
U. far exceeding carbon goals

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The University lowered its energy-related carbon footprint by 18.8 percent in the last two report released by the Office of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Initiatives.

The reduction significantly outpaces benchmarks called for in the Greenhouse Gas Goals at Simmons in January 2008.

Simmons presented highlights from the report at a monthly faculty meeting Tuesday after University's goal of lowering greenhouse gas emissions to 42 percent below 2007 levels by

That translates to an annualized four-percent drop each year, meaning the University has beyond the eight percent necessary to remain on pace.

To reduce emissions, the University switched to natural gas in its central heating plant and less dependent on carbon.

It also set efficiency standards more demanding than existing codes for newly built and re the report.

The University's recycle rate was 38 percent this year, up from 33 percent last year, Simm "some of this gets a little dirty," she reported that Brown Dining Services also increased cc food waste in the past year.

The report also highlights other efforts by the University to reduce its environmental footp

For example, the Transportation Office runs an online forum for carpooling, and has incre and the number of vehicles available to Zipcar members. Graphic Services switched to a n hazardous waste and attained certification from the Forest Stewardship Council.

Dining Services, additionally, has diverted around 180,000 pounds of pre-consumer food program in the past year. BDS also gives used fry-oil from the two dining halls — about 10 Sharpe Refectory and up to 200 gallons a week from the Verney-Woolley Dining Hall — to be used into fuel for diesel engines and home heating.

The report is available on the Facilities Management Web site, and the administration will inform the student body about the University's sustainability efforts, Simmons told the faculty yesterday.