

SUSTAINABLE BOWDOIN **SPRING 2022**

Sustainable Bowdoin 2042: Path to a Fossil Fuel-Free Campus

EV Charging Station Usage

Spring 2022 Sustainability Events and Programs



Path to a Fossil Fuel-Free Campus

Bowdoin recently launched **Sustainable Bowdoin 2042**, a landmark campus clean energy plan investing more than \$100 million to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by the year 2042 through a comprehensive commitment to a campus that runs entirely on carbon-free clean energy, from electricity to transportation to heating and cooling.

PHASE 1: Reduce scope one emissions by 30%



Continue to green Maine's electric grid. Maine's renewable electricity grid goals are to be 80% renewable by 2030 and 100% renewable by 2050. Bowdoin is helping to green Maine's grid by supporting renewable energy projects that equal **100% of campus electricity use**.



Improve the building envelope of old campus buildings –increase insulation, fill air leaks, install new efficient windows. By improving the envelope, we can successfully switch the campus district heating system from a steam system to a low temperature hot water system and ensure an optimum level of health and thermal comfort for building occupants.



Replace or retrofit old steam heating system infrastructure. Steam systems were the preferred heating system of the past, and low-temperature hot water systems are preferred systems of the future because of greater financial savings and reduced emissions.



Systematically replace distributed steam lines with distributed low-temperature hot water piping to all buildings connected to the central heating plant.

PHASE 2: Eliminate scope 1 emissions by 2042 without the purchase of carbon offsets

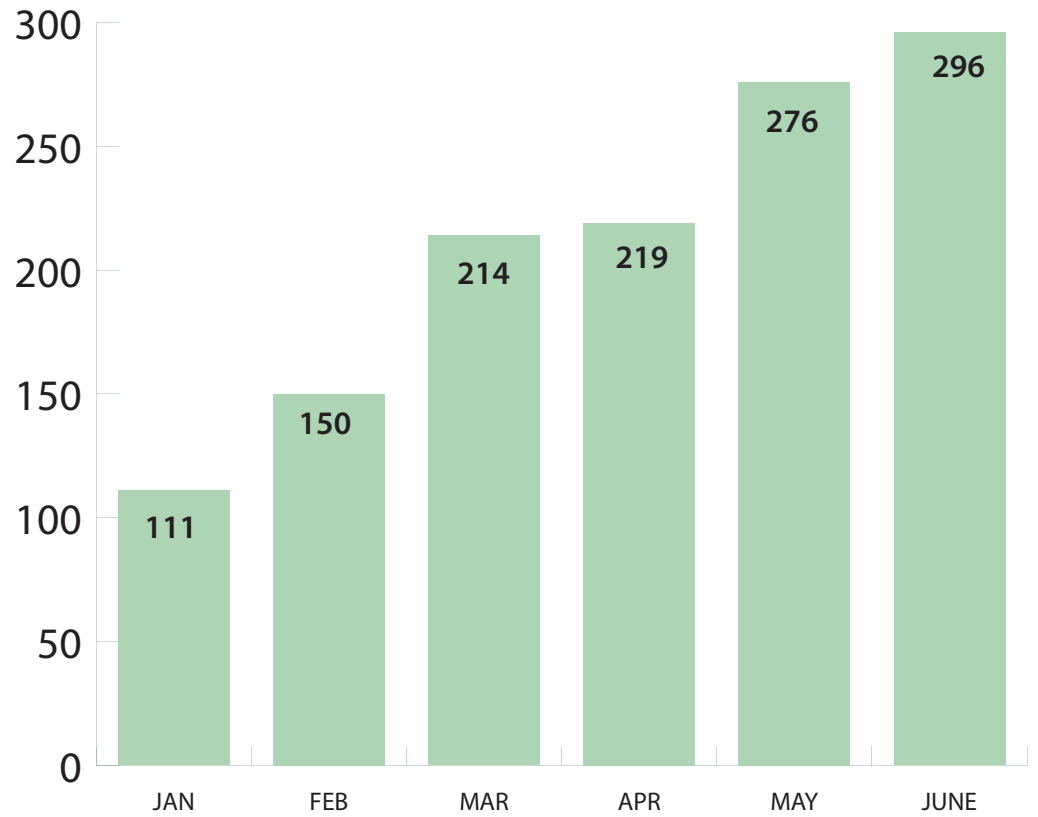


- Once phase 1 is complete, decommission or retrofit the existing heating plant in favor of a new energy station powered by 100 percent renewable energy to eliminate all scope 1 emissions.
- Adopt optimal next-generation technologies to support clean power generation for campus.
- Assuming an increase in the electrification of Bowdoin's heating system, continue to **expand campus use of renewable energy** to match increased electricity usage.

Read the Climate Action Plan ▶

EV Charging Station Usage

Number of Charging Sessions Per Month at the New ChargePoint Chargers Next to the Roux Center



It's **FREE** to charge
for the first
4 HOURS
then \$3/hr after that

- 88% of users are plugged in for 4 hours or less.
- The chargers are the busiest between 8am - 11am
- Charger users must enable Apple Pay on their phones or download the ChargePoint app. Those who want to skip these steps can request a ChargePoint card instead but still need to provide credit card information.

ENERGY COMPETITION

Students competed with their peers in three brackets (first-year residence halls, college houses, and upperclass housing) to reduce the collective energy usage across campus during the month of February. Prizes were awarded to the residences that reduced their average fall semester energy by the highest percentage by the end of February.

ENERGY TEAM MEMBERS: Luke Bartol '23, Angela Delgado '25, Alex Gates '22, Liliana Lines '24, Talia Mirel '24, Ellie Schofield '24



Eco Rep at Large, Luke Bartol '23, pedaling the bicycle generator from Physics to create human powered electricity.



FIRST PLACE - OVERALL:

STOWE HOUSE INN (↓15.1%) & COLES TOWER (↓12.1%)

#1 FY Brick

FIRST PLACE - FY BRICKS:

MOORE (↓8.9%)



FIRST PLACE - COLLEGE HOUSES:

MACMILLAN (↓11%)

#1 COLLEGE HOUSE



The biggest things students can do to reduce their energy use on campus during the competition and beyond include:

- Flipping off the lights and electronics when not in use
- Unplugging chargers once devices are fully charged
- Using drying racks rather than clothes dryers
- Keeping windows closed when the heat is on to maximize thermal efficiency of the dorm.



GREEN LIVING COMMITMENT

Bowdoin's Green Living Commitment (GLC) is an easy way for students to learn about the individual steps that can be taken in daily life around campus to live more sustainably. Students committed to an easy 10 actions like turning off lights and using drying racks to get to the basic bronze level, and raised their level by making further commitments on a point-based scale. With those additional commitments, students could achieve silver, gold, or green level certifications and were entered into drawings to win gift certificates to local Brunswick eateries. All participants also received a sticker showing their commitment to sustainable living!

SUSTAINABLE LIVING TEAM MEMBERS: Camille Beaulieu '25, Manny Coleman '22, Ayanna Hatton '24, Emily Jones '24



/sustainablebowdoin

Stickers designed by FY Eco Rep, Camille Beaulieu '25.

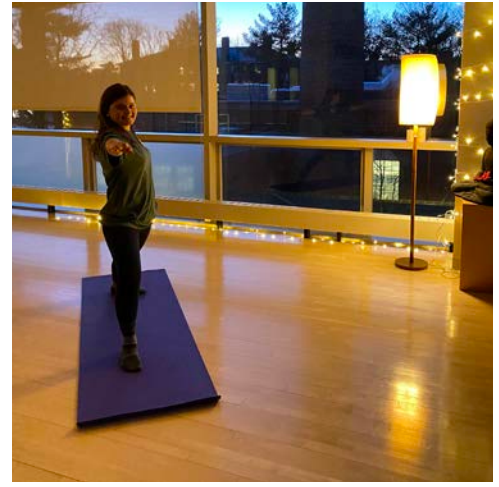
I AM COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE LIVING!



Composting!! Claire tells us how she composts on campus. "I commit to composting the food waste I generate. I freeze my compost, to avoid odors." You too can compost your food waste on campus. Find the map of the compost bins on campus and reach out to us if you want a container to keep your compost in.

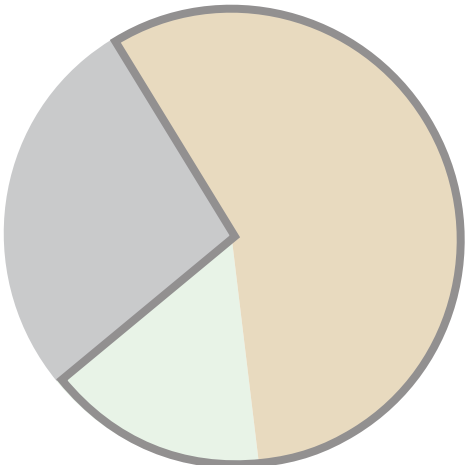


Join eco rep Everett in going on Maine adventures to unknown places. "Adventure to Acadia National Park with friends, or any of the beautiful forests and waterways that Maine has to offer. Visiting and appreciating the beauty of the outdoors makes it clear why protecting these areas through sustainable actions is so important."



Here's our first year eco rep Camille sharing how sustaining the earth begins with sustaining ourselves. "To take care of the earth, we must first take care of ourselves to ensure our living habits support the effort it takes to tackle such large-scale issues as climate change."

286
students completed
the GLC



73%
reached the
Gold or Green level



College House Eco Rep, Liliana Lines '24, went through two large bins of tennis balls on campus and sorted out balls that could be reused that were not all moldy or too gross. She then delivered the over 250 balls to Midcoast Humane to have a second life as a dog toy.



The Compost/Recycling/Waste Management Team held a used sneaker drive with GotSneakers. Unwanted sneakers could be donated and reused by those in need or upcycled into new products such as tracks, playgrounds, and more. GotSneakers paid \$1 to the Midcoast Humane Society for every pair donated.

GREEN TEA SEASON 6

EPISODE 6.1: Nick Sibiryakov

In this episode, we introduce Nick Sibiryakov, our new co-host, to our listeners and share our plans for Season 6!

EPISODE 6.2: Professor Erik Nelson

We sit down with Professor Erik Nelson to talk about institutional approaches to climate change, how to incentivize energy efficiency and other climate-friendly practices, and recent technological change in the electric vehicle industry.

EPISODE 6.3: Environmental Racism in Urban Planning

We sit down with Samira and Lemona to discuss their alternative spring break trip to New York, where they examined the history and evolution of cities, with a focus on environmental racism.

EPISODE 6.4: Energy Usage Competition

We sit down with Eco Reps from the energy team to discuss the February energy competition and hear from students about the actions that they took to help reduce their energy usage on campus.

[LISTEN TO ALL EPISODES OF GREEN TEA >>](#)

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

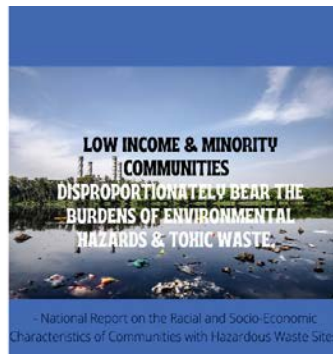
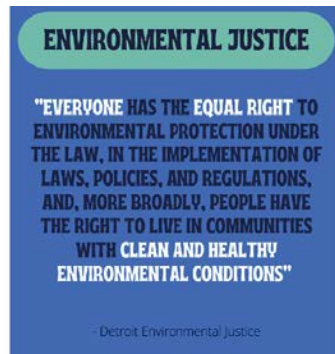
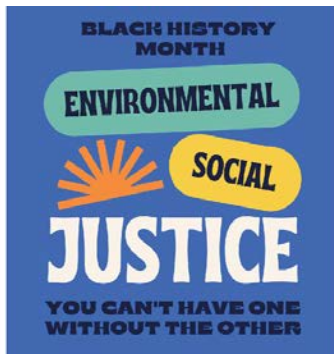
In honor of Black History Month, FY Eco Rep Angela Delgado '25 highlighted some notable Black Environmentalists below for the FY Installments. Learn more about their accomplishments and find many other stories by visiting urbangreenlab.org/black-environmentalists or [@intersectionalenvironmentalist](https://www.instagram.com/intersectionalenvironmentalist) on Instagram.

Hazel M. Johnson
 "Mother of Environmental Justice"
 - Founded People for Community Recovery after the health study she conducted in her neighborhood pointed to the impacts of the toxic industrial waste sites around her area.
 - Served on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) first National Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

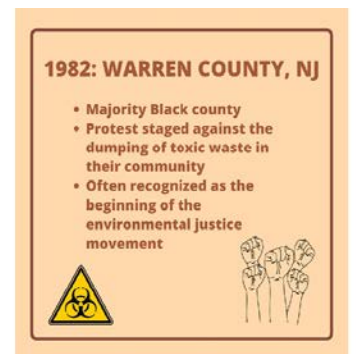
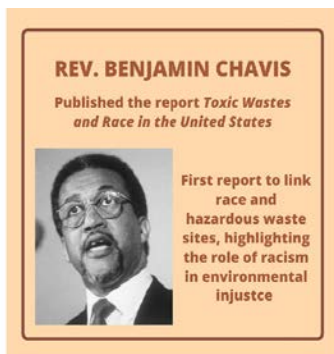
John Francis
 "The Planetwalker"
 - Traveled the United States for 22 years without the use of motorized vehicles and went 17 years without speaking to spread awareness for the needs of our environment.
 - Is the program director of Planetwalk and continues to educate people about the physical and human environment.

Dr. Wangari Maathai
 - Environmental and Human Rights activist who founded the Green Belt Movement.
 - Was the first African Woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004, the first person to win the prize for environmental efforts, and the first woman from East and Central Africa to receive a doctorate.

Sustainable Bowdoin's Climate & Environmental Justice student Eco Rep team also shared posts on the Sustainable Bowdoin Instagram during the month of February below and ended the semester with a film screening event and discussion around environmental justice to help facilitate ways for students to take further action beyond Bowdoin.



During Black History Month, it is important to highlight the injustices that Black Americans disproportionately face in society, including environmental justice. Learn more about environmental justice and how environmental racism affects minority communities.



The environmental justice movement was started by Black leaders, and environmental degradation disproportionately affects Black communities. Swipe right to learn more about Black leaders and groups that have advocated for environmental justice. Information highlighted in this post is from: <https://350.org/black-history-month/>. Commit to learning more about the role Black people have played in the environmental justice movement both during and outside of Black History Month.

THE SOLAR PANEL

THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH | 7PM - 8PM
ROUX LANTERN



By the end of 2023, all solar projects contracted by Bowdoin are expected to be online and producing power, covering 100% of current electric usage with Maine-based renewable energy!

Students joined our invited panelists to discuss what it takes to get large scale solar projects up and running and how these projects will help lay the foundation for Bowdoin to achieve the longer-term goal of electrifying the campus and eliminating the use of fossil fuels.

Panelists:

- Anna Toenjes (Bowdoin Alum), Senior Director of Business Development, Sol Systems, LLC
- Matt Gamache (Bowdoin Alum), VP, Analytics & Operations, Competitive Energy Services
- Erik Nelson, Associate Professor of Economics, Bowdoin College
- Katelin Nickerson, Project Director, Flycatcher, LLC



Energy Team Eco Reps collaborated with the Physics Department to play some music powered by a mobile solar panel and give out some free sun baked cookies on Coe Quad to help promote The Solar Panel event.



ENERGY TEAM MEMBERS: Luke Bartol '23, Angela Delgado '25, Alex Gates '22, Liliana Lines '24, Talia Mirel '24, Ellie Schofield '24



CRAFTING FOR SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOPS



Throughout the month of April, members of the Compost/Recycling/Waste Management Team partnered with Sustainability Assistant, Ridhika Tripathee '22, at 30 College to teach their peers how to make sustainable DIY personal care products.

SAT, APRIL 9: SOAP & SHAMPOO

SAT, APRIL 16: TOOTHPASTE

SAT, APRIL 23: WAX FOOD WRAPS

COMPOST/RECYCLING/WASTE MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBERS:
Alan Casey '24, Olivia Deane '25, Everett Horch '24, Alicia Ross '25, Kyra Tan '23



EARTH DAY 2022

Students joined Eco Reps and other student organizations on the Main quad to Celebrate Earth Day with free Ben & Jerry's ice cream, live music, free bike tune-ups, lawn games, a clothing swap, and info about sustainable living at Bowdoin and beyond.







ARBOR DAY 2022

Sustainability Assistant, Maya Chandar-Kouba '23, teamed up with the Bowdoin Organic Garden to organize a tree planting event on April 28th for Arbor Day 2022. Two semi-dwarf anjou pear trees were planted in the garden at the South Street location (behind Osher and West). This event was held as part of Maya's work with Sustainable Bowdoin to promote Arbor Day and the importance of trees, as well as work towards our goal of becoming a recognized Tree Campus USA.



SPIRITUALITY & SUSTAINABILITY DINNER

Sustainable Bowdoin teamed up with the Rachel Lord Center for Religious and Spiritual Life to host Sam King '14 for a dinner event on May 5th, 2022. This is a yearly dinner where the two offices work together to explore the intersection of religion, spirituality, and sustainability. Sam is a graduate student in Religion and Ecology at Yale Divinity School and a Teaching Fellow at the Yale School of the Environment. He serves as a Research Associate for the Forum on Religion and Ecology and is the Educational Outreach Coordinator for Journey of the Universe, a multimedia project weaving together the sciences and humanities in telling the epic story of cosmic evolution.



FY ECO REP PAPER TOWEL PROGRAM

The First Year Eco-Reps piloted a paper towel program on their floors for two weeks in April to help reduce paper towel waste and to redirect used paper towels to Bowdoin's compost program instead of the trash. FY Eco Reps set up green bins in their bathrooms and did daily checks to monitor the usage and bring the paper towels out to the compost when full. They observed less paper towel overflow and had positive engagement from their peers and hope the next FY Eco Reps can continue their efforts and find additional ways to decrease paper towel usage throughout the bricks.

MacMillan College House members participated in a shoreline cleanup in Brunswick on April 23rd with their Eco Rep, Liliana Lines '25.



SOLAR PANEL + BIRD WALK



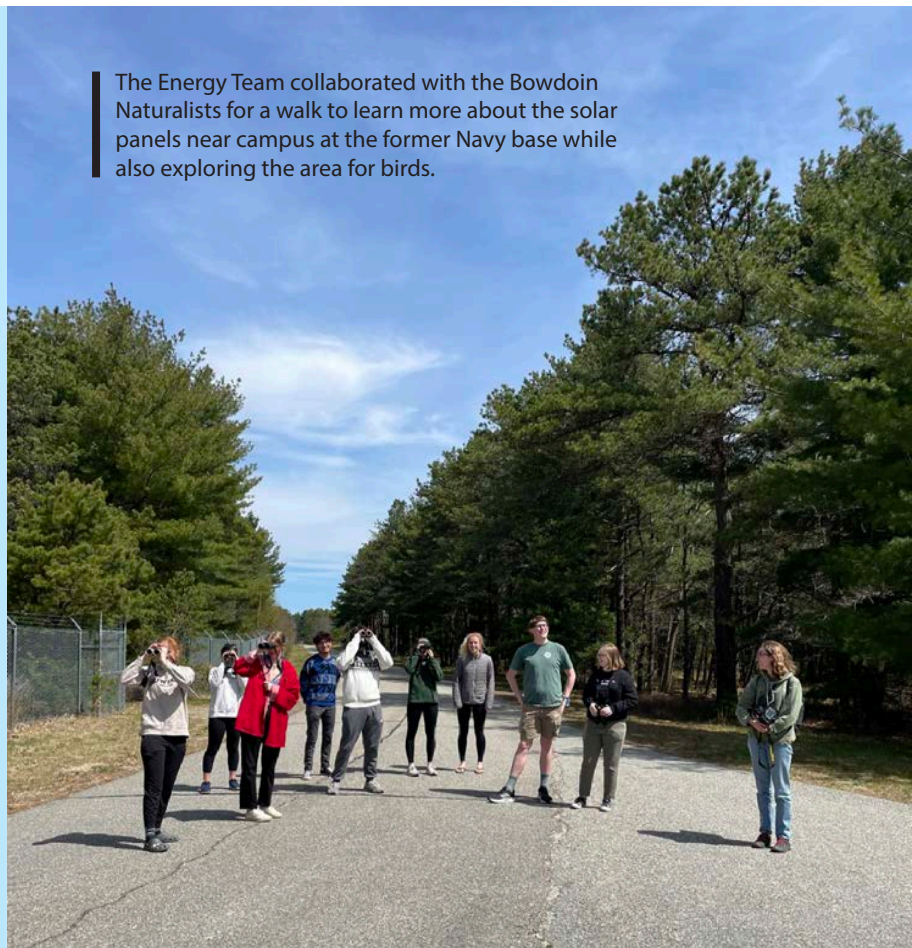
WHEN: 10:00 a.m., Sun 5/8

WHERE: Meet outside Roux!

WHO: You and all your friends!

Join us to learn about Bowdoin's solar project on the sand plains and look for birds!

The Energy Team collaborated with the Bowdoin Naturalists for a walk to learn more about the solar panels near campus at the former Navy base while also exploring the area for birds.





MASS TIMBER BUILDINGS TOUR

Sustainability Assistant, Nailah Khoory '22, organized a chance for students to get an early behind the scenes look at what will soon become the Barry Mills Hall and the John and Lile Gibbons Center for the Arctic Studies, currently under construction on campus. Students had an opportunity to join Consigli Construction to learn more about these mass timber construction projects and how these support Bowdoin's ongoing commitment to sustainability.





GIVE & GO 2022

At the end of every academic year, departing students donate a variety of unwanted dorm and school supplies that are in good condition. Our awesome Give & Go Assistants worked hard collecting, bagging, and sorting these donated items to be redistributed for reuse and diverted from going to the landfill. 18,133 pounds of goods were delivered to Goodwill and 665 pounds of dry goods were delivered to Midcoast Hunger Prevention. We also have 900+ items ready to go for Bowdoin's Freecycle program to be redistributed to students on campus in the fall semester.



18,133
pounds of goods
delivered to Goodwill

900+
items will be available
to students for reuse
through FreeCycle

665
pounds of dry goods
delivered to Midcoast
Hunger Prevention

Follow us on Instagram @sustainablebowdoin
Questions? Email us at sustainability@bowdoin.edu

Stay connected to learn more about additional events, initiatives, and news throughout the semester!