



CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

First Quarter FY 2020-21

TABLE OF CONTENTS & IMPORTANT TERMS

Introduction.....	3
Impacts of COVID-19.....	4
Water.....	5
Energy.....	9
Waste.....	12
Sustainability in Action.....	15
Acknowledgements.....	17

- **FTES:** Full Time Equivalent Students
- **HCF:** Hundred Cubic Feet
- **kWh:** kilowatt hour
- **BTU:** British Thermal Unit
- **Potable Water:** Drinking water
- **Recycled Water:** Tertiary-treated waste water
- **Baseline:** the year(s) we compare current usage to (for water: 2013, for energy: average of 2008-2009 FY and 2009-2010 FY)

INTRODUCTION

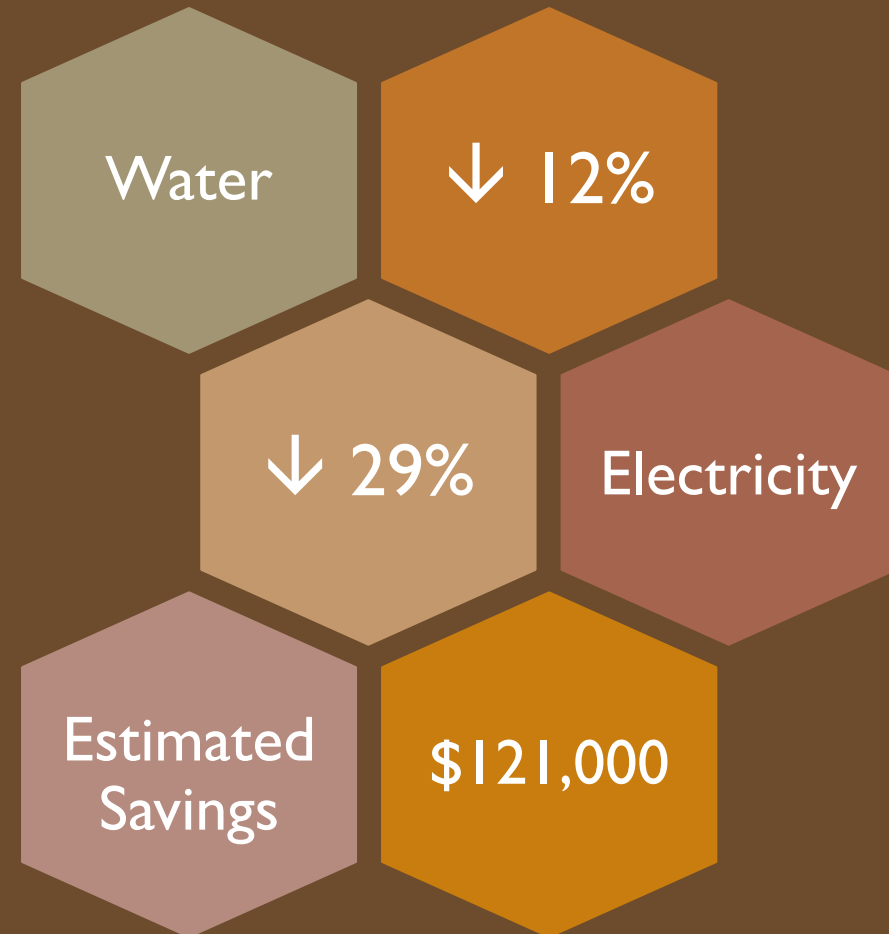
Sustainability and resource conservation are fundamental elements of operations at CSU Channel Islands (CI). CI's Strategic Initiatives feature a specific focus on sustainability, including the objective of "promoting sustainability as an integral part of University planning and operational activities."

As one measure of progress for the Capacity and Sustainability Strategic Initiative, this report provides an overview of utility usage on campus for the first quarter (July-September) of the 2020-21 fiscal year compared to past years. The report also highlights key sustainability initiatives coordinated by Facilities Services during this quarter, though it is not inclusive of all initiatives. The data for this report is collected from utility bills and campus sub-meters. Utility usage by the CI Power Plant and the University Glen community are not included.

THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19

Since March 17, 2020, CSU Channel Islands (CI) has maintained a reduced population on campus in response to COVID-19. Prioritizing safety for students and employees, CI chose to maintain virtual learning and working for the first quarter of FY 20-21, with only a few exceptions for classes and work that could not be completed remotely.

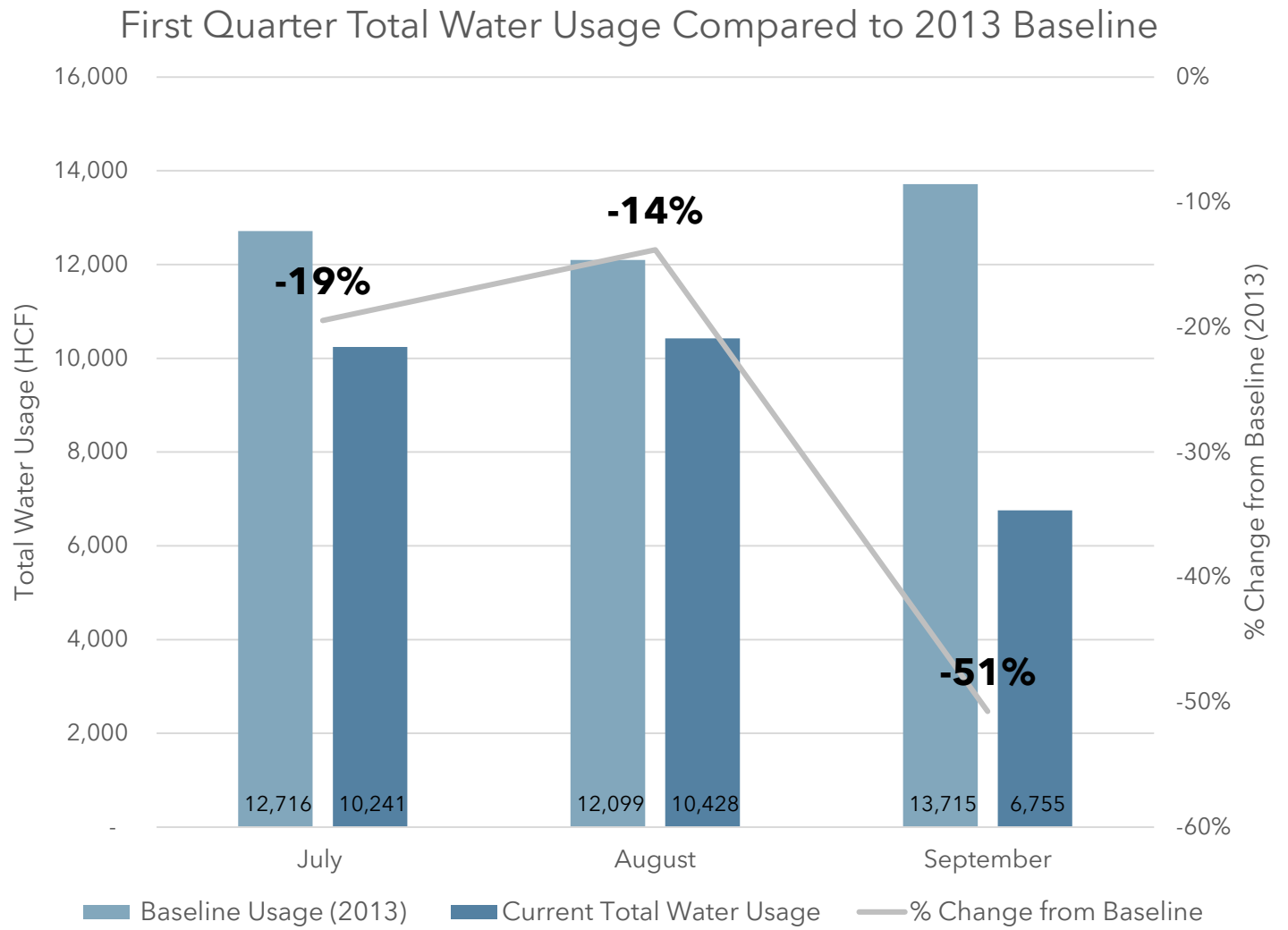
The campus depopulation in response to the coronavirus has resulted in significant reductions in electricity and potable water consumption for the first quarter of the 2020-2021 fiscal year.



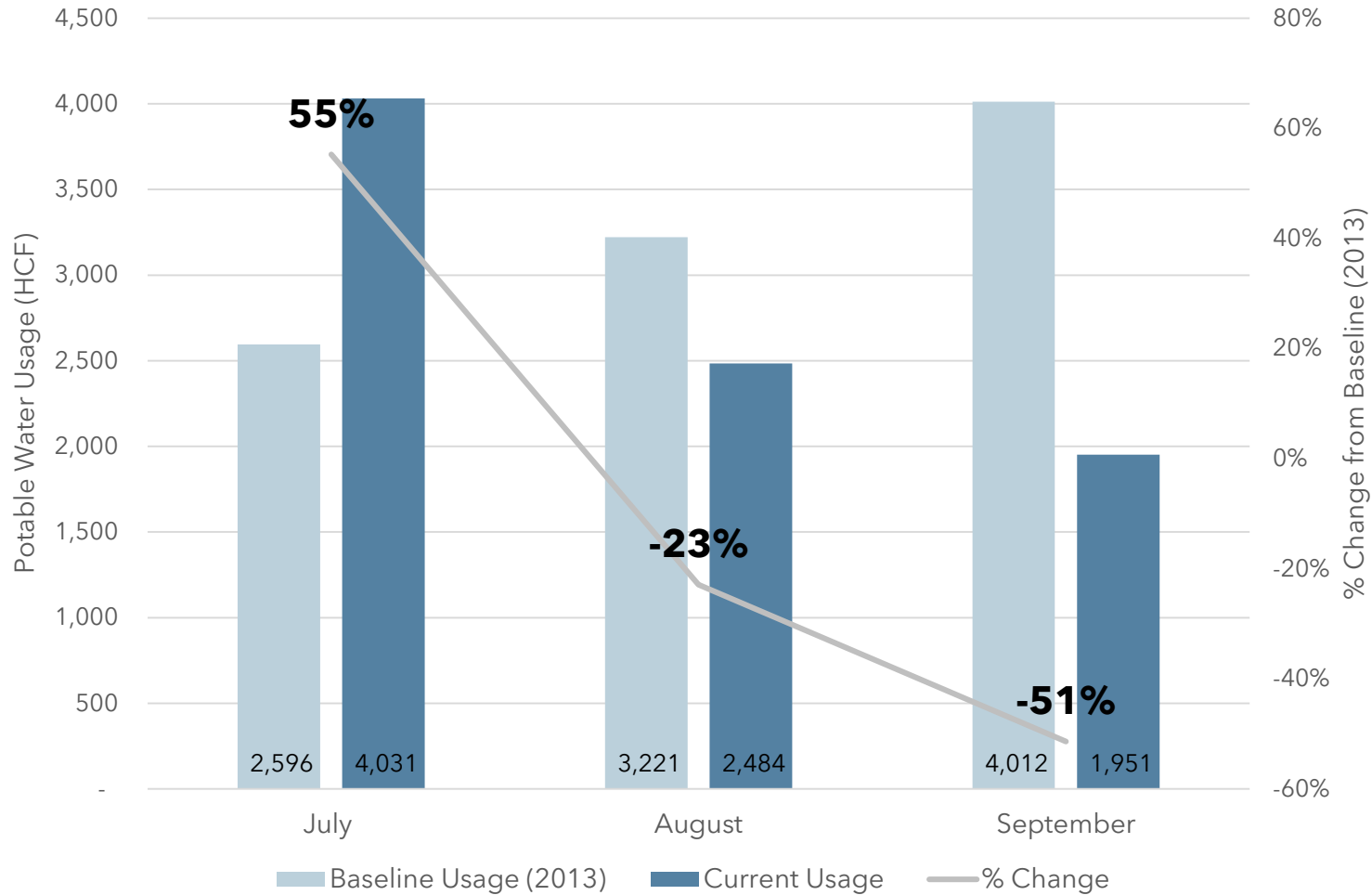
TOTAL WATER

Total Water is the combination of potable and recycled water usage. The CSU Chancellor's Office has set a **goal to reduce total water usage 20% by 2020** compared to our 2013 baseline.

In the first quarter for FY 20-21, CSUCI **reduced total water usage nearly 29%** compared to the baseline. The monthly reductions were less pronounced in July due to repairs on the university's potable water tanks, and in August due to excessive heat leading to increased irrigation needs.



First Quarter Potable Water Usage Compared to Baseline



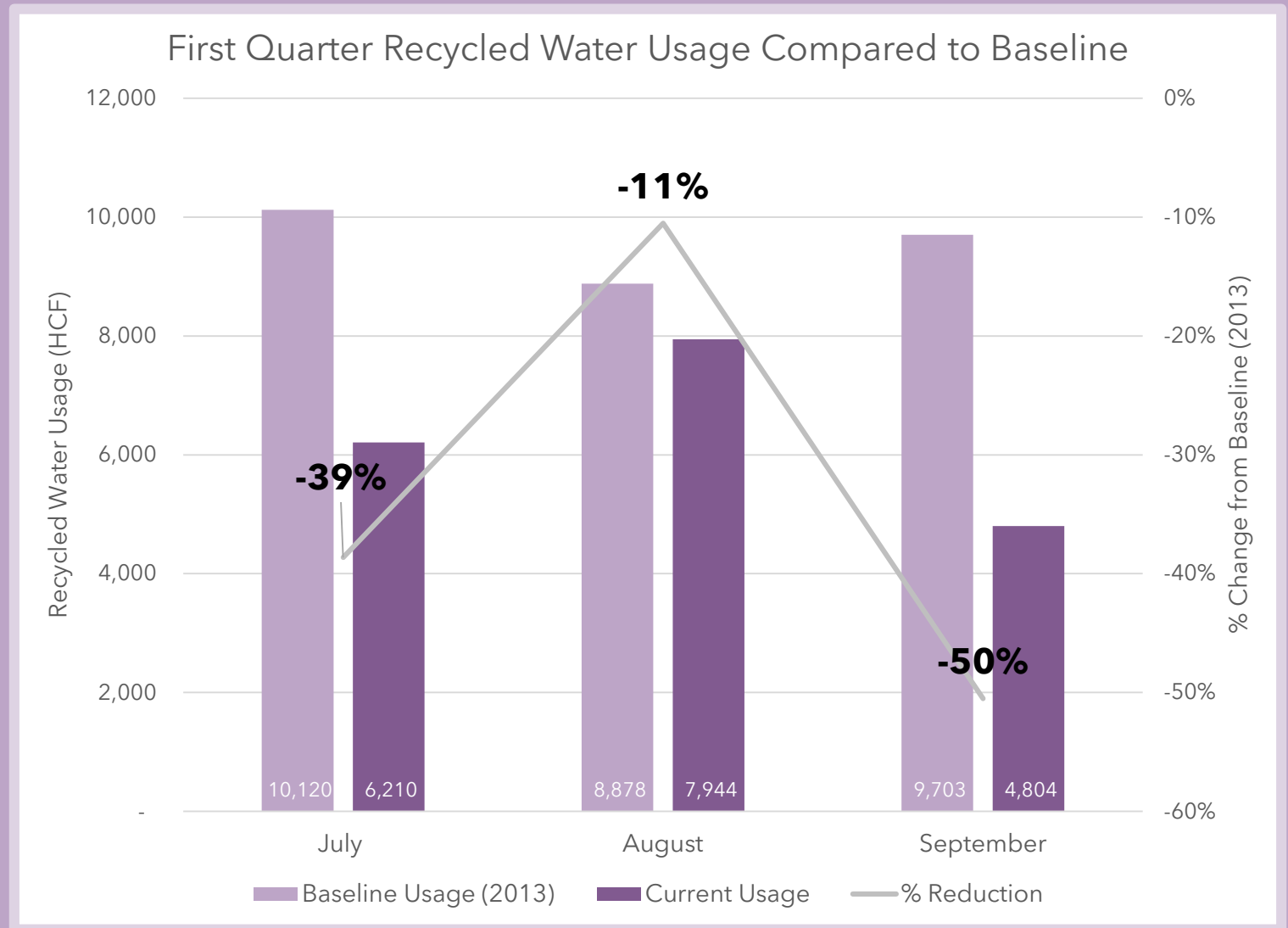
POTABLE WATER

CI's water provider, Camrosa Water District, has requested a **15% reduction of potable water consumption** from the 2013 baseline.

The campus realized **nearly 14% reduction in total potable water usage** during the first quarter. The high consumption in July was due to repairs on the potable water storage tanks. The tanks were drained in June for repairs and refilled in July, resulting in the appearance of elevated water use.

RECYCLED WATER

Recycled water reduction targets are included in CI's goal to **reduce total water usage 20% by 2020**. Overall, **CI reduced recycled water usage 34%** during the first quarter of FY 20-21. The water reduction in August is less pronounced due to excessive heat and prolonged dry weather. CI's Landscape Services Department has strategically reduced irrigation on campus by reducing watering days, replacing water-intensive plants with drought-tolerant species, and performing routine testing and maintenance of the irrigation system.





WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

- 💧 **Consider installing a rain barrel.**

Collecting rainwater in a barrel helps to reduce runoff and provides valuable water for irrigating plants later in the year. Check with your city to see if they offer any discounts or rebates!

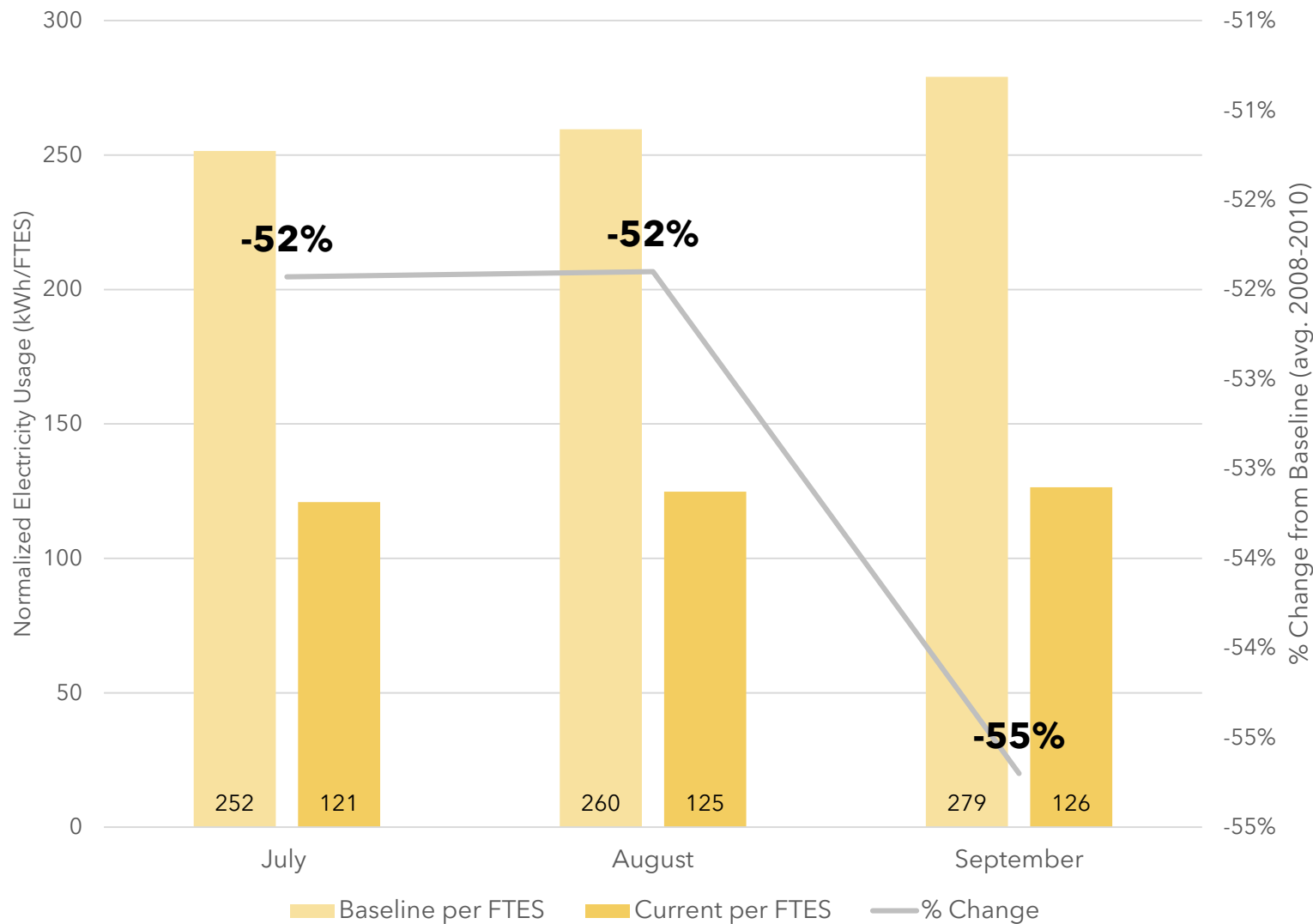
- 💧 **Adjust watering habits for the season.**

Most plants and lawns don't require as much water in the winter. Make sure to adjust your sprinkler settings (if you have them) to avoid overwatering.

- 💧 **Dispose of food waste via compost or trash, not the garbage disposal.**

Garbage disposals need adequate water flow to properly grind up food waste. Only rely on garbage disposals for food scraps that you can't otherwise scrape into the compost or trash.

First Quarter Electricity Usage per FTES Compared to Baseline



ELECTRICITY

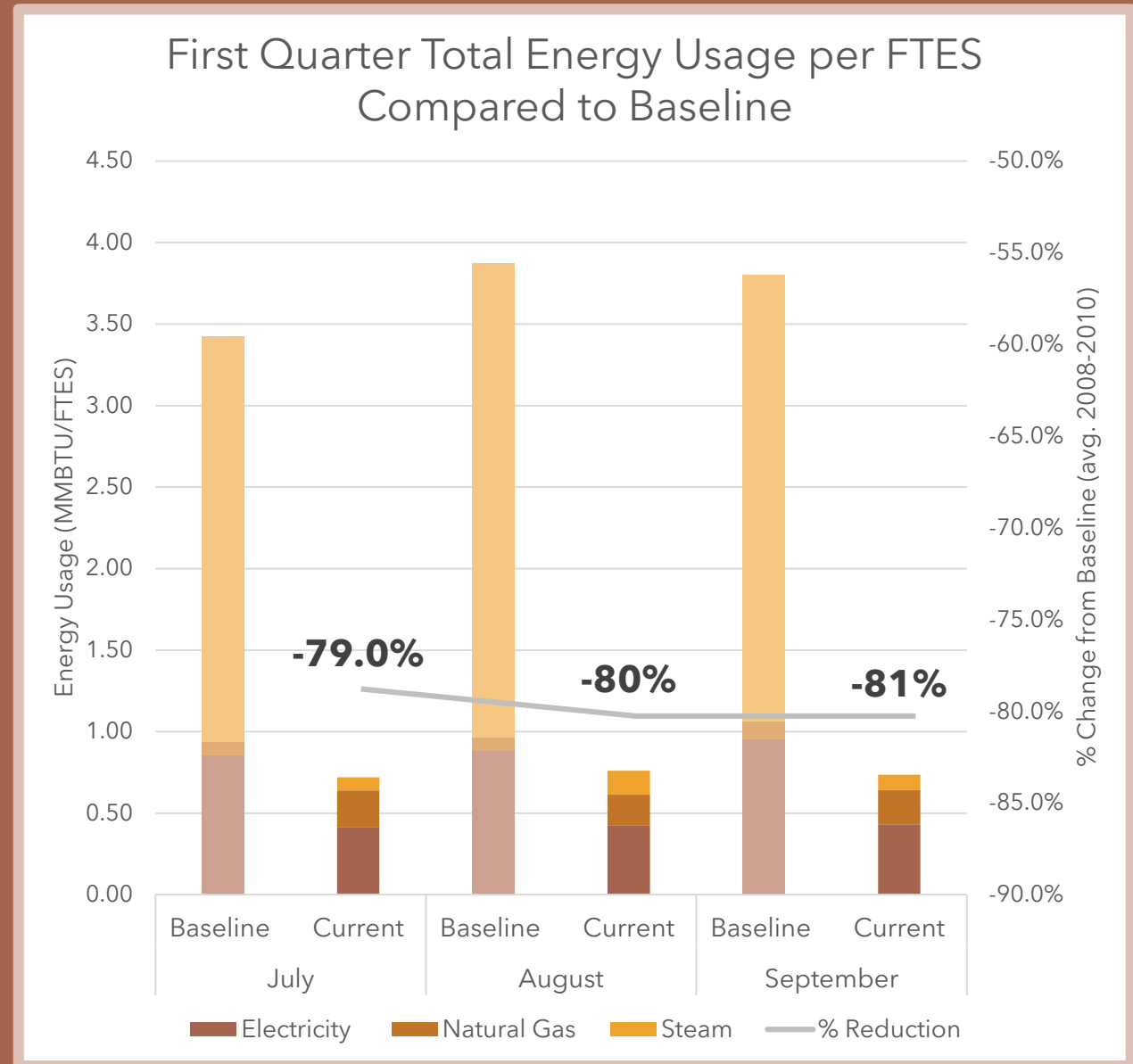
Electricity on campus is primarily used for cooling, lighting, vehicle charging, other equipment needs (i.e. fans, pumps, etc.) and plug load. Electricity is also used for heating in the Broome Library. The CSU Chancellor’s Office set a **goal of a 25% reduction per FTES** from the baseline (average annual usage from 2008-2010).

Since the campus is operating in a primarily virtual environment during this fiscal year, there has been a **53% reduction per FTES**, though this figure is misleading because there are few students on campus. Not adjusted for population, **total electricity usage has decreased 7%** compared to the baseline usage.

TOTAL ENERGY

Total energy accounts for all sources of energy on campus including electricity, steam and natural gas. Until April 2020, steam was the most abundant source of energy. It was used for the majority of heating hot water, chilled water for cooling, and providing space heating for campus. However, in April the campus transitioned to using natural gas boilers for space heating and heating hot water and electric chillers for cooling. Natural gas is also used for cooking.

CI's **goal is to reduce total energy 25% per FTES** compared to the baseline. Due to the extremely limited population on campus and the transition away from steam, this quarter we **reduced total energy usage 80% per FTES**. Without normalizing the data based on population, the campus has **reduced total energy consumption 60%** from the baseline.





ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

✦ **Unplug electronics when not in use.**

If you visit your office to pick up supplies or complete work onsite, unplug electronics before you leave. Even if you turn things off, most electronics draw “phantom power” if they are plugged in.

✦ **Avoid letting your car idle.**

Modern engines do not need time to warm up before driving. The engine warms up fastest when you drive, so on cold mornings ease into your drive and avoid the cost and pollution of idling.

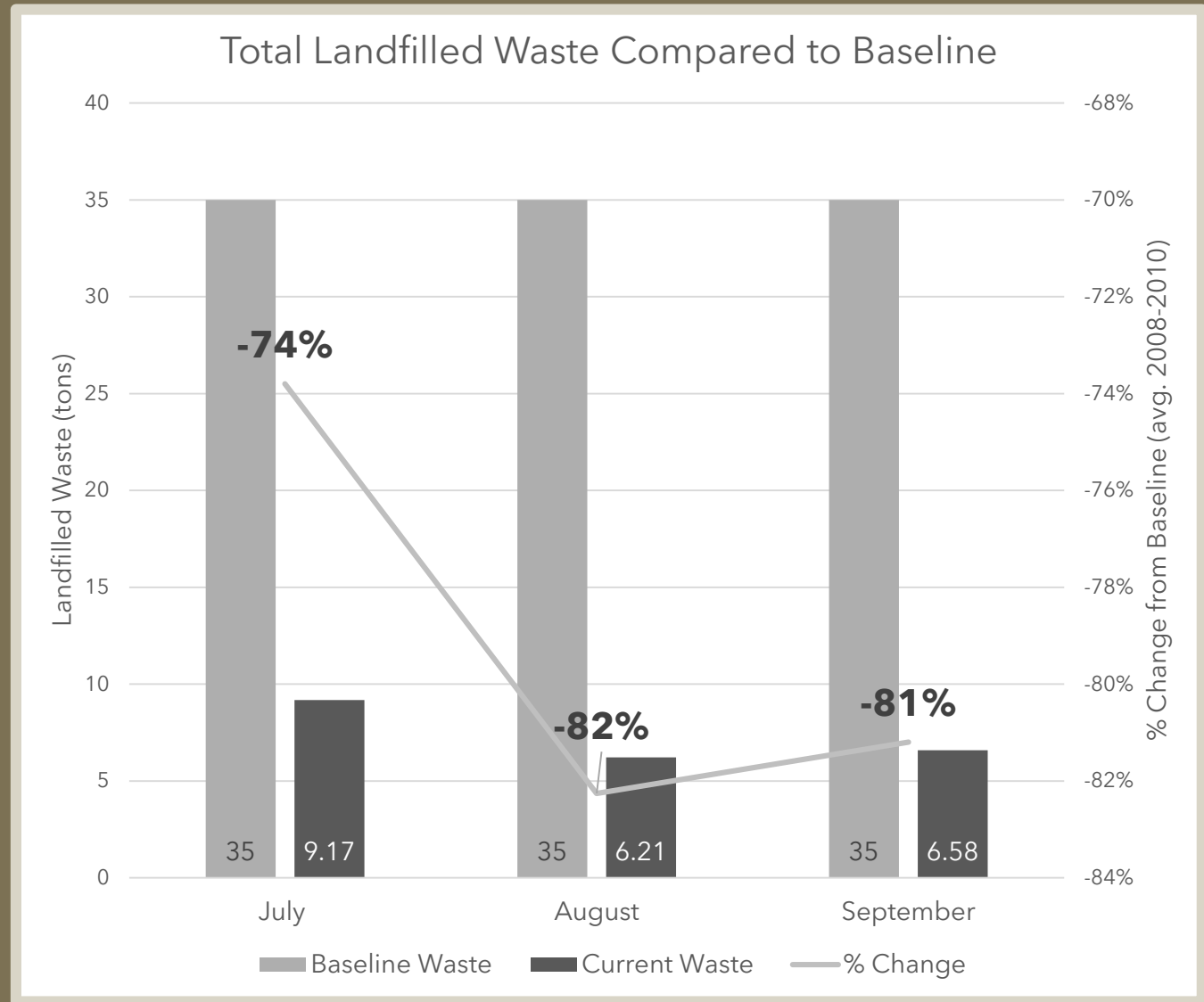
✦ **Invest in LED lights.**

Whether for your holiday décor or your everyday lighting, switching to LED lights is an easy win. They use less energy than other options and come in a variety of colors to fit your needs.

LANDFILLED WASTE

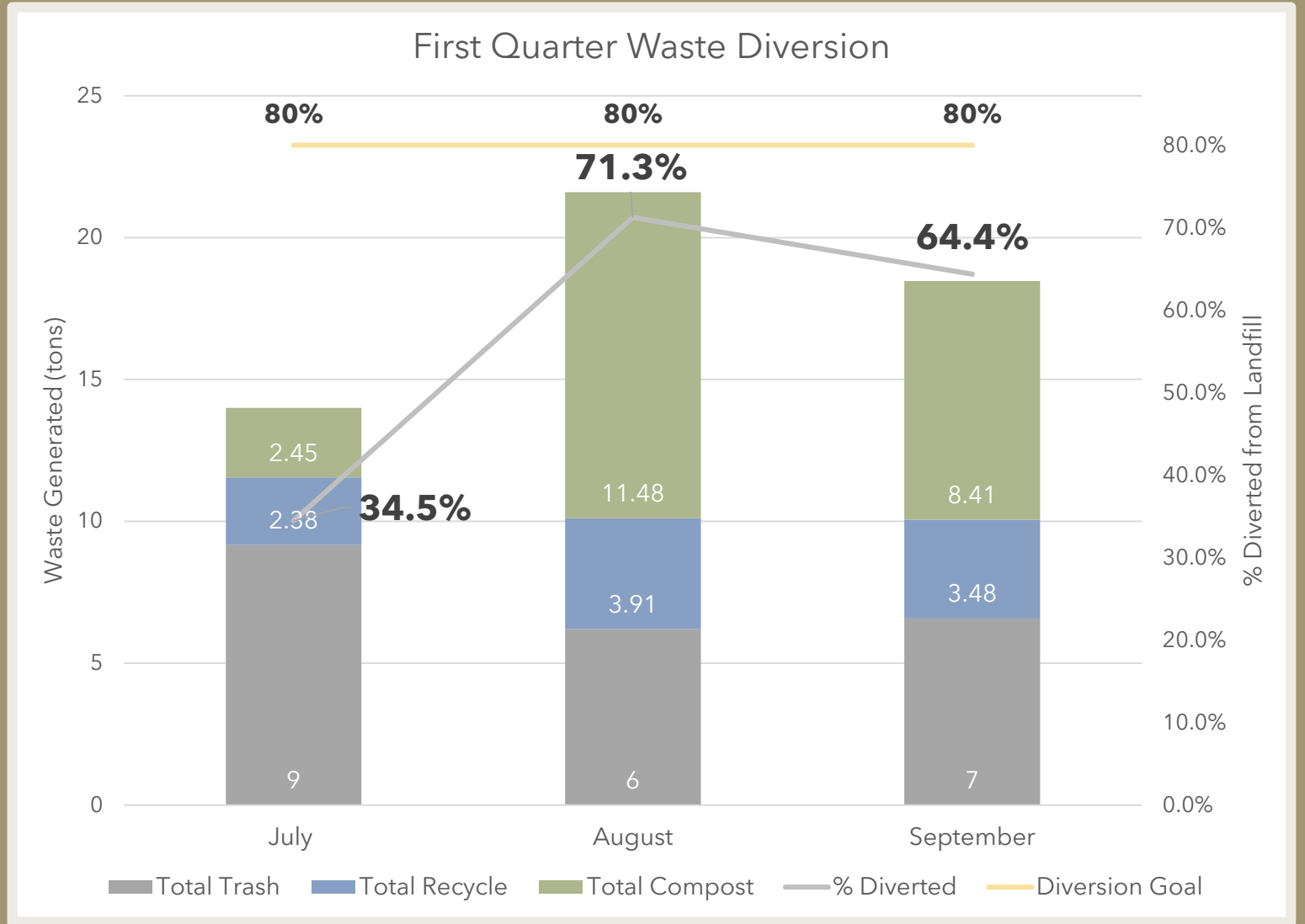
The CSU Chancellor's Office has set a **goal to reduce solid waste disposal by 80% by 2020**. Historically, the campus hovers around 50% reduction in solid waste disposal compared to the baseline. Due to the significantly reduced population on campus, we have realized a **79% decrease in waste disposal** during the first quarter.

To maintain this level of waste reduction when the campus is fully occupied again, we must begin by reducing the amount of disposable waste used on campus, such as single-use plastics. Efforts to reduce waste disposal saves the university money and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.



WASTE DIVERSION

CSUCI typically diverts approximately 70% of campus waste from the landfill, falling 10% short of the **80% waste diversion goal** set by the CSU Chancellor's Office. The limited population on campus during the first quarter has resulted in greater fluctuations in the waste diversion rate. CI can make progress toward the 80% diversion goal by improving recycling efforts, composting pre- and post-consumer food waste, and reducing the amount of non-recyclable and non-compostable waste generated on campus.





WASTE MANAGEMENT TIPS

🔄 **Choose reusable face coverings.**

Invest in reusable, washable face coverings instead of single-use disposable options. Make sure to wash your face coverings after every use!

🔄 **Store food properly to reduce food waste.**

Tired of having food go bad faster than you expected? There's an app for that! Use the USDA FoodKeeper App to get information on how to best store foods to maintain quality and freshness.

🔄 **Keep recyclables loose, not bagged.**

Keep your recycling loose in your curbside bin. Do not bag recyclables in plastic bags. The plastic bags get jammed in equipment and cause expensive delays.



FREE
MENSTRUAL CUP!

SEPTEMBER 8TH-21ST

SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

September 8-21, Facilities Services partnered with OrganiCup and multiple campus programs to offer **free** reusable menstrual cups to CSUCI students. During the two week campaign,

362 students

signed up to receive a free menstrual cup. By switching to reusable menstrual cups, CSUCI students will

prevent 2500 pounds of waste per year


from period products. These cups are also a healthier, safer and more affordable option. The cups donated to CSUCI students by OrganiCup had a total

value of more than \$10,248!

Thank you to all the campus partners that helped make this opportunity available to students, including: Basic Needs Program, ASI, HRE, Health and Wellness Promotion, Dean of Students Office, Student Affairs, and others.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP 2020

PROTECT YOUR HAPPY PLACE



DOLPHINS IN THE COMMUNITY

This year, California expanded Coastal Cleanup Day to Coastal Cleanup *Month*, encouraging Californians throughout the state to do physically-distanced cleanups in their neighborhoods.

Even though we couldn't congregate for a cleanup on campus, CI's Dolphins came out in a big way, leaving a positive impact on communities near and far. During the month of September:

43 Dolphins

scoured more than

8.5 miles

picking up

3200 pieces of litter

totaling more than

262 pounds!

The five largest categories of litter cleaned up, in order of number of pieces, were: plastic pieces, cigarette butts, food wrappers, bottle caps.

A special thank you to the Student Union for their partnership in this effort!

JOIN US THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER, AND ENTER TO WIN

THE CSUCI COASTAL CLEANUP 2020 GIVEAWAY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CSU Channel Islands is striving for a more sustainable campus community every day.

Keep up to date between reports on our website:
<http://www.csuci.edu/fs/sustainability/index.htm>

For questions, concerns, or ideas on new sustainability efforts, please email roxane.bc@csuci.edu.

Appreciation goes out to the following contributors:

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