

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



## Building a Living Laboratory and an Evidence-Based Education Toolkit to Improve Omaha's Urban Water Quality

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Partners: City of Omaha Stormwater Program, Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO) Program at the City of Omaha, Nebraska Forest Service, and the University of Nebraska stormwater team



## Breathing easy in Omaha? Estimating exposure to find particulate matter in six pedestrian corridors

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## Energy Conservation and Behavior Change through Real-Time Energy Monitoring

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Energy

Built Environment Buildings

Food **Urban Sustainability** Behavior

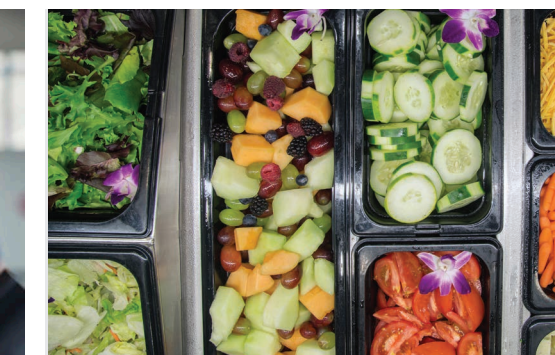
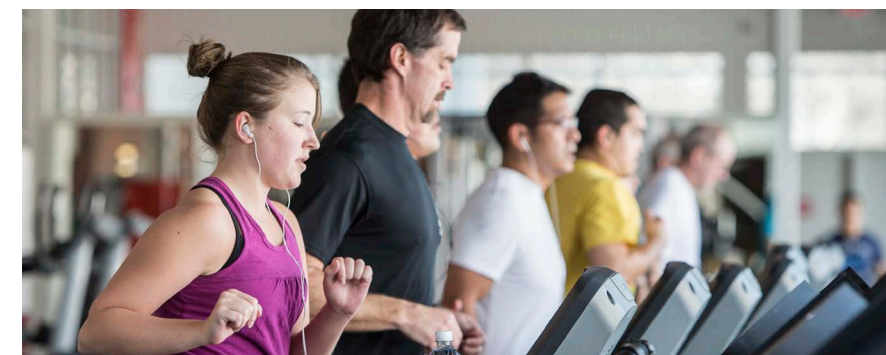
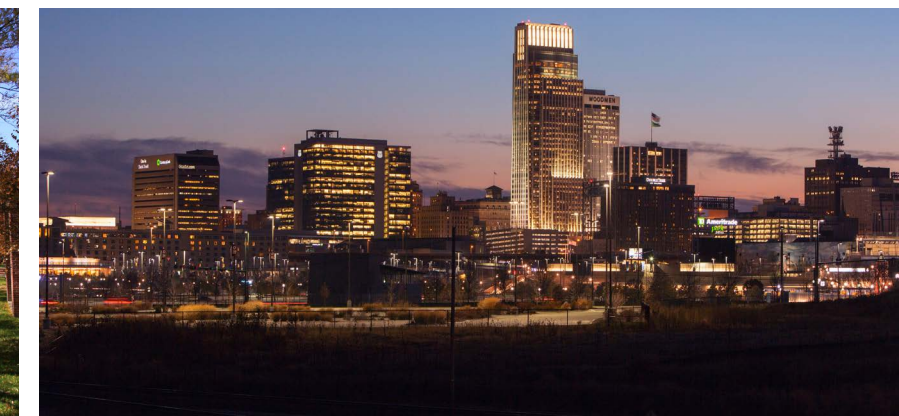
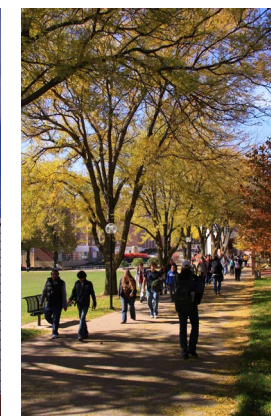
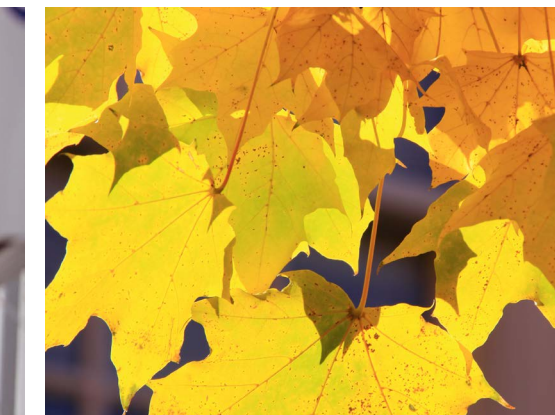
Natural Environment Human Environment

Air **Water** Civil Health



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

# CENTER FOR URBAN SUSTAINABILITY



The University of Nebraska at Omaha does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, genetic information, political affiliation or sexual orientation.





During UNO's Seven Days of Service, students, faculty and staff partner with the Omaha community in projects that support the community.

# What is Sustainability?

The rational use of resources to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development -December 11, 1987

**Resources:** the wise use and management of economic and natural resources; and **Respect:** respect for people and other living things. The aim of the 2Rs from an organization's perspective is long-term well-being, both for society as a whole as well as for itself.

Blackburn, The Sustainability Handbook

[urbancenter.unomaha.edu](http://urbancenter.unomaha.edu)  
 Learn more about the UNO Center for Urban Sustainability, its projects, and ways to get involved.

## Why Sustainability?

- Global Competition
- Rising Energy Costs
- Energy Independence
- Environmental Impact
- Health & Wellness

With the exploding world population, increasing global competition and growing demand for natural resources, finding solutions to these challenges will require an emphasis on innovative thinking and bold action. The sustainability challenge deals with the economic, social, political, environmental, or other consequences.

Sustainability is not a new concept, but it has become an important part of today's economic and social climate. Sustainable practices will become increasingly important as we work to increase efficiency, control costs, and promote health.



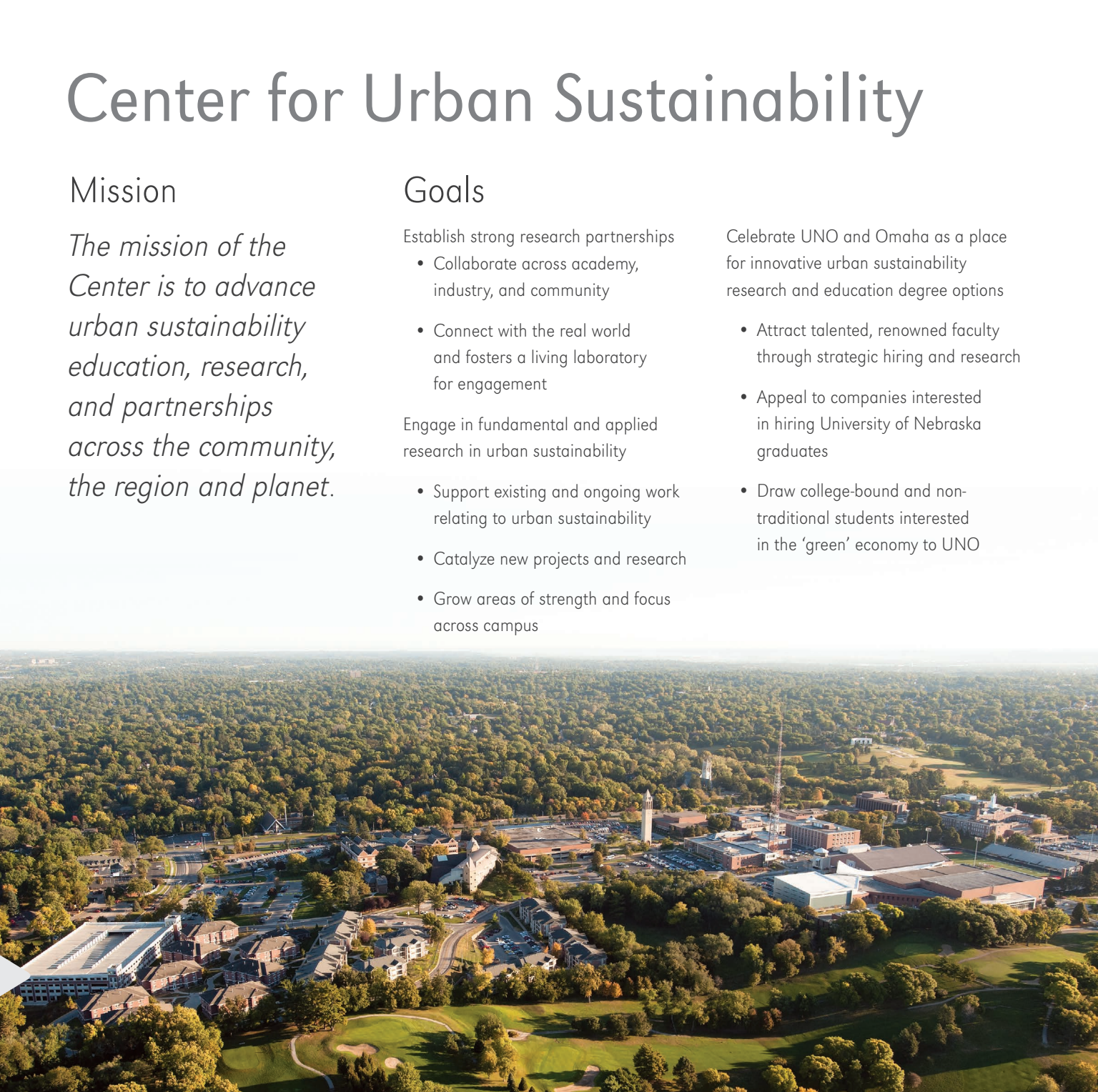
Mammal Hall is a certified LEED Gold building. It also features a rain garden that conserves water use for landscape purposes.

The Elkhorn River Research Station is the masthead of the Nebraska Water Network, a student-driven organization that strives to promote water quality awareness through outreach, education, and research. Led by Director Alan Kolok, Biology Department, College of Arts and Sciences.



UNO's partnership with Zipcar provides students, faculty and staff an environmentally- and economically-friendly option to add to the current bike-sharing, bus pass and shuttle programs.

UNO is recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree Campus USA campus.



# Center for Urban Sustainability

## Mission

*The mission of the Center is to advance urban sustainability education, research, and partnerships across the community, the region and planet.*

- ## Goals
- Establish strong research partnerships
    - Collaborate across academy, industry, and community
    - Connect with the real world and fosters a living laboratory for engagement
  - Engage in fundamental and applied research in urban sustainability
    - Support existing and ongoing work relating to urban sustainability
    - Catalyze new projects and research
    - Grow areas of strength and focus across campus
  - Celebrate UNO and Omaha as a place for innovative urban sustainability research and education degree options
    - Attract talented, renowned faculty through strategic hiring and research
    - Appeal to companies interested in hiring University of Nebraska graduates
    - Draw college-bound and non-traditional students interested in the 'green' economy to UNO