

The Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) missions expand knowledge of the Earth and its environment, the solar system, and the universe. To maintain our nation's leadership in this endeavor, GSFC commits to conducting missions in a manner that promotes environmental stewardship. As an integral part of all mission planning and implementation, GSFC's environmental policy is to:

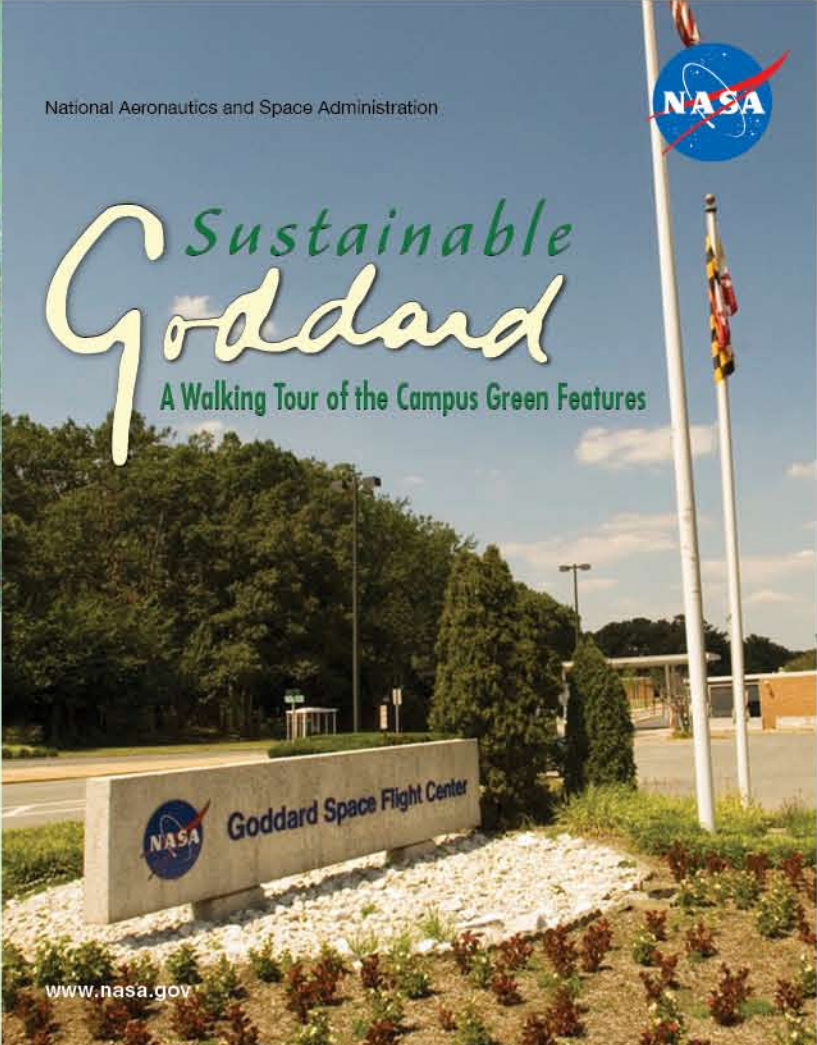
- Consider the neighboring natural environment while executing GSFC's mission.
- Comply with applicable Federal, state, and local legislation and regulations, Executive Orders (EO), NASA policies and other requirements;
- Prevent pollution and conserve natural resources;
- Implement pragmatic and cost effective solutions to environmental problems;
- Communicate with GSFC's family, our partners, and the public; and
- Continue to improve our environmental performance through our Environmental Management System (EMS), including:
 - Promote awareness through education and training;
 - Consider the environment as we do our jobs;
 - Explore advances in environmental technology, and
 - Provide a framework for setting objectives and targets.

These commitments enable each of us to do our part for environmental stewardship in our backyard.

GSFC's Environmental Policy

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD is a major U.S. laboratory for developing and operating unmanned scientific spacecraft. The center manages many of NASA's Earth observation, astronomy, and space physics missions. The Greenbelt campus encompasses 1,270 acres, part of which is loaned by the nearby U.S. Department of Agriculture. These grounds include more than 34 major buildings that provide more than 3 million square feet of research, development and office space. Goddard is unique in that these facilities provide for the construction and development of spacecraft software, scientific instruments, as well as the spacecraft themselves.

About GSFC



Sustainable Goddard

A Walking Tour of the Campus Green Features

Code 250
 Medical and Environmental Management Division
 For additional information on other environmental programs visit the Environmental Team Web site at <http://code250.gsfc.nasa.gov/environmental>



The GSFC Landscape

Goddard is located within two watersheds that feed into the Bay: the Anacostia and Patuxent rivers. The campus has three types of plant cover: forest, lawn, and ornamentals. The forested areas are rich with oak, as well as scrub pine, red maple, black gum, and sweet gum. The campus also houses a few cypress trees, a sub-tropical tree not usually found this far north. Lawn is the second most prevalent plant cover, followed by nonnative grasses and ornamental plants planted for a decorative effect in high-visibility areas.

Sustainability at GSFC

Over the years, GSFC has undertaken projects inside and outside our buildings to reduce the impact of the Center's activities on the environment. Goddard has allowed many lawn areas to revert back to meadow and forest. In addition, volunteers have planted hundreds of trees in former lawn areas to increase the Center's tree count. To curtail our impacts on water quality, GSFC installed a large bioretention basin and a rain garden at the building 32 parking lot. These landscape features filter pollutants from the stormwater runoff and allow it to infiltrate the ground instead of flowing directly into a storm drain.

Inside of our buildings, Goddard has reduced energy and water use through conservation measures, such as installation of automatic sensors for lights and faucets, more efficient lighting, and HVAC cycling. The Center also uses landfill gas to heat water to make steam for the boilers, which helps to conserve natural resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Using landfill gas instead of natural gas has allowed the Center to avoid more than \$18M in operating costs between 2003 and 2011. Waste minimization and recycling on Center got a boost in 2011 when GSFC implemented a single-stream recycling program. The new program makes it easier for employees to recycle and encourages greater participation. The Center is also the first NASA site to use Freecycle@Work to exchange office supplies between employees. In the first year alone, employees have shared more than 100 office items and kept over 1,000 pounds of materials out of the landfill.

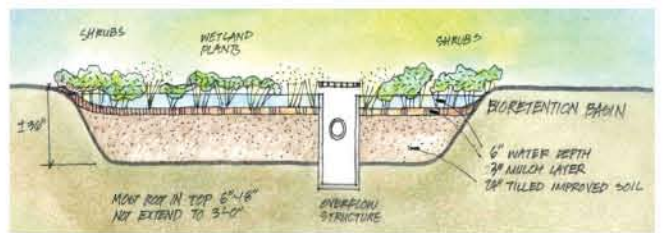


What Can I Do?

GSFC expects no less than excellence in the preservation and enhancement of the Center's grounds and environment, and in the implementation of GSFC's environmental programs. As GSFC civil servant and contractor employees, you can do your part at work by considering how your job and activities on Center affect the environment. From conserving energy, water, and paper to properly handling hazardous waste, everyone has a role in protecting our environment and sustaining GSFC's mission.

As a center of significant scientific research, GSFC leads the way in the pursuit of knowledge to monitor and improve our environment. A commitment to environmental excellence enables us to be good stewards of the federal land in our care. We can help protect the Earth by starting here at Goddard.

- Follow the four "R's:" Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rebuy (products with recycled content)
- Turn off lights/equipment when not in use
- Walk or bike between buildings on campus instead of driving
- Manage and dispose of hazardous waste properly (call 6-9233 for help)
- Do not pour chemicals or oils down the sink drain or storm drain
- Put on a sweater instead of turning on a space heater
- Watch for volunteer opportunities around campus, such as the annual Center Clean-Up and Clean Water activities.



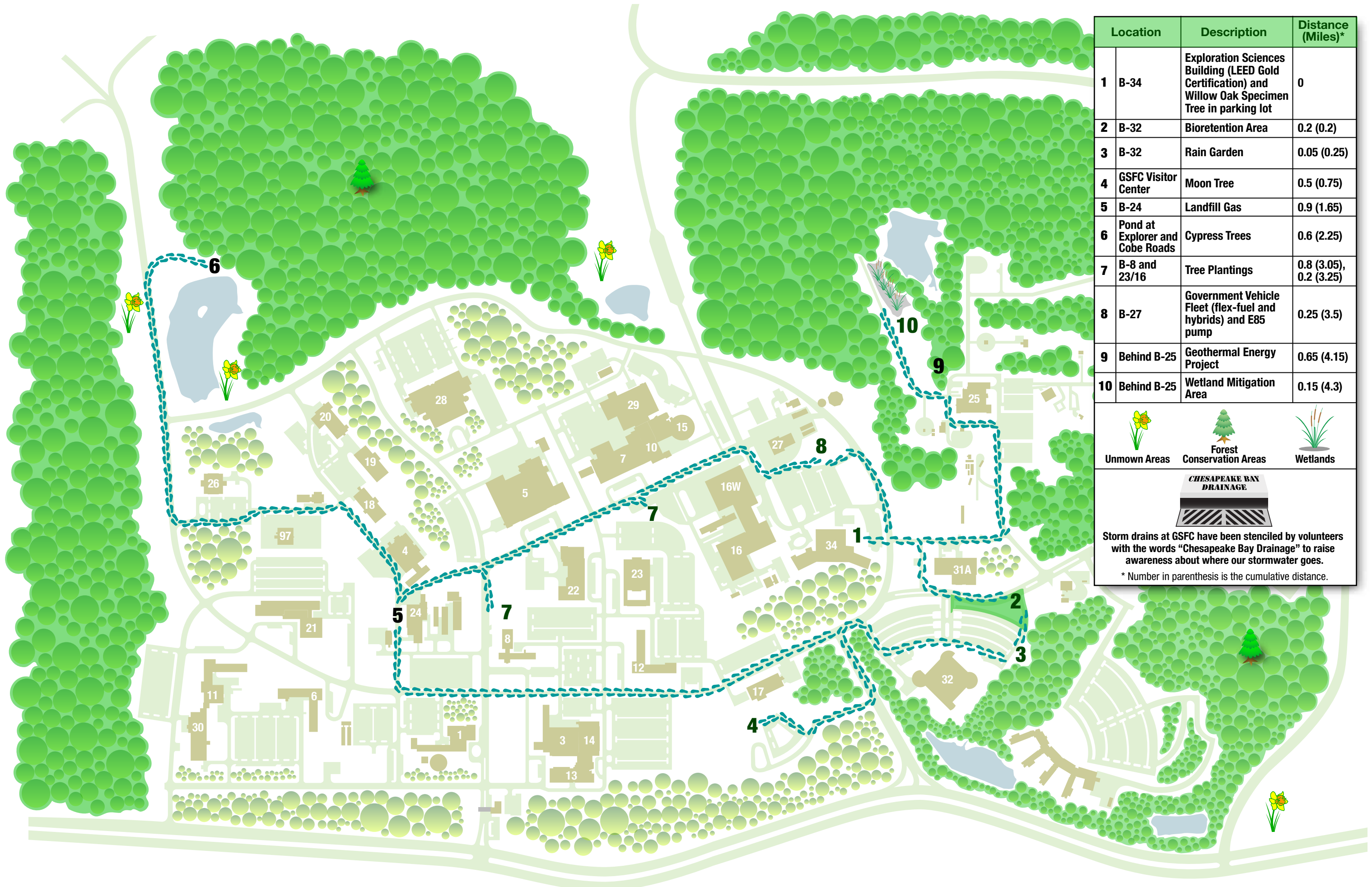
Where Can I Find More Information?

Look for more information under "Goddard Environmental Management" on the Internal Website (<https://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov/web/services/home>) or read past environmental bulletins with helpful information at <http://code250.gsfc.nasa.gov/environmental/outreach.cfm>.




See also


- <http://recycle.gsfc.nasa.gov>
- <http://energy.gsfc.nasa.gov>





Location		Description	Distance (Miles)*
1	B-34	Exploration Sciences Building (LEED Gold Certification) and Willow Oak Specimen Tree in parking lot	0
2	B-32	Bioretention Area	0.2 (0.2)
3	B-32	Rain Garden	0.05 (0.25)
4	GSFC Visitor Center	Moon Tree	0.5 (0.75)
5	B-24	Landfill Gas	0.9 (1.65)
6	Pond at Explorer and Cobe Roads	Cypress Trees	0.6 (2.25)
7	B-8 and 23/16	Tree Plantings	0.8 (3.05), 0.2 (3.25)
8	B-27	Government Vehicle Fleet (flex-fuel and hybrids) and E85 pump	0.25 (3.5)
9	Behind B-25	Geothermal Energy Project	0.65 (4.15)
10	Behind B-25	Wetland Mitigation Area	0.15 (4.3)

		
Unmown Areas	Forest Conservation Areas	Wetlands


<p>Storm drains at GSFC have been stenciled by volunteers with the words "Chesapeake Bay Drainage" to raise awareness about where our stormwater goes.</p> <p>* Number in parenthesis is the cumulative distance.</p>