

Sustainability at TMU

Sustainability Office, FMD
April 28, 2025

Toronto
Metropolitan
University

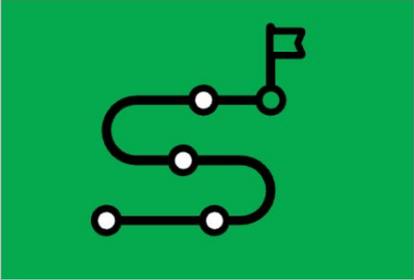


Overview of TMU

- **Founded:** 1948
- **Enrollment:** 48,000 students
- **Faculty & Staff:** 3,000+
- **Campus:** Urban, located in downtown Toronto
- **Community Impact:** Serving a diverse, vibrant community with a focus on innovation, sustainability, and research excellence.
- **Sustainability Office:** Team of 3 full-time staff



2023/2024 accomplishments at a glance



Launch of TMU's first Sustainability Action Plan



Formation of four new Climate Change and Sustainability Advisory Committee subcommittees



TMU earns an AASHE STARS Gold rating



Completion of TMU's first decarbonization feasibility studies



2024 Waste Audit Snapshot

On Track — But Major Opportunities Remain

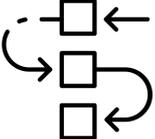
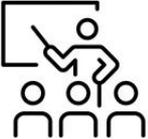


Metric		2024 Value	2028 Target	Status	Notes
	Waste Diversion Rate	37.10%	50%	 Slightly off track	Needs ~4.3% gain per year
	Waste Generated	1598.67 MT	1,522.92 MT (15% reduction)	 On track	Already down ~10.8%
	Capture Rate	41%	No formal target	 Improving	Up from 37.55%

Next Steps: Identified by the Subcommittee



Action

	Conduct Waste Stream Flow Study to identify system gaps and areas of improvement
	Establish a tracking process for Construction & Demolition (C&D) waste and expand reuse programming
	Strengthen sustainability engagement within the classroom: Develop D2L training module)

Reuse and Circularity in Action

TMU Free Store

By giving items a second life, we are



disrupting
throwaway culture
and contributing to
the circular economy



reducing carbon
emissions associated
with the production
and transportation
of new goods



saving resources,
including raw
materials, water and
energy

One Day Only!

Final Free Store Pop-Up of 2024!

Sustainability Office

Give gently-used
items a second life!

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Everyone has an equal
right to the Free Store, we have a
limit.

Toronto
Metropolitan
University

Facilities
Management
& Development

By the Numbers



Reuse and circularity in action



8,299 items were rehomed via the [Free Store](#)



6,428.13 lbs of waste were diverted from landfill via the Free Store



14,692 items were rehomed through the [Furniture Rehome Program](#)



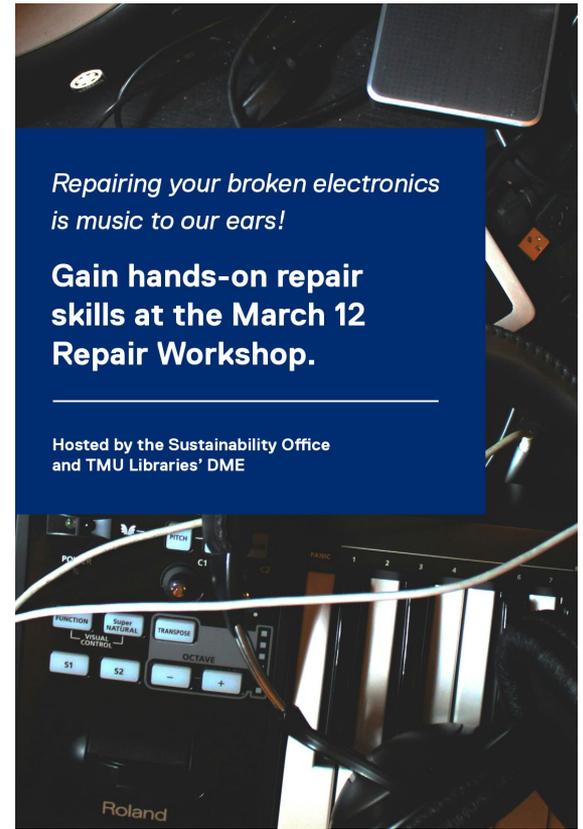
302 employees used the Furniture Rehome Program in 2023-2024, up from 160 in 2022-2023



6,507 Friendlier reusable containers were reused at the Hub Café

TMU Repair Workshop

- Partnership with the Libraries' Digital Media Experience Lab
- The DME's team of fixers teach hands-on repair skills and give items a second life
- Three workshops held since October 2024
- Promotes reuse and circularity



Coffee cup waste stream pilot

The problem: Disposable coffee cups make up a high volume of contamination of TMU's recycling stream as polyethylene coated coffee cups can't be traditionally recycled.

The response: Rollout of dedicated coffee cup waste receptacles in high traffic areas, educational campaign.

- Campaign (launch date TBD)
 - Installation of new receptacles near campus eateries
 - Raise awareness/drive usage of new waste stream + educate the community on the environmental impact of polyethylene coated coffee cups
 - Digital content for SoMe, screens, Life of a Coffee Cup vid

