PURSUING GOALS OF DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

ISU STUDENTS ELEVATING OTHERS THROUGH HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

PURSUING GOALS OF DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

CREATE MINDFUL SPACE FOR THE NEW YEAR

"ENLIGHTEN OTHERS. ENCOURAGE OTHERS. EMPOWER OTHERS. ELEVATE OTHERS."

- MATSHONA DHILWAYO
Congratulations, Kelsey!
Live Green! Team Member Kelsey Culbertson was voted in as one of two students to be featured in the 2020 Women Impacting ISU Calendar.

Thank you, Grace!
Live Green! Special Initiatives Intern and B.R.A. (Bras to Recycle and Aide Women) Drive coordinator Grace Madigan wrapped up her final projects with the team this semester. We thank her for her dedicated efforts and wish her luck in her spring semester abroad in London!

Sustainable Fall Highlights
Discover many of the sustainable accomplishments from the fall season.

Now You Know
Explore elevation through U.N. Sustainable Development goals 3 and 11.

Elevate The Winter Season
Uplift yourself and others through this kindness advent calendar.

Students Living Cardinal, Gold & Green
Meet ISU students elevating local and international communities.

Green-It-Yourself
Green your holidays with projects that elevate the spirit of the season.

Recipes
Elevate others with these delicious, sharable and seasonal snacks.

Symposium on Sustainability
Save the date for this annual event celebrating sustainability at ISU.

Reduce Your Holiday Footprint
Learn elevating habits for reducing waste during the holiday season.

Green Opportunities
Engage in sustainable and elevating events, contests, internships and more.

Monthly Challenge
Make it a personal challenge to elevate green in different ways this month.

December Calendar
Explore green elevating events during the month of December.

January Calendar
Elevate the new year and attend a green event in January.

Follow Us!
Elevating Green and want to share your progress? Tag @isu_livegreen on social media — we would love to see your ideas, thoughts and creations.
November was an exciting month for me and the Sustainability Committee with America Recycles Day taking place on Nov. 15th. We were able to educate professors and students on the importance of recycling and what can and can’t be recycled. In addition to it being America Recycles Day, the state of Iowa declared the 15th to also be known as Iowa Recycles Day to show their support for recycling initiatives. Ayodeji Oluwalana, Iowa State’s Recycling Coordinator, was there to see the proclamation be signed at the capitol in Des Moines.

Coming up in December, the ISU Sustainability Committee will take time to reflect on what we have accomplished this semester and make goals for what we can work on in the new year.

As always, if you have any thoughts on sustainability issues that you would like to see fixed on campus, feel free to contact me at: iswilde@iastate.edu.

Contact Izzy with ideas or questions at iswilde@iastate.edu and follow the Sustainability Committee’s Instagram at @isusustainability.
Acknowledging the successes of the fall semester and looking forward to future sustainable steps forward while reading through the campus and community 2019 Sustainable Fall Highlights. Recognizing successes of the semester can contribute to a foundation of knowledge and inspiration for greater growth and innovation on how we can continue to elevate sustainably. Read all the semester’s headline news on the Live Green! website.

**ELEVATING THROUGH ENGAGEMENT**

**JOINING A NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO DIVERSIFY FACULTY**

ISU joined "The National Alliance for Inclusive and Diverse STEM Faculty." (ASPIRE) is a three-year program that works to incorporate more diversity in faculty and more inclusivity in inclusive teaching practices. ISU is one of 20 universities joining the alliance.

**PERFORMING CLIMATE ACTION**

Climate Change Action Theatre (CCTA) performed 18 free exhibitions across campus. Experts were present during intermissions to answer questions about the Earth’s climate. Fifteen performances were written by 14 different international authors. One piece was authored by an Ames community member.

Photo courtesy of the Iowa State Daily

**CONNECTING FACULTY**

The Center for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities began leading a program designed to connect faculty from different departments and backgrounds through faculty learning communities. A few communities focus on: sustainable peace, water scholars, augmented reality and more.

**ELEVATING THROUGH EDUCATION**

**CARING FOR SHELTER ANIMALS**

The Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine pulled off a win-win when they provided shelter animals treatments while giving real hands-on experience to veterinary students. Over the course of a semester more than 300 animals received care.

Photo courtesy of the Inside Iowa State
A $1.5 million grant from the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency was awarded to ISU associate professor Guowen Song. This money will allow Song and a team of ISU researchers to improve the function of heat-protective gloves for firefighters and other first responders.

ENHANCING FIRE SAFETY GLOVE

As a part of ISU’s goal to become zero waste by 2025, the university launched an initiative to shred and use recycled cardboard from campus as animal bedding (which is later composted on campus for use in campus landscaping projects).

LAUNCHING CARDBOARD INITIATIVE

A new digital accessibility lab in Durham Center held an open house in November after wrapping up enhancements made possible by an approved funding request last spring that added $25,000 to the lab’s budget. This improved the space’s assistive technology and ability to host training for faculty and staff.

OFFERING ACCESSIBILITY LAB

First-year students of color at ISU found community and mentors in "Connect Four," a College of Human Sciences program. Students in the program meet twice a month and share mentoring, networking, tutoring and scholarship opportunities.

UNITING A COMMUNITY IN CONNECT FOUR GROUP
Earth is home to more than 7.7 billion people. Of that, more than four billion, or 50%, live in cities. By 2050, this is expected to increase to 70%.

Many of these city dwellers live in the type of cities that are shown on TV: urban areas with green parks, high-rise apartments, restaurants, sports arenas and modern office buildings. These are the type of cities we think about when we learn that urban areas make more than 80% of the world’s gross domestic product.

But there is another aspect of cities that isn’t often considered — the part that one billion, or 1 in 3, urban residents live in: urban slums and informal settings. In some countries, more than 90% of urban dwellers live in these environments.

Slums and informal settings are places with unsafe, unhealthy and overcrowded homes that have limited or no access to basic sanitation (water, electricity or toilets), waste management, public spaces and transportation services.

The increase of people living in these types of areas is due to rapid and unplanned urbanization. Cities are unable to adapt quickly enough to the sudden increase of residents and cannot develop ample sustainable infrastructure and housing.

Due to insufficient housing, living costs increase, and families with limited resources are forcefully evicted, leading them to move to cheaper, underdeveloped areas and into homes built with substandard materials.

Families are then left to grapple with natural hazards already associated with 90% of urban expansion projects, in addition to new vulnerabilities, such as infectious diseases, food deserts and illegal, unsafe buildings.

Poorer urban areas also face the effects of climate change first and worse than more affluent people.

Many of the world’s largest cities are in low elevation coastal zones, with 23% of the global population living within 60 miles of the coast and at less than 350 feet of elevation.

This undesirable location makes urban slums more susceptible to extreme conditions, such as rising seas, increased incidence of severe storms and temperatures, frequent floods and landslides.

Sustainable Cities and Communities, the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goal 11, was created to stop these negative effects of rapid urbanization.

The mission of Goal 11 is “to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable for all.”

Large non-profit organizations like ICLEI, also known as Local Governments for Sustainability, work to implement Goal 11 around the world. They engage urban communities at local, national and global levels to “shape policy and spark action to transform urban environments worldwide.”

ICLEI’s strategy to create systemic, sustainable change in urban development follows five pathways: low emission, nature, circular, resilient, and equitable development. This allows them to balance humans, infrastructure and nature.

Smaller, community-led initiatives also play a part in achieving the mission of Goal 11.

For example, in Tunisia, a 21-year-old activist created SafeNes, a mobile app that helps women and girls feel safe in public places.

In Papua New Guinea, UN Women implemented the “Safe Public Transport for Women and Children Programme” to increase the safety of women and children as they access public transportation.

Efforts to shape sustainable cities is not limited to national and global organizations and initiatives. It can be done anywhere, and to a community-level scale, through organizations such as the National League of Cities, EcoCity Builders or the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

Through acquired knowledge and skills, anyone can become an advocate and fighter for more sustainable, inclusive cities and communities.
At the forefront of all sustainable development initiatives are human beings requiring a foundation of health and well-being to stay active and committed to the journey for sustainable equity for all.

While all people have this requirement, at least 567 million struggle every day to secure health and well-being — 400 million due to lack of basic healthcare; 160 million due to no social protection; and 7 million due to polluted air.

This number only covers the basics, which is why the United Nations developed Good Health and Well-Being, or Sustainable Development Goal 3, with the mission of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all, at all ages.

Goal 3 is divided into 13 different targets:

- global maternal mortality rate
- preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age
- the epidemic of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other tropical diseases
- premature mortality from non-communicable diseases
- universal health coverage
- prevention and treatment of substance abuse
- global roadside accidents deaths
- universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services
- deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals, pollution and contamination
- the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries
- research and development of vaccines and medicine
- health financing and recruitment, training and retention of health workforce globally
- the capacity of all countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks

Each target’s underlining efforts revolve around funding healthcare systems, improving sanitation and hygiene, increasing access to doctors and reducing pollution.

One target the UN has made great strides in is increasing the global life expectancy and, in turn, demonstrating the overall health of a country.

Based on current mortality risks, the average life expectancy of men is 69.8 years and of women, 74.2 years. This difference is due to multiple causes, such as heart disease, interpersonal violence and cancer.

Groups like the World Health Organization (WHO) have taken these factors into consideration and developed initiatives to increase the overall global life expectancy.

In 2018, the Member States of WHO approved the 2019-2023 General Programme of Work, with the goal of helping countries stay on track towards Goal 3. It prioritizes universal health coverage, health security and health and well-being, all with a focus on outcomes rather than outputs.

Another target being greatly improved on is reducing child and maternal mortality.

Toward achieving this target, in 2017, the under-5 mortality rate fell to 39 deaths per 1,000 people, from 42 deaths, in 2015 due to an increase in appropriate reproductive, maternal, newborn and child management and care.

This resulted in a 12% increase in skilled birth attendants assisting with pregnancies and a 2% increase in universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services.

While these target achievements are not sufficient enough to achieve Goal 3, they have made great headway.

To make further progress, the United Nations continuously tracks all Sustainable Development Goal targets and creates voluntary and multi-stakeholder partnerships to develop initiatives and facilitate global engagement in support of the SDGs. Out of 13,392 active initiatives, there are 598 dedicated to Goal 3.

There are also initiatives at Iowa State University that support Goal 3, such as ISU Well-Being and Student Wellness. This is in addition to the numerous resources and programs in the Ames community that provide connections and resources to elevate individuals toward collectively achieving good health and well-being.
Give the gift of literacy and donate books to the library. Children who grow up in homes with at least 20 books get 3 more years of education than those from bookless homes.

Hide friendly notes in a public place. Expressing gratitude in handwritten notes has been found to boost positive emotions and well-being for both the writer and recipient.

Donate food to your local food pantry. 46 million people visit food banks annually to feed themselves and their families, and your donation can help supplement this.

Let a person go ahead of you in line. This act of kindness can be a gift for someone who is in a hurry.

Donate your skills to a person or non-profit in need. You will save them money, hone your skills, gain experience and network with like-minded individuals.

Find out something new about a coworker. Doing this shows your compassion and how caring you are, and can even spark a friendship.

Take sweet treats to work for your coworkers. Sharing with others increases feelings of trust and gratitude.

Leave your neighbor an anonymous gift and partake in the highest level of charity, according to many cultural traditions.

Offer a ride for Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Annually, more than 600,000 veterans rely on DAV for transportation to and from their medical appointments.

Share time with elders at nursing homes. This can help bridge age-gap relationships, expand social connections and provide elders with a sense of purpose.
Pay it forward by covering a person’s check or taping money to a parking meter. Doing so has positive effects on the immune system and improves feelings of self-worth.

Help reduce the stress of overcrowded animal shelters by donating supplies, fostering or sponsoring a pet. This can help reduce the 3 million cats and dogs euthanized annually.

Helping others gives a mental boost by providing more dopamine from sensing reward.

Connect a charity to your Amazon account using AmazonSmile. For every purchase made, 0.5% of the purchase price will be donated to your chosen charity.

Thank someone for making a difference. Saying thank you helps change your mindset, build trust and inspire others to continue doing great things.

Be kind to yourself and do something that makes you happy. Being self-compassionate allows your heart rate to slow, switching off your “fight-or-flight” response, which truly allows you to relax.

Endorse a skill or leave a positive recommendation on LinkedIn. Doing this helps job seekers be more visible and stand out to potential recruiters.

Call or FaceTime a relative or friend and catch up with one another. Social support has been found to lower stress and increase happiness and self-confidence.

Leave a positive review of a business online. This can help a business thrive, as 91% of people read online reviews and 84% trust them as much as a personal recommendation.

Cook an extra portion of dinner for someone who needs it and donate it to perishable food pantry, such as Food at First. More than 20,000 people had meals there in 2017.

Find more acts of kindness you can do at Random Acts of Kindness!
A common misconception about mental, emotional and physical elevation through fitness is that growth only can be found by hitting the weights or track, according to student fitness instructors and kinesiology majors Maris Behan, Jacob Jorgensen and Morgan Shawler.

And while those actions can be a big part of fitness, the three have found through kinesiology class experience and teaching group fitness classes with ISU Recreation Services that personal and community well-being can be elevated through a variety of activities and actions.

For some, casual movements, like trying a new exercise, going for a walk rather than taking the bus, or taking the stairs instead of the elevator are simple and easy opportunities to elevate themselves, their heart rates and their fitness, Jorgensen said.

A fitness opportunity that all students can avail themselves of includes trying the fitness classes that come with their ISU gym membership fee.

"Group fitness is a great way to hang out with friends and to gain new experiences with new people ... Even if you don't like [one class] you can try different classes. Or even working out on your own. It doesn't matter how you start, it just matters that you continue," Shawler said.

Growth in fitness can also be accomplished with actions made in the kitchen and in social interactions, according to Jorgensen.

"Eating healthy to fuel your body ... eating with other people ... walking, running or being mindful with yoga," Jorgensen described, are all examples of ways that people build up their overall fitness and wellness.

One piece of advice that Behan, Jorgensen and Shawler would give to people looking to improve on their wellness is for them to try different healthy movements, foods and social activities until they find what is the most enjoyable for them.

"What works for one person isn’t necessarily going to work for another, Behan emphasized, "[for example], some people love running. Some people love fitness classes ... There is not one right way to improve fitness."

When trying to find an activity that can help elevate your fitness, the best rule of thumb is to not be afraid to make time to try something completely new, according to Jorgensen.

If he could slip freshman students a note, Jorgensen would say, "don't be afraid... Try it all out. Start small at first, and then build up [from there]."

Another opportunity students have that can empower them to elevate community and personal well-being includes their ability to join an organization working on sustainable community-building projects.

For graduate student Jack Schwickerath (studying agriculture...
and biosystems engineering) and undergrad Olivia Taylor (studying civil engineering), they found the ability to engage in elevating local and international communities through the ISU chapter Engineers Without Borders (EWB).

EWB is an organization working to elevate communities nationally and internationally through the implementation of sustainable engineering projects.

Throughout the last five years, the ISU chapter has worked to implement various projects in Ullo, Ghana.

Just last year, EWB worked to implement and build a water distribution system that brought clean water to a school serving over 1,000 students.

"Before the system was implemented, students would be locking up their water in trunks at the ends of their beds because it was so valuable to them," Taylor said.

Students used to have to wait hours and walk two kilometers to be able to access safe drinking water, according to Taylor.

Since the system has been implemented on the campus, students have saved time for sleeping and studying and even have improved their exam scores, Taylor said follow ups with the community have revealed.

Currently, team members continue to market, fundraise and plan for new engineering projects to help improve life in Ullo.

"I think our work is important because it helps communities that don’t have access to the resources or opportunities for [sustainable] infrastructure that is really needed. It also gives engineering students the change to work on a large-scale project," Schwickerath said.

Outside of their international projects working to give people access to essential resources, ISU EWB members are currently also exploring opportunities to start engineering projects in Ames.

Particularly, they are looking for projects that can elevate technologies supporting the community’s food security, well-being and financial security, Taylor said.

A project EWB is currently working on involves increasing agricultural success in Ullo through improved irrigation technologies.

Schwickerath and Taylor are happy to report that during the upcoming winter break, members will return to Ullo to work on a rainwater and drip irrigation system that is intended to improve the community’s ability to water crops during dry seasons.

"People can always donate or lend their physical abilities [to EWB projects] ... We would love to see EWB become more of a partnership between colleges at ISU," Taylor said.

Those with suggestions for local projects and people who want to keep track of ISU’s chapter of EWB and their progress on projects can connect with them on their Instagram, Facebook or website.

Students from any major are also encouraged reach out online to get involved with EWB.

The organization can always benefit from new perspectives and skills from across campus, Taylor noted.

"People can always donate or lend their physical abilities [to EWB projects] ... We would love to see EWB become more of a partnership between colleges at ISU," Taylor said.

"Try it all out. Start small at first, and then build up [from there]."
GREEN-IT-YOURSELF
ELEVATE YOUR HOLIDAYS WITH THESE CREATIONS

CANDLE SWEATER COZY

**Supplies:** Candle, old sweater, scissors, needle and thread  
**Instructions:**  
1. Cut the sleeve off of the sweater and slide it over the bottom of the unlit candle.  
2. Pull sleeve tight at the bottom of the candle and cut it off, leaving at least a ½ inch hanging off the bottom.  
3. Turn the sleeve inside out, gather the bottom and pull it together in a bunch.  
4. With needle and thread, stitch through the center of the bunch a few times, then wrap the thread around the bunch, tying and pulling it tight to gather the base of the sleeve.  
5. Trim off excess sweater bunching as close to the sewing as possible.  
6. Slip the sleeve over the bottom of your favorite candle jar. Enjoy!

REUSABLE ADVENT CALENDAR

**Supplies:** Choose from: 6 paper towel tubes, 24 toilet roll tubes or 2-3 wrapping paper tubes, 24 blank stickers, paper (tissue paper, wrapping paper, newspaper, posters), glue, ribbon, large button or bead, stapler, permanent marker, scissors, and a large needle  
**Instructions:**  
1. Cut kitchen roll tubes in thirds or wrapping paper tubes in at least sixths.  
2. Staple or glue tubes into a tree shape, starting with three rolls at the bottom, six on the second row, and one less for each consecutive row to the top.  
3. Write numbers 1-24 on stickers using permanent markers.  
4. Cut out two pieces of paper, one larger so it covers the back and side, and the second slightly bigger than the shape to cover the front. Glue paper to the back.  
5. Create a small hole on the top roll and pull a loop of ribbon through. Slide a button or bead onto the two loose ends of ribbon and tie a knot, making a hanger.  
6. Fill each tube with a gift or treat, then glue the front paper to seal the calendar. Put the numbered stickers on the front.  
7. Save, refill and replace the stickers for the next year, or recycle!

WIRED FRAME MEMO BOARD

**Supplies:** Used picture frame, spray paint or chalk paint, wire cutter, 24 gauge craft wire, thumbtacks, small hammer, clothes pins and adhesive (optional)  
**Instructions:**  
1. Wipe down picture frame and coat it with a couple layers of paint.  
2. Lightly tap thumbtacks into the back of the frame, spaced out at desired interval.  
3. Wrap wire around one thumbtack and pull either horizontally or diagonally. Wrap it around second tack and cut the wire. (Add adhesive under tack if wire pops out.)  
4. Attach photos, a calendar, dried flowers and notes to the board with clothes pins.
**CRANBERRY BRIE BITES**

**Ingredients and Supplies:** Flour, 8 oz. tube crescent dough, 8 oz. wheel of Brie cheese, 1 C. whole berry cranberry sauce (non-jellied), fresh rosemary sprigs, muffin tins, cooking spray, oven, chopping board, knife, rolling pin  

**Servings:** 24  

**Directions:**  
1. Preheat oven to 375 F˚ and spray muffin tin with cooking spray.  
2. Spread a dusting of flour onto counter or chopping board. Roll out crescent dough and pinch seams together.  
3. Cut crescent roll into 24-equal sized squares. Place into muffin tins.  
4. Dice Brie into small pieces and place inside crescent dough squares.  
5. Add a spoonful of cranberry sauce and sprig of rosemary on top of dough squares.  
6. Bake in oven until the crescent dough is a light golden brown (approx. 15 minutes).

**APPLE PIE BITES**

**Ingredients and Supplies:** ¼ C. packed light brown sugar, 1¼ tsp. apple pie spice, 1 small apple (cored and sliced into 8), 3 Tbsp. butter (melted), ⅓ cup chopped pecans, 8 oz. tube crescent rolls, baking sheet, small bowl  

**Servings:** 8  

**Directions:**  
1. Preheat oven to 375 F˚. Spray baking sheet with oil or line with parchment paper.  
2. In a small bowl, combine brown sugar and 1 tsp. apple pie spice.  
3. Arrange 8 crescent roll triangles on baking sheet and evenly distribute brown sugar mixture and chopped pecans onto each triangle.  
4. Place apple slices on wide end of triangles and wrap dough around them.  
5. Brush each crescent roll with butter and sprinkle lightly with ¼ apple pie spice.  
6. Bake for 10-12 minutes.

**ZUCCHINI FUDGE BROWNIES**

**Ingredients and Supplies:** 1 small sweet potato ⅓ C. unsweetened almond butter, ½ C. pure maple syrup, 1 large egg, 1 tsp pure vanilla extract, ½ C. unsweetened cocoa powder, 1/8 tsp. sea salt, 1 C. grated zucchini, ¾ C. dark chocolate chips, coarse sea salt (optional), baking pan, measuring cup, whisk  

**Servings:** 12  

**Directions:**  
1. Steam, boil or roast a small sweet potato for 15-20 minutes. Let it cool for a while, then mash and measure out ⅔ sweet potato. (Use the last ⅓ for another recipe!)  
2. Preheat oven to 350 F˚. Add butter, egg, syrup and extract to mixing bowl with ⅔ mashed potato. Whisk until creamy.  
3. Add cocoa powder and sea salt to mix. Stir well.  
4. Stir in grated zucchini and chocolate chips.  
5. Transfer mixture to baking pan and smooth into an even layer. Bake 30-35 minutes and allow to sit 15 minutes before serving.
The Iowa State University Symposium on Sustainability is a two-day event that embodies all things sustainable at ISU and allows the campus community to celebrate the sustainable initiatives and achievements of students, faculty and staff from the past year. It is also a time where new goals and sustainable visions are displayed and made. This year, ISU is celebrating its 11th Symposium themed "Visions of a Sustainable Future."

**Schedule of Events**

**Monday February 24**

**Reception**
Enjoy refreshments and explore displays that highlight sustainability work, accomplishments and commitment in areas of operations, academics and the overall student experience.

**Location:** South Ballroom, Memorial Union
**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Keynote Speaker**
Erin Brockovich: Consumer Advocate, Author, TV Host
"The Power Of One"

**Location:** Great Hall, Memorial Union
**Time:** 7 p.m.

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**Tuesday February 25**

**Sustainably-Minded Activities**
Take part in Sustainapalooza, the companion event to the Symposium. This year’s Sustainapalooza encourages attendees to embrace the theme, "Picture Yourself in a Sustainable World," while at the event through networking and connecting with green organizations and by participating in the Green It Yourself (GIY) centers focused on a world that is efficiently and effectively energized, food secure and balanced. Attendees can also take part in a clothing swap.

Information and updates for this year’s Symposium can be found on the Live Green! Initiative’s website: livegreen.iastate.edu.
The holiday season is here, and I’m sure everyone is excited to spend this time with family and friends as well as exchange gifts. It is not uncommon for families to produce more trash than normal during holiday seasons. The following waste reduction tips encourage us to minimize waste, maximize our finances and be more mindful of what we generate as we plan, travel, cook and enjoy our holidays with friends and family.

Iowa State University Recycling Coordinator,
~ Ayodeji Oluwalana

**Tip 1: Plan Your Shopping List**
Make a list, and only buy what you know you’ll use. This is especially important when purchasing perishable items like produce, dairy, and meat. Don’t forget your reusable shopping bags!

**Tip 2: Wrap Diligently**
Wrapping gifts with festive paper and decorations can create anticipation and surprise, but it can also make a lot of garbage! If you can’t reuse your single-use wrapping paper, then try reusable materials for a simple and eco-friendly way to cut down on your wrapping waste.

**Tip 3: Skip Paper and Plastic**
Avoid using extra trash bags, and choose cloth napkins and reusable dishes. Recruit some of your guests to help with dishes.

**Tip 4: Decorate Mindfully**
No matter your interior décor, holiday decorations can add a festive touch to your home. If you need to buy new decorations, buy reusable ones that last for years and keep unnecessary waste out of the landfill.

**Tip 5: Take Only What You Will Eat**
On a holiday that is all about eating, it’s easy for your eyes to grow bigger than your stomach. Be mindful of your serving size. Give yourself, or ask for, small portions. You can always go back for more!

**Tip 6: Do Not Waste Food**
Food constitute over 35% of what we send to the landfill every day. Ensure to reduce your food waste by planning for only what you need. Eat it, or compost it. If you have a lot of extra food, pack doggy bags for your guests and/or freeze extra food.

**Tip 7: Recycle, Recycle, Recycle**
Recycle wine corks at a ReCORK drop-off location (Jax Outdoor Gear Ames- 4723 West Lincoln Way Ames, IA, 50014). Holidays tend to create a lot of waste, so recycle what you can of glass, plastic, metal, paper, and cardboard.

Layout by Paige Anson
CELEBRATE THROUGH GIVING

Bring joy to a local family Nov. 16 - Dec. 6 and help make a merrier holiday season in your community by picking up a tag at North Grand Mall and purchasing a specific gift item for a family in need. Also help spread the cheer by participating in the Salvation Army’s Christmas Toy Drive Nov. 9 - Dec. 13. at North Grand Mall. Donate a gift to a child ages newborn through 18. Also in December, North Grand Mall will be hosting gift wrapping events for a fee based on package size at noon during peak days. Learn more at northgrandmall.com.

EXPLORE GALAXIES

Take time to pause and spend a relaxing and educational evening under the stars during a “Planetarium Show: Galaxies and the Universe” Dec. 6 in the ISU Planetarium in the Physics Hall. The curiosity of space has driven research, television shows, movies and books. It also has inspired thought as to how our planet fits into the space-ecology. Let the mysteries of space and the great unknown fuel your curiosity, creativity and scientific understandings of the natural world beyond our planet. The event is free and it begins at 6:30 p.m. No registration required.

SUPPLY YOURSELF FOR WINTER FUN

Don your favorite hiking shoes, warm clothes and camera gear for a fun winter excursion powered by yourself and equipment rented from the ISU Outdoor Recreation Program. Tents, sleeping equipment, cross country ski gear, snowshoes, down jacket and down booties are available for renting this winter. Learn more about daily pricing with the member and public rates and other gear available for renting online on the Recreation Services Equipment Rental website.

ENJOY A #SELFCARESUNDAY

Make time for you this holiday season and relax into your favorite reviving activities by participating in a #SelfCareSunday. For some, that may mean sleeping in, taking a walk or jog, enjoying a book or movie, spending time with friends and/or family or trying a new recipe or GIY. Whatever your self-sustaining practice, share your self-elevating techniques and motivations online by tagging @isu_livegreen and by using the hashtag.

INNOVATE IN A GLOBAL FORUM

Explore lifestyles that can “elevate your Mind, Body, and Soul” at the 2019 Lifestyle Expo January 30 from 11a.m. - 2p.m. in the State Gym at ISU. Hosted by Recreation services at Iowa State, the lifestyle expo will provide a platform for students and community members to share in physical, mental and spiritual practices that can help enrich lives. Students can attend the event for free. Organizations that are interested in promoting a lifestyle at the event can register to table at the expo. Learn more online on recservices.iastate.edu.

INDULGE IN A CREAMY TREAT

Enjoying locally made ice-cream is a year-round activity. Purchase an eight oz. cup of ice-cream made by the Dairy Science Club and choose from a variety of flavors every Wednesday from 11a.m. - 1p.m. during the fall and spring semesters inside Kildee Hall (just outside of Lush Auditorium). Interested in buying in bulk? Buy a gallon or a five-gallon bucket of ice-cream by filling out and bringing an Ice Cream Order Form to one of the sales. Flavors of ice-cream include vanilla, chocolate, strawberry, triple chocolate, peanut butter chocolate and more. Learn more about the sale on the Dairy Science Club website.

MOVE THE WINTER BLUES

Complete a full marathon (26 miles!) at your own pace between Jan. 1 and March 1 2019. Walk, run, ski, snowshoe or bike and keep track of every mile. This is a great way to set a fitness goal within parameters that fit your busy schedule. This marathon is kid-friendly! Build up easy and fun miles by adding one mile to your total for every 30 minutes of play outside. Use #sccwintermarathon to share your progress, photos and adventures. Learn more about this “Beat the Blues Winter Marathon” online on the Story County website.

SHARE THE LOCAL CLIMATE STORY

Be a leader and add your voice to the fight against climate change by competing in the The Scoop Journalism Contest. Submit an original essay, podcast or video reflecting on a prompt requesting your thoughts on how climate change is impacting your community. Winners from the podcast, video and essay categories will receive a trip to Washington, DC to participate in Earth Day 2020 activities at the National Mall on Saturday April 25th (the 50th anniversary of Earth Day). Submissions are due Jan. 31 at 11:59 p.m. Submit an entry and learn more about the prompt, the competition and how to participate on earthday.org.
Avoid creating unnecessary waste this holiday season by recycling your organic holiday trees this winter. When your trees have lived their fullest lives in your home, take them to the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Shop at 700 East 13th Street. From here, trees will be recycled into wood chips to be used in city parks. Drop off trees during daylight hours throughout January. Follow the signs in the driveway to the donation site. All decorations MUST be removed from the tree. Learn more on the City of Ames website.

Copy and layout by Paige Anson
MONTHLY CHALLENGE
DECLUTTER YOUR MIND AND SPACE FOR THE NEW YEAR

The beginning of spring is not the only time of year that warrants decluttering of the home, mind and environment. New Year’s is just as opportune, if not more. For many people, the new year represents a clean slate (January is even dubbed “Get Organized Month” for this reason!) — and the only way to have a clean slate is to understand what you currently have and what you actually need. Challenge yourself this month to declutter an area (or multiple areas) in your life, using this Monthly Challenge as a guide.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Download apps to help you organize (calendar, lists)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Remove unused apps for your electronics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean out bedroom closets</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Donate or recycle unworn shoes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wash blankets, couch cushions and other linen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organize laundry area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sort your linen closet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flip mattresses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sort your kitchen cabinets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remove expired and old food from your refrigerator and freezer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donate unwanted nonperishable items</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean out bedroom closets</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean up kitchen counters and move unused items to a new, organized space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remember to rest! You are doing a great job.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Give away old books and recycle those in poor condition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upcycle unused jars and boxes to create functional storage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reorganize junk drawers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delete and sort old emails (create folders, empty junk mail and unsubscribe from listservs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweep and mop hardwood floors and vacuum carpet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rid your wallet of unused or expired items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sort through the mail and recycle junk and old mail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean your computer (delete cache files, organize folders, empty trash, set up a cloud system)</td>
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<td>Consolidate and cull cleaning supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean bathroom and get rid of unused items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Update and organize your calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tidy your medicine cabinet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commit to staying decluttered!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean off kitchen counters and move unused items to a new, organized space</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update and organize your calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tidy your medicine cabinet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commit to staying decluttered!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break these tasks down into more days or add more specific ones! For more advice on decluttering and committing to it, read “33 Ways to Declutter Your Life (And Keep It That Way!)”</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Copy and layout by Krishaun Burns
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td><strong>WinterFest</strong>&lt;br&gt;Central Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Home Gardening: Accessible Gardening</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reiman Gardens</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>Art Mart at Iowa State University</strong>&lt;br&gt;Campanile Room, MU</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><strong>Black Lives Matter: Fashion, Liberation and the Fight for Freedom Exhibit</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ames Public Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td><strong>Beautiful Land Holiday Market</strong>&lt;br&gt;3801 W. 190th St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td><strong>Holiday Community Swap</strong>&lt;br&gt;320 S. 17th St.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**JANUARY CALENDAR**

**Health & Fitness Expo**  
Horizon Events Center | 8 a.m.  
Learn the most effective ways to get the health and well-being you desire from more than 100 local health and fitness companies and professionals on Dec. 4 and 5. Participate in the many educational and interactive activities, such as group workout sessions, nutrition classes, challenges, competitions and more. Buy tickets online. Cost: $8

**Reflections on Iowa Rivers & Futures**  
Northcrest Community | 11 a.m.  
Join Dr. Pease during Story County's Iowa free Water Trails Program, as he recounts his time paddling over 1,800 miles of Iowa rivers. This program is designed for ages 50+, but everyone is welcome. An optional lunch follows the program ($75 per person). Register for lunch by Jan. 3 at 4 p.m. Cost: free

**Women Impacting ISU 2020 Reception**  
Sun Room, MU | 3:30 - 5 p.m.  
Celebrate the amazing women who make Iowa State University great at the 2020 Calendar Reception. The presentation begins at 4 p.m. and light refreshments will be served. Free poster-sized calendars will be distributed after the presentation. Cost: free

**Practical Farmers Annual Conference**  
Scheman Building | 1 - 6:30 p.m.  
Join Practical Farmers of Iowa for their 2020 Annual Conference, Jan. 16-18, with the theme of “Reclaiming Resilience.” Register on the conference website or as a walk-in. Cost: $130, non-member; $30, students; $55, Friday only. Members save between $15-20.

**Snowshoeing Class**  
Great Hall, MU | 1 - 3 p.m.  
Enjoy the winter weather and learn how to snowshoe. Learn the basics from a Naturalist, before hitting the trails, then regroup to enjoy hot cocoa. If there's no snow, enjoy a winter hike along the same route instead. To register and reserve snowshoes, call 515-230-3285 or email khealy@boonecounty.iowa.gov.

**The Nobel Laureates’ Campaign to Support GMOs**  
Memorial Union | 7 - 9 p.m.  
Join Dr. Phillip Allen Sharp, Nobel Prize winner in Physiology or Medicine in 1993, for a lecture on his genetically modified organism (GMO) campaign. Learn why Sharp believes GMOs can increase food production, reduce dependency on insecticides and end hunger in developing countries. Cost: free

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**SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS**

**Symposium on Sustainability**  
South Ballroom, MU | 6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Enjoy displays and presentations that highlight sustainability work and accomplishments on Iowa State's campus during the 12th annual symposium. There will be a poster and sustainable art reception, as well as a keynote lecture. Cost: free

**Sustainapalooza**  
Memorial Union | 5 - 8 p.m.  
Join the ISU Office of Sustainability and The Green Umbrella for an evening of sustainable endeavors in the South Ballroom, Oak Room and Sun Room. Make your own green-it-yourself crafts, chat with tabling organizations, enjoy local food, take part in a clothing swap and win sustainable giveaways. Cost: free

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**Have a sustainability highlight, accomplishment or event to share? Contact the Marketing and Communications Team!**

Paige Anson | pmanson@iastate.edu  
Krishaun Burns | koburns@iastate.edu

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