

LIVE GREEN! MONTHLY

MAY 2024



“AS WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE, WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT THE HIGHEST APPRECIATION IS NOT TO UTTER WORDS BUT TO LIVE BY THEM.”

- JOHN F. KENNEDY

MAY 2024 VOLUME 14 ISSUE 7

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY UPDATES

Merry Rankin
 Director of Sustainability
 mrankin@iastate.edu



It's a wrap, Cyclones!

It feels like a blink of time between my first column of the 2023-2024 academic year and now, my last. What a year of “greening” it has been!

From new LEED projects, to wellness and wellbeing initiatives including Cy's Frenzy Finals, Suicide Prevention Training and national certification pursuit. From student organizations

honored for achievements of inclusivity, food security and landfill waste diversion to research pursuing sustainability in transportation, agriculture, energy, fashion and climate change adaptation and resilience. And, in addition, all of the sustainability student engagement pieces - sustainability events, courses, internships, study abroad opportunities, clubs and conferences.

The May issue of Live Green! Monthly is truly my favorite of the year – as it represents a culmination of a year of collective enthusiasm, vision, commitment, perseverance and accomplishment from students, faculty and staff toward a sustainable future. How vividly relevant that the Live Green! Marketing and Communications Team chose “recognition” as this month’s newsletter theme. Our final days of winding down the year is the perfect time to recognize both our personal and professional growth as well as the people, places and things that made it possible.

Each year as I personally reflect, I internally offer myself the same feedback, “It will be impossible to match this year.” And each following year, I have to reset – because we do match the past year in the breadth and depth of our environmental, economic and social sustainability achievement, passion and vision. This year is no exception.

How honored, proud and humbled I am to be on this journey, “sustainability-forward”, with all of you. I am so very excited for the collective initiatives, opportunities and “reset” possibilities that await in the 2024-2025 academic year.

The very best with finals and tying up all the pieces to finish the year! May summer be a nurturing, challenging and empowering collection of experiences, connections and discoveries.

Yours in green-ness,
Merry



Happy May Cyclones!

I cannot believe the year is over already. As we round out the month of May we look at a theme of recognition. Recognition of all that has been done, those who have touched our lives and actions we will continue once Summer is upon us.



Steve Kohtz
*Recycling and Special
Events Coordinator*
sakohzt@iastate.edu

First let’s look at what has been done in 2023-2024. For Recycling Services, it was a year of exploration. Through a grant from the Iowa DNR, various posters were posted throughout campus to discover what “nudges” people to recycle. You were phenomenal! To witness the change of initial contamination rates for recycling to where we are now, was worth the work. For example, through central campus locations, contamination was nearly 45%. However, with the prompting of the posters, conversations about recycling and your support, our contamination has come down drastically. That – is deserving of recognition!

Second, let’s recognize all of those who impacted our ISU experience this year. From those who maintained spaces (indoor and outdoor), to those providing nutritional, recreation, wellness and wellbeing resources and connections – and of course curricular and immersive career and professional development opportunities and support.

Finally, let’s recognize things we can take with us over the Summer. Like the 4 Rs! Rethink...do you really need the newest one, or can you get by with something else? Reduce...choose renting, or borrowing, before purchasing. Reuse...opt for many uses instead of a single use. Finally, recycle...60-70% of our waste can be recycled, but is instead sent into underground storage through landfilling. Help your local landfill (and planet) and recycle before trashing!

Thank you, Cyclones for a great year! Here’s to a green summer full of recognition of what you have learned (and applied) this year, toward ensuring a sustainable future.

Happy Recycling!
Steve



Olivia Miller
*Sustainability Director,
ISU Student Government*
osmiller@iastate.edu



It’s been an amazing year!

This is my last official column as Student Government Director of Sustainability.

What a year! This might be one of the most productive years of the Student Government Sustainability Committee yet.

Our projects included the purchase and installation of two new bike stations on campus, partnering with ISU Dining to create a pilot program for compostable cutlery at Hawthorn Drive and designing new ways to spread information on correct recycling practices that will be implemented next semester. We also approved Green Initiatives Fund applications from Engineers for a Sustainable World and the College of Design Pilot Club for funding sustainability-related

Engineers for a Sustainable World and the College of Design Print Club for funding sustainability-related projects. In total, we dispersed around \$28,000 from the Green Initiatives Fund.

Additionally, just last Friday, the Sustainability Committee hosted the 5th annual One Sustainable Iowa Conference, drawing attendees representing 49 majors from 8 different Iowa institutions. The day was an enormous success and helped students, faculty and staff from different institutions across Iowa to network and share sustainability ideas between campuses. The day also featured an inspiring speech by the keynote speaker, Ben Jealous, executive director for the Sierra Club, on why we should remain hopeful for the future of the environmental movement and how to keep winning. Attendees were also treated to a delicious lunch, featuring local and sustainable ingredients.

It has been an honor serving as the Student Government Director of Sustainability this year. The Sustainability Committee accomplished so much, and I am so proud of our work this year.

I am excited to congratulate Abby Bergstrom and Kit O'Driscoll as the next Co-Directors of Sustainability for Student Government for the 2024-2025 academic year. Keep an eye on the Student Government website for information about applying to be a part of next year's Sustainability Committee.

Signing out in Cardinal, Green, and Gold,
Olivia

EARTH DAY RECAP



ISU celebrated the 54th anniversary of Earth Day with the theme “Our Green Promise, Our Sustainable Future.” This year, more than 400 students, faculty and staff attended ISU’s Earth Day Celebration, for a morning and afternoon of connecting, networking, learning and engaging.

[Read the Earth Day Celebration Blog](#)

STUDENTS LIVING CARDINAL, GOLD AND GREEN

**Recognizing the Sustainable
Achievements of the Live**

Green! Team



As campus and community leaders, the Live Green! team commits valuable dedication to enhancing sustainability. This month's SLCGG article showcases all that has been accomplished this year through the eyes of each individual on the Live Green! team.



Explore the Live Green! Team Sustainability Impact

ONE SUSTAINABLE IOWA CONFERENCE RECAP



Students from colleges and universities across Iowa wrapped up Earth Week and gathered for a day of networking and skills-building in sustainability on April 26, for the 5th annual One Sustainable Iowa Conference. The event featured inspiring, engaging and thought-provoking presentations and activities, including a keynote speech by Ben Jealous, civil rights figure and executive director of the Sierra Club.

[Visit the Conference Website](#)

NOW YOU KNOW | A Deeper Sustainable Dive



Recognizing Sustainable Initiatives in Higher Education Across Iowa

This month's Now You Know article celebrates the overarching commitment to sustainability in higher education throughout our state by highlighting unique approaches, considerations and commitment.

[Read Full Article](#)

SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS



So much innovation and impact has happened this semester at Iowa State; students, faculty and staff dedicated their time, knowledge and energy to countless projects that enhanced our campus and the wider community. Join us in recognizing a few of the many impressive and noteworthy achievements of the spring semester!

[See All Green News](#)

LIVE GREEN! MONTHLY CHALLENGE

Spend each week of the month recognizing and showing gratitude for those who have given you support to ensure your success and accomplishments in the past year. Pick from a list of opportunities to show your appreciation to those who have made "all the difference"!

MAY 2024

WEEKLY RECOGNITION CHALLENGE



Take the Monthly Challenge

GREEN ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Stroll through Robinson Wildlife Acres

Explore the local public parks at Robinson Wildlife Acres and the ephemeral blooms of spring wildflowers in the woods. The walks are May 2 at 1:30 p.m. and are led by Outdoor Alliance of Story County volunteers and are cosponsored by Story County Conservation. The walks are free and registration is not required. For more information, visit the [My County Parks website](#).

Help Support the Local Ames Farmer's Market

Connect with a variety of local Iowa vendors/producers at the kickoff of the first Ames Main Street Farmers' Market! [The Ames Main Street Farmers' Market](#) is seeking Volunteers and corporate partners to help make our Market a "growing" success on Saturday, May 4 and on Saturdays throughout the summer from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The market provides a weekly opportunity to buy seasonal fresh fruit, vegetables, meats, cheeses, arts, crafts, fresh flowers, plants and much more. For more information and to sign up to be a volunteer, visit the [Ames Downtown website](#).

Learn The Ins and Outs of Backyard Hot Composting

Join composting educator Steve Libbey on May 4, 10 – 11 a.m. as he prepares high-

nitrogen materials for a hot pile, accelerating compost production. Libbey will be discussing the composting method and showing how hot pile composting takes more effort but will produce compost more quickly—in several weeks to several months. For more information and to register, visit the [Wheatfield Co-op website](#).

Gain Insight on the Memorial Union's Latest Conservation Project

Convene at the Memorial Union's Fountain of the Four Seasons on May 5, 12 – 1 p.m. to learn the latest update on the conservation project surrounding the Fountain and then walk to Morrill Hall to take home a seed to plant in time for spring. Learn from guest curator Jerome Thompson about the impact of corn and agricultural practices on the creation of the Fountain's design. For more information, visit the [Iowa State University Museums website](#).

Assist Iowa's Special Olympians

Gather with more than 2,600 athletes, 1,200 coaches and 2,000 volunteers for Iowa's largest event of the year, the Special Olympics Iowa Summer Games. The three-day event begins with the Torch Run Final Leg bringing the Flame of Hope from downtown Des Moines to Hilton Coliseum for the Opening Ceremony presented by Hy-Vee. For more information and to sign up to volunteer in Ames, visit the [Special Olympics Iowa website](#).

Celebrate Arbor Day

Recognize Arbor Day and the value trees bring to the community by planting trees on May 18 beginning at 9 a.m. Ames Parks and Recreation received a grant from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for \$5,000 to help plant 50 trees near Ames High School. The trees will be planted between Northwestern and Grand avenues and between Murray Drive and 20th Street. Interested volunteers should meet at the corner of Northwestern Avenue and Murray Drive. For more information, visit the [City of Ames website](#).

MAY (AND SUMMER) GREEN EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

May 5, 11 a.m. | Downtown Fareway Parking Lot

[Beautiful Land Market](#)

Discover 50 unique local vendors and small businesses to refresh your home with handmade and curated goods. The Beautiful Land Market will feature local food trucks, live music, and a diversity of local handmade goods and arts. For more information, visit the [Beautiful Land Market website](#).

May 10 - 12, various times | Reiman Gardens

[Plant Sale Extravaganza](#)

Support local Iowa State University organizations by shopping for all of your indoor and outdoor plant needs. Plants for sale include perennials for sun and shade, herbs and vegetables, Iowa natives, woody plants including trees, "Quick Turn" shrubs and Buck roses, container and bedding annuals, houseplants and other topicals, hanging baskets and All-American Selection (AAS) winners. Early access, for members only on May 10 from 3 – 7 p.m., and public sales on May 11 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and May 12 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information, visit the [Reiman Gardens Event Calendar webpage](#).

May 11, 9 a.m. | Center Grove Orchard

[Baby Animal Days at Center Grove](#)

Absorb the joy of playing with a lineup of baby lambs, chicks, goats, bunnies and many other adorable farm animals, all in a safe and welcoming environment. Also offered are seasonal treats and farmyard activities. For more information or to buy tickets, visit the [Center Grove Orchard website](#).

May 15, 5 p.m. | Brunnier Art Museum, Scheman Building

[Exploring Iowa State College Pottery's Place in History](#)

Accompany Lynette Pohlman, Adrienne Gennett, and Allison Sheridan and learn more about Iowa State College pottery's own entry into the American Art Pottery tradition. Only

made for a few years, the objects are rare and tell the story of how American Art Pottery was spread westward by skilled ceramicists.

May 29, 12 p.m. | Hixson-Lied Small Animal Hospital, 1809 S Riverside Drive

[Campus Art Walk: Animal Companionship](#)

Become informed about the connections between humans and animals found in Iowa State's Art on Campus Collection by taking a walk around Patterson Hall. Meet Caitlin Patton, education specialist, at the Hixson-Lied Small Animal Hospital main entrance. Art Walks are free monthly tours of the Art on Campus at Iowa State University. For more information, visit the [Discover Ames website](#).

SUMMER

Every Saturday starting May 4, 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Main Street, Ames

[Ames Main Street Farmers Market](#)

Meet local vendors, producers and businesses at The Ames Main Street Farmers' Market. This community event connects people together every Saturday from May to October 2024 from Ames and the surrounding area to enjoy the bounty of locally grown produce, delicious baked goods and beautifully hand-crafted items. For more information, visit the [Ames Downtown website](#).

June 1 – July 27, 9 a.m. | Bandshell Park

[Yoga in the Park](#)

Learn from certified yoga instructors from various yoga studios in Ames for a free class appropriate for all skill levels. Get a different yoga experience each week from one of nine volunteer instructors. Wear comfortable clothing and bring your own mat if possible. The outdoor classes offer a unique atmosphere to relax and invigorate at the same time. For more information, visit the [Ames Parks and Recreation website](#).

June 7, 10 a.m. | Reiman Gardens

[Teacher Appreciation Day at Reiman Gardens](#)

Commemorate teachers at Reiman Gardens during Teacher Appreciation Day. Free admission applies to Pre-K-12 school employees only and you must show a school ID card or badge to gain free admission. Teachers can also enter to win a variety of prizes from dozens of local businesses around Ames. For more information, visit the [Reiman Gardens Calendar of Events](#).

June 13, August 8, 8:30 a.m. | Reiman Gardens

[Butterfly Blizzard](#)

Experience a butterfly blizzard in Reiman Gardens' Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing. Participants will get the opportunity to learn and release their very own butterfly into the tropical indoor garden. Once released, participants will receive a certificate with their names and the species they released on it. The Butterfly Blizzard will be available to experience on June 13, 8:30 – 10 a.m. and August 8, 8:30 – 10 a.m. For more information and to register, visit the [Reiman Gardens Calendar of Events website](#).

June 13, 20, 21, various times | Around Ames

[Summer Iowa Games Admissions Volunteers](#)

Participate in various volunteer opportunities around Ames for the Summer Iowa Games, held every summer. From activities including martial arts, track and field, bowling, swimming, taekwondo and more, there are various times and options for volunteer opportunities. For more information on volunteer opportunities for the 2024 Summer Iowa Games, visit the [Sign Up Genius website](#).

June 22, 10 a.m. | ISU Forker Building parking lot

[College Creek Cleanup](#)

Celebrate National Rivers Month with the Office of Sustainability at the 14th annual College Creek Cleanup event! Join volunteers as they traverse designated areas of the creek and its banks, collecting litter. Drop in whenever your schedule permits. For additional details and registration, please visit the [Iowa State Events Calendar webpage](#).

June – August, various times | Reiman Gardens

[Nature at Night](#)

Accompany the staff of Reiman Gardens for an exclusive evening sensory exploration of

the Gardens. Experience the enchantment of flowers that bloom exclusively at night or emit fragrances to entice nocturnal pollinators. Get hands-on with selected flowers as you illuminate them with UV light to reveal their fluorescence. The program is \$18 for members, \$32 for general public, and \$15 for ISU students. For more information including times, different event experiences and dates, visit the [Reiman Gardens Calendar of Events website](#).

July 26 – August 3, various times | Intermodal Parking Facility, Ames
[Rummage RAMPage](#)

Find new homes for your gently used furniture and household items, or add furnishings to your own home or apartment, at the yearly Rummage RAMPage event, presented by the City of Ames and ISU Office of Sustainability! Every purchase supports the non-profit groups and ISU student organizations that contribute volunteer hours to the event's success. For event hours, participating groups and organizations and donation guidelines, visit the Rummage RAMPage webpage on the [City of Ames website](#).

Explore All Live Green! Calendar Events

Have a green event, initiative or accomplishment that you would like to have featured?
Share it with us via email at livegreen@iastate.edu.

RECIPES AND GREEN-IT-YOURSELF (GIY)

May is the perfect time to recognize our sustainable accomplishments throughout the school year. It is a time brimming with opportunities to foster creativity and embrace sustainability, especially during gatherings and festivities.



[Newspaper Gift Bag](#)

Transform newspapers into eco-friendly gift bags, showcasing recognition for both sustainability and your loved ones.



[Recycled Party Tassels](#)

Recognize the value of creativity by transforming trash into treasure with vibrant recycled party tassels crafted from old chip bags, maps and tissue paper.



[Upcycle Picture Frames](#)

Elevate your space and recognize cherished memories by upcycling old picture frames into new, personalized masterpieces.



Muffin Tin Mini Quiche

Indulge in these delightful bite-sized quiches, a recognition of the perfect blend of convenience and flavor.



Fresh Basil Lemonade

Celebrate the commencement of summer with this invigorating fresh basil lemonade, a recognition of the season's vibrant flavors.



Healthy Vanilla Cake

Savor the elegance of a cake picnic served in wine glasses, recognizing the blend of wholesome flavors with a touch of sophistication.

Find More Recipes and GIYs on the Live Green! Pinterest Page

STAY CONNECTED TO LIVE GREEN!

livegreen.iastate.edu



Live Green! Monthly is a monthly publication from the Office of Sustainability at Iowa State University. Live Green! is Iowa State University's campus-wide sustainability initiative, encouraging all students, faculty and staff to be fully committed to and engaged in making our projects and initiatives, our operations and our campus environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

MAY 2024 VOLUME 14 ISSUE 7



Iowa State University Facilities Planning and Management | 108 General Services Building, 700 Wallace Road, Ames, IA 50011

[Unsubscribe gtholtz@iastate.edu](mailto:gtholtz@iastate.edu)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by livegreen@iastate.edu powered by



Try email marketing for free today!