

## ***“Green Thumbs-Up”* to Residential Life Master Plan for its Sustainability Focus**

The Offices of Residential Life and Judicial Affairs recently unveiled their new master plan. This plan will guide their staff through the next five to seven years in their work to further improve the services and opportunities they offer our residential students. We were delighted to discover that an entire section of their new plan focuses on sustainability. What follows is the text of that part of the plan:



### Goals

1. Educate students and staff around issues of sustainability.
  - Incorporate a sustainability session into both professional staff and RA training annually
  - Add information to our website and newsletters regarding sustainability initiatives
  - Including 3 main components and our areas of focus under each
  - Incorporate messages of sustainability during orientation sessions with parents and students
  - Collaborate with student organizations to educate residents around issues of sustainability
  - Identify way to incorporate sustainability into our program model.
  - Promote existing programs like recycling programs, Take It or Leave It bins, e-waste, composting, ride boards, etc.
  - Include judicial sanctions around sustainability issues for vandalism and Health and Safety violations
  - Create a project/program to deal with waste generated at closing
2. Explore and incorporate sustainability efforts in our building renovations and facilities.
  - Identify vendors whose products are sustainable
  - Commit to LEED™ standards in renovation work
  - Advocate for the renovation of residential halls and apartments to minimize energy loss
  - Explore more energy-efficient lighting for common areas (motion sensors, compact fluorescents, etc.)
  - Explore and install shower timers in bathrooms
  - Advocate for the installation of additional bike racks across campus
  - Pilot motion sensitive lights in residence halls
3. Incorporate sustainability efforts into all department processes and practices
  - Eliminate paper products (cups, plates, etc) from office
  - Move to 100% recycled paper
  - Identify existing student groups to create an advisory board to dept on issues of sustainability (i.e REMP, Sustainably Conscious Learning Community, SGA, RHA, RAs, etc.)
  - Review department expectations, mission, vision, and diversity statements and work to incorporate and represent sustainability
  - Explore requiring some program purchases at GreenStar
  - Identify a department representative to IC Sustainability Committee
  - Advocate with Facilities for more compost bins around the residence halls

The complete master plan can be viewed at: [http://www.ithaca.edu/reslife/master\\_plan/MasterPlan.html](http://www.ithaca.edu/reslife/master_plan/MasterPlan.html)

The link to the Intercom article announcing the Plan can be viewed at:  
<http://www.ithaca.edu/intercom/article.php/20071105152131787>