

"Our commitment to sustainability began when Loras College signed the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, joining the leaders of more than 500 other institutions across the country to accelerate the research and educational efforts to equip society to re-stabilize the climate. This commitment continued with Loras' adoption of the City of Dubuque's sustainability model. With over 1 million square feet of infrastructure, Loras has maintained our commitment to sustainability by taking the many steps needed to become Petal Certified. Petal Certification is yet another prime example of how Loras is environmentally responsive – from the incorporation of geothermal wells to sensor controls. We are grateful to ECIA for its shared mission, commitment, and support."

-Jim Collins, President, Loras College.



ENERGY CONSERVATION: The 2011 Graber Sports Center renovation incorporated a new more energy efficient lighting system in the arena. The lighting upgrade will reduce the cost of lighting the facility by 50 percent, while providing a higher level of lighting.



POLLUTION PREVENTION: Secure bicycle storage is available in several locations around campus.



WASTE REDUCTION: Loras has competed in RecycleMania – a friendly recycling competition among college and universities – for three years. In 2010, Loras placed 75th out of 267 schools in the Grand Champion category which combines trash and core recyclable materials to determine a school's recycling rate as a percentage of its overall waste generation.



STAFF EDUCATION: In the spring of 2011, Loras launched the "Use Less – win More Challenge", a fun way to educate students about the importance of following more sustainable practices. The competition resulted in energy savings ranging from 6.4 – 24.8% in each of the residence halls.



WATER CONSERVATION: In 2009, the Loras College café went trayless. This change has saved water, energy, and food waste.

The Petal Project is a green business certification program designed to encourage organizations in the Dubuque area to adopt more environmentally friendly business practices. The program provides businesses with a simple framework for saving money and resources while establishing a community-wide definition of a green business for consumers wishing to shop based on their values.

