



The Location of the BAC Yard

We are located on the South edge of Sacramento State's campus, near Parking Lot 10 and Capital Public Radio.

Tour Information

Would your group like to learn more about sustainable practices at Sacramento State? Come on a tour with us! Tours are open to all ages and groups. In addition, each tour is customizable to meet your learning objective(s).

Possible Tour Options:

- Sustainability Campus Tour
- The BAC Yard
- Aquaponics at STORC
- Capital Public Radio's Garden
- University Arboretum

Please email us at sustainability@csus.edu for further information and if you would like to schedule a tour with us!

The BAC Yard's Production at a Glance

- Nearly **100 Tons** of organic material diverted from landfill each year
- On average, **65 Yards** of compost generated from organic waste annually
- Over **\$5,000** in cost savings annually from reduced hauling fees and reduced compost purchasing
- Dozens of student interns and volunteers participate through labs and classes each year in the operations of the BAC Yard.



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SACRAMENTO
STATE

Redefine the Possible

BAC YARD

Bioconversion and
Agricultural Collaborative

MORE INFORMATION ON THE BAC YARD:

Our Mission

The **B**ioconversion and **A**gricultural **C**ollaborative exists to reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions at Sacramento State through composting and sustainable agriculture methods. The BAC Yard is a partnership between students, faculty, and staff using the campus as a living laboratory. Students working at the BAC Yard practice composting and sustainable agriculture techniques and gain real world experience by using campus waste streams as an educational resource. At the BAC Yard, students are integral to reducing Sac State's environmental impact.

Composting Methods of the BAC Yard

Hot Composting

Hot composting is the most easily replicable method of composting at the BAC Yard. Student interns retrieve food waste from on-campus eateries and coffeehouses to aerobically digest food in small 1-2 yard piles above ground. This type of composting mimics most home-composting systems; add water, turn the pile, and repeat & you too could have ready compost within 4-5 weeks.

Vermicomposting

Vermicomposting is an in-vessel composting system, which differs mainly from hot composting in that worms are introduced to break down the food waste. Students perform experiments with different types of food waste and track data. The resulting worm castings produce a highly-enriched compost within 4-5 months.

Windrow Composting

In response to AB1826, Sacramento State now composts a significant portion of its green waste, resulting in reduced waste hauling fees and fewer GHG emissions.

In windrow composting, leaves are collected in a long pile, requiring periodic watering and turning, resulting in rich compost 4 months later.



Partnerships

Academic Student Internships

Students from various areas of study can learn hands-on skills in composting and agriculture while earning academic credit.

Capital Public Radio's Garden

In a win-win partnership, we work together to close the loop by collecting their green waste and turning it into compost for their garden. Their garden works to spread the word about and help with food insecurity and literacy in Sacramento.

ASI Garden

Recognizing a need to create a solution for food-insecure students, the ASI Green Team of 2016-2017 created a garden to grow produce to supplement the campus' pop-up pantry. This example of students helping students is the essence of Sacramento State's BAC Yard - where education meets real-world solutions.

STEM & Agriculture Education

Sacramento State professor and moderator of the STEM Teacher Development and Research Faculty Scholarship Community, Dr. Jenna Porter, manages a project to support future teachers on integrating aquaponics and agriculture into their curriculum. Her future teachers design activities that are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) related to agriculture and solar-powered aquaponics systems. This project was funded in part by Farm Credit West and CoBank.



Sac State's
BAC YARD
Bioconversion and Agricultural Collaborative

