

SPRING 2023

SUSTAINABLE BOWDOIN



- SUSTAINABILITY NEWS
- EV CHARGING STATION USAGE
- SUSTAINABLE BOWDOIN TOUR
- EVENTS AND PROGRAMS





ON ARBOR DAY, STUDENTS PLANT A TREE AND CELEBRATE BOWDOIN'S NEW 'TREE CAMPUS' STATUS

Published May 5, 2023 by Rebecca Goldfine

Students and staff gathered at the Bowdoin Organic Garden on May 4, Arbor Day, to plant an organic peach tree and to appreciate those who helped Bowdoin earn national recognition for its trees. [READ THE FULL ARTICLE >>](#)



Bowdoin College has earned distinction through the Tree Campus Higher Education Program!

Bowdoin achieved the distinction by meeting Tree Campus Higher Education's five standards, including maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance, and student service-learning project.



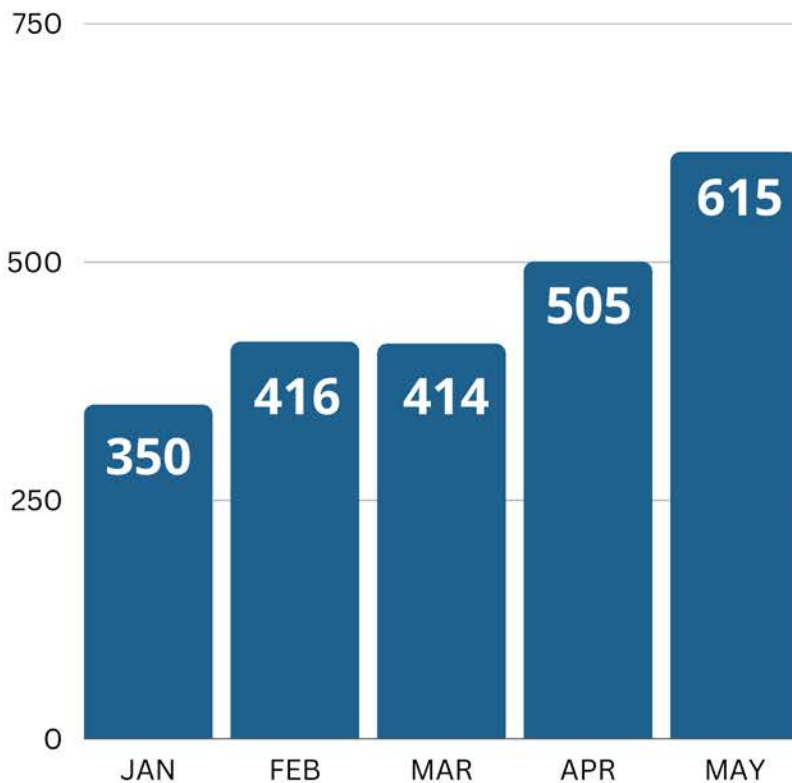
HOW ONE MAINE COLLEGE PLANS TO END ITS RELIANCE ON FOSSIL FUELS WITHIN 20 YEARS

Published May 9, 2023 by Carol Bousquet, Maine Public

In an effort to achieve net zero carbon emissions by the year 2042, the college is undertaking an ambitious plan to invest more than \$100 million in renovations and a new electrified heating system for the campus.



Number of Charging Sessions Per Month at the ChargePoint Chargers



Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations are available for the Bowdoin College community and campus visitors in the Russwurm Parking lot and the parking lot near the Roux Center for the Environment. **The chargers are free for the first four hours, but cost \$3 per hour after that.**

Charger users must enable Apple Pay on their phones and 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.



Check out our new interactive self-guided campus tour featuring the many sustainability initiatives and projects taking place at Bowdoin in recent years!

Eco Reps had the virtual tour set up on an iPad while tabling this semester so students could explore the many features and ask questions.

www.bowdoin.edu/sustainability/sustainability-map.html



SPRING 2023 KICK-OFF EVENT



DR. HOLLY PARKER, DIRECTOR OF THE SCHILLER COASTAL STUDIES CENTER



KEISHA PAYSON, DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY

Dr. Holly Parker, Director of the Schiller Coastal Studies Center, joined us to lead an activity and discussion around the UN Sustainable Development Goals and our vision for a Sustainable Bowdoin campus. Keisha Payson shared updates on the new climate action plan and student employee brainstormed and planned for upcoming events and initiatives for the semester.



TOUR OF CASELLA'S MRF



Sustainable Bowdoin student employees took a trip to Lewiston, ME to get a behind the scenes tour at Casella Recycling's Material Recovery Facility ("MRF") to find out what happens to our recycling when it leaves campus!



GOGO REFILL VISIT



Laura Marston, owner of GoGo Refill, met with Eco Reps at her store and talked about ways to reduce personal waste in various ways.

TU BISHVAT WITH HILLEL

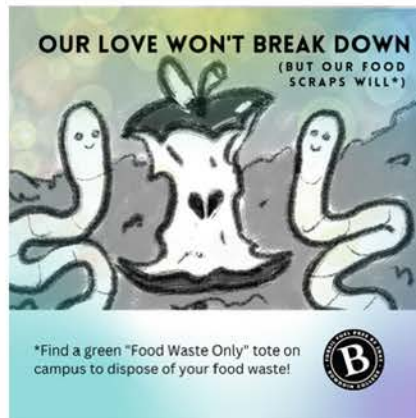
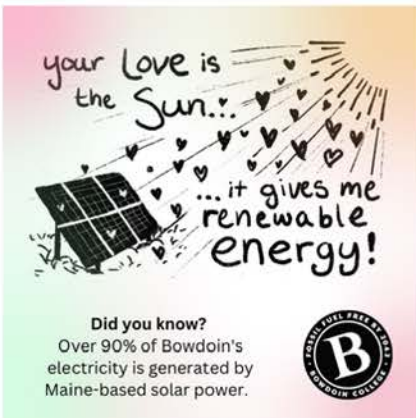


The Sustainability Office coordinated with Hillel to celebrate Tu BiShvat, a Jewish holiday focused on raising environmental awareness. While it is traditionally celebrated by planting trees, participants potted succulents at the craft center.

VALENTINE'S DAY POSTCARDS



Eco Reps tabled in Smith Union on February 14th handing out valentine's day postcards designed by Sophie Burchell '23 and Kyra Tan '23.



GREEN TEA PODCAST SEASON 7

Co-Hosts Chloë Raines '23 and Nick Sibiryakov '25 explore diverse perspectives on sustainability at Bowdoin and beyond.



EPISODE 7.1: Chloë Raines

In this episode, we introduce Chloë Raines, our new co-host, to our listeners and share some ideas for Season 7!

EPISODE 7.2: Eco-Anxiety

Professor Ashley Shaw, PhD, sits down with the co-hosts to discuss eco-anxiety, eco-anger, and other emotions when thinking about sustainability and climate change.

EPISODE 7.3: Sustainability in Summer Camp

Annie Mahoney '23 and Benny Adler '25 join the co-hosts to discuss summer camp, environmentalism, and potential ways to get children interested in saving the environment.

EPISODE 7.4: Climate Justice in Broadcasting

Abby Gordy '23, sits down to chat about her independent study on climate justice and how the environment is discussed in the news sphere.

EPISODE 7.5: Climate Action Plan

Keisha Payson sits down to chat about Bowdoin's Climate Action Plan and the steps our college is taking towards becoming fossil fuel free.

EPISODE 7.6: Birds!

Green Tea sits down with Sejal Prachand '24 to talk about Sejal's obsession with birds and how this influences their ideas of sustainability.

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



TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP WITH JEREMY TARDIF



Faculty, staff, and students were invited to learn how to prune ornamental and fruit trees to maintain tree health with Assistant Manager of Grounds and Landscaping, Jeremy Tardif!

SUGARBUSH WALK WITH LISA BENEMAN



The Bowdoin Organic Garden Manager Lisa Beneman led a walk and talk through the Bowdoin sugarbush. Students visited the stands of maple trees currently tapped for maple syrup production, learned how to tap a tree, what makes for a good sugaring season, and how maple syrup is made.



EARTH DAY ECO-SERVICE DAY WITH BTLT



Eco Service Day connects Bowdoin students with local land trusts to do outdoor service work like trail maintenance and clean-up. On Saturday, April 22nd, students joined the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust (BTLT) in the ongoing mapping of invasive pests in local forests. All of the data collected will be used to help both BTLT's future management and the Wabanaki Alliance's monitoring initiatives.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION



Students and staff gathered at the Bowdoin Organic Garden on May 4th in celebration of Arbor Day and to plant an organic peach tree and to appreciate those who helped Bowdoin earn national recognition for its trees.

[READ THE BOWDOIN ARTICLE ABOUT THIS EVENT >>](#)

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TEAM EVENTS

The Eco Rep Civic Engagement team continued their series of panel events this semester at the Roux Center for the Environment focused on environmental issues. These panels featured local experts from the surrounding community as well as Bowdoin faculty and alumni.



TEAM MEMBERS:

Luke Bartol '23 (Coordinator)
Violet Apodeca '25 (Burnett CH Eco Rep)
Ben Halperin '25 (MacMillan CH Eco Rep)
Charlotte Tagupa '26 (Maine FY Eco Rep)
Aaniyah Simmons '26 (Moore FY Eco Rep)

Wheels in Motion: Exploring Transportation for a Sustainable Future (MAR 1)

- **Jean Sideris**, Executive Director of the Bicycle Collation of Maine
- **Barry Woods '83**, Senior Director of eMobility at Revision Energy
- **Eileen Sylvan Johnson**, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Studies at Bowdoin

Building a Sustainable Future

(APR 19)

- **Jill Pearlman**, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Studies at Bowdoin
- **Naomi Beal**, Executive Director, passivhausMAINE
- **Andy Meyer '85**, Senior Program Manager, Efficiency Maine



| CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TEAM WITH PANELISTS FROM THE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE EVENT

READ THE
BOWDOIN
ORIENT ARTICLE
ABOUT THIS
EVENT >>

Farming for a Greener World: Exploring Sustainable Agriculture Practices (MAY 3)

- **Barry Logan**, Professor of Biology at Bowdoin
- **Lisa Beneman**, Organic Garden Supervisor, Bowdoin College
- **Carrie Asselin**, Education, Outreach, and Farm Manager, Growing to Give

ENERGY TEAM EVENTS



CHUCK BLIER, ENGINEER IN CHARGE LEADING THE HEATING PLANT TOUR

TEAM MEMBERS:

Angela Delgado '25 (Coordinator)
Owen Ratliff '25 (Howell CH Eco Rep)
Kaitlyn Brunner '25 (Quinby CH Eco Rep)
Dylan Petrillo '26 (Appleton/Hyde FY Eco Rep)
Cedar Greve '26 (West FY Eco Rep)

HEATING PLANT TOUR FEBRUARY 17TH

The Energy Team coordinated a tour at the heating plant with Chuck Blier, Engineer in Charge. Though it contributes most of the greenhouse gasses emitted on campus, it will play a major role in the transition to our fossil fuel-free future! The event had a lot of interest and was split into two groups to accommodate the small space.



ADDITIONAL EVENTS WITH THE ENERGY TEAM

- **UNPLUGGED NIGHT: SELF-CARE EDITION** (FEB 23) with Tea Club and Peer Health at Quinby House
- **LUNCH WITH AGRI-CYCLE** (APR 11) - The energy team hosted Greg Williams, Director of Waste Solutions for Agri-Cycle, for a lunch in Thorne to hear more about how our food waste is turned into renewable energy and healthy soil.
- **MOVIE NIGHT WITH THE ENERGY TEAM** (APR 27) - *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* at Howell House



UNPLUGGED NIGHT AT QUINBY



ENERGY TEAM SPRING 2023

GREEN ATHLETICS TEAM EVENTS



TEAM MEMBERS:

Olivia Deane '25 (Coordinator)
JK Bradley '25 (Baxter CH Eco Rep)
Charlie Bonney '25 (Boody-Johnson CH Eco Rep)
Victoria Figueroa '26 (Appleton/Hyde FY Eco Rep)
Nina Fearon '26 (Osher FY Eco Rep)

ECO SERVICE DAY MAY 5TH

Green Athletics and the Bowdoin Organic Garden (BOG) held volunteer hours at the BOG from 1-3pm on Friday, May 5th to help with planting, edging, and wood chip spreading.



ADDITIONAL EVENTS WITH THE GREEN ATHLETICS TEAM

- **FOOD COLLECTION** - non-perishable food items were collected from teams at the end of their season and donated to Mid Coast Hunger Prevention
- **EARTH DAY LACROSSE GAME** (APR 22) - Green Athletics tabled at the Men's Lacrosse Game on Earth Day to share resources and information about sustainability within athletics and at Bowdoin

FOLLOW @BOWDOINGREENATHLETICS ON INSTAGRAM IF YOU HAVEN'T YET TO SUPPORT OUR GREEN ATHLETICS TEAM!

SUSTAINABLE LIVING TEAM EVENTS

289

students completed the
GLC in 2022-2023



73%

reached the GOLD or
GREEN level

54%

of the students that
completed the GLC are
first years

Green Living Commitment

The Sustainable Living Team continued the Green Living Commitment during the spring semester. 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 designed by Kyra Tan '23 showing their commitment to sustainable living!

TEAM MEMBERS:

Ellie Schofield '24 (Coordinator)
Ellie Chan '25 (Helmreich CH Eco Rep)
Caroline Vauclain '25 (Reed CH Eco Rep)
Severn Sienkiewicz '26 (Coleman FY Eco Rep)
Cameron Edgar '26 (Winthrop FY Eco Rep)



| INSTAGRAM VIDEO ABOUT WHERE WASTE GOES ON CAMPUS

ADDITIONAL EVENTS WITH THE SUSTAINABLE LIVING TEAM

- **WEEKLY COMPOST TOTE CHECKS** - the team checked compost totes weekly and recorded what they found to track usage for the office and then created a [short video](#) with the Communications Team to provide guidance on what goes in the totes.
- **SUSTAINABLE SNACKS WORKSHOP** (APR 7) - The Sustainable Living Team and Energy Team shared how to make no-bake peanut butter energy bites at 30 College
- **SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP** (APR 14) - the team taught held a workshop on how to make essential-oil-infused soap with botanicals from the Bowdoin Organic Garden at the Craft Center



| SUSTAINABLE SNACKS WORKSHOP



| SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION 2023



EMILY JONES '24, EARTH DAY COORDINATOR FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Students gathered on the Main quad in celebration of Earth Day to connect and share resources and actions we can take both individually and collectively to ensure a healthier planet and a more just and sustainable future. We had free Ben & Jerry's ice cream, solar oven cookies, music, free bike tune-ups, e-bikes, letter writing to your reps, lawn games, a clothing swap, and info about sustainable living at Bowdoin and beyond with reps from the following:

- Agri-Cycle
- BOKA
- Bowdoin Citizens Climate Lobby
- Bowdoin Labor Alliance
- Bowdoin Naturalists
- Bowdoin Outing Club
- Bowdoin Organic Garden
- Bowdoin Wellness
- First Year Class Council
- GoGo Refill
- McKen Center
- MetroBreez
- Sunrise Bowdoin
- Yellow Bike Club





[CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE SCENES FROM OUR EARTH DAY CELEBRATION!](#)

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING



The Sustainability Office held an electronics recycling event in the Coffin parking lot on March 31st for the Bowdoin community. About 90 people participated from over 40 departments across campus.

GIVE AND GO 2023



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. Many of these items will be redistributed to Bowdoin students for the upcoming Freecycle program! Other items will be going to Goodwill, TEAN, and Mid Coast Hunger Prevention.



TAKE ACTION



Join us in building a more just and sustainable world.



- [HELP US BECOME A FOSSIL FUEL-FREE CAMPUS](#)
- [JOIN A STUDENT GROUP](#)
- [CONNECT WITH US ON CAMPUSGROUPS](#)
- [SHARE YOUR IDEAS OR SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS WITH US!](#)

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