Water Bottle Refill Stations
UTSA has installed water bottle refill stations all around campus in an effort to avoid the use of non-reusable water bottles. Each refill station can remove 10,000 bottles per year from the waste stream. UTSA has an aggressive recycling program that manages all waste and recycling material on our 3 campuses. Every year UTSA competes in the national RecycleMania competition.

Monarch Waystation
UTSA has adopted thousands of Monarch Butterflies by installing a milkweed garden on West Campus. This beautiful pollinator and butterfly garden serves as a nesting ground and waystation for caterpillars and butterflies. The garden was installed in 2016 and is already providing for countless butterflies. Research on this species is ongoing through the Environmental Sciences.

Solar Energy
UTSA installed solar panels on the roofs of the University Center’s and the Engineering Building on the Main Campus. The panels reduce carbon dioxide emissions up to 273,661 pounds annually, the equivalent of planting 37.2 acres of trees. They also generate 386 megawatt hours of energy, saving UTSA as much as $30,400 per year.

Community Garden
The UTSA Student Community Garden was established in 2016 by funds collected by the Green Fee assessed with registration each semester. Since then, students have planted, harvested, and come together around the garden in a spirit of cooperation and community with a unified goal of living a more sustainable lifestyle.

UTSA Water Conservation Projects
UTSA was honored with the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Refreshing Ideas Pinnacle Award for water conservation and environmental protection. In 2011, UTSA replaced 10 acres of natural grass with synthetic turf at intramural fields, saving an estimated 21,000,000 gallons of water/year. SAWS awarded a $178,532 conservation rebate due to expected reduced water consumption.

Energy Conservation
The UT System has implemented 5% reduction goals over a 10 year period. The Bio-Sciences Building air handling system conversion is expected to save 58,000/year. Conservation efforts (since 2000) are yielding recurring savings of approximately $2.2M/yr. UTSA has received over $1.5M in conservation rebates from the local utilities over that time period.
OUR SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS