



## Proposal: Green Science, Events & Offices in PARC

Purpose: Energy Consumption Reduction

Rationale: As an EFRC we are on the cutting edge of renewable energy research. We are leaders in the field. With this position, we can be better examples of energy consumers in our own practices. We all recognize that the solutions to global energy needs come in many forms; one of which is reducing our own energy consumption.

Being said, all PARC members are challenged to join a PARC sustainability initiative to reduce our energy consumption and increase our use of recyclable, reusable and environmentally friendly items.

Challenge to all PARC labs and PARC events:

- Reduce energy consumption in our research
  - Turn off lights, computers and instruments when not in use (when and where possible)
- Reduce non-essential waste production in our research
  - Don't use disposable plastic tubes, when reusable glass containers will do
  - Re-use materials that are reusable
  - Participate in lab recycling programs
  - Only make or take amounts that you need
- Reduce paper consumption in meetings and research
  - Make use of AdobeConnect, Google Groups, etc.
  - Make use of Mendeley, DropBox or other online reference storage
- Reduce use of toxic or environmentally harmful chemicals
  - Don't use ethidium bromide etc. when safer replacements exist
  - When you can, choose more sustainable chemicals (more abundant elements, smaller production process, local delivery etc.)
- Reduce use of consumable food service items
  - Encourage proper recycling of plastic packaging and aluminum cans
  - Encourage participants to bring their own cup, mug to PARC seminars
  - Work with vendors to find more sustainable options
- Reduce use of fossil fuel in our commutes
  - Carpool, bike, use public transportation etc.

These suggestions are not time consuming or expensive. With a few slight changes to our daily habits we can make PARC a lot greener! Please relay any other ideas, tips, suggestions, or practices from your labs to make us all greener!