

**Sustainability Fee Project Grant Report Guidelines**  
for grants awarded during FY2016  
Due by 5pm August 1, 2016  
Email pdf or word doc to [cfs@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:cfs@georgiasouthern.edu)

**Date: August 1, 2016**

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**Project title: Eagle Hydration Station**

**Amount granted: \$7825.00 (in collaboration with other researchers)**

**Amount spent: \$7825.000**

### ***I. Project Outcomes/Value***

**Project Timeline** - Project complete.

**Project Outcomes** - The goal of this project was to contribute toward the installation of high efficiency, low cost water bottle filler units in order to reduce the ecological footprint of water bottles on the Georgia Southern University campus by 10-15% by the end of 2016. Hydration stations would provide students with an alternative to bottled water by dispensing free, filtered tap water, culminating in a decrease in the consumption of bottled water on campus.

In combination with several other grants, the water bottle fillers were installed as follows: Library (4 units) Carroll Building (2 units); Newton (2 units); Foy (1 unit); Russell Union (1 unit); COBA (1 unit), Math & Physics (1 unit); Herty (1 unit); Engineering building (1 unit); and the Lewis building (1 unit)



Figure 1: More than 13,000 bottles had been saved in each of the bottle fillers  
A survey of installed units revealed that between 10,000 15,000 bottles of water had been saved from each unit.

### **Sustainability Improvements –**

**Outreach** – During the year, the water bottle fillers were advertised via 122 posted fliers in the locations for which they were housed. Additionally, undergraduate students involved in the project handed out fliers depicting the environmental impact associated with plastic water bottles in high traffic areas, including the Georgia Southern Rotunda.

The goal of the advertisement campaign was to encourage environmentally conscious students to purchase bottles. There was also an on-campus giveaway of Eagle water bottles promoting the hydration stations, in the form of a raffle. Students filled out a card with an email address and were randomly selected to receive a water bottle.

**Budget report:** In combination with other grants received for this purpose, 14 bottle fillers were purchased. Additionally, 96 bottles were purchased with the funding reserved for public outreach. Fliers that were posted and distributed were provided for free by the Civil Engineering & Construction Management department.

### ***II. Student and Community Impact***

This grant did not support undergraduate or graduate students. Two volunteer undergraduate students assisted with outreach, through the handing out of fliers. In total, about 150 students in the Civil Engineering & Construction Management department students participated in an online module regarding the solid waste implications of water bottles and the downstream environmental benefits of the water bottle fillers.

***Project abstract***

The “Eagle Hydration Stations”, located in the high traffic areas of campus provides hygienic, hands-free water dispensers. The goal of installing these high efficiency, low cost units is to reduce the ecological footprint of water bottles on the Georgia Southern University campus. In one year, an estimated 75,000 plastic bottles have been diverted from the waste stream. Hydration stations provides students with an alternative to bottled water by dispensing free, filtered tap water, culminating in a decrease in the consumption of bottled water on campus. During the year, an awareness campaign on campus also resulted in the distribution of 96 reusable water bottles. The hydration stations and associated awareness campaign resulted in a shift toward a more sustainable Georgia Southern campus, and a more environmentally aware student population.

