Residence Halls and Apartments

University at Buffalo Residence Halls and Apartments affirms that its staff and residents have a responsibility to take a leadership role in conducting activities as responsible stewards of the natural environment and using educational activities to promote environmental awareness, personal action, and global thinking. Accordingly, Residence Halls and Apartments will function in a manner consistent with the conservation of natural resources and the minimization of adverse impacts on the natural environment.

RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION:

Recognizing the environmental benefits of recycling and waste reduction and the legal obligations imposed on state agencies by the New York State Solid Waste URH&A staff will:

• Develop and maintain a recycling and waste reduction program for residence halls and apartment communities by utilizing the principle of continuous improvement. The program may utilize educational resource materials, activities, and other tools for enhancement.

• Purchase products which are made from recycled materials, including paper with a high post-consumer recycling content.

• Employ green construction techniques into construction and renovation projects where fiscally practical.

• Complete a periodic trash-stream analysis to determine the adherence to the program.

EXPECTATIONS OF STAFF AND STUDENTS:

• Make wise lifestyle decisions to reuse material, reduce waste, and recycle where possible.

• Recycle all recyclable wastepaper, glass, metal, plastic, and cardboard.

• Report all recycling concerns and additional recycling opportunities to appropriate URH&A staff.

• Participate on campus-wide committees and support efforts to develop coherent, successful campus recycling, waste reduction and energy conservation programs.

ENERGY CONSERVATION:

Energy consumption and waste represents some of the most significant environmental impacts. URH&A commits itself to fully supporting a proactive energy conservation program. URH&A staff will:

• Design and build new facilities with energy efficiency and sustainable building principles in mind.

• Improve and maintain an energy conservation program applicable to its buildings and residents by incorporating conservation awareness into the staff training program.
• Continue to improve the energy efficiency of the URH&A physical plant through capital improvements and O/M measures.

• Monitor and analyze energy use to identify waste and determine conservation opportunities.

Expectations of staff and students:

• Become aware of individual energy use per task and practice conservation.

• Minimize energy waste by taking common sense steps such as turning off equipment/appliances when not in use; turn off lights in unoccupied rooms; turn off electronic equipment (stereos and computer equipment) and turning down the heat or air conditioning to a minimum comfortable temperature.

• Report all energy waste to appropriate URH&A staff.