

Sustainability

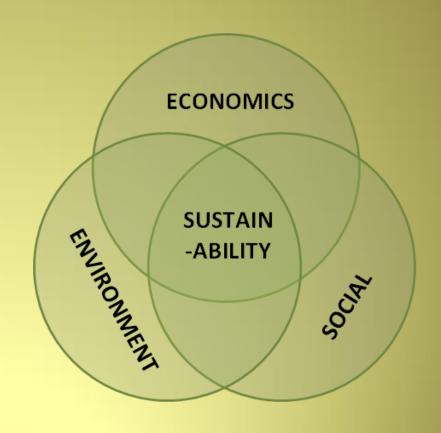
What is **SUSTAINABILITY?**

Sustainability = living in a way that does not consume more than you produce

This involves the balance of

- -Environmental Stewardship
- -Social Equity
- -Economic Integrity

Basically, you want to be able to live well without compromising the ability of your children and your children's children to live with the same prosperity!



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WHAT makes something SUSTAINABLE?

- -Most people can recognize when something is environmentally sustainable. Some examples include renewable energy, resource conservation, and green buildings.
- -However, ideas such as diversity, social connection, and ethical governance are all key principles of sustainable development



A group of engineering students researched cheap and rapidly deployable bamboo shelters for victims of natural disasters. This project has components of economic, social AND environmental sustainability!

Volunteering and community service, such as Pitt's annual "Make a Difference Day" is a great way to practice social sustainability by promoting connectedness and community development

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Beware of GREENWASHING!

Marketers and companies often misrepresent themselves or a product as "green" or "sustainable" in order to appeal to a wider audience. This is called "greenwashing" and it's important to recognize when it happens.



While it seems like Coca-Cola bottles may be a more environmentally friendly option over other brands, think about what this ad is really saying:

- "Up to 30% plant based" means that the content could be anywhere from 1% to 30% plant based.
 - Using plant based plastics may not be better for the environment anyways, as they can often take more energy and water to create than other plastics
- Also, bottling filtered tap water is unnecessary and unsustainable in the first place. Plus most plastic water bottles are already recyclable so how is Dasani any more eco-friendly than other bottled water brands?

Get INVOLVED around PITT!

Classes:

- -Intro to Sustainability (A&S, Spring)
- -Engineering and Sustainable Development (ENGR, Fall)
- -Sustainability and Computing (CS, Fall)

Documentaries and Books:

- Cradle to Cradle
- The Omnivore's Dilemma
- No Impact Man
- Silent Spring
- Your Environmental Road Trip
- Many More!

**Ask your RA about screening these in your dorm!



Student Organizations:

- -Engineers for a Sustainable World
- -Free the Planet
- -Plant 2 Plate Urban Garden
- -Take Back the Tap
- -Green Fund Advisory Board
- -SGB Environmental Committee

Visit

www.pittenvironmental.org to

learn more!



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