

NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES



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● Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

- Available for students, faculty, staff and approved guests.
- Encourage the use of electric vehicles to potentially reduce dependence on foreign oil and improve air quality around campus.

● Rain Gardens

- Shallow depressions planted with deep-rooted native plants and grasses.
- Allow rainwater runoff from impervious areas like downspouts, driveways, walkways or compacted lawns to be absorbed back into the water table.
- Reduce rainwater runoff from flowing into storm drains, which cause erosion, water pollution, flooding and diminished groundwater.
- Beautiful habitats for birds and beneficial insects.

● Native Plants

- Occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem and habitat without direct or indirect human intervention.
- Require little maintenance once established, resisting damage from freezing, drought and common diseases.
- Do not need fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides or watering.
- Improve water quality by controlling soil erosion and moderating floods and droughts.
- Increase biodiversity.
- Remove CO2 from the atmosphere by absorbing it and using it in photosynthesis.

● Geothermal

- Uses steady underground temperatures to heat and cool Res/Rec.
- Contains 60 vertical underground loops, protruding 650 feet into the ground.
- Eliminates need for natural gas lines.

● LED Lighting

- Stands for Light-Emitting Diode.
- More efficient and long-lasting compared to other lighting options.
- Does not produce heat, unlike incandescent bulbs.
- Does not contain mercury or need “warm-up” time like fluorescent lights.

● Permeable Pavers

- Comprised of layers of stone that allow water to infiltrate otherwise impermeable ground, controlling storm water at the source, filtering pollutants and reducing runoff.

● Community Garden

- Organic, no synthetic herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers are used.
- Uses water from the spring-fed pond on campus for irrigation.
- Plots available for students, faculty, staff and community members.

● Composting

- Food scraps are collected and turned into compost.
- Kaufman composts over 40 tons of food scraps annually.

● DuPage County Adopt-A-Stream

- The College adopted a section of the DuPage River, which borders campus.
- Student and staff volunteers do two cleanups per year.
- Keeps rivers healthy, clean and attractive.
- Reduces debris pollution and clogging of waterways.

● Res/Rec: LEED Silver Certification

- Geothermal heating and cooling system.
- Precast building envelope.
- Energy-efficient windows and lighting.
- White membrane roof.
- Water-efficient fixtures.
- Solar PV panels and energy storage system.

● Dr. Myron Wentz Science Center: Electrochromic glass

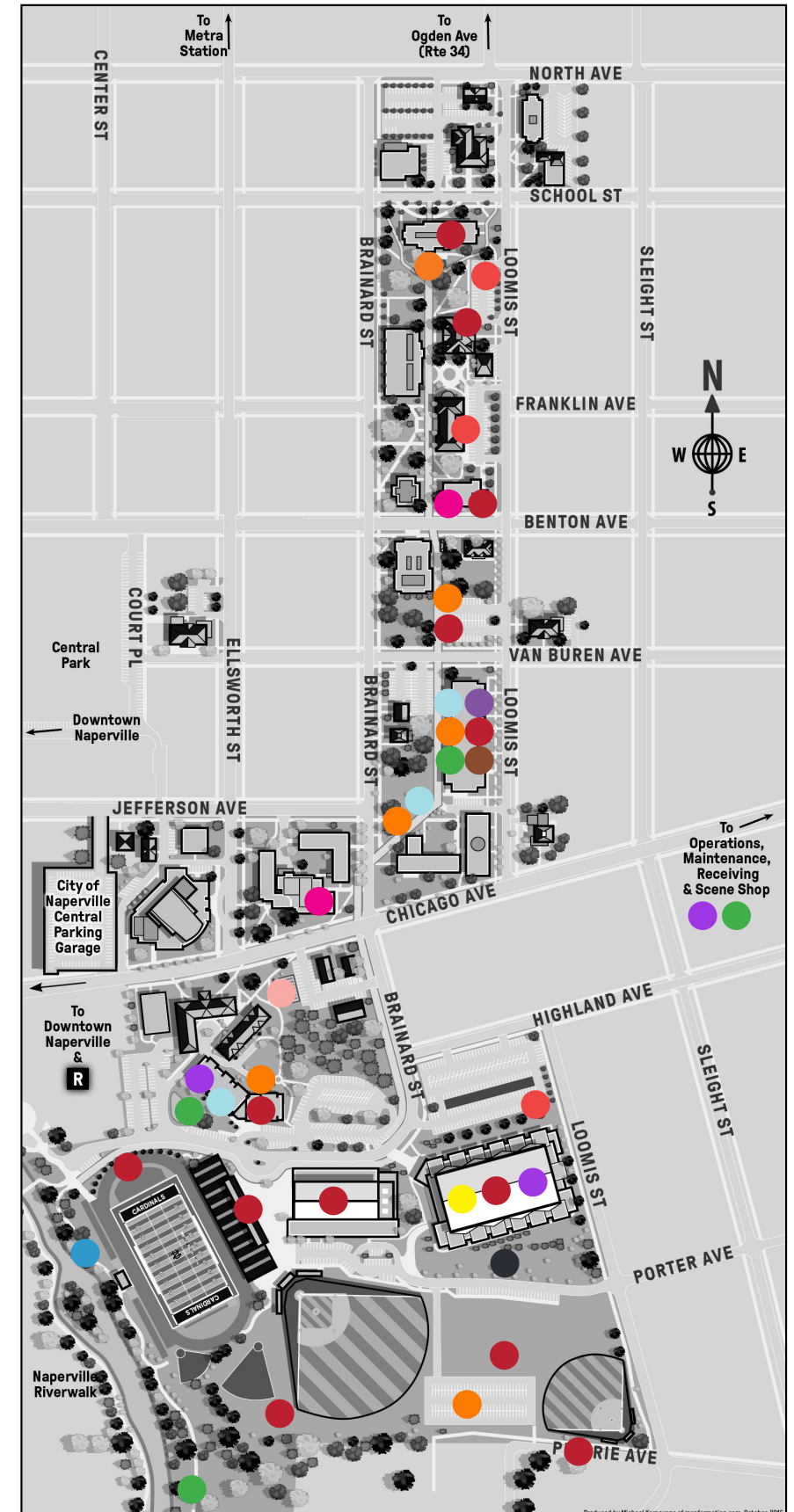
- The windows on the west side of WSC are made of a smart glass that senses the solar heat and adjusts the tint of the glass.
- Saves energy, provides abundant daylight and user comfort.
- Did you know: Wentz Science Center, while not certified like Res/Rec, was built to LEED silver standards and is home to the Environmental Studies program.

● Solar Installations

- Photovoltaic
 - » Res/Rec: 538 kW system provides 22% of the building’s electricity.
 - » Wentz Science Center: 60 kW system provides 4% of the building’s electricity.
 - » Business Operations: 56 kW system provides 68% of the building’s electricity.
- Thermal
 - » New Hall: 30 panels use the sun’s energy to help heat the building’s domestic hot water.

Other sustainability features throughout campus:

- Water bottle refilling stations
- Red Bike program
- Office composting
- Campus Arboretum
 - » Level 2 Arboretum through Arbnet
 - » Tree Campus Higher Education certification annually since 2016
- Recycling programs
 - » single stream
 - » electronics
 - » plastic bag and film
 - » batteries, bulbs and ballasts
 - » move out collections program



For more information on North Central’s sustainability initiatives, visit our page on The Hub.