BENEDICTINE VALUES
Embrace CSB’s heritage and incorporate the core values into your daily life. Community Living, Justice, Listening, Moderation, Peace, Respect for Persons, Stability, and Stewardship directly inform our commitment to sustainability.

BENNIE CAREER CLOSET
CSB is committed to an equitable and meaningful educational experience, including professional explorations, for all Bennies. Those who might not have access to professional clothing can “shop” for business-appropriate attire at no cost. Items are donated by community members and alums.

BOOKSTORE
Buying used textbooks saves resources and saves you money. Buying from the CSB Bookstore also keeps money in our community and cuts down on energy expended for shipping! You can also get a reusable water bottle, which you’ll want because of our…

BOTTLED WATER POLICY
In 2011, CSB became one of the country’s first institutions to ban the sale and purchase of plain, plastic bottled water on campus. We recognize the environmental, economic, health, and social costs of the production, transport, and sale of plastic bottled water, and we also believe that since water is a fundamental human right, we should not profit from it.

CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT
CSB was the first college in Minnesota to pledge to live the vision of Pope Francis’s Laudato Si’, which calls for urgent action on climate change and invites everyone to care for Earth, our common home.

CLEMENS PERK
Bring your own mug! And straw! But if you must use a disposable cup, you’ll pay 10¢ extra. This student-run venture operates sustainably by sourcing Direct Trade coffee and composting coffee grounds.

CLUBS
Sustainability Alliance and Climate Action Club are just two of many CSB/SJU student clubs. Check them out!

CENTENNIAL COMMONS
The first college student housing in Minnesota to be awarded LEED® for Homes Platinum, the highest level of certification. The townhouses are built with sustainable features, and student residents are encouraged to live sustainably.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN
A mutually beneficial campus-community partnership turning surplus food from Gorecki into high quality, nutritious meals for the locals. CK’s mission is to alleviate food insecurity and catalyze education, collaboration, and community action in Stearn’s County. Join the CK volunteer crew!

CUT THE CURRENT WATER & ENERGY USE CHALLENGE
Each year, residence halls and apartments compete to see who can reduce their water and energy consumption the most! The winners get a pizza party! But why not aim to reduce your use every day? Good stewardship is always our responsibility.

ECOHouses
Rainbow House is CSB’s ecohouse community. Residents encourage one another to live mindfully, reducing consumption and increasing sustainable actions. Join them and the SJU ecohouses for events throughout the year!

EXTENDING THE LINK
ETL is a student-run venture that creates an annual short documentary film focused on an under-reported global social justice issue. Previous projects have included the significance of water, electronic waste, and women in agriculture.

FULL CIRCLE GREENHOUSE
Did you know we can grow delicious vegetables in Minnesota even in the heart of winter? This student-run deep winter greenhouse, located near the CSB Maintenance building, proves it is possible! Email fullcircle@csbsju.edu to get involved!

GHOST RANCH SPRING BREAK
For over 25 years, poet and retired CSB Recycling Coordinator Larry Schug has led students on this magnificent retreat in New Mexico for a week of outdoor service work and reflection. Apply during fall semester.

HEALTH ADVOCATES
A peer-based outreach program that promotes and inspires student wellness by encouraging the integration of healthy choices and self-responsibility into a college lifestyle. Sustainability starts with your own health!

HEALTH SERVICES & COUNSELING
Located in the lower level of Lottie Hall, this is CSB students’ resource for primary care, preventative, and mental health services. You help fund these programs, so don’t hesitate to use them when you need them.

LIBRARY
Need a book or a media resource? Check out the library before buying it yourself! CSB/SJU Libraries have access to an extensive collection of materials and resources.

THE LINK BUS
Your most reliable method of transportation between the CSB and SJU campuses is also one of the most sustainable! Why drive alone when you can easily catch a ride to class or back to your home campus?

JOHNNIE BENNIE BIKES
Did you know you can bike between CSB and SJU on the Lake Wobegon Regional Trail? Access the trail on the north side of St. Joe from College Avenue. CSB/SJU’s bike share program has stations at Gorecki and Sexton. You can also rent bikes at the Outdoor Leadership Center (OLC) during business hours. Stop by or check out their website for more information!

MAINTENANCE REQUEST
If something breaks in your room or your heat is out of control, submit a maintenance request to our Facilities Department. Opening your windows in cold weather just wastes energy and isn’t a good solution to the problem.

MINNESOTA STREET MARKET
Located across the street from the monastery in downtown St. Joe, this coop is a convenient shopping destination for high quality, healthy, local, and organic products. A membership in the coop gets you access to deals, and students get 5% off purchases on Sundays!
MONASTERY WOODS
Approximately 90 acres of land stewarded by the Sisters, with the two main trails totaling 1.75 miles. The woods are home to prairies, cattail marshes, local wildlife, and native plants. Some points of interest include a 200+ year old oak tree, Lake Sarah, and Walz Prairie.

NATIVE PRAIRIE PLANTINGS
As part of CSB’s turf-grass reduction strategy, portions of campus are being replanted with native prairie species, which require less maintenance - no mowing, fertilizing, or irrigation - and promote ecological sustainability. Keep an eye out for these beautiful landscapes!

PAPERCUT
CSB/SJU’s print management software tracks students’ paper usage and spending, and it has helped us collectively save almost 5,000 sheets of paper per day!

PRESIDENTS’ CLIMATE LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT
In 2007, CSB became a charter member to this commitment, pledging to become a carbon neutral institution by 2035. We are constantly evaluating ways to reduce our carbon footprint, and we conduct a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory each year to track our progress.

RECYCLING
CSB has a commingled recycling program, which means that all recyclable items can be put into the same bin! When you recycle paper, cardboard, most plastics, glass, and aluminum, they can be given another life as new products, instead of sitting in a landfill forever. Food waste can be returned to the soil by composting (compost collection bins are available at some campus recycling areas). Questions? Contact the CSB Sustainability Office at csbsustainability@csbsju.edu.

SENATE SUSTAINABILITY REPS
The St. Ben’s Senate is the voice of CSB students, serving to support your interests in having the best college experience.

ST. JOSEPH FARMERS MARKET
Every Friday from 3-6pm, there is a farmers market full of local food vendors, music, and fun! The market runs May-October in the Resurrection Lutheran Church parking lot “under the water tower.”

STASH IT, DON’T TRASH IT!
A partnership of the CSB Sustainability Office and CSB Residential Life & Housing during spring move-out that allows you to give no longer needed items a new home, instead of sending them to the landfill! Some items are sold at The BIG Sale at the beginning of the fall semester.

SWAP SHOP
Drop off unwanted office supplies, swap for supplies you can reuse, save $$$ and the environment! The Swap Shop is located between the Bookstore and Security in Mary Commons.

SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
A group of faculty, staff, students, and community members meets monthly during semesters to advance sustainability initiatives on campus. They also review student proposals to the SRRF and Green Fund!

SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE
Established in 2010, the CSB Sustainability Office mission is to support existing campus sustainability efforts, develop and implement new programs, and facilitate the exchange of information and partnerships related to sustainability between all members of CSB’s community. Rachel Brodeur (CSB Sustainability Coordinator), Julia Abell and Sophie Buyssse (our student employees this year) are here as a resource for you! Email us at csbsustainability@csbsju.edu, stop by our office in Mary Commons 139, and look for us around campus! We'd love for you to join our efforts and get involved in creating positive change at St. Ben's!

SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE
Creating a sustainable community at CSB requires active participation by all of us. Take the personal pledge today and choose what actions you are committed to at www.csbsju.edu/csb-sustainability/sustainability-pledge! You can also set sustainable living goals with your roommates through our BENNIEficial Green Residence Program!

THE BIG SALE
Furniture, small appliances, decorative items, and other dorm essentials collected during Stash It, Don't Trash It! are sold garage-sale style at fall move-in. Proceeds support sustainability initiatives at CSB! Don’t miss your chance to furnish frugally!

TIPS FOR A SMALLER FOOTPRINT
Take advantage of natural daylight ∙ Turn lights off when leaving the room ∙ Unplug idle electronics and appliances ∙ Set sleep settings on your computer ∙ Turn down thermostats and limit air conditioning ∙ Wash laundry on cold and air-dry ∙ Turn off water while brushing teeth and washing dishes ∙ Take shorter showers ∙ Use alternative forms of transportation or carpool ∙ Cut back on meat consumption ∙ Reduce, reuse, and recycle ∙ Don’t buy things you don’t need ∙ Embrace a minimalist lifestyle.

UNFCCC
CSB/SJU are among a select few colleges to receive observer status for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Delegations of faculty and students (chosen by application) have attended the conference since 2015.

SUNSET DRIVE GARDEN
A program of the monastery, the Sunset Drive Garden is a community garden offering plots of land for individuals to rent and grow their own seasonal vegetables and flowers. It builds community by welcoming and encouraging people of different cultures, ages and economic status to work side-by-side, sharing hospitality and growing together.

VOLUNTEER!
We are always looking for volunteers to help advance sustainability initiatives on our campus and in our community. Please get in touch with the CSB Sustainability Office to be kept in the loop about volunteer opportunities!

WEEK OF SUSTAINABILITY
Each year, collaborators across our community come together to hold a full week packed with sustainability-related events. Stay tuned for details!

ZERO-WASTE ZONE
Gorecki Dining Center and McGlynn’s are zero-waste zones! In 2011, Gorecki removed trays to reduce food waste and dishwashing resources. Food waste was cut by almost half! Remember – please take only what you will eat. You can always go back for more. Multiple times a year, Culinary Task Force, Nutrition Club, Community Kitchen, and other volunteers conduct “Waste Weighs” to analyze and raise awareness about food waste on campus.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY AT CSB!