# 8 ACTIONS for a SUSTAINABLE LAB

# **BUILD COMMUNITY**

Talk to others about greening your lab; build a team; act on your goals; spread the message; celebrate all sustainability wins.

# **REMEMBER THE R'S**

Reduce -- buy only what you need; Refuse excess packaging; Reuse and share lab supplies and equipment; Repair where possible; sort and Recycle waste.

# **SAVE ENERGY**

Turn off lights, and equipment when possible; keep the fume hood sash lowered; keep freezers frost and dust-free.

#### **CONSERVE WATER**

Fix leaky taps and equipment seals; close taps when not in use; consolidate dishwasher and autoclave loads; dispose of chemicals via hazardous waste, not down the drain.

# LEARN MORE



**PURCHASE WISELY** 

Keep a current inventory of lab supplies and consumables; share with another lab; seek out sustainable suppliers; buy only what you need; consolidate purchases.

# PRACTISE GREEN CHEMISTRY

Use safe alternatives to toxic solvents; replace mercury thermometers with alcohol thermometers; keep the 12 Principles of Green Chemistry handy.



# TRAVEL LIGHTLY

Prioritise remote meetings and public transport; fly only when necessary; purchase carbon offsets; leave no waste at field sites.

> MCGILL SUSTAINABILITY



FOLLOW THE "THREE RS" OF ANIMAL RESEARCH Replace -- use animals only when there is no alternative; Reduce -- use the fewest animals necessary; avoid food waste; Refine -- minimize adverse conditions for the animals.