

Environmental Stewardship: Measure, Monitor, Benchmark

Hamilton College

January 2009





Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions – A Common Vocabulary

Simplifying the Types of GHG Emissions All Expressed as Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide



This slide courtesy of CA-CP





Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions at Hamilton College

Hamilton's Space and Population

Gross Square Footage		
Total Campus GSF	1,846,425	

Student Population	
Total FTE Enrollment	1,831

Staff & Faculty Population		
Faculty	236	
Staff	496	
Total Faculty & Staff	732	



Carbon emissions at Hamilton College

Scope 1

- Natural Gas
- Distillate Oil
- Vehicle Fleet
- Fertilizer
- Refrigerants

Scope 2

 Purchased Electricity

Scope 3

- Faculty/Staff
 Commuting
- Air Travel
- Solid Waste

Offsets

Renewable
 Energy Credits



Total carbon emissions – without offsets 24,056 MTeCO₂

Gross Carbon Emissions by Type



Gross Carbon Emissions by Scope



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Total carbon emissions – including offets 22,728 MTeCO₂

MTeCO₂

0

Scope 1

Emissions

Net Carbon Emissions by Type





Scope 2

Emissions

Scope 3

Emissions

Sightlines

Net Carbon Emissions by Scope

Longitudinal performance - gross 24,056 MTeCO₂ in FY2008





Longitudinal performance - net 22,728 MTeCO₂ in FY2008



Air travel estimated for FY03-06







Utilities – The Major Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Contributor at Hamilton

Steady energy consumption Fossil – Scope 1; electricity – Scope 2



Natural Gas and Oil Total Carbon Emissions: 6,430 MTeCO₂ - **26% of '08 total** Electricity Total Carbon Emissions: 10,848 MTeCO₂ - **45% of '08 total**

Sightlines

National Electric Fuel Mix



Carbon Emissions by Grid





Hamilton Benefits from a "Clean" Power Grid



eCO2 Emissions by Power Grid Operator

Impact of Regional Fuel Mix for Hamilton





Natural Gas Conversions Could Have a Big Carbon Impact at Hamilton



•Assuming a one-to-one btu "swap"

•Converting electric systems to natural gas could reduce carbon emissions significantly







Other Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Contributors at Hamilton

Study abroad and faculty research Air Travel – Scope 3

Source	'08 Units	MTeCO ₂	% Total
Air Travel	Students: 3,235,280 miles Faculty: 869,400 miles	3,189	13%



Study abroad and faculty research Air Travel – Scope 3



Institutions Shown
Babson College
Bentley University
Clemson University
Gallaudet University
Hampshire College
Le Moyne College
Loyola Marymount University
Pacific Lutheran University
Rowan University
Texas A&M University
University of Arkansas
University of Denver
University of Notre Dame
University of Portland
Virginia Commonwealth University
Wesleyan University







Other Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Sources

Faculty and staff commuting Scope 3



Faculty/Staff Total Carbon Emissions 1,869 MTeCO₂ – 8% of '08 Total

Sightlines

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Commuting emissions vs. database Residential campus reduces commuting miles



Commuting emissions vs. database Residential campus reduces commuting miles



Decreasing solid waste Solid waste – Scope 3



Natural Gas and Oil Total Carbon Emissions: 829 MTeCO₂ - **3% of '08 total** 10% reduction since FY2003



Increasing vehicle fleet consumption Fossil - Scope 1



Vehicle Fleet Carbon Emissions: 810 MTeCO₂ - 3% of '08 total



Increase in refrigerant loss since FY06 Refrigerants – Scope 1



Refrigerant Use: 69 MTeCO₂ - <1% of '08 total



Fertilizer application Scope 1

Source	'08 Units	MTeCO ₂	% of Total
Fertilizers	3,149 lbs. Nitrogen	12	<1%



Offsets - Renewable Energy Credits

3,193,120 kWh of green power purchased

Offset	Amount	MTeCO ₂
REC	3,193,120	1,329







Comparing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions – Summary Benchmarks

Benchmark institutions

Institutions	Location
Babson College	Babson Park, MA
Bentley University	Waltham, MA
Bowdoin College	Brunswick, ME
Carleton College	Northfield, MN
Grinnell College	Grinnell, IA
St. Lawrence University	Canton, NY
Wesleyan University	New London, CT
Williams College	Williamstown, MA



GreenLine institutions nationwide

GreenLine Institutions

Babson College

Bentley University

Bowdoin College

Carleton College

Clemson University

Davidson College

Eckerd College

Fitchburg State College

Gallaudet University

Grinnell College

Hamilton College

Hampshire College

Lewis & Clark College

Loyola College in Maryland

Loyola Marymount University

Oregon Institute of Technology

Pacific Lutheran University

Portland State University

Rowan University

GreenLine Institutions

Santa Clara University

Seattle University

Southern Methodist University

St. Lawrence University

Texas A&M University

University of Arkansas

University of Denver

University of Maryland – College Park

University of Notre Dame

University of Oregon

University of Portland

University of Redlands

University of San Diego

University of Vermont

Virginia Commonwealth University

Washington and Lee University

Wesleyan University

Western Oregon University

Williams College

Sightlines



Average Emissions per 1,000 GSF v. Peers



Offsets Put Emissions Below Average



Nationwide – Hamilton is Also Below Average



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Emissions per student FTE is a Function of Density



Sightlines

Schools Like Hamilton are Less Dense than Others



Concluding thoughts

- FY2008 saw a 2% reduction in gross carbon emissions from an all-time high in FY2007.
- Hamilton benefits from a "clean" electric grid, but could benefit from reduced electric consumption.
- Converting from electric to fossil in campus buildings could have substantial carbon payback.
- Gross emissions track very closely with campus growth. Addition of new space should be coordinated with sustainability initiatives.
- Tracking student miles traveled between home and school would give a more complete picture of the transportation element of the emissions study.

