



Our people make it possible—sustainable research, operations and community stewardship. | Vol 4 No 3



## What is “Single-Stream” Recycling?

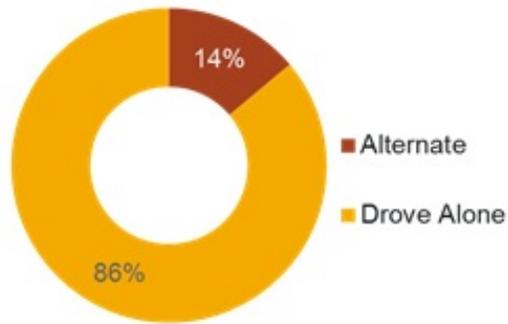
SingleStream is making recycling easier across campus. Before this program, common recyclables were sorted into several different bins. Now, all clean/gently rinsed common recyclables are combined in the same green bin.



## **We Are Sustainability Champions!**

Some of us in this photo are **Building Sustainability Champions**. We advocate for PNNL’s sustainability efforts with our co-workers through personal notes and visits. We help identify opportunities and eliminate barriers to recycling and conservation efforts at PNNL. We’ve already responded to and implemented

40 great energy and recycling suggestions from staff. Some of us are Building **Composting Leads**. When the weather's not too cold, we monitor, collect and empty the composting buckets in a centralized location. Our numbers are growing, and we're proud to be leading a major culture shift at PNNL. [See Who's Who.](#)



### Survey Reveals Commuting Habits

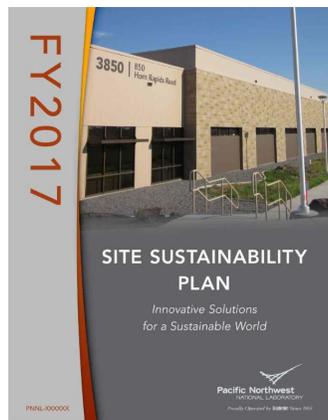
More than 50% of staff participated in this year's Employee Commute Survey – the highest response rate we've ever had to the survey. We learned that 86% of staff commute alone. 14% partake in alternative commute methods such as telework, bicycle, carpool and bus.

Staff commute a whopping 1,843 miles per day walking or biking to work. We have an average one-way commute of 11.05 miles. If you have telework or alternative commuting success stories, lessons learned, questions or suggestions, please [reach out to Sadie Bender](#).



### Sustainability Tip for the Holidays

A small change around the holidays can have a dramatic effect on our overall energy use – simply switching out your traditional string lights with LED string lights can decrease energy bills at home and at work. If you have the approval of a Building Manager to use holiday lighting in your office or cube, be sure to use UL-listed LED lighting to conserve energy. A perfect illustration of the savings involved is the famous Griswold lighting display, which can be seen from space. Clark Griswold's overzealous light display, if run today, would use 10 kW and add an extra \$295.12 to his energy bill if the lights ran for eight hours a day for the entire month of December vs. 1.5 kW and \$46.50 a month if he switched to LED lights.



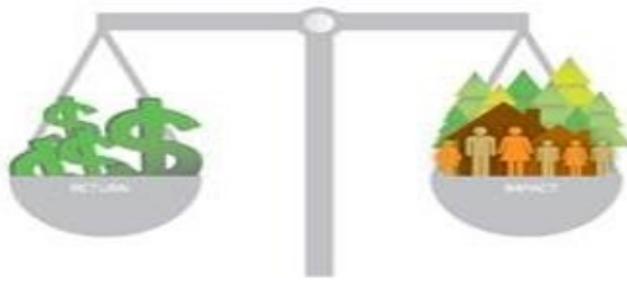
### 2017 Sustainability Plan Delivered

The PNNL sustainability team recently delivered the *2017 Site Sustainability Plan: Integrated Solutions for a Sustainable World*, to the Department of Energy (DOE) Sustainability Program Office. It quantifies PNNL's progress in fiscal year (FY) 2016 toward the environmental goals the DOE sets forth for national laboratories. The report also features our FY17 plan for pushing forward to meet our targets and a scorecard which shows progress toward the social and economic goals we've set for ourselves.



### Browse the 2017 Laboratory Agenda

Please take the time to read this year's Laboratory Agenda; it's one way to help you understand the Lab's strategy and where we're headed. As we work to accelerate progress, we must be bold in defining outcomes, focused in our pursuit. We need every staff member to feel empowered and inspired to engage in helping PNNL become more widely recognized as a world-class scientific research institution.



## Sustainability Pay\$ You

A brandnew year is right around the corner, so why not start 2017 off by contributingan idea that could help fulfill PNNL's safety or environmental stewardshipgoals? PNNL staff who have a sustainable solution in mind that could impact a groupor the entire Laboratory, can apply for funding to help make the idea a reality. Sustainability Pay\$ funds projects that measurably impact any of the following operationalareas:

- Reducing building or research equipment energyuse and greenhouse gas emissions
- Decreasing water use
- Traveling smarter byreducing impacts of business travel or employee com muning
- Reducing purchased materialsand waste
- Replacing non-sustainableproducts with sustainable ones (e.g., bio-based antifreeze and rechargeable batteries)
- Enhancing employee safety

Thisannual opportunity is open to all PNNL staff. If you're not sure if youridea is viable, reach out to an Operations Manager, Environmental ComplianceRepresentative, or [Jennifer Su-Coker](#). Applications are due toJennifer by **January 30, 2017**.

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### [PNNL Brings Wealth of Expertiseto World's Largest Meeting on Earth Sciences](#)

PNNLscientists discussed their research on more than 100 topics at the [annualmeeting of the American Geophysical Union](#) in San Francisco.Dec. 12-16.



### [Sewage Can Be Turned Into Fuel](#)

What we flush can be converted intoa biocrude oil with properties very similar to fossil fuels. PNNL researchershave worked out a process that does not require that sewage be dried beforetransforming it under heat and pressure to biocrude. Metro Vancouver in Canadahopes to build a demonstration plant. [Video](#) (1 min)

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## [PNNL Hosts Computing Day for High School Students](#)

More than 70 freshmen, sophomores and teachers from [Chiawana High School](#) in Pasco descended on the PNNL campus in honor of Computer Science Education Week.

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