

The Elon Environmental Center at Loy Farm

Loy Farm was originally purchased in 2000 by Elon University and served as a research site for biology classes. The Elon Environmental Center at Loy Farm was established in 2011. Today the farm is broken down into several different areas serving many different functions; Container Classrooms, Green House, Loy Woods, Pot-in-Pot Nursery, Prairie Research Plot, Research Plots, Solar Farm, and Yard Waste Composting. This facility primarily serves as the research component of the Elon University Botanical Garden.

The Container classrooms, Green House, Loy Woods, Prairie Research Plot, and Research Plots all serve as places for instruction space for Elon University faculty and students. The 15-acre Solar Farm was constructed in 2015 as a model for responsible global citizenship and serves as a place to study the equipment, operation, and economics of a solar energy system. For more information visit; <https://www.elon.edu/u/bft/sustainability/campus-initiatives/climate/>.

The pot-in-pot nursery serves as a place to develop sapling trees before introducing them to the campus botanical garden. There are 44 holding cells that present an opportunity to develop unique species and to monitor their performance in our climate.

The Yard Waste Compost facility was established in 2008. This is a North Carolina State monitored facility. All yard waste and debris from the campus botanical garden are sent here to decompose. Once they have decomposed, they are reintroduced back as compost into the botanical garden. Mostly used in the new construction installations or topdressing current turfgrass areas.

For more information about the Elon Environmental Center at Loy Farm visit:

<https://www.elon.edu/u/academics/arts-and-sciences/center-for-environmental-studies/environmental-center-at-loy-farm/>