 2009

Total Electricity

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Conventionally Purchased	864,810	1,081,120	1,103,360	1,108,694	1,021,571
Green Electricity					
Self-Generated (ex: backup)					
Total	864,810	1,081,120	1,103,360	1,108,694	1,021,571
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> kWh <input type="checkbox"/> BTU <input type="checkbox"/> \$				

Note: for self-generated or on-site electricity, please note what source it is coming from, for example diesel generators or solar panels.

Natural Gas

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	81,430	88,811	89,419	90,541	89,720
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> therms <input type="checkbox"/> BTU <input type="checkbox"/> \$				

Fuel Oil and Propane

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	0	0	0	0	0
Units	<input type="checkbox"/> therms <input type="checkbox"/> BTU <input type="checkbox"/> \$				

Water Use

Agency Goals:

- WSSB has been incorporating energy efficiency into all of it's capital projects for the past six years.

Barriers and Challenges:

- Green construction is not always the least expensive choice and sometimes newer methods are not well known.

Success Factors:

- To date WSSB has generated 65,140 kWh of electricity and last year generated 14,457 kWh.

Documented Savings:

- \$2931

Water Used

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	3,500	4,129	2,792	5,384	3,854
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gallons <input type="checkbox"/> ICCF (hundreds of cubic feet)				

Waste and Recycling

Statewide Goals:

- No statewide goals, but EO 02-03 calls for reducing or eliminating waste resulting from an inefficient or improper use of resources

Waste Disposed

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount					
Units	<input type="checkbox"/> pounds	<input type="checkbox"/> kilograms	<input type="checkbox"/> tons		

Compost Collected/Composted

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Units	<input type="checkbox"/> pounds	<input type="checkbox"/> kilograms	<input type="checkbox"/> tons		

Comments: No record is kept of composted materials, however, all yard debris and wood products are recycled through a local wood recycling company.

Non-Paper Material Recycled

Year (FY)	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Amount	DK	DK	DK	DK	6,000
Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pounds	<input type="checkbox"/> kilograms	<input type="checkbox"/> tons		

Comments: All metals that are part of a maintenance or in house modernization project are recycled locally.

Toxics Reduction

Statewide Goals:

- Adopt measures to reduce use of equipment, supplies and other products that contain persistent, toxic chemicals.

Agency Goals:

- It is the goal of WSSB to reduce the exposure of all staff and students to any chemical that can cause short or long term harmful side effects.

Agency Actions and Programs:

- Maintenance and custodial staff have reviewed all chemicals used as cleaning or operational use and eliminated any duplicate chemicals. They have also partnered with suppliers to change to less harmful but equally effective cleaning supplies. The nursing staff has also taken steps to educate staff and students as to the proper protection from airborne pathogens.

Progress to Date:

- To date, the custodial chemicals have been reduced to four major cleaning and disinfecting chemicals from over ten. Of the four used, only two have a health rating of two and nothing is over that. Pesticides are used only when necessary and nothing that is not available over the counter is used by anybody but qualified professionals.

Barriers and Challenges:

- Changing from cleaning chemicals that have been used for years took some adjustment.

Success Factors:

- Staff has adapted fully to the new cleaning methods.

Education and Outreach

Statewide Goals:

- Take steps to educate employees or clients about sustainable practices

Agency Goals:

- To serve as an example that sustainability does not necessarily mean more expensive and less comfortable.

Agency Actions and Programs:

- To date WSSB has built one new facility with an earthen roof, integrated bio-swale and solar array. We are in the bid phase of constructing another building that is hoped will meet LEED gold standards.

Success Factors:

- We have served as host to Clark Community Colleges environmental biology class as well as the NW solar energy tour twice.

Documented Savings:

- Since 2003 we have generated almost 65,000 kWh of electricity. This equates directly to a reduced power bill and has given us over \$5000 in rebates.

Related Outcomes:

- We are requesting grant money to add an additional 10 kWh system on campus.

Additional Notes

How is your agency engaging the community in its sustainability efforts?

- Our campus has served as a host facility for the Northwest Solar Tour for the past four years. Because we have a solar array and bio-swale roof, we field questions from across the United States from design architects and agencies considering similar projects. We also exhibit our campus to community college, environmental biology classes.

How is your agency leading by example to motivate positive change?

- We are consciously looking at all projects and operations for ways to reduce energy without hampering services. Solar arrays on the buildings, learning incorporated bio-swales, hybrid vehicles, hosting alternative construction and energy tours are some of the ways WSSB is setting a community wide example of doing the right thing for the school, state and planet.