

2023 SUSTAINABLE PERFORMANCE

NOURISHING & ENRICHING OUR ENVIRONMENT



OUR CLIMATE COMMITMENT

On March 17, 2021, the Willy Street Co-op Board of Directors voted to make a commitment to the [Climate Collaborative](#). By making this commitment, we are recognized among a number of forward-thinking organizations along with other cooperatives including NCG, Durham Co-op Market, and Organic Valley. The climate commitment areas chosen were:

- Energy Efficiency: Increase energy efficiency
- Food Waste: Reduce food waste in the supply chain
- Short-Lived Climate Pollutants: Reduce short-lived climate pollutant emission

This dashboard demonstrates several of the ongoing projects and pursuits through which the Willy Street Co-op is achieving these commitments.

Increased Energy Efficiency

In order to decrease emissions and our carbon footprint, we are continuing to pursue projects and activities that will increase our efficiency and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

While we are continuing to identify strategies that will increase energy efficiency and our reliance on carbon-based energy, recent years have seen progress in our emissions goals through the use of renewable energy and offsets. The charts below outline recent progress in reducing the co-op's carbon footprint:

Electricity				GHG Equivalent		% Gross
2023	April 2022-March 2023	2858102	kilowatt hours	1236	Metric tons	80.16%
2022	April 2021- March 2022	2815128	kilowatt hours	1218	Metric tons	80.88%
Natural Gas				GHG Equivalent		% Gross
2023	March 2022-Feb 2023	57794	Therms	306	Metric tons	19.84%
2022	March 2021-Feb 2022	54362	Therms	288	Metric tons	19.12%
Offsets				GHG Equivalent	Unit	% Gross
2023	April 2022-March 2023	1208455.1	kilowatt hours	856	Metric Tons	55.51%

2022	April 2021- March 2022	1122966.6	kilowatt hours	796	Metric Tons	52.86%
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To bring about continued reductions in energy use and to optimize the efficiencies we have worked with our community partners including MG&E, Sustain Dane, and the Ethical and Responsible Business Network at UW Madison. Upcoming improvements will include more sustainable equipment and refrigeration systems. You will notice more of our cooler cases will be equipped with closed doors to save energy and improve product quality as we continue this work.

Waste Reduction



Caption: Co-op staff engaged in a waste audit.

In 2020 and 2021, our cooperative worked to overhaul our recycling infrastructure and practices. A major objective of this work was to reduce our recycling missorts. When waste is not properly sorted, it can contaminate recycling loads. Even a small degree of recycling contamination can result in the entire load being redistributed to the landfill. By keeping staff well-trained and

empowered to sort waste properly, we avoid unnecessary contributions of greenhouse gasses from landfill emissions.

Our co-op has upcoming partnerships with local compost processors to collect and biodegrade the organic waste we produce on-site. Since partnering with local compost service provider Greenbox, we have diverted approximately 9000 pounds of organic material to compost locally.

Renewable Energy



Your co-op has worked to incorporate several projects and partnerships in order to maximize the use of renewables within our energy portfolio. You can see the impact of our renewable energy use on the co-op's carbon footprint in the charts above.

O'Brien Solar Fields

Through our partnership with MG&E, Willy Street Co-op participated in the opening of the O'Brien Solar Fields in Fitchburg. Through this partnership, your co-op is contracted to receive the local, clean energy produced by a 250 kW section of this 200,000-kilowatt solar field. The combination of the Renewable Energy Rider project and other renewable energy programs offsets over 50% of the energy our cooperative consumes through local, clean, and renewable sources.

Willy East Solar Array

We continue to maintain and utilize our rooftop Solar Array at our 1221 Williamson location.

In 2022 we generated 26.13 MWh of solar energy using East's Solar Array. Over their lifetime, these panels have generated 169.74 MWh.



Green Power Tomorrow

In addition to producing solar energy, we also buy wind and solar offsets through Madison Gas and Electric. Each month, we purchase 30030 kWh of this clean renewable energy.

Carbon Offset by Clean Energy

Check out this offset equivalent breakdown from our EPA Calculator (which includes the impact of using clean renewable energy from the O'Brian Solar Fields, our Willy Street Solar Array, and Green Power Tomorrow). By using these clean energy sources, we had an equivalent impact of removing 856 tons of carbon from the atmosphere over the last 12 months.

856 Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) equivalent

This is equivalent to greenhouse gas emissions from:

184 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles driven for one year



2,124,768 miles driven by an average gasoline-powered passenger vehicle



This is equivalent to CO₂ emissions from:

96,320 gallons of gasoline consumed



84,086 gallons of diesel consumed



947,086 pounds of coal burned



11.3 tanker trucks' worth of gasoline



108 homes' energy use for one year



167 homes' electricity use for one year



4.7 railcars' worth of coal burned



1,982 barrels of oil consumed



34,955 propane cylinders used for home barbeques



0.0002 coal-fired power plants in one year



0.002 natural gas-fired power plants in one year





104,126,105 number of smartphones charged



This is equivalent to greenhouse gas emissions avoided by:

296 tons of waste recycled instead of landfilled ? 	42.3 garbage trucks of waste recycled instead of landfilled ? 
37,053 trash bags of waste recycled instead of landfilled ? 	0.233 wind turbines running for a year ? 
32,443 incandescent lamps switched to LEDs ? 	

This is equivalent to carbon sequestered by:

14,154 tree seedlings grown for 10 years ? 	1,013 acres of U.S. forests in one year ? 
5.8 acres of U.S. forests preserved from conversion to cropland in one year ? 