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COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES.



SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

May 2025

MINES | Sustainability

[MINES.EDU/SUSTAINABILITY](https://mines.edu/sustainability)

In the News

Mines Achieves Gold Sustainability Rating

Mines' 2024 report earned a STARS Gold rating in recognition of its sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System) measures higher education sustainability in three main categories: academia, research, and campus operations. Campus operational projects that boosted Mines to Gold include [new solar buildings](#), new [LEED buildings](#) certified



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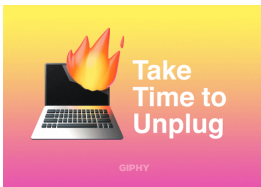
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campaigns. Free Eco-Passes for employees and the Ore Cart, which has serviced 100,000 riders, contributed to [sustainable transportation efforts](#). Mines' innovative academic programs, [sustainability related research](#), as well as the many sustainability related [student clubs](#) and events on campus also contributed to the Gold rating.

Sustainability Tips



Congratulations graduates! Remember, **Rice and balloons are toxic to wildlife**. Don't throw plastic confetti. Instead, blow bubbles, dried leaves, dried flower petals, or old shredded paper or [use bird seed designed for Colorado wildlife](#).



Give your appliances a break when you leave campus for summer break or vacation. Unplug everything in your room/office (computer, mini-fridge, lights, microwave, fans, TV/cable, stereo, printer, all chargers, etc.)



MOVE OUT DONATIONS

Clothing and book donation bins will be placed on campus during move-out weeks (late April through late May). [USAgain](#) bins can be found near residence hall dumpster areas. You can donate clothing, shoes, sheets, blankets, and pillow cases. USAgain will plant a tree for every full bin. [Dream Books](#) Colorado will drop a book donation bin in front of Mines Market. In 2024, we collected 3,742 pounds of clothing and bedding and 735 pounds of books. Thank you!

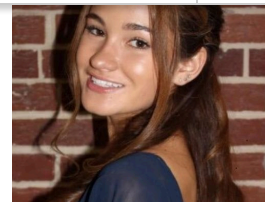
Awards

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program in the Chemistry Department at Mines, won a Green Labs Award for her leadership on chemical recycling in labs. She will be presented the award at the Earth Day Fair. Under the mentorship of Dr. Alan Sellinger, who has been a strong advocate for solvent recycling, she has gained the knowledge and support necessary to implement sustainable practices in the lab. View her presentation [here](#).



Mines Students Awarded Environmental Scholarships

Each year, the Colorado Environmental Management Society provides scholarships for Colorado collegiate candidates with studies focused in the environmental science, engineering, or law arenas. In 2025, [CEMS announced awards to 3 Mines students for their essays](#). Mines award recipients are



- Isabella Chittumuri – PhD, Applied Statistics
- Sabal Dangi – BS Environmental Engineering with Double Minor, Climate Geophysics and Public Affairs
- Kierson Wilson – BS Environmental Engineering

Their winning essays are compelling to read. A link is provided above. Winners will be present at a CEMS upcoming luncheon or at [Geotech Field Days](#) on June 20 to receive their checks.

Events

Earthship Academy - An Exploration of Natural Building. Spruce Treehouse. 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. (Friday, April 25)

Join Ashwini Shrestha for a presentation on her McBride Practicum Journey on Earthships. Free snacks and beverages. [Download the flyer here](#).

Earth Day Fair! - Kafadar/Green Center. 10- 1 p.m. Free plants, food, and giveaways (Sat., April 26th)

Join Mines Green Team for a showcasing of sustainable initiatives in Friedhoff Hall. Bonus: there will be bagels and plants! Post presentation in Friedhoff 2 & 3 and Petroleum Hall, the Colorado Environmental Film Festival (1 to 3pm) will



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nature-based solutions for restoration. The showings will be followed by an audience chat, commencing at 3pm.

Opportunities

Solar Power Fellowships -WRISE (Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy) and GRID Alternatives will open applications this summer for a [Rising Solar fellowship program](#) to give aspiring solar professionals from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to pursue a career in renewable energy. The program, part of GRID and WRISE's workforce diversity initiatives, is aimed at anyone identifying as a woman or marginalized gender training for careers in installation and design as well as college and graduate students studying renewable energy and related fields.

LEED Training (GA or AP BD+C) - Live Webinar and Online:

May 31 2025 – 1:00PM – 5:30PM EDT - OR -

On-demand recordings completed at your own pace

Cost: \$200 with the code 'green' for students (non-students: \$300)

Video at registration gives you more information about LEED and benefits of certifications for engineers.

[Register for LEED GA HERE.](#)

[Register for LEED AP \(BD+C\) On Demand HERE](#)

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