



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Yale Releases Ambitious Sustainability Strategy



Yale has been prominent in declaring that environmental citizenship must extend beyond the university's academic enterprise. Consistent with the need to exhibit leadership in this critical future direction, Yale President Richard C. Levin announces the recommendations of the Yale University Sustainability Task Force. In its report, **Sustainability Strategic Plan 2010-2013**, the University establishes a comprehensive set of sustainability goals that are both visionary yet achievable over the next three years.

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The Office of Sustainability is committed to advancing a culture of sustainability on campus and in the world. Here are some ways to get involved with what we're doing.

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ON CAMPUS: [Student Taskforce for Environmental Partnership](#)
[Yale Student Environmental Coalition](#)
[Sustainability Leaders \(staff\)](#)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Sustainability Tour



How does a university grow while drastically reducing its impact on the environment? As paradoxical as this challenge sounds, Yale has embraced responsible growth as a critical part of its mission. The University is rapidly expanding—both in terms of its physical infrastructure and as a source of world-class research. Yet, we are implementing innovative approaches to minimize environmental impacts. Yale's commitment to responsible growth is evident throughout the University's scenic campus.

Climate Change Action at Yale



Mitigating global climate change is recognized as one of the most pressing issues facing society today. Acknowledging its unique position to play a leadership role in addressing this global challenge, in 2005, President Richard C. Levin committed Yale University to a greenhouse gas reduction target of 43% below 2005 levels by 2020.

Yale has established a fifteen year **action plan** to take responsibility for its emissions. Yale's annual **executive summary** illustrates progress to date and outlines the University's strategy for reducing campus emissions.

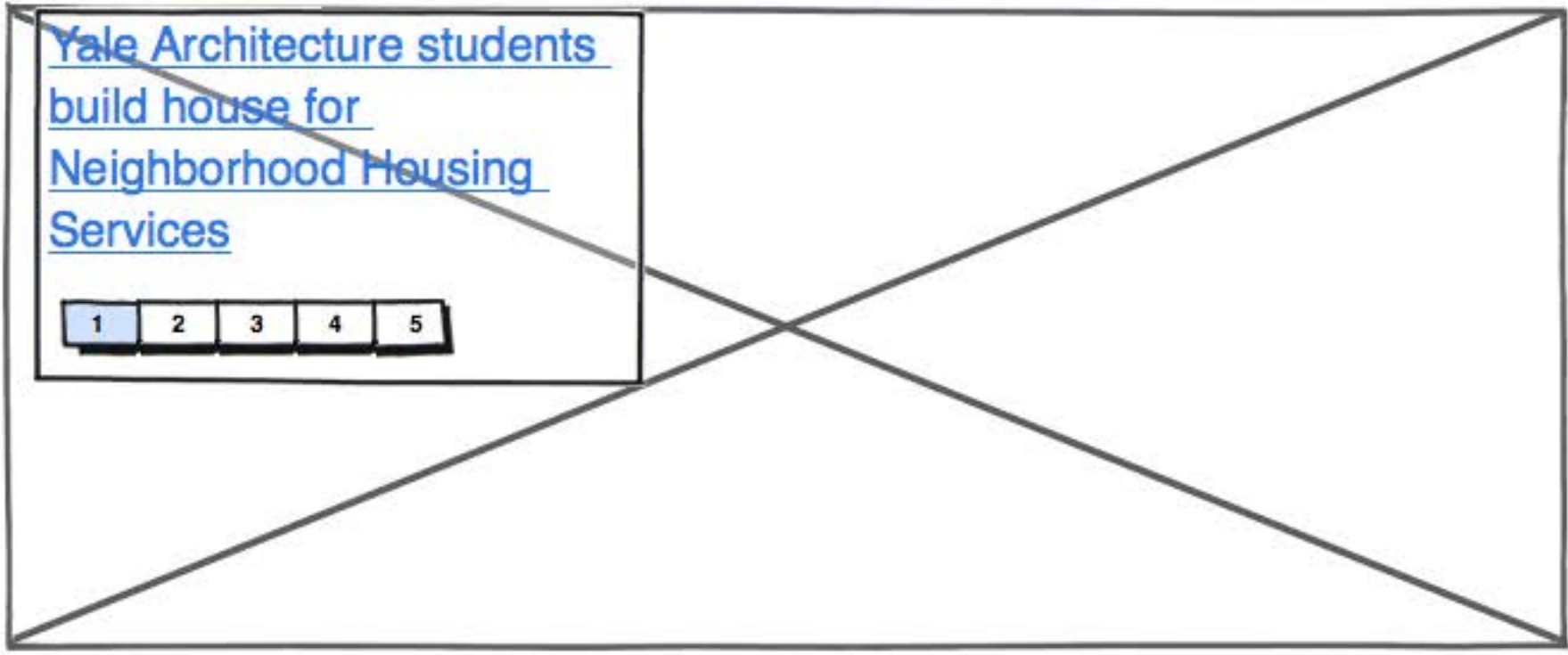
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[Yale Architecture students build house for Neighborhood Housing Services](#)

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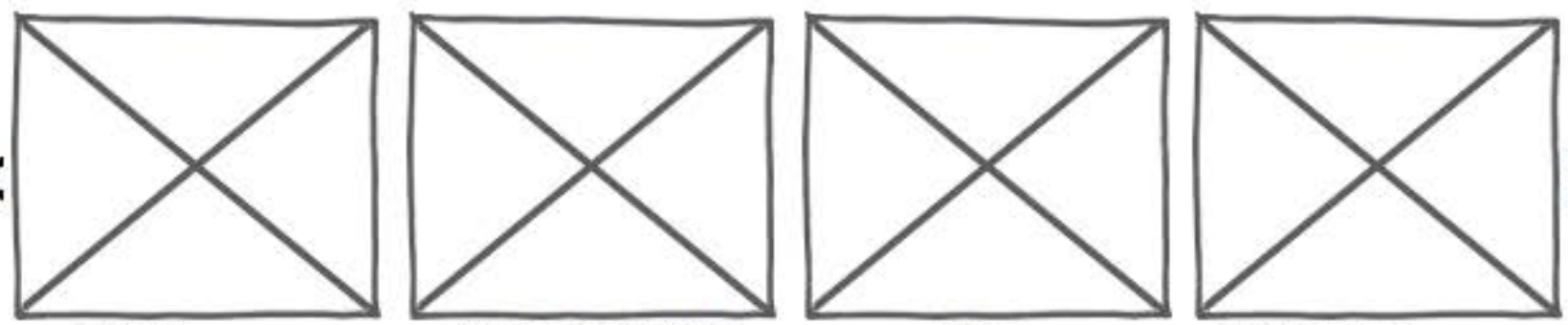


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We are charged with positioning Yale as an international model and leader in institutional sustainability through implementation, education, outreach, research, and partnership. [more](#)

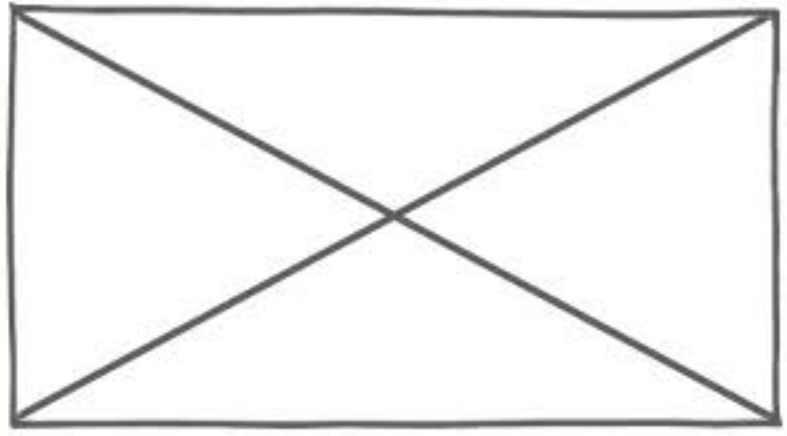
- News & Events**
- 07/11 [Sustainability Leaders Get Up Close and Personal with the Recycling Plant](#)
 - 05/31 [2012 Yale College Reunions Go Green](#)
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 - 03/21 [Yale Sustainability Progress Report now available!](#)
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Sustainable Yale



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In the Spotlight



Sustainability Tour

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Yale Sustainability



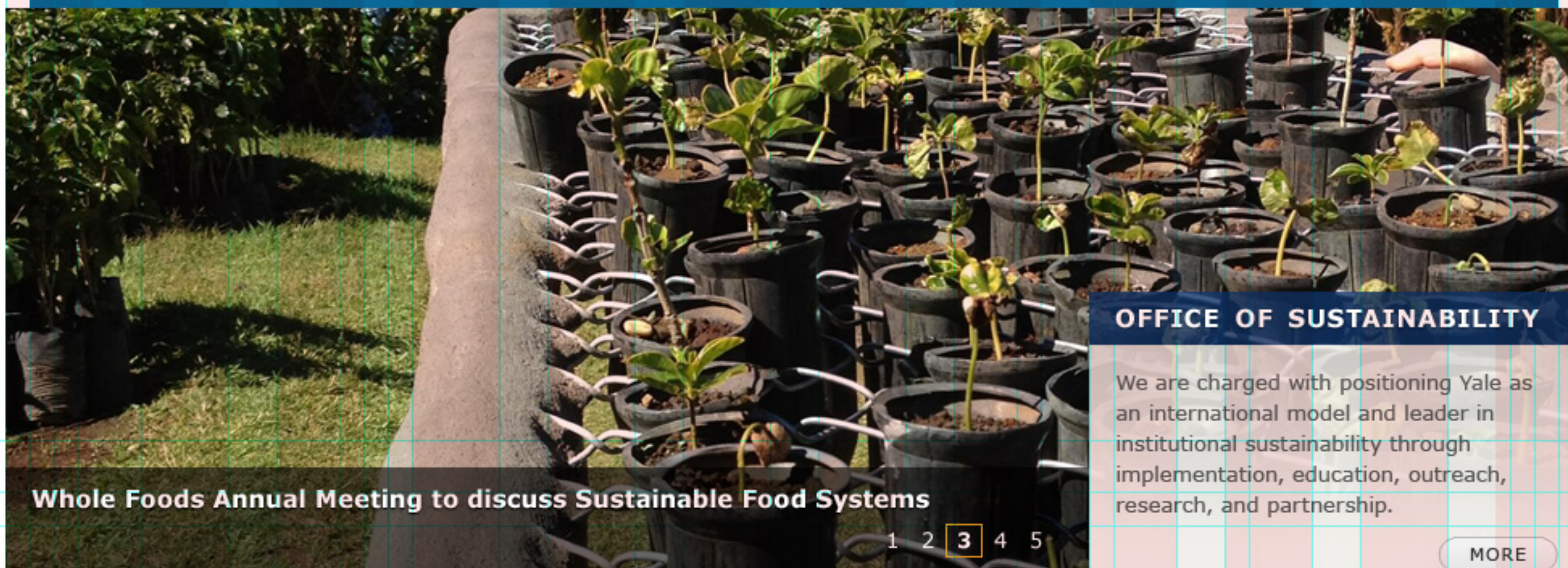
Planning & Progress

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Whole Foods Annual Meeting to discuss Sustainable Food Systems

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SUSTAINABLE YALE

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Climate Change



Yale Sustainable Food Project



Energy



Sustainable Buildings

>

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



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NEWS & EVENTS

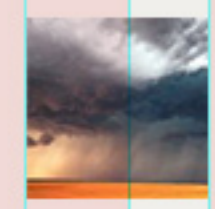
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Climate Change Action at Yale





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Research and Education

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Campus as a Living Lab



Utilizing the campus as a living lab, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Masters students participating in a seminar entitled "Emerging Markets for Ecosystem Services: Options for Yale's Ecosystem Services Plan" served as consultants addressing Yale's Strategic Plan goal to develop an Ecosystem Services Plan. Over the course of the semester students were asked to link theory to practice by analyzing opportunities for Yale to manage its lands in a way that its practices would benefit from providing ecosystem services. Students were required to integrate knowledge on biophysical/scientific, business/economic and policy/standards issues in the resulting recommendations.

Throughout the semester students worked with the Yale Office of Sustainability, Facilities and Operations, and other University offices to understand and articulate the goals of the Sustainability Strategic Plan. By conducting literature reviews, gathering information from on-campus sources, interviewing and visiting other organizations engaged in similar activities student groups developed the below reports on how Yale University could best manage its campus using an ecosystem services lens.

Each report addressed the following and made a series of site specific recommendation:

- Explain the components of an ecosystems services framework, with particular focus on the possible relationships to Yale
- Describe what "healthy" ecosystem services ratios/relationships might look like based on the goals being pursued by Yale.



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Planning and Progress

Yale Sustainability
Strategic Plan 2012

- 2012 Progress Report
- Campus Systems
- Administrative Systems
- Education & Engagement
- Earth Systems

Sustainable Yale

Climate Change Commitment

Strategic Partnerships

From the President

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2012 Progress Report

The following report is a snapshot of Yale University's sustainability goals, contained in the [Sustainability Strategic Plan 2010-2013](#). When achieved these goals will reduce the University's environmental footprint and enhance the quality of life on campus by streamlining systems and processes to save resources, time and money.

[VIEW REPORT](#)

[Download publication in PDF format.](#)



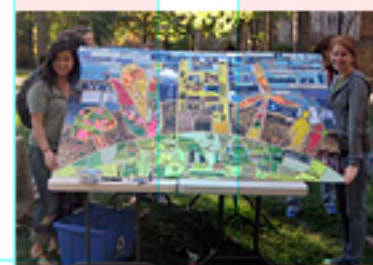
Campus Systems

A sustainable campus strives to provide the necessary services for the campus to run efficiently and effectively with minimal impact on the environment and human health.



Administrative Systems

A productive campus relies upon administrative systems that enable departments to maximize efficiency by balancing budgets, responsibly procuring goods, maintaining spaces according to best practices.



Education & Engagement

Success of Yale's sustainability goals depends on the active contribution and engagement of every member of the Yale community.