The Green Initiative Fund’s Project Highlights
UC Berkeley Campus Walking Tour

Link to TGIF Project Locations Google Map:
http://goo.gl/maps/2vQuq

Key
- Green Circles = Numbered Project Location
- Red Arrows = Recommended Route
1) Strawberry Creek, Campus Eucalyptus Grove – Strawberry Creek Restored Areas (2010)
The TGIF has funded many Strawberry Creek restoration projects including the Cal Habitat Restoration Student Leadership Team and the current Strawberry Creek Ecological Stabilization project. In this confluence area of the Creek’s North and South forks, TGIF efforts have removed English ivy in order to provide planting space for native plants grown in the Native Plant Nursery.

2) 337 Mulford – SERC Office (2012)
The Student Environmental Resource Center seeks to strengthen the collective effectiveness and durability of campus sustainability efforts by providing information, opportunities, and services to students and student groups with an interest in sustainability. Currently in a temporary location, the Center has co-hosted several organizational and leadership development events and workshops, serves as meeting space for multiple student organizations, and maintains growing library of sustainability-themed films and books.

3) Giannini Parking Lot – Strawberry Creek Nursery & Garden (2010)
The Native Plant Nursery and Garden maintains a seed stock for restoring the creek’s riparian zone with native plants and serves as an effective site for environmental education. The site includes an outdoor nursery of seedlings, a demonstration garden of native plants designed to attract local pollinators, and signage illustrating plant species and project motivation to community members. The nursery and garden have been used as educational resources for classes student orgs, and youth day camps, and to study the characteristics of native and non-native vegetation and the suitability of these plants for use in local habitat restoration efforts.

4) Left of the Main Lobby of Dwinelle – Dwinelle Hydration Station (2011)
The Dwinelle Bottle Refill Station was the first of 9 TGIF-funded stations throughout campus (out of a total of 27 stations). These stations allow easy-access to refill your reusable bottle with cold, clean, and perfectly safe tap water. Check out the bottle counter to see how many times it has been used!

5) Lower Sproul – BicyCal (2009)
BicyCAL is a student founded and cooperatively run organization whose mission is to empower UCB students, faculty and staff to successfully integrate the bicycle into their daily lives. To that end they seek to provide a space where members of the community can learn how to maintain, operate and love their bicycles in an inclusive and safe place. BicyCAL offers peer-to-peer bicycle repair and maintenance education. The shop has been in operation since Fall 2010.

The Recycling at Cal grant specially-designed waste and recycling for the new outdoor campus standard. These bins are designed to eliminate staff lifting injuries, prevent rainwater collection, reduce the variety of container types on campus, and prevent pests. The bins will assist the campus with meeting a goal of zero waste by 2020, holding 50% more than the previous campus bins and providing clear separation of the different waste and recycling streams.

The UC Berkeley Office of Sustainability helps to develop, coordinate, and support campus sustainability goals and initiatives. Its work includes fostering a culture of sustainability and helping the campus reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reach climate neutrality. TGIF has provided 7 grants to the Office, including student internships to assist with the Office’s outreach and education efforts.

The Lawns to Meadows grant assisted in restoring two grass lawn areas to include regionally appropriate plants and greater water efficiency. The new landscapes at Anthony hall and Alumni House include a mix of native plants, which in turn attract insects and wildlife to increase the biodiversity of the respective areas. The sites also now include more efficient irrigation systems to save water and energy.

Wurster Hall is hosting 2 pilot projects to optimize waste separation and composting. The new bin systems have 1 bin each for Compost, Paper, Bottles/Cans, and Landfill, set-up in sets of four. Each bin set is placed in a centrally located area in the halls and design studios. The TGIF grant also funds pre- and post-installation waste audits together data on the success of the bins.

The TGIF Office can be found here. Stop by and say "hi"!

11) Barrows 1st Floor Bathrooms/Hallways – Compost Alliance (2011)
The Compost Alliance designs and implements campus building composting systems in collaboration with Physical Plant-Campus Services, which includes Custodial Services and Campus Recycling & Refuse Services. Why composting? Waste audits conducted throughout campus have consistently found that compostable materials make up about 42% of what we put into landfill, so implementing composting will help our campus divert much its landfill waste. As of 2013, Compost Alliance has successfully instituted in-house composting programs (which include the bins and signage you see here) in 18 campus buildings.

12) 2440 Bancroft Way – Berkeley Student Food Collective (2009)
The Berkeley Student Food Collective opened its cooperatively-based student-run storefront in November 2010 and provides fresh, healthy, environmentally sustainable, and ethically produced food at an affordable price to customers. The store is run by BSFC members who all commit to at least one two-hour shift per week. All produce comes from within 150 miles; all fresh bread is from local bakeries; all ingredients in the BSFC prepared foods are organic; all the prepared foods’ packaging is compostable.

Nature Village is a multidisciplinary group of University Village residents, UC Berkeley students, staff, campus sustainability groups, and volunteers who work to promote sustainable living practices at the University Village. Projects have included new waste reduction, recycling, and reuse programs, promotion of sustainable transportation methods, and conducting energy and water audits of apartments.