



EARTH MONTH

DECARBONIZE! ⚡

APRIL 2024

Join us! Please visit us [here](#) to see the full schedule of Earth Week events.
For any questions please email: sustainability@bellevuecollege.edu

Earth Week 2024

Earth Month is coming up soon! Throughout the month of April, the Office of Sustainability is hosting events on and off-campus with the theme 'Decarbonize!', culminating with the unveiling of our 2024 Climate Action Plan Update. Join us all month long for film screenings, our annual Earth Month market, speakers, stewardship opportunities, and more.



Habitat Restoration at the Mountains to Sound Greenway

BC students and Sustainability Office staff joined the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust at their nursery at Lake Sammamish State Park for a volunteer event potting bare root plants. These plants will continue growing at the nursery until the Trust staff plants them at one of the locations on lands they are taking care of. Participants learned about native plants and habitat restoration, got their hands dirty, and enjoyed the beautiful spring nursery!



NWF Grant

Bellevue College was awarded a grant from the National Wildlife Federation and Mutual of Omaha for a native plant restoration and biofiltration project on the east side of campus. The planned project will take place along the east side of Lots 3 and 5 where a drainage area flows into to a seasonal pond. The project will include removal of non-native invasive plant species, replanting with native vegetation, and installation of a series of biofiltration devices that will filter stormwater with compost. With this NWF grant, Bellevue College will help restore ecosystem health and the salmon population in the greater Lake Washington watershed.

There will be opportunities for hands-on engagement with this project through the fall quarter.

Meet the New Sustainability Outreach Coordinators!

Pablo Ortega is the Outreach Coordinator for the Office of Sustainability, He holds a bachelor's degree in Advertising and Public relations from Spain, and he is currently Studying for a Certificate of Achievement at Bellevue College in Promotional Marketing.

He has previous work experience as a Marketing Coordinator and Events Coordinator and he is also managing his own business in importations and exportations based in Spain and operating in Europe.

His role at the Office of Sustainability is to spread the word and scope of the department, coordinating activities and events. In his free time, he enjoys spending time skiing, hiking, and traveling as much as he can.

Graciella Nzowo comes from the Democratic Republic of Congo and is a second-year international student working towards the completion of her Associate's in Arts and Sciences at Bellevue College. Currently, she works for the Academic Success Center as a tutor and front desk, as well as at the ASG Senate as the International Students Senator. She speaks three languages and hopes to add Spanish as a fourth language soon. Graciella is passionate about feminism and human rights activism and aspires to become a lawyer.





Habitat at Home

The Office of Sustainability hosted the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife's Habitat at Home workshop, introducing BC community members to planning and ideas for creating small space pollinator habitat. A DFW representative shared tips for designing an inviting space whatever the size of your outdoor garden area, successful plant selection, and then participants got their hands dirty potting Red Osier Dogwood starts. Each participant took home one of these starts, as well as Kinnickinnick and Evergreen Huckleberry, along with lots of great info to help create their very own home habitat!

Monthly CSA Pilot

In January 2024, the Office of Sustainability began a CSA produce box pilot program where the campus community can purchase local, organic produce. We partner with Puget Sound Food Hub, a farmer's co-op, to support farmers in the region. Each box is \$20 and contains a bounty of fruit and vegetables.

For more information visit us [here!](#)



WOHESC 2024

The Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC) is an annual conference that brings together students, faculty, and staff from our region's higher education institutions to share ideas, collaborate, connect, and learn about sustainability. For another consecutive year, Bellevue College students and staff attended the conference for three days at Western Washington University. Participants went to seminars and workshops, listened to speaker panels on topics such as climate grief, climate justice, decarbonization, and much more!

Sustainability Tips

Choo Choose Me

Heading back home for the holidays? Consider going by train which emits significantly lower emissions than planes.

Dry This Out

Taking long hot showers strips the skin of essential oils and dries it out. Try taking shorter showers to save water, heat, and money from your energy bill while keeping your skin healthy!

Be In the Know!

Keep an eye out for the Office of Sustainability's future events, initiatives, and resources through BC's daily FYI Digest, our website and social media.

For any questions feel free to email us!
sustainability@bellevuecollege.edu



@BCSUST



bellevuecollege.edu/sustainability

Have a Project Idea to Implement on Campus?

The Student Environment Sustainability Fund (SESF) provides students, faculty, and staff a means to enhance Bellevue College's sustainability efforts and create positive social and environmental change on campus. Fill out the paper work and present to the SESF committee for the opportunity to get your project funded!

Get started here:
bellevuecollege.edu/sustainability/get-involved/sesf