



**RISING
TO THE
FUTURE**
UCD Strategy 2020-2024

UCD Global's Green Guide

TIPS & RESOURCES FOR A SUSTAINABLE STUDENT EXPERIENCE



UCD GLOBAL'S GREEN GUIDE

Tips & Resources for a sustainable student experience

Welcome to **University College Dublin (UCD)** - Ireland's most international university, located near the lively and friendly capital city of Dublin! With a huge urban campus, state-of-the-art facilities, and the largest international student body of any university in Ireland, we are looking forward to welcoming you to our student community.

Studying abroad, in a different country and (often) through a second language, is an exciting time of new friendships, mind-opening discoveries, adventures and growth. We believe that international education benefits our students, faculty, and wider community by enhancing global citizenship, intercultural awareness and in opening up new opportunities to work collaboratively. At present, 29% of students studying at UCD's Dublin campuses come from outside Ireland with 144 countries represented. UCD also has 510 active international partner universities across 61 countries.

While the benefits of internationalisation and student mobility are widely acknowledged, we are becoming increasingly aware of our carbon footprint and the challenges we face globally in addressing climate change. A study published in the *Journal of Cleaner Production*¹ found that worldwide greenhouse gas "emissions associated with international student mobility were between 14.01 and 38.54 megatons of CO₂ equivalent per year in 2014." This is comparable to the annual emissions of the entire countries of Latvia (13.94 megatons) or Tunisia (39.72 megatons)!

UCD Global firmly believes that the international and intercultural exchange of students contributes to opening minds, and supports you in becoming a responsible, global citizen. However, we're keen to ensure that international student mobility is as sustainable as possible. As such, to support you in having a sustainable experience at UCD, in Dublin and in Ireland, we have prepared this Guide with tips and resources which will help you before, during and after your travels to Ireland. This is designed for newbies and experts alike and we welcome any feedback or additions you may have!

Wishing you a wonderful (and green) experience in Ireland,

UCD Global



¹ Robin Shields 2019, The sustainability of international higher education: Student mobility and global climate change, in *Journal of Cleaner Production*, Volume 217, pages 594-602



THINK Green



CONTENTS

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Booking your flights

Packing sustainably

ONCE YOU ARE HERE

Getting around

Public Transport in Dublin

Exploring Ireland

Shop and Eat Sustainably

Sustainable Fashion

Sustainable Bathrooms

Recycling in Ireland

Getting involved

- › UCD Green Campus
- › Student Societies
- › Learn about Sustainability at UCD

WHEN YOU LEAVE

GO FURTHER



Zero Waste



Our Home



Save the Planet



BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Booking your flights

Air travel is the biggest contributor to emissions caused by international student mobility. But if you need to go to an island like Ireland, what else can you do?

☞ *(Unless, of course, you take a ferry from England, Wales, or France but that is another story.)*

👍 Use www.skyscanner.com and look out for the flights they mark as eco-friendly. Skyscanner analyses the aircraft model and calculates emissions based on factors like fuel efficiency, aircraft type and distance flown. Then they label flights that emit less than the average amount of CO₂

☞ *Interesting: Since most emissions come from take-off and landing, direct flights are often the greenest.*

👍 Consider Offset options:

Another option is to utilise the CO₂ offset option that many airlines now use. This feature allows you to pay a little extra when getting on your flight, and in return the airline will 'offset' the CO₂ emitted by the flight, for example by planting trees. This is a great easy way that you can make a difference.

👍 If you want to pick where your offset contribution should go, www.atmosfair.de/en/ offers you the possibility to offset your flight's emissions by donating to an environmental project.

If donating to offsetting is not an option for you, you can make up for it by getting involved directly in environmental initiatives. Check out UCD Sustainability for more information: www.ucd.ie/sustainability/

Additional Resources - Measure your ecological footprint with an easy to use:

- [Global Footprint Network calculator](#)
- [This Conde Nast Travel Guide](#)
- [This Green Traveller's Guide to Low Carbon Holidays](#)



Packing sustainably

Your flight will not only transport you but also the luggage you bring with you. And of course, the more luggage you bring, the more emissions will be generated.

Sustainable packing therefore means mainly conscious packing: Do not pack things that you won't need or clothes that are not suitable for Irish weather. Also, think about whether there are things you could buy in Ireland.

There are lots of fantastic tips for how to do this:

- Start with a smaller suitcase - we tend to fill whatever space we have
- Use a list and stick to it
- Share toiletries with the group you are travelling with
- Check to see what your accommodation already has - maybe you can leave the hair dryer at home!
- Read about [The Great Donate](#) which allows for kitchen appliances to be passed from departing to arriving students so that you may not need to bring or buy new things.

The **#ZEROWASTETRAVEL CHECKLIST** from [CISaustralia](#)'s Green Book:

- 👍 Plastic-free toiletries - shampoo bars
- 👍 USB or solar rechargeable portable torch
- 👍 Insulated water bottle
- 👍 Reusable coffee cup
- 👍 Sleeping mask
- 👍 Ear plugs
- 👍 Headphones
- 👍 Reusable shopping bag
- 👍 Bamboo toothbrush
- 👍 Solar battery charger
- 👍 Pack snacks for the flight to avoid food wrapped in single-use plastic
- 👍 Go paperless for boarding passes & itineraries
- 👍 Zero-waste dining-out kit including reusable cutlery, food storage container, straw and a cloth napkin



Additional Resources:

- [This great and comprehensive guide to packing light](#)
- [This Flight Attendant's Tips for packing light](#)



ONCE YOU ARE HERE

Getting around

'Welcome to Ireland - Céad míle fáilte!'

Getting from the Airport to Dublin...

To get from the airport to the city centre, you can take the [Aircoach](#) right outside Dublin Airport rather than taking a taxi on your own. They have a special discount for international students during orientation time so check the emails you received from UCD Global before booking a ticket.

...and around town everyday.

By the time you have made it from the airport to your new home you have surely noticed one thing: there is a lot of traffic in Dublin, even though it's a small capital city. Not using a car to get around will not only help you cut emissions, but might also be quicker!

If you live on campus, you can take one of the [many buses](#) going directly to and from the city centre all day.

If you live close to campus, consider **walking**. It's a great way to wake up in the morning and to clear your head in the afternoon

If you live too far to walk, you might still be close enough to [cycle](#).

There is a bike shop on campus that sells second hand bikes (perfect for a short stay at UCD). Our campus is equipped with numerous bike parking spots and six public [bike repair stations](#).

And this [journey planner](#) allows you to exclude busy streets when mapping your route.

You can borrow bikes for short trips using [Bleeperbike](#) (€1 for 1h ride) or [Dublin Bikes](#) (first 30min free, €0.50 for 1h).

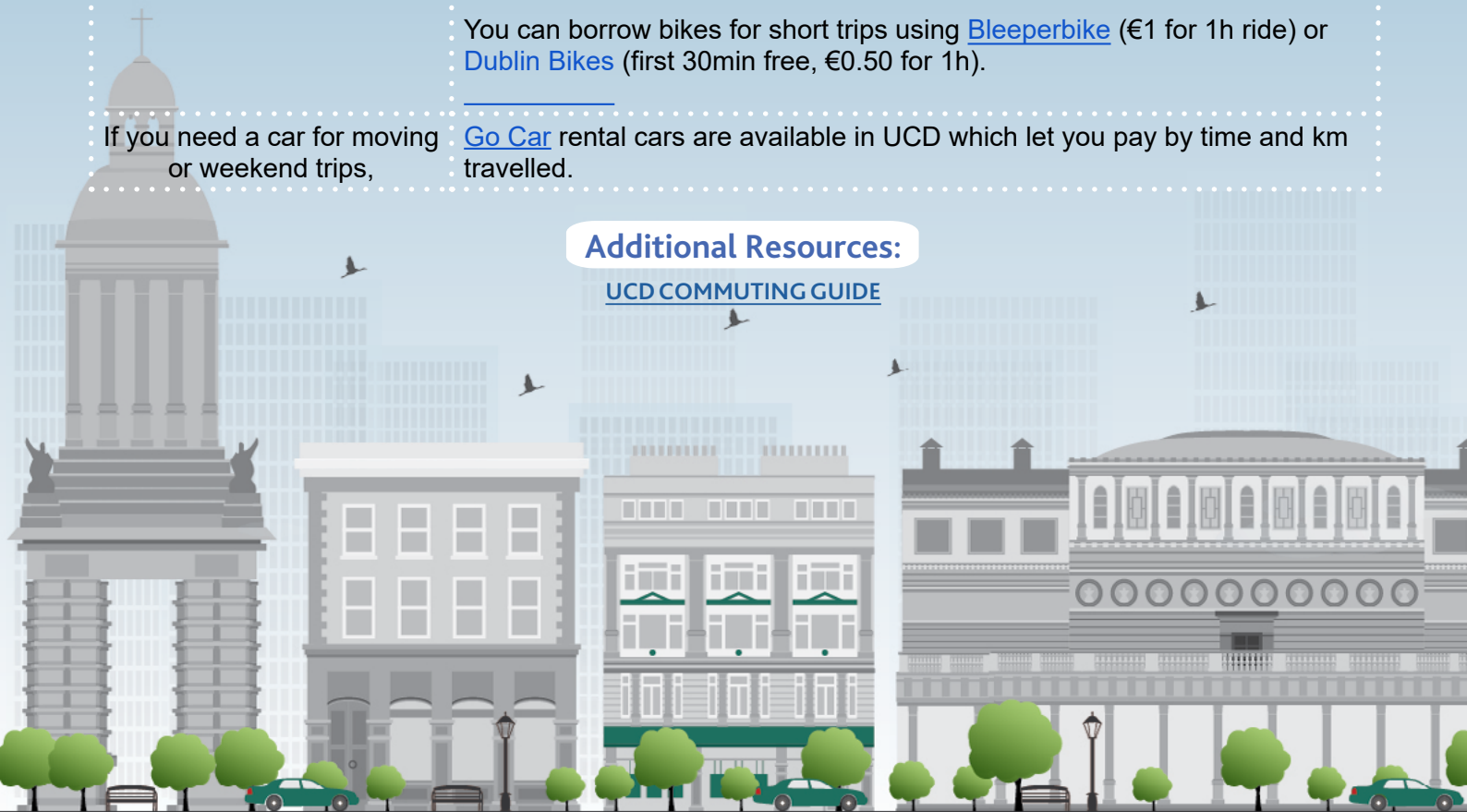
If you need a car for moving or weekend trips, [Go Car](#) rental cars are available in UCD which let you pay by time and km travelled.

Dublin



Additional Resources:

[UCD COMMUTING GUIDE](#)



Public Transport in Dublin:

Taking public transport is one of the best decisions you can make to lower your carbon footprint. All of Ireland's public transport services are listed on the centralised 'Transport for Ireland' website, so you can easily see all of your options. There are also Apps for both the DART and Dublin bus that will give you real time information for when the transport is arriving, as well as helping you plan your route.

[Transport for Ireland](#)

is the starting point. This has information on all of Ireland's public transport.

[Dublin Public Transport](#)

is an independent website which offers comprehensive information.

[Moovit](#)

is a great journey planner site.

The [Dublin Bus](#) and [Irish Rail](#) app are also very useful for quick real time information.

Leap Card:

The key to truly unlocking Dublin's public transport is the Leap Card. This smart card can be topped up in most supermarkets, as well as on most smartphones using the [app](#). It allows you to pay for the bus, train or tram (Luas) with a simple tap. There is also a student version of this card which makes journeys significantly cheaper and comes with some handy discounts! On top of this, the card has a daily cap at the price for a day ticket.

The self-contained [site for student leap cards](#) lists all the deals and discounts available.



Not a student? Having a regular [Leap Card](#) will also reduce ticket prices, so it is definitely worth getting one.

How does it work?

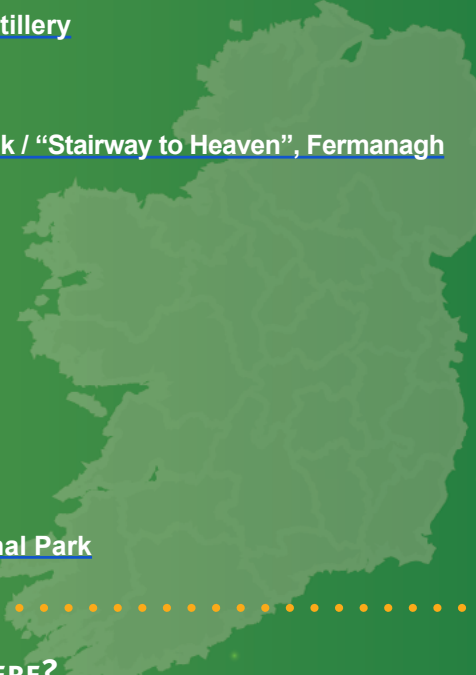
1. Get your card during orientation week.
2. Top Up the Travel Credit in stores or using the [app](#).
3. On the bus: tell the driver your destination and then tap the card onto their reader
On the Luas: tap the card at the station before getting on the train and then tap it again at the station you're getting off.



Exploring Ireland

Ireland is the portal to Europe and for many international students, its location opens the door to exploring the rest of the continent as well. For your European travel, we encourage you to consider offset options and our travelling tips on page 5.

In addition to the many European destinations, Dublin's central location is also perfect to explore the rest of our island. These are our favourite Irish weekend trip destinations outside of Dublin:

- 
1. [Belfast](#)
 2. [Belfast Christmas Markets](#)
 3. [The Giant's Causeway](#)
 4. [Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge](#)
 5. [Gobbins Cliff Path](#)
 6. [County Donegal](#)
 7. [Wildlife Park "Wild Ireland"](#)
 8. [Ulster American Folk Park](#)
 9. [Marble Arch Caves](#)
 10. [Derry](#)
 11. [Old Bushmills Distillery](#)
 12. [Rathlin Island](#)
 13. [Mount Errigal](#)
 14. [Cuilcagh Boardwalk / "Stairway to Heaven", Fermanagh](#)
 15. [Cork](#)
 16. [Ring of Kerry](#)
 17. [Blarney Castle](#)
 18. [Hook Lighthouse](#)
 19. [Galway](#)
 20. [Slieve Binnian](#)
 21. [Cliffs of Moher](#)
 22. [Aran Islands](#)
 23. [Aillwee Caves](#)
 24. [The Burren National Park](#)
 25. [Clonmacnoise](#)
 26. [Croagh Patrick](#)
 27. [Glendalough](#)
 28. [Newgrange](#)
 29. [Boyne Ramparts Walk](#)
 30. [Malahide Castle](#)
 31. [Trim Castle](#)
 32. [Powerscourt House & Gardens](#)
 33. [Castle Bar \(Mayo\)](#)
 34. [Killarney National Park, Kerry](#)
 35. [The Wildlife Park in Cork](#)
 36. [Dingle Peninsula, Kerry](#)
 37. [Kenmare, Kerry](#)
 38. [Glengarriff / Garnish Island, Cork](#)
 39. [Kinsale, Cork](#)
 40. [Cobh, Cork](#)
 41. [Westport, Mayo](#)
 42. [Inishowen Peninsula, Donegal](#)
 43. [Strandhill, Sligo](#)
 44. [Bundoran, Donegal](#)
 45. [Cong, Galway/Mayo](#)
 46. [Clifden, Galway](#)
 47. [Diamond Hill, Galway](#)
 48. [Cycle the Great Western Greenway](#)
 49. [Cycle the Waterford Greenway](#)
 50. [Shannon River Cruises](#)

HOW DO YOU GET THERE?

TRAINS: *Irish Rail* offers public transport to major towns and cities in Ireland. Students can avail of student discounts which also include flexible tickets. The trains are super comfortable and spacious including free wifi and dining cars.

👉 Tickets can be bought [online](#) or in the train station.

Bus: Travelling by *Bus Eireann* is very affordable and services most cities, towns and villages in Ireland.

👉 Bus tickets can be bought [online](#) and in bus stations.



Shop and Eat Sustainably

When it comes to shopping sustainably, remember the 5 R's:

1. If you can, refuse getting a new item.
2. If that is not possible, try reducing the number of items you get.
3. Reuse what you have as much as possible.
4. Consider repurposing things and
5. when you've tried everything else, recycle.



Our Favourite Eco-Friendly & Zero-Waste Shops in Dublin:

Every step taken to shop sustainably helps. Choosing local shops, carrying a reusable bag to cut down waste, and considering whether you need to buy something are a few things to consider before shopping. There are now many Irish shops that are trying to be more eco-friendly and generate zero waste. Some of them are listed below:

- [Reuzi](#) in Foxrock sells waste-free, plastic-free, chemical-free reusable alternatives for living, health and beauty, on the go, minimal waste kits and gifts.
- [Little Green Shop](#) sells locally sourced eco gifts as well as eco friendly health and beauty, kitchen and home, out and about, and baby and child products.
- [Ecostore](#) sells a variety of products but most interestingly include eco friendly waste, recycling and electrical products.
- [Green Outlook](#) sells plastic-free and natural products including toiletries, masks and gift boxes.

- [Organicup](#) and [Thinx](#) sell reusable menstrual products that will make a huge impact on the amount of waste generated by products such as sanitary napkins and tampons.

- UCD's [Great Donate](#) collects items like pots, pans, cutlery and plates from students leaving campus at the end of the semester and hands them out for free to new arrivals during orientation week. So before buying new kitchen ware, check out what they have and when leaving Ireland again, remember to bring back the utensils you won't need anymore.

- [Living Lightly in Ireland](#) draws together how-to pages to live sustainably, information about topics such as recycling, greenwashing, electric cars, and features an [Eco Map of sustainable businesses in Ireland](#).



Sustainable Food Shopping Tips

- 👍 Bring your own bag.
- 👍 Bring a reusable Coffee Mug.
- 👍 When picking up Takeaway food, take fewer napkins. We tend to take more than we will end up using and being aware of that can make a difference in the long run.
- 👍 UCD's cafés and restaurants offer compostable packaging. Be sure to dispose of this in a compost bin as it won't decompose in the wrong environment!
- 👍 The best way to make sure your lunch and snacks are sustainable is to prepare them at home and bring them in reusable containers.
- 👍 Reduce the amount of meat and fish in your diet. You don't need to go fully vegan, just start with one meat free day per week.

Sustainable Food Stores and Restaurants in Dublin

- 👍 [The Good Neighbour](#) in Dundrum and [The Dublin Food Coop](#) in Kilmainham are bulk stores and packaging free food shops.
- 👍 [Farmers markets](#) are an easy package free shopping opportunity and the best way to shop local. Their produce often comes directly from Irish farmers instead of being shipped across half the world.
- 👍 [The Source Bulk Foods](#) in Rathmines sells organic and locally sourced whole foods including cooking liquids and oils, healthy snacks and household products. They do not use any plastic packaging and hence create a zero waste journey.
- 👍 [Veganic](#) is another organic and plant based supermarket in the city centre. Their food products include meat and milk alternatives along with various household, health and beauty products.
- 👍 [Cornucopia](#) is a vegan restaurant with a Georgian style dining. They use only compostable packaging and offer a discount if you bring your own cup. They also sell a range of zero waste products.

☞ Did you know that on UCD's campus, you will get a discount on your coffee if you bring your own mug instead of getting a plastic cup? Depending on the coffee shop, this can be [10%, 15ct or 40ct](#). Planet and budget friendly!

☞ Speaking of Takeaways: If you can, bring your own food container and a reusable set of cutlery. Many shops will be happy to cooperate so don't be afraid to ask!

☞ The BBC's [Climate change food calculator](#) shows the climate impact of a type of food and how they compare to others. Taking meat and fish off the menu once per week can add up to considerable annual savings in greenhouse gas emissions.

☞ Remember that vegan restaurants in general are more eco-friendly. Many of them also try to source their products locally to be more sustainable.



Sustainable Fashion

Did you know that the fashion industry is responsible for 10% of annual global carbon emissions, that 20% of wastewater worldwide comes from fabric dyeing and treatment, and that, of the total fibre input used for clothing, 87% is incinerated or disposed of in landfill?

Charity Shops:

When it comes to clothes shopping, the best way to stay sustainable is to shop in second hand, vintage or charity shops. In Ireland, many charities run shops where people can donate used clothes, furniture, books or other items and the profits go back into the charity fund.

There are hundreds of these shops in Dublin, especially in Dundrum: you will find the Dundrum Village charity shop, Oxfam, Sue Ryder and Human Appeal all which are located beside the old shopping centre. In the city centre, you will find many charity shops on George's Street.

Thrifty is an Irish online charity shop where you can buy second hand clothes and donate your own clothes. Items on the website are not limited to second hand clothing but also defective clothes and unsold stock from traditional retail stores. The clothes can be delivered directly to your home with the option of next day delivery.

Enable Ireland also has an online shopping service. The charity focuses on supporting people with disabilities in Ireland. Items can be bought through [their ebay page](#) and come with free delivery.

Whether you're looking for a nice outfit for a special occasion or looking to buy a present for a loved one, you can visit a consignment store like **Siopaella** which specialises in the resale of high-street and high-end fashion garments.

UCD SU organises recurring **Clothes Swaps**. Basically, for every item of clothing you bring to the event, you can take home an item somebody else has brought along. Think rummaging through your friend's wardrobe for an outfit - except all of UCD is your friend! If you don't have something you are willing to part with, you can pay for the items with cash.

👉 *The clothes swaps are hosted by many societies across UCD. These include UCD Amnesty, UCD Young Greens, UCD Horticulture Soc, EcoSoc and the UCD Students' Union. You can join these societies during Freshers' Week and receive updates about their events. You can also send them a DM on their Instagram pages to request to join. All UCD students are automatically members of the UCD Students' Union.*

Additional Resources:

Good on You App shows you the sustainability rating of big fashion brands and helps you make a more informed choice.

Depop is an app where you can sell and buy preloved clothing.



Sustainable Bathrooms

The cosmetics industry is known for its heavy use of plastic packaging. Furthermore, toxic chemicals in cosmetics can also damage the ecosystem, particularly aquatic species, and livestock. However, there are many simple steps to make your bathroom routine more sustainable during your time in Ireland.

Reduce waste by opting for brands who offer refill programmes or use minimal, biodegradable or recycled/recyclable packaging.

Reuse things to give them a second life: Can you repurpose a glass jar as an ornament or a storage solution? Could that old toothbrush be a handy cleaning tool? Could that spray bottle be used to water your plants?

Recycle, Recycle, Recycle: While 90% of packaging is recycled in our kitchens, only 50% is being recycled in the bathroom. Introducing a bin or even a paper bag for recycled waste in your bathroom can help narrow this gap.

Conserve Water by turning off the water tap or pausing the shower when brushing your teeth, washing your face, or washing your hair.

Watch out for the labels: While it can be tricky to navigate eco-conscious brands due to 'greenwashing', many brands host certifications to back their natural or sustainable beauty claims (e.g toxic-free brands). Labels we look out for include **COSMOS**, **NaTrue**, **Fairtrade**, **Vegan Trademark**, **Cruelty Free Leaping Bunny**, **FSC certification** and the **Protect Land + Sea Certification Seal**.

Swap...	For....
Deodorants & other aerosols	Deodorant sticks, solid perfumes or glass bottled sprays
Shampoo & liquid soap	Shampoo & soap bars
Cotton pads / makeup remover wipes	Reusable pads or cleansing mitts
Plastic razors	Metal razors
Chemical sunscreen	Mineral spfs or 'reef safe' chemical spfs
Single-use sanitary products	Reusable sanitary pads/menstrual cups
Plastic brushes / cotton swabs	Bamboo brushes/cotton swabs

Additional Resources:

This list of the **Best Natural and Sustainable Irish Beauty Brands**

And this overview of **Natural and Organic Skincare Brands in Ireland**

Some conscious Irish beauty and wellness retailers include **The Clean Beauty Edit**, **Green Outlook**, **Evergreen** and **Earthmother Skincare**.



THE WASTE-LESS LIST

Click on this big picture to see more



WE'RE CREATING A SEA OF PLASTIC.
8 MILLION TONNES A YEAR.



TAP INTO REUSABLES.
FILL YOUR OWN BOTTLE FROM THE TAP.

FAST FASHION IS SLOW TO DISAPPEAR.
85% ENDS UP IN A LANDFILL.



CHOOSE PRELOVED CLOTHES.
COOL OUTFITS. COOL PLANET.



SINGLE-USE IS USELESS.
BRING YOUR OWN CUP / BAG / BOX.

IRELAND IS THE TOP
PRODUCER OF PLASTIC IN EUROPE.



REFUSE SINGLE-USE BAGS.
ALWAYS CARRY A TOTE BAG.

MANY CLEANING PRODUCTS
CONTAIN HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS.



CLEAN UP THE PLANET.
SPRAY LESS. BUY GREENER ALTERNATIVES.

WE THROW AWAY THINGS LIKE
THEY'RE GOING OUT OF STYLE.



REPAIR YOUR STUFF.
REPAIR THE PLANET.

JUNK MAIL
IS SPAMMING THE EARTH.



UNSUBSCRIBE! PUT A 'NO JUNK MAIL'
STICKER ON YOUR DOOR.

WE'VE 'BIN' WASTING
ONE-THIRD OF OUR FOOD.



LEFTOVERS ARE RIGHT FOR
THE PLANET. GET CREATIVE.

WE ONLY REUSE 3% OF OUR OLD STUFF.
WHAT A WASTE!



THINK BEFORE YOU BIN.
COULD YOU REUSE OR REPAIR?

VISIT [MYWASTE.IE](https://mywaste.ie) FOR MORE INFORMATION



[See further info on each tip here](#)

What and How to Recycle in Ireland?

Managing waste can be a challenge at times and one of the best methods is to limit the production of it in the first place by reducing consumption. Here is what you can do with the unavoidable waste:

We can recycle many types of material which goes into the “green bin” as it’s called in Ireland.

This includes things like:

- Juice and milk cartons
- Magazines
- Hard Plastics
- Tins
- Egg Boxes

We do not recycle the following items:

- Butter foil
- Coffee Pods
- Crisp Packets
- Frozen Pizza Plastic Wrap
- Frozen vegetable bags



Food waste and greasy napkins or pizza boxes can be recycled via a compost bin, often referred to as a “brown bin”.

Other materials like glass can be recycled via “bottle banks” centres which can often be found within the carpark of supermarkets. Or if you are living on campus, bottle bins are located in the bin stores. [This website can help you find your nearest bottle bank.](#)

If you’re trying to recycle old computer parts or batteries, there are battery recycling boxes and barrels located throughout the campus. In addition, some stores like Currys or Power City will be able to take back your old electronics if you purchase new ones.

Additional Resources:

- Recycling electrical, battery or light waste through [WEEE Ireland](#)
- [The REPAK guide to what can and cannot be recycled](#)
- [This quick overview on what and how to recycle in Ireland](#)
- [This extensive guide to recycling domestic waste in Ireland](#)

Every battery recycled by WEEE Ireland goes towards a donation fund to support the vital work provided by the charity [LauraLynn](#).

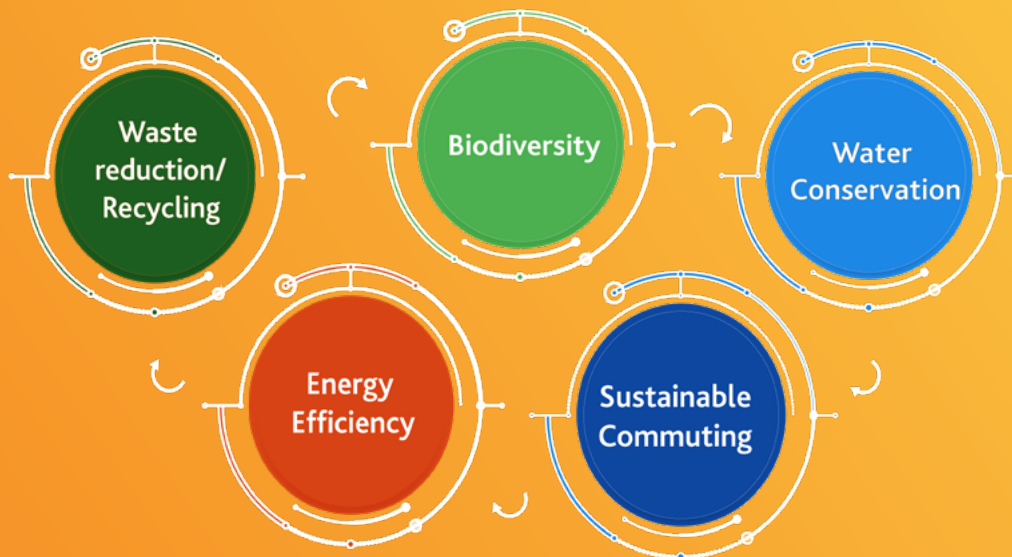


Getting involved

Getting involved in local initiatives, student associations and volunteering can make a great difference to your carbon footprint but is also a fantastic way to make friends at UCD and get involved in the local community.

UCD Green Campus

The Green Campus initiative aims to encourage students and staff to actively get involved and work together to implement projects and initiatives to raise awareness of environmental issues and improve the environmental performance of their institution. The Green Campus Committee has identified several “themes” or areas where projects will be undertaken:



Become a UCD Green Campus Project Coordinator

This part-time role allows students an opportunity to develop projects with guidance from the Green Campus steering group. Project Applications for UCD Green Campus are accepted year round and can be on any of the 5 key themes, applicants may be required to do an interview. Students who progress a successful project through the Green Campus Initiative will gain practical experience in project planning, project management and budgeting which will positively contribute to CVs, as well as a better understanding of the theme being worked on.

Students can also apply for the [UCD Advantage Award](#) which is a co-curricular skills programme offered through the UCD Career Development Centre.

UCD Waste

UCD operates under the 5 R's, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose and Recycle, and supports and runs many waste reduction initiatives which you can become involved in, such as recycling workshops to zero food waste cooking demonstrations.

Our long term vision is to:

1. Significantly reduce the quantity of waste being produced per person (kg/person) by operating the 5Rs
2. Increase recycling and composting rates



There are [many waste reduction initiatives on campus](#) you can look into and get involved in.

[UCD Biodiversity](#)

UCD Biodiversity is a UCD Green Campus initiative. Many collaborations are happening with the different schools on campus, such as the UCD campus bumblebee monitoring transect with the School of Agriculture and Food Science. This transect was set up by research professionals to track the bumblebee numbers in UCD and submit the data to the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

There is also a detailed UCD Campus pollinator plan to increase biodiversity and support nesting habits which can be used as a source of information for individuals to help pollinators.

[UCD Green Week](#)

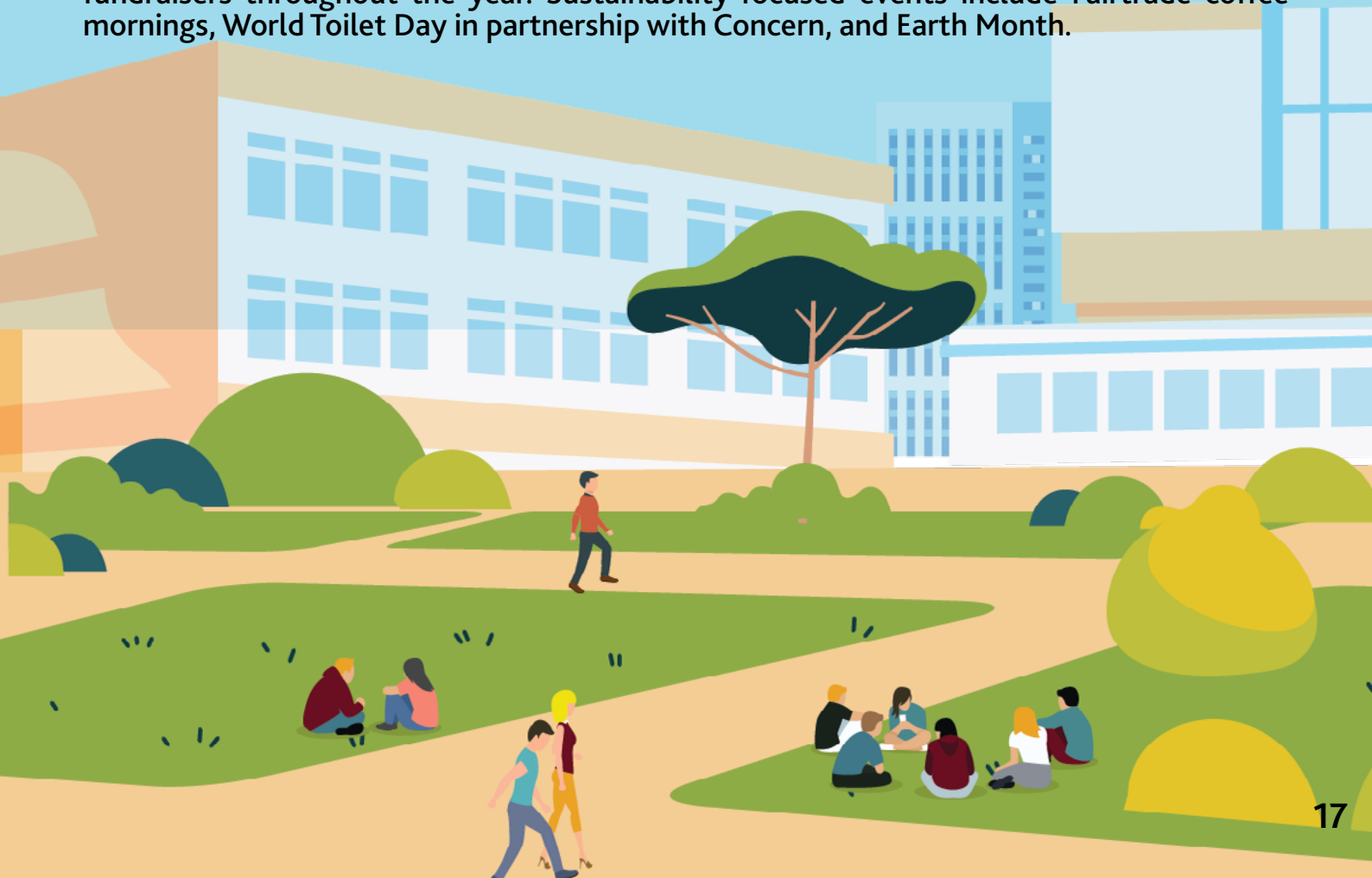
UCD Green Week is a week full of events, arranged and run by UCD students, staff and societies working together through the Green Campus Initiative. Keep an eye out for the UCD Green Campus emails to see what's happening!

[U21 RISE](#)

Participate in the annual Universitas 21 Real Impact on Society and Environment (U21 RISE) competition. This competition showcases student achievement in sustainability and social innovation, and it aims to accelerate the scale and impact of student-led projects by connecting them with a network of experts in academia and industry.

[UCDVO Student Society](#)

The UCD Volunteers Overseas Student Society hosts many events, campaigns and fundraisers throughout the year. Sustainability-focused events include Fairtrade coffee mornings, World Toilet Day in partnership with Concern, and Earth Month.



Student Societies

UCD Horticulture Society

The Horticulture Society was founded in 2014 with the aim of educating and engaging students in general horticultural activities and knowledge. They are engaged with planting and gardening around areas of UCD and they even grow fruits and vegetables within the UCD community garden!

During COVID-19 times, the society is still incredibly active and hosts weekly activities! They host many online workshops on how to improve your own gardening skills and successfully grow your own fruits and vegetables. They also host regular walks through the UCD Woodland Walks and Phoenix Park.

UCD Young Greens

This is a branch of the political party the Green Party. The society often promotes policies and encourages young people to get involved in national politics. Aside from the political agenda of the society, they also host many events promoting sustainable fashion.

ECO UCD

ECO UCD stands for Environmental Conservative Organization. They actively promote eco-friendly fashion in UCD.



Learn about Sustainability at UCD

As a student, you can enrol in modules to learn more about sustainability while you study at UCD, for example “Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals” or “Mapping a Sustainable World”.

The UCD Earth Institute holds regular [events and talks](#) that are open to everybody. Their [Earth Walks](#) are virtual but just as interesting.

The [SPIRe Seminar Series](#) is open to all members of the UCD community and explores the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

UCD Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO) offers a number of opportunities to learn more about global development, social justice issues and sustainability.

[UCDVO Courses](#)

UCDVO offers two evening courses “Be the Change” and “Skills in Development Education” and a three month learning journey “Solidarity in Action”, to the wider UCD community. These courses are open to anyone looking to broaden and deepen their engagement with global justice issues and action for social change.



[UCDVO Development Film Series](#)

The UCDVO Film Series features 5 high quality documentary films on subjects relating to development and global justice, followed by a guest speaker discussion. It often includes documentaries on global trade, sustainability, and climate change. The Film Series takes place in January/February each year.

[UCDVO Annual Forum](#)

The UCDVO Annual Forum works to connect UCDVO and the broader UCD community with the voluntary sector on critical issues of equality, justice, and activism. The Forum works to create a space for dialogue, critical reflection and to build connections. It is open to all and free of charge.

[UCD Sustainability Report](#)

Read through UCD's Sustainability Report to learn more about how UCD is contributing to the UN SDGs through its education, research, governance and engagement.



WHEN YOU LEAVE:

When it's time to say goodbye and pack up again, consider if there are things that you might not be able to take with you but which are still in good shape and eager to serve somebody else.

The Great Donate

Organised by EcoUCD, UCDSU, Estate Services, UCD Green Campus and UCD Global, The Great Donate collects kitchen items and non-perishable foods from students leaving UCD. Some of these items are kept aside for incoming students for the next semester. The rest is donated to local charities.

In 2019, they saved: *930 plates, 190 lunch boxes, hundreds of pots and pans, 1 ukulele, several rice cookers, hair dryers and fancy cups!*



Charity Shops and Friends



The Great Donate and Clothes Swaps are organised regularly but not all year round. For the time in between, you can always donate things to charity shops - or simply ask your friends whether they might need what you are about to give away.

Gifts for Home

If you are looking for gifts to bring home, or souvenirs to remember your time at UCD, here is [a list of 400 Irish retailers](#) where you can find lovely gifts from local companies.

Stay Involved

Of course, sustainability does not end at national borders. We hope you continue to get involved in local initiatives and spread the word among your friends. If you have the chance, promote sustainability to other students, especially students who many be travelling and going on student exchange.

You could also create a Green Exchange Guide for students coming to your home university if you wanted!

Feedback

Let us know how to be a greener campus via email or through social media. We welcome any tips, suggestions, feedback and criticism that will help us become a more sustainable campus.

Email: greencampus@ucd.ie and international@ucd.ie with any feedback you may have.



GO FURTHER:

Get involved beyond UCD and join some of Ireland's advocacy and campaigning groups

Stop Climate Chaos: www.stopclimatechaos.ie

Voice Ireland: www.voiceireland.org

Eco-UNESCO: www.ecounesco.ie

Friends of the Earth Ireland: www.foe.ie

Comhlámh: Action for Global Justice www.comhlamh.org

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

This Guide was created by the UCD GLOBAL ETHICAL CONSUMPTION & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE at University College Dublin, Ireland.

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Inspired by: [CIS Australia's Green Book](#)

Thanks to UCD Green Campus for guidance and suggestions.





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TO THE
FUTURE**
UCD Strategy 2020-2024

UCD Global's Green Guide

UCD Global:



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