NEWS RELEASE
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A SYLLABUS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The NexTrex® Grassroots Movement offers colleges and universities a practical way to engage campus communities in recycling plastic film and turning waste into lasting value

Across college campuses, plastic film is part of everyday operations and student life. Flexible shipping envelopes arrive in mailrooms, supplies come wrapped in stretch film and students unpack everyday items from plastic shopping bags and overwrap. For institutions working to reduce waste, these materials present a challenge – but also an opportunity to expand recycling efforts and engage their campus communities. Colleges and universities can take the first step by exploring how the NexTrex® Grassroots Movement could help put these materials to better use on their own campuses.

Through the program, Trex Company helps environmentally minded organizations collect and recycle polyethylene (PE) plastic film, a key component of Trex® composite decking. Made with 95% recycled and reclaimed materials, Trex decking gives discarded plastic film a productive use and second life. The NexTrex program connects local collection efforts with Trex's manufacturing process, enabling participating institutions to support recycling while contributing to the creation of durable, long-lasting products.

Launched in 2022, the NexTrex Grassroots Movement has grown to include more than 100 partner locations nationwide, including universities, nonprofit organizations, municipalities and other government entities. Together, these participants recycled more than 4 million pounds of PE plastic film in 2025 alone. Trex is working to expand participation within higher education, encouraging more campuses across the country to join the network.

"Through the NexTrex program, colleges and universities have a unique opportunity to translate sustainability goals into meaningful, hands-on action," said Laura Hays, NexTrex Senior Collection Development Representative at Trex Company. "When students, faculty, staff and surrounding communities come together, they can make recycling plastic bags and film a shared effort to reduce waste and transform a difficult-to-recycle material into something built to last."

A Natural Fit for Campus Sustainability

Plastic film collection offers a tangible way to bring sustainability goals into everyday campus life. It engages students, faculty and staff in a shared effort while helping institutions address a material that often isn't accepted through conventional recycling programs.

Collection opportunities abound across campuses. Mailrooms receive plastic shipping envelopes and bubble wrap; supply receiving areas handle pallet wrap and stretch film; food service areas generate bread bags and case overwrap; and campus stores and residence halls amass shopping bags and product overwrap. A majority of these everyday materials are eligible for recycling through the NexTrex® Grassroots Movement. A full list of accepted materials is available at NexTrex.com.

By identifying where qualifying materials are generated, sustainability teams can establish convenient collection points and provide clear instructions for participation. Student sustainability clubs and other campus groups can help build awareness, promote collection locations, educate their peers about accepted materials and organize collection drives in

coordination with campus staff. These efforts can extend the program's reach while giving students a hands-on role in advancing campus sustainability goals.

Turning Collected Plastic into Lasting Value
The NexTrex Grassroots Movement offers practical benefits alongside its environmental value. Participating institutions collect and bale qualifying plastic film, which Trex picks up at no cost to partners and transports to its manufacturing facilities to be upcycled into composite decking. By participating, universities play a direct role in keeping plastic film out of landfills and achieving their waste diversion efforts on campus while contributing to the production of sustainably made outdoor living products. Trex also compensates partners for the collected material, creating a potential source of funding for campus operations and sustainability initiatives.

The program also gives institutions a concrete way to explain what happens after collection. Educational materials and promotional resources help campuses communicate how eligible plastic film is recycled into Trex composite decking, making the process more tangible for students, faculty and staff.

A Flexible Approach for Every Campus
Getting started begins with assessing where qualifying film is generated, who can coordinate collection and how the material will be sorted, baled and stored before pickup. Trex works with interested institutions to discuss collection logistics, baling procedures and storage requirements, helping each campus determine an approach that fits its resources and sustainability goals.

"Every campus has its own needs, resources and goals," noted Hays. "Our role is to help each institution understand the program and find an approach that works best for its community. As more colleges and universities get involved, we have an opportunity to expand access to plastic film recycling while helping foster a culture of sustainability that carries forward to the next generation."

An Invitation to Higher Education
Whether building on existing recycling initiatives or launching a new collection program, the NexTrex Grassroots Movement offers a practical way for colleges and universities to advance their sustainability goals while contributing to a broader plastic film recycling effort. Take the first step toward bringing the program to your campus: complete the participation questionnaire or contact recycle@trex.com to discuss how to get started.

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About Trex Company, Inc.
For more than 30 years, Trex Company [NYSE: TREX] has invented, reinvented and defined the wood-alternative decking category. Today, the company is the world's #1 brand of premium, sustainable, wood-alternative decking and railing, and a leader in high-performance, low-maintenance outdoor living products. Boasting the industry's strongest distribution network, Trex sells products through more than 6,700 retail outlets across six continents. Through strategic licensing agreements, the company offers a comprehensive outdoor living portfolio that includes deck drainage, flashing tapes, outdoor kitchen components, pergolas, spiral stairs, lattice, cornhole and outdoor furniture – all marketed under the Trex® brand.

Based in Winchester, Va., Trex is proud to have been named America's Most Trusted® Outdoor Decking^ for the past 6 years (2021-2026) and included in TIME's list of "America's Best Companies 2026, Newsweek's list of the Most Trustworthy Companies in America 2026 and USA Today's 2026 list of "America's Climate Leaders." The company has also been ranked on Barron's list of the 100 Most Sustainable U.S. Companies (2024 and 2025), was named one of America's Most Responsible Companies 2024 by Newsweek, highlighted as one of the 100 Best ESG Companies by Investor's Business Daily, and named the Sustainable Brand Leader in the decking category by Green Builder

Media for 16 consecutive years. For more information, visit Trex.com. You may also follow Trex on Facebook (trexcompany), Instagram (trexcompany), X (Trex_Company), LinkedIn (trex-company), TikTok (trexcompany), Pinterest (trexcompany) and Houzz (trex-company-inc), or view product and demonstration videos on the brand's YouTube channel (TheTrexCo).

^2021-2026 DISCLAIMER: Trex received the highest numerical score in the proprietary Lifestory Research 2021-2026 America's Most Trusted® Outdoor Decking studies. Study results are based on the experiences and perceptions of people surveyed. Your experiences may vary. Visit www.lifestoryresearch.com