College of Saint Benedict Bottled Water Policy

As a Catholic, Benedictine institution, sustainability is central to our institutional values and mission. Practices of stewardship and social justice have long permeated the College of Saint Benedict (CSB) culture. Sustainability has indeed been a prominent concern at CSB for decades and has been formally supported by each president since 1992 when an environmental statement was first issued. As part of our commitment to sustainability and to achieving carbon neutrality by 2035, CSB bans the sale of plain, plastic bottled water on campus, and the purchase of plain, plastic bottled water with institutional funds. The college understands this does not preclude individuals' rights to purchase such water independently and use it on campus. CSB recognizes the environmental, economic, and social costs of production, transport, and sale of plastic bottled water, as well as the potential health risks from chemicals contained in plastic. Additionally, CSB acknowledges that water is a fundamental <u>human right</u>, and as an organization declines to profit from its sale.

CSB is committed to maintaining the highest standards of hospitality, a fundamental Benedictine value, and will offer reasonable alternatives to plain, bottled water to our campus community and guests.

The elimination of plain, bottled water on campus shall include the following:

- The sale of plain, bottled water at the CSB Bookstore, O'Connell's, Good 2 Go, McGlynn's Sports Café, and Clemens Perk;
- The sale of plain, bottled water by Catering and at athletic concessions;
- The sale of plain, bottled water in all vending machines;
- The purchase of plain, bottled water with institutional funds;
- The purchase of office plastic water coolers (Finken, Culligan, etc.).

Endorsed by:

CSB Cabinet: February 1, 2011

CSB Sustainability Council: February 4, 2011

CSB Senate: February 9, 2011