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MEMORANDUM

July 8, 2024

**TO:** Texas A&M University-Central Texas Faculty and Staff

**FROM:** Dr. Richard Rhodes

President

**SUBJECT:** Environmental Stewardship-Integral to Our Mission

Members of The Texas A&M University System have a rich history of environmental stewardship that continues to be positively reflected each day on our System campuses and at our agencies. Moreover, our commitment to environmental stewardship has been codified by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents in System Regulation 34.01.03 Environment and has been formally endorsed by Chancellor John Sharp.

Our own commitment to environmental stewardship at Texas A&M-Central Texas is continuously reemphasized as we plan, design, build, and care for our campus and its facilities. Because in addition to our faculty, staff, and students, we strive to assure that any external workers, contractors, or volunteers who come to our campus maintain and, when possible, help us improve our practices through such efforts as:

- Construction of a Centralized Operational Reliability and Efficiency (CORE) building. The CORE building will connect the campus utilities through a centralized loop that will support existing and future structures. Centralized utilities will be chilled water for use in campus cooling units, electricity, and fiber optics;
- Recycling batteries;
- Recycling cardboard, copy paper, and other paper goods;
- Recycling cans and plastic bottles;
- Recycling lights bulbs and replacing older incandescent lights with energy efficient LED lights in new construction and renovation of current facilities; and
- Composting of biodegradable food containers, scrap food, and other compostable materials.

I am pleased to join Chancellor Sharp in this endorsement. I encourage those of you who would like to learn more, who have ideas for how we can improve, or who would like to play an active role in support of our Environmental Stewardship, to please contact Mr. Shawn Kelley, our Manager of Facilities, Safety, and Support Services at <a href="mailto:safetyandriskmanagement@tamuct.edu">safetyandriskmanagement@tamuct.edu</a>, and visit the <a href="mailto:Environmental Management@tamuct.edu">Environmental Management@tamuct.edu</a>, and visit the <a href="mailto:Environmental Management@tamuct.edu">Environmental Management@tamuct.edu</a>,