

Climate Fees for Travel

Lily Strehlow
Sustainability Coordinator
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire

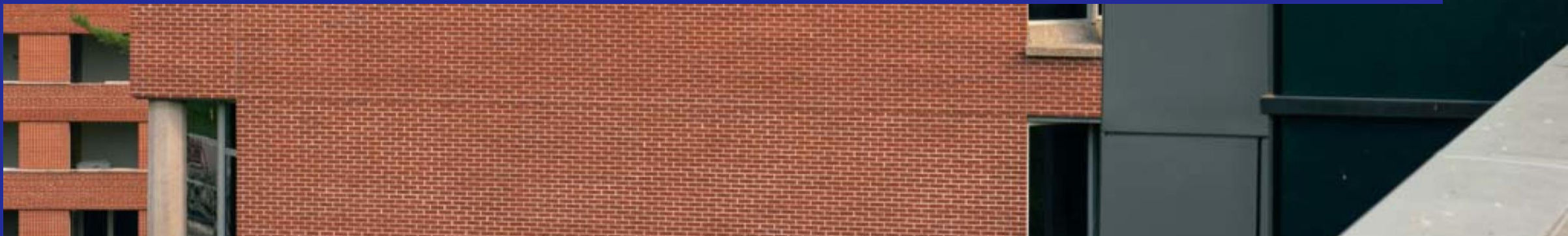
LAND RECOGNITION STATEMENT:

We acknowledge that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire occupies the sacred and ancestral lands of Indigenous Peoples on our Eau Claire, Rice Lake and Marshfield campuses. We honor the land of the Menominee, Ho-Chunk, Potawatomi, Ojibwe and Dakota Nations.





Carbon Context





Sustainability

ABOUT | SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability

Sustainability in Academics

Student Sustainability Involvement




Campus Sustainability Initiatives



Sustainability at UW

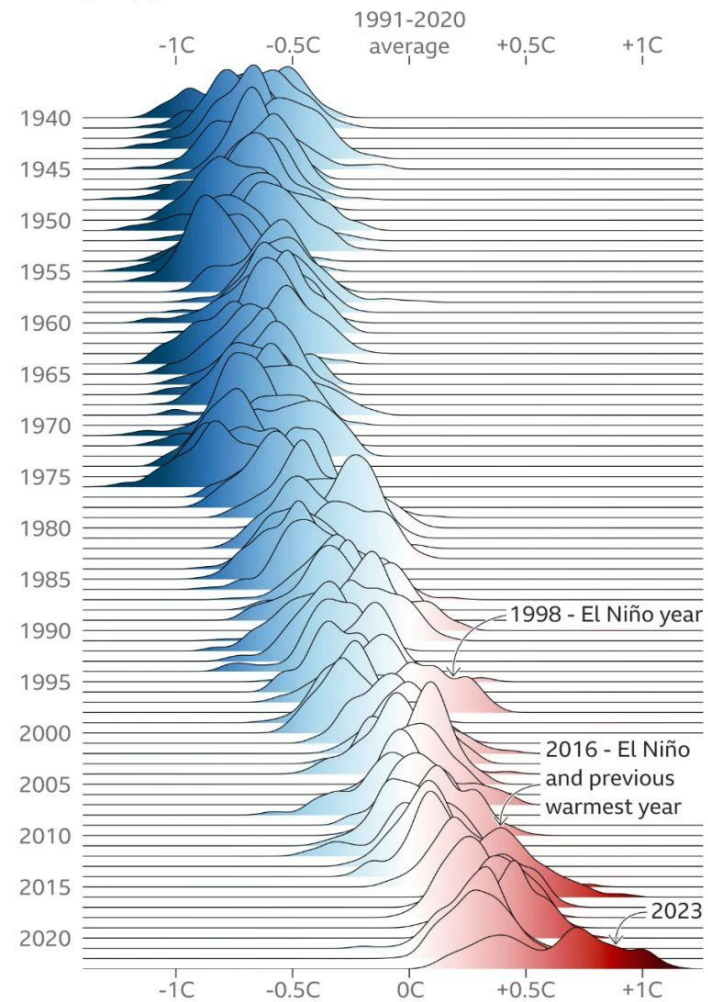
At UW-Eau Claire our campus is a living opportunity to explore sustainable construction, graduate with valued credentials, and create new campus sustainability projects through the green fund - without any out of pocket fees.

These opportunities are a result of our dedication to transitioning our buildings, operations, and academics to a more sustainable model. Our goals include:

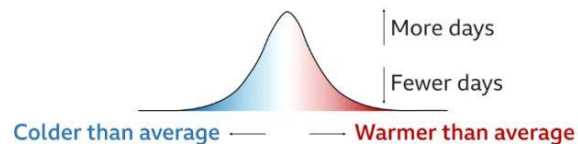
- Reaching [campus carbon neutrality](#)  by 2050
- Preparing students for civic leadership by:

- Student education for climate change/Academics
- Student internships
- Waste
- Campus Energy Use
- Renewable Energy
- Capital Projects
- Commuting & EVs
- Air Travel
- Carbon Footprint
- Working with Native students, faculty, staff on TEK implementation
- Faculty/staff education

Daily global air temperature compared with the 1991-2020 average, by year



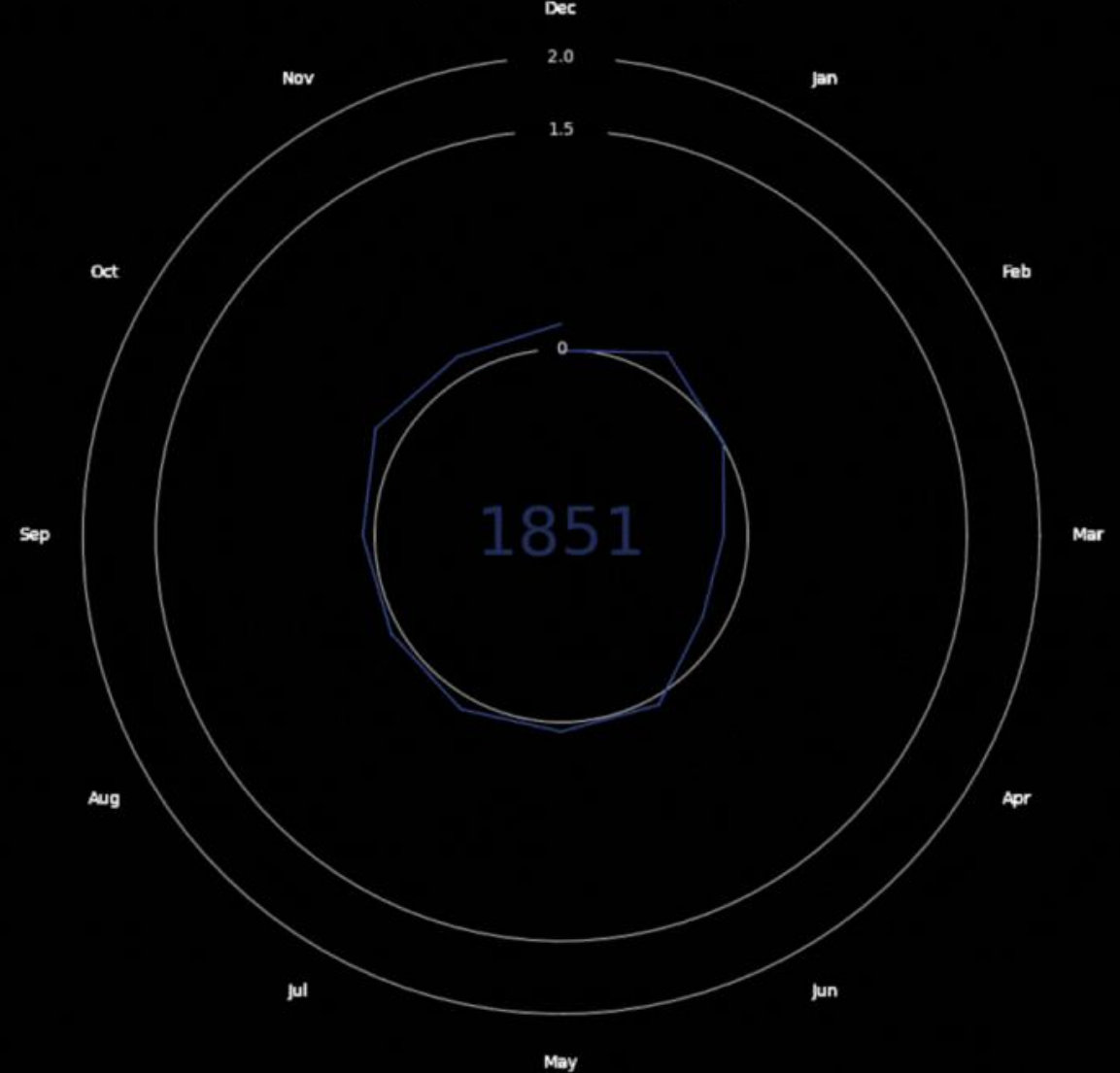
Each ridge in the chart shows every day in a year and how their temperatures compare with the 1991-2020 average



Source: ERA5, C3S/ECMWF

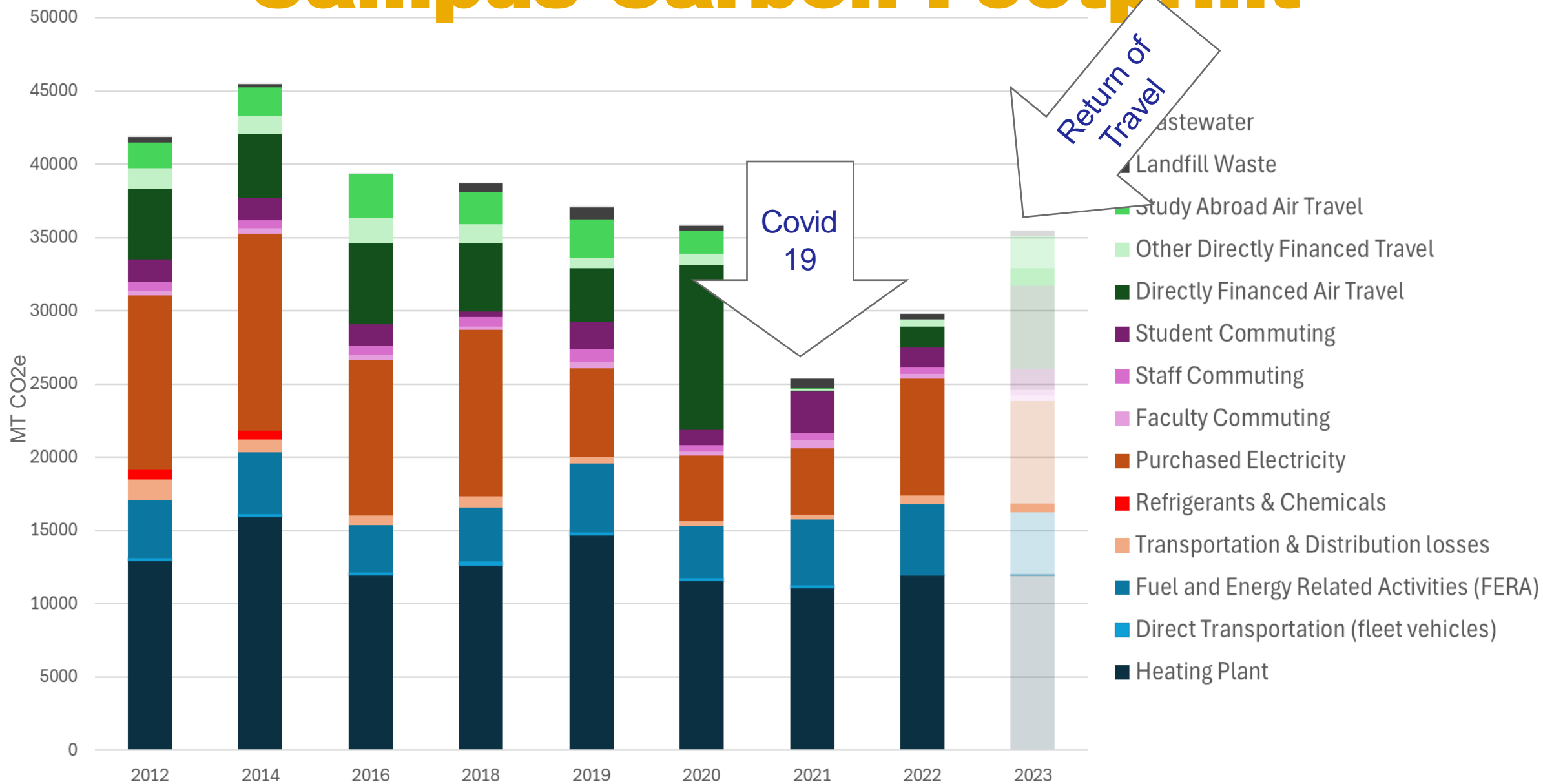
BBC

Monthly global mean temperature difference (°C)
Compared to 1850-1900 average



WMO Combined Dataset

Campus Carbon Footprint








The Social Cost of Carbon



What will climate change do? IPCC AR6

Key

Observed increase in climate impacts
to human systems and ecosystems
assessed at **global level**

-  Adverse impacts
-  Adverse and positive impacts
-  Climate-driven changes observed,
no global assessment of impact direction

Confidence in attribution
to climate change

- *High or very high confidence*
- *Medium confidence*
- *Low confidence*



September 22, 2016. CTH Q East of CTH K.



September 22, 2016. CTH G near Hathaway Creek.

Breakdown of UWEC Travel

Flight Emission by type of Travel

Year	Source	Qty - passenger miles	GHG MTCDE	Cost to Offset – <i>high quality avg.*</i>	Cost to Offset – <i>Airline avg.**</i>
Average, FY 2012-2019	Directly Financed Outsourced Travel: Air: Faculty / Staff	4,289,828	1,539	\$ 142,947.48	\$ 79,087.97
Average, FY 2012-2019	Directly Financed Outsourced Travel: Air: Students	6,205,179	2,863	\$ 104,236.41	\$ 57,670.45
FY Average, 2012-2020	Study Abroad: Air Travel	4,546,364	2,176	\$ 79,226.03	\$ 43,833.06
Overall Avg.	All	14,656,766	6,384	\$ 232,407.30	\$ 128,583.03

Average Carbon Emissions from flying, UWEC

Annual Flight Emissions – All Flights		
Year	Quantity - passenger miles	GHG MTCDE
2012	10,152,873	6,531
2014	13,961,211	6,345
2016	19,023,584	8,523
2018	15,507,769	6,811
2019	14,488,045	6,290

Social Cost of Carbon

The Biden administration has been using the Interagency Working Group's interim value of \$51 per metric ton of CO₂

In early 2024 the EPA proposed increasing that number to \$190

- Discount rate: How valuable is the future?
- This number literally puts a value on human lives and quality of life

Another way to value: Carbon Offsets

- Another option, not a best practice

Will there be penalties or fees associated with institutional carbon emissions?

- Many publicly traded companies now have to report portions of their carbon emissions under new Securities exchange Commission rules



Katingan REDD+ Forest Protection

\$3.15 - \$7.47 / t

Reducing Indonesian deforestation by restoring 149,800 hectares of forest

REDD+



CarbonCure Concrete Mineralization

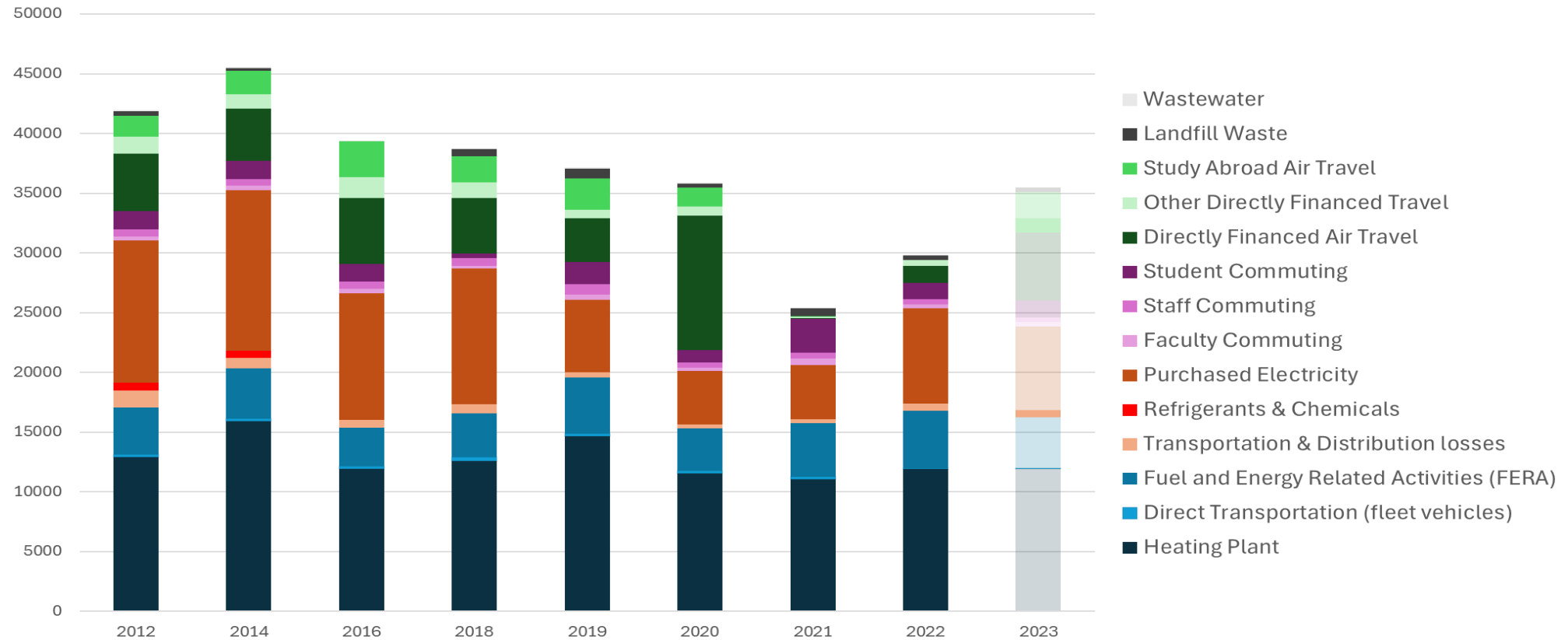
\$165 / t

Injecting CO₂ into cement to make super-strong low-carbon concrete

Concrete Injection

Add to order

35,000 MT CO₂ e = **\$1,212,960** annual impact for UWEC
@ \$190/ton for Air travel only



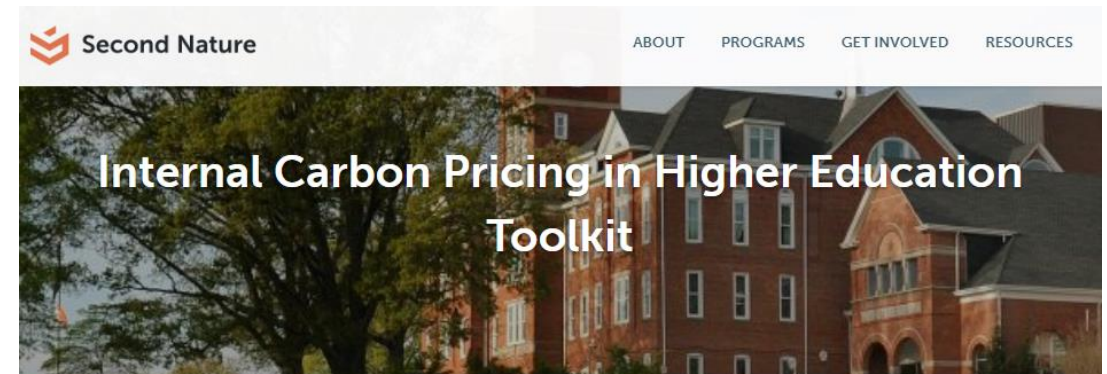
Carbon Offset Options

Totals \$129,000 to **\$232,000** annual cost at UWEC

Cost of offsets \$/metric ton of carbon							
<u>American Airlines</u> cost per metric ton offsets	<u>British Airways</u> cost per metric ton offsets	<u>Delta Airlines</u>	<u>Patch</u> "Conservation Blend"	<u>Patch</u> "Avoidance & Novel Removal Technologies"	<u>Patch</u> "Oxford Glidepath"	Average cost of offset per ton – <i>High Quality</i> avg.*	Average cost of offset per ton – <i>Airlines</i> avg.**
\$14.73	\$40.62	\$5.07	\$23.00	\$37.00	\$98.00	\$36.40	\$20.14

What if we kept it simple and revenue neutral?

- Example: \$10/flight Climate Fee
- All \$ come back to their respective campuses OR in a central fund?
- Allocate towards facilities, solar feasibility studies, grant match, etc.
- Introduce the need and put a cost to carbon neutrality in travel
- Calendar year 2023: 21,638 tickets in UW
- **\$216,380** total for ALL of Universities of Wisconsin



Co-edited by:

Yale University and  Second Nature

Colleges and universities are important leaders in preventing the worst impacts of climate change. Pricing carbon is one instrument schools can use to advance climate solutions. This toolkit provides recommendations, examples, and tools to guide schools through the process of exploring, designing, and implementing a carbon price on campus.

The toolkit is a product of the Carbon Pricing in Higher Education Working Group, a collaboration of institutions interested in internal carbon pricing. Visit the [About Us](#) section to learn more about the working group and the toolkit authors. The institutions contributing to this toolkit are:



Cornell University



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Arizona State University



Second Nature





Questions? Email Sustainability@uwec.edu

Thank you!

