**An Ohio University Student’s Comprehensive Guide to Sustainability**

By Susan Eiben

**Hi,**

My name is Susan Eiben and I was a double major in Environmental and Plant Biology and Environmental Studies in the Honors Tutorial College from 2015-2019. It’s also important to mention I served as a Voinovich Undergraduate Research Scholar on the Zero Waste Team from 2017-2019.

During the summer of 2018, I tabled for OHIO Zero Waste and the Office of Sustainability at Bobcat Student Orientation. I had a spiel that highlighted some of my favorite sustainability initiatives, and I answered some really great questions. Inevitably, after talking for a few minutes, I was often asked, “Where is this all written down?”

I didn’t have a complete resource to point to, because much of the information was learned from personal experiences. Through my majors, employment, and interests, I had gathered the information in my head, but I didn’t have a physical guide to hand to the incoming bobcats and their families. When I decided to take the Sustainability Implementation Practicum, ES 4832/5832, making a guide seemed like a helpful resource I could leave behind.

I wrote this guide because I wish it had existed for me. Over my four years at OHIO, I slowly acclimated to an understanding of the various departments and programs at Ohio University, and organizations in Athens that make this place unique, enriching, and sustainable. I don’t want you to have to wait, so I did my best to combine the information that, looking back, would’ve been helpful to know from the beginning.

Sustainability is more than just recycling and carrying around a reusable bottle, and there are many ways to get involved here at OHIO. Make no mistake, recycling and using reusable items are great steps we all can take, but I hope to expand awareness beyond personal decisions. My goal is not to be a publicist in writing this guide--I’m not creating an advertisement--I just want let everyone know about the opportunities and initiatives that are practical, or just cool, to know about.

I hope you enjoy it, happy reading!

Sincerely,

Susan Eiben

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**What is Sustainability?**

**I already know about recycling, what else is there to know?**

Recycling is one personal action that we can all take, and it should be commended, but sustainability is much broader than just relating to how we handle waste. Ohio University defines sustainability as **the capacity to simultaneously benefit people, the planet and prosperity now and in the future.**

Sustainability can be considered in all decisions both individuals and institutions make: what to buy, what to eat, where to invest, and--of course--how to handle waste. The decisions are often complicated when balancing the sustainability of options, and there are frequently trade-offs and hidden costs. To be truly sustainable, a piece some people may not realize is, not only must the environmental and ecological sustainability be considered (planet), but the fiscal (prosperity) and social (people) aspects equally as important.

**But I thought sustainability was expensive?**

If an option is too expensive for the financial stability and growth of individuals, organizations, or communities, **then the option is not sustainable**. The goal of sustainability is to consider the implications of the decisions you make and chose the most responsible option that is feasible. There is no one size fits all way to quickly determine what the most sustainable route is, so seeking information and critically evaluating options are key elements to making sustainable decisions.

**What are some easy ways I can help out?**

In everyday life, personal actions are great ways we can all do our part in reducing the burden on the planet. Actions such as consciously eating less meat and prepackaged food, turning down/off the temperature control when you leave for the day, and properly managing waste are great first steps. I’ll talk more about recycling and composting later in this guide.

Also, investing in reusable items such as fabric bags, a sturdy reusable water bottle, and a travel mug are great ways to reduce waste generation. The key is to keep them in your backpack! You never know when you’ll need to stop by and pick a few things up at a drugstore, or you need a mid-afternoon caffeine fix, so it’s just easier to always have reusable items with you. Reusable bags, especially, can be shoved into the bottom of a backpack and be forgotten until they’re needed. The simple, somewhat cliché suggestions I’ve made are a place to start, but this guide will highlight many opportunities to get involved here at OHIO!

**Transportation**

**Cars and Busses**

**Can I bring a car as a student at Ohio University? Should I?**

If you want to bring a car, you can, but you don’t need one to get to most places. There is no spot on campus that takes more than 20 minutes to walk to from Baker Center, and a majority of campus buildings are within a 10 minute walk. The farthest places on campus are all stops on CATS bus loops. CATS (Campus Area Transportation System) busses run on 10 or 20 minute loops and they’re helpful if you need to get to The Ridges, the Innovation Center, or WUSOC. You can find the CATS bus schedules on the [OHIO Transportation website](https://www.ohio.edu/transportation-parking/transit-services/cats-campus-transit).

If you are living in the residence halls and have a meal plan, a car is really not necessary. All residence halls, classes, dining halls, and campus markets are well within walking distance. Additionally, finding a parking spot on campus can be difficult, and a parking pass will cost you a fee.

**But what if I want to go Kroger, Walmart, the Farmer’s Market, the Athena Grand, or any of the restaurants on East State Street?**

Since July 2016, the Athens Public Transit (APT) System has been free for all OHIO Students and Employees. APT lines 2, 3, and 4 all go from campus to East State Street. On weekdays, busses run from 7AM-10PM and on Saturdays busses run from 9AM - 10PM. Some routes have later hours than others, but at least one bus per hour goes between campus and East State.

To ride the bus, all you need to do is show your OHIO ID as you are getting on the bus. Another cool feature of both the CATS and APT systems is that there is an app, called DoubleMap, which will show you the real-time locations of all of the busses. That way, you can tell if the bus is just running late or if you’ve already missed it. You can also pick a stop and the app will predict how long it will be until your bus will get there. To know the full APT bus schedule, though, visit <http://www.athenstransit.org/>. To find DoubleMap, just search for it in the app store.

**What if I live off campus?**

That’s where we finally get to- it *might* make sense for you to bring a car. If you are looking for low rent, it might make sense to live a half hour walk from campus. In the cold and snow, that is not the most fun walk to make. That being said, if you add up the money it will cost for car insurance, gas, maintenance, and a parking pass, you may find that you won’t be getting a discount by saving money from rent. Having a car does increase your freedom and lets you go to the store on Sundays, when the busses don’t run, so it may be worth it to you.

I can assure you it is possible to function off campus without a car--I did. Once I began living off campus, I chose to live a block away from an APT route. I pack my backpack full of reusable bags and take the bus to the grocery store. If I ever need to grab something really heavy, I ask one of my roommates or friends with cars.

**If I stay at the library really late, how can I get home safely?**

First off, I would recommend getting a study buddy, that way you can walk home together. That being said, if you want to stay later than your friends, there is a safe way to get home. On the back of your OHIO ID there is a phone number for the Late Night Loop, which will take you from the library back to your residence hall, or even your off-campus house.

**Bikes**

**Is campus/Athens bike-friendly? Is there a place to lock up my bike near my classes?**

If a few hills don’t scare you, then yes! There are bike lanes on main streets and bike racks nearby most university buildings. If there isn’t a bike rack directly in front of a building entrance, which there often is, sometimes the racks are centralized between a group of buildings.

**Do bikes ever get stolen?**

Being on a college campus, you definitely need a good bike lock to prevent any mishaps. Always make sure you lock up your bike at a designated bike rack. It is also recommended that you register your bike with the Ohio University police department by providing the bike’s serial number and a picture.

**Where does the bike path go?**

The bike path, formally called the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway, runs along the Hocking River from behind Kroger grocery store and the Athens Community Center (and further east to Holzer Urgent Care Clinic) on East State Street all the way to Nelsonville, 21 miles away. It can be seen along campus wherever you can see the Hocking River, including by Peden Stadium and the Convocation Center.

**How about mountain biking near campus?**

In Athens, Strouds Run State Park and Sells Park connect to have a total of 30 miles of mountain biking trails. Just a short drive a way, Lake Hope State Park and Wayne National Forest also offer 23 and 71 miles of trails, respectively, but permits are required to bike in The Wayne. Currently in the works, however, the [Bailey’s Trail System](https://www.baileys-trail-system.com/) will provide an additional 88 miles of contiguous mountain biking trails that will be accessible from the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway via a trailhead being established in the Village of Chauncey.

**GoBus**

**If I don’t have a car, how will I go home for holidays? Or make it to the airport?**

If you’re from a suburb or a major city in Ohio, like Cleveland, Columbus, or Cincinnati, then there is an inexpensive and convenient way to get to and from campus called GoBus. GoBus travels at least once a day between Ohio University Campus and major Ohio cities. The tickets can be easily purchased online, and often up to just minutes before you leave.

The prices are standardized, because they are subsidized by the State, so they do not change depending on the day of the week or holiday season. A ticket between Athens and Cleveland is $25 each way, and between Athens and Columbus $10 each way. The bus conveniently picks up and drops off at the bottom of Baker Center on campus as well as the Athens Community Center on East State Street. The busses also provide connections to Greyhound Bus Stations and drop off at the Columbus airport, for those who are travelling outside Ohio.

If you are travelling by bus near a university break, it is advisable to buy your tickets at least two weeks in advance, as sometimes the busses fill up. Occasionally, additional busses will be added, if the bus service realizes there is enough demand, but it’s better to get your ticket earlier to be safe. If the busses are full, another avenue to investigate is the [Ohio University Rideshare Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2149419238612991/). You will need to be verified by entering your OHIO ID, but the entire page is dedicated to those offering and looking for rides.

**Food**

**Composting**

**Does the food waste from the dining halls get composted?**

Yes! Both pre-consumer food waste produced in food preparation and post-consumer food waste scraped off plates in the back of dining halls are sent to the Ohio University Composting Facility. OHIO has the largest capacity in-vessel composting facility of any university in the nation and we capture quite a large percentage of food waste on campus. Because Culinary Services is part of the university, it allows us to capture food waste in preparation and also to track how much is wasted in order to improve upon the system. 65% less food is wasted in preparation compared to typical food operations.

**Can I compost food waste that I produce in my residence hall?**

Currently, most likely you cannot. There have been some small studies in specific campus food markets and residence halls, but at this time food waste from outside of the dining halls and Central Food Facility is not captured. The main reason is incredibly high rates of contamination, which can impact the quality of compost. Recyclable plastic and glass bottles are often mistakenly thrown into compost bins, and we don’t want to spread shreds of plastic or glass on our garden beds or lawns around campus when compost is applied. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to contact the Office of Sustainability to inquire about composting programs.

**Is there a composting program if I live off-campus?**

Yes, the Athens-Hocking Recycling Centers provides a [composting service](http://www.athenshockingrecycle.org/organics.html) with a few different options.

**Culinary Services**

**Why do we have to pay for to-go containers? And plastic bags?**

Over the past couple of years, Culinary Services has worked with the Office of Sustainability, the Zero Waste team, and passionate students to offer ways to reduce personal waste when using campus dining halls and markets. Two changes involved offering reusable to-go containers and reusable bags, as alternatives to disposable ones. Charging a modest fee for disposable items increases the purchases of reusable items. Waste is not free to deal with, but it is a cost that has been hidden to consumers for a long time.

**Why aren’t there trays in the dining halls?**

Trays were removed in 2017 because it was determined it would reduce food waste and water usage. A study done by a student on the Zero Waste Team showed that more food waste is produced when students use trays than just plates alone, and removing trays would reduce 4.7 pounds of food waste for every 100 students. Removing trays has saved a substantial amount of water, as it was determined that it takes 0.33 gallons of water to wash a tray. Trays are still available upon request in dining facilities for those in need.

**I heard about a coffee discount for bringing a cup, how does it work?**

If you bring your own coffee cup to any on-campus coffee shop, regular coffee is discounted. Additionally, any espresso beverages or specialty drinks are charged for the small size, regardless of the size of your cup. All you have to do is hand over your cup/mug/travel mug without a lid, and you’ll get a great deal on coffee. The discount applies to anyone, not just students, so when your parents or siblings come to visit they can get the discount too.

**Food Studies**

**What does a “Food Studies” theme mean? How can I get involved?**

Themes are an opportunity at Ohio University that bring together faculty and students from many different areas that have common interests in solving 21st century issues. Themes include: Between Love and Hate, Knowing the Future, Making and Breaking the Law, Technology & Society, Theme News, War and Peace, Wealth and Poverty, Sustainability Studies (which I will talk about in the Voinovich School Section), and Food Studies. The Food Studies theme focuses on food, and food production, impacts on the triple-bottom line of sustainability: people, planet, and prosperity.

To get involved, all you have to do is sign up to work toward the certificate. About six courses and a capstone are required to earn the certificate. One, somewhat unique, opportunity for the capstone is working at the OHIO Student Farm.

**There’s a student farm? Where is it?**

The OHIO Student Farm is located at 338 West State Street just past the Innovation Center. It is inconspicuously tucked down a gravel driveway, but it is well worth visiting if you get the chance. The Student Farm grows squash, potatoes, green beans, tomatoes, peppers, leafy greens, radishes, carrots, strawberries, and more!

**Can I buy the food grown at the Student Farm? Where does the rest of it go?**

Yes! If you are around during the summer, you will have the most variety, but during first half of fall semester there are sales as well. On campus, the lobby outside the Atrium Cafe in Grover Center hosts the market and the sales are typically 2:00 to 4:00 on Wednesdays. The day of the week may change each semester, so it’s best to check with the Student Farm. At the Farm itself, the sale times change each season, but there are typically several hours during the day that you can go buy veggies.

The Student Farm sells some of its produce to local businesses and restaurants, and it also donates hundreds of pounds of food to food banks as well.

**Ohio University Groups**

**Campus Recycling**

**What are the main functions of Campus Recycling?**

As stated in the Ohio University Sustainability Plan, the University’s goal is to recycle 80% of all recyclable material produced on campus. Campus Recycling is tasked with maintaining, monitoring, troubleshooting and upgrading the recycling and solid waste at all campus buildings and grounds areas. That includes tens of thousands of bins throughout campus, as well as the waste generated at events.

**How well are we doing with recycling compared to other schools?**

RecycleMania is a friendly eight week competitive national recycling competition started by OHIO and Miami (OH) University that over 150 colleges and universities participate in annually. In 2016 and 2017 OHIO was ranked 38th overall, but in 2018 we jumped to 29th overall. In the subcategory of the National Game Day Challenge, we have been the champions twice, and we are aiming for a third victory.

**How can I get involved?**

First, you can do your part by recycling responsibly! If you want to volunteer with Campus Recycling, you can sign up online to get on the mailing list about opportunities to help out here <https://www.ohio.edu/recycle/student-organization/join-now.cfm>**.**

**The Office of Sustainability**

**What are the main functions of the Office of Sustainability?**

The Office of Sustainability provides support and guidance to all OHIO departments to implement the objectives from the Ohio University Sustainability and Climate Action Plan. Sometimes that means being present in a meeting about planning a building project, and other times it means connecting similarly interested groups and people. In January 2019 the Office transitioned into a Sustainable Hub structure.

**How does the new Hub structure work?**

The three Sustainable Hubs are Living, Administration, and Infrastructure. Each Hub is led by a faculty Hub Coordinator, with responsibility to launch at least one initiative per year. By organizing faculty, staff, student and community involvement into “hubs” people with similar interests are brought together to work on issues on campus and in the community.

The Sustainable Living Hub Coordinator is Dr. Theresa Moran, who is also the Director of the Food Studies Theme. The Sustainable Administration Hub Coordinator is Dr. Ryan Fogt, a Professor of Geography professor who specializes in meteorology and climatology. Lastly, the Sustainable Infrastructure Hub Coordinator is Dr. David Bayless, a Mechanical Engineering Professor who works on energy production and fuel cells.

**What is the Ecohouse?**

The Ecohouse is a sustainable living experience that allows student residents to learn experientially about how to lead a more sustainable lifestyle. Students, both graduates and undergraduates eligible to live off campus, have the opportunity to apply for this unique experience, and three are chosen each year. To learn more, visit <https://www.ohio.edu/ecohouse/>.

**What is the Sustainable Living Floor?**

If you’re an undergraduate student interested in learning about sustainable living, but still want to live in a residence hall, then the Sustainable Living Floor might be the right place for you! Currently located in Carr Hall, the Sustainable Living Floor encourages exploring sustainability related topics, participates in thematic activities, and allows networking with the sustainable communities at OHIO. To learn more, visit <https://www.ohio.edu/sustainability/get-involved/sustainable-living>.

**How else can students get involved?**

One new opportunity as part of the Sustainable Administration Hub is the Climate and Sustainability Ambassadors Program (CSAP). The Ambassadors meet approximately once a month, become familiar with climate literacy, and take that information to campus and the local community through organized events and educational outreach. To learn more and to apply to the Program, visit <https://ohio.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3krdqjZQM0anc6V>.

There are additional opportunities to get involved with the Office of Sustainability. If you are interested to learn more, reach out to the Office of Sustainability at [sustainability@ohio.edu](mailto:sustainability@ohio.edu).

**The Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Affairs**

**What is the Voinovich School?**

The Voinovich School, located up on the Ridges, doubles as a school and a consulting firm. The academic programs include a Master of Science in Environmental Studies and a Master of Public Administration. The consulting aspects are focused on improving the strength of the surrounding regions through catalyzing entrepreneurial, energy, and environmentally sustainable enrichment. The Voinovich School focuses on solving real-world problems, hands-on.

**How can undergraduates get involved?**

The Voinovich School offers a certificate in the Environmental Studies program for undergraduate students. For more information, visit <https://www.ohio.edu/envstu/students/prospective/undergrad-certificate.cfm>

A fun opportunity open to the general public and undergraduate students is the Sustainability Film Series at the Athena Cinema on Court Street. Every other Wednesday night, the Athena screens a film relating to sustainability for free, and a discussion with panelists follows the movie. All movies screened are then available to reserve from the Ohio University library with screening rights, meaning you can show them at a club meeting or an event.

Lastly, for students with competitive GPAs (3.5 or above) an employment opportunity is available through the Voinovich school. The Voinovich Undergraduate Research Scholars matches students interested in research-based work to a group at the Voinovich School. The positions require 10 hours of paid work per week, and can be renewed if you there is mutual interest for you to stay working on your team.

**What are the main functions of the OHIO Zero Waste Team?**

The OHIO Zero Waste Team supports waste reduction and diversion. The team often focuses on specific projects that reduce waste, but require some expertise in knowledge, or research, to complete the task or get the ball rolling. Often the projects are collaborations with one or more other organizations that may be within the University, or may be with outside organizations with similar interests.

One project for the OHIO Zero Waste Team has been Green Event registration and support. The Zero Waste team consults with groups while they are planning events to suggest ways to reduce and manage waste.

**Are there any other projects besides Green Events?**

Beyond Green Events, projects ranging from construction and demolition debris diversion, to textiles recycling to athletic events waste stream diversion are in the works. To explain every project would take too long, but to give a sense of the range of work the Zero Waste Team participates in, I will list some of the organizations I know the Team works with.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Internal Organizations** | **External Organizations** |
| Office of Sustainability | Rural Action |
| Campus Recycling | Habitat for Humanity Southeast Ohio |
| TechGrowth Ohio | The City of Athens |
| Architecture, Design, and Construction | Ohio EPA |
| Facilities Management and Safety | Athens-Hocking Recycling Centers |
| Procurement | The Soil and Water Conservation District |
| Retail Merchandising and Fashion Product Development | Restore |

The Zero Waste team has also created an annual event called the Reduce & Reuse Fair, which aims to encourage students to learn about personal waste reduction. The Fair is held every April, close to Earth Day, and is a collaboration with numerous campus and community organizations. If you are interested in being involved, please contact the Office of Sustainability.

**Architecture, Design, and Construction**

**How are sustainability principles incorporated into the design process?**

All building projects over 2 million dollars must meet at least LEED Silver certification standards.

**How many LEED certified buildings are on Ohio University’s Campus?**

As of December 2019, 17 campus buildings have earned LEED certification. Over 232,000 square feet are LEED Gold certified, and over 700,000 square feet are LEED Silver certified.

LEED Gold: McCracken Hall, Boyd Dining Hall and Campus Market, Scripps College of Communications Phase II, Ellis Hall

LEED Silver: Walter International Education Center, Scripps College of Communications Phase I, Tupper Hall Renovation, Grover Center Expansion, Nelson Dining Hall, Jefferson, Bush, Tanaka, Sowle, Luchs, Carr, Living Learning Center, Sook Academic Center

**Facilities Management & Safety**

**I’ve heard about steam tunnels, why do we have them?**

The steam tunnels centralize the heating and cooling system on campus. The natural gas burning boilers at the Lausche Heating Plant create steam that is then pumped around campus in the underground tunnels. The University transitioned from coal to natural gas in 2015 and currently purchases certified renewable energy certificates (RECs) for half of all electricity used on its Athens, Dublin and regional campuses. The RECs are sourced from wind power.

**Research and Projects**

***Disclaimer: there was no possible way for me to include every awesome sustainability-related project on campus. I encourage everyone to look into more opportunities across the University.***

**Acid Mine Drainage Recovery**

Acid mine drainage (AMD) results from decades-old abandoned coal mines filling with water. The exposed minerals from rock leach out into the water, which results in acidity and metal ions contaminating the water. Characteristically, contaminated streams look bright orange, and the wildlife living in and around the stream are harmed.

Dr. Natalie Kruse-Daniels (Voinovich School) works with recovering streams by using a basic substance to neutralize the acidity. Dr. Guy Riefler (Civil Engineering) and John Sabraw (Fine Arts) are extracting the brightly-colored, toxic AMD from polluted streams and turning it into paint pigment, and working with Rural Action they have received funding for an extraction and production facility. Three different departments are tackling one problem, all bringing unique perspectives and skill sets to create solutions.

**Local Businesses and Nonprofits**

**Athens Farmers Market**

Saturdays from 9am-Noon year round, the Athens Farmers Market takes over the parking lot of The Market on State, the same plaza as the Athena Grand on East State Street. Whether you’re looking for produce, baked goods, native plants, soap, coffee, or more, it’s worth checking out. The Athens Farmers Market promotes buying local, and many of the vendors are sustainability conscious. The organizers take care to make sure the products are genuinely local, within 150 miles, and that the vendors are honest about their products.

**ReUse Industries**

ReUse Industries aims to be the “Ultimate Recycling Center,” and they have been working on their vision for 25 years. Located at 751 West Union Street, ReUse Industries includes a MakerSpace and thrift store, and they also accept a wide variety of donations. Their retail store has more curated content like sewing supplies, local art, vintage clothing and upcycled items. But, the more unique aspects of ReUse Industries are the MakerSpace, Tool Library, and Fix-It Workshops.

Have you ever wanted to learn how to fix something broken, but you didn’t know how and didn’t have the equipment? A piece of furniture, for instance. The MakerSpace has specialized equipment for working with metal, wood, fabric, electronics and even 3D printing. The staff and community members help each other accomplish tasks and learn how to create. Daily, Monthly and Annual passes are available.

If you become a bit more committed to creating as a hobby, a Tool Library membership may also be of interest. For an annual fee, you can utilize thousands of dollars worth of equipment. Even though you may not be interested now, knowing the possible resources available could be very handy one day! More information is available here: <http://www.reuseindustries.org/>.

**Rural Action**

Rural Action is a nonprofit based in Southeast Ohio with a mission to, in their own words, “build a more just economy by developing the region’s assets in environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable ways.” The programming and support Rural Action provides is vast, but I will focus on a few things.

**Zero Waste**

OHIO’s Zero Waste Team was inspired by Rural Action’s Zero Waste efforts. Similar to the Green Events I spoke about in the OHIO Zero Waste section, Rural Action Zero Waste also supports organizations to reduce waste at events. If you go to the Paw Paw festival, which is a festival celebrating sustainability and the Ohio native fruit in the fall, Rural Action Zero Waste volunteers can be seen guiding people to sort their waste appropriately.

An additional aspect of waste reduction by Rural Action is the Zero Waste Pledge that businesses and organizations can take to create sustainable guidelines as part of their normal operating procedures. Examples include composting, offering straws upon request, and training employees in sustainable practices. Several uptown businesses have made the pledge, and I’m going to list a handful below:

Jackie O’s

The Smiling Skull Saloon

Donkey Coffee

Casa Nueva

Village Bakery

Avalanche Pizza

Little Fish Brewing

**Habitat for Humanity**

In all likelihood, you have probably heard about Habitat for Humanity as a charitable organization that builds homes, which it certainly does! While building homes for those who need them is definitely a noble option if you need volunteer hours, or you simply want to volunteer, Habitat for Humanity also has a retail store that may be useful to students.

When you move out of residence halls and into an apartment or a house near campus, you will probably need furniture. Habitat for Humanity operates a store called ReStore on West Union which sells used furniture and other home fixtures. Buying from Restore allows you to support Habitat for Humanity’s efforts, in building homes and home improvements, without providing any labor.

**Passion Works**

If you’ve ever been in Baker Center’s Front Room, Casa Nueva, or even locally-themed shops around the state of Ohio, you may have seen the characteristic Passion Works flowers. If you haven’t, look around campus and Athens for them, they pop up in surprising places. I was shopping in Cleveland and I saw some on sale. So, what makes them so special and sustainable?

Passion Works flowers are made from used aluminum newspaper printing plates, so the material is “upcycled” into artistic pieces. Passion Works is a nonprofit that has hired many individuals with developmental disabilities since it was founded. The creative work available is in stark contrast to the predictable, monotonous jobs that those with disabilities traditionally hold.

Not only does Passion Works divert waste (planet), but it gives opportunities to develop pride in vulnerable communities (people), and it makes enough money to support itself (prosperity), supporting the triple-bottom line of sustainability.

**Sustainability-Themed Courses**

* AAS 2540 – History of Injustice in the United States (fall, spring)
* ANTH 1010 – Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (fall, spring, summer)
* ANTH 2020 – Introduction to World Archaeology (fall, spring)
* ANTH 3450 – Gender in Cross Cultural Perspective
* ANTH 3500 – Economic Anthropology (fall)
* ANTH 3760 – Culture Contact and Change
* ANTH 3780 – Human Ecology
* ANTH 3860 – Problems in SE Asian Anthropology
* ANTH 4941 – Seminar in Cultural Anthropology: Political Ecology
* ART 4900 Art + Science (spring)
* BIOS 1000 – Animal Diversity (Mammone) (fall, spring, summer)
* BIOS 2200 – Conservation and Biodiversity (spring, summer)
* BIOS 2750 – Ecology in the 21st Century (fall, summer)
* BIOS 3750 – Animal Ecology
* BIOS 4290 – Marine Biology (spring)
* BIOS 4310 – Aquatic Biology (fall)
* BIOS 4770 – Population Ecology
* BIOS 4810 – Animal Conservation Biology
* BIOS 4820 – Tropical Disease Research in Ecuador
* CAS 1300X Themes in Action—Sustainability Studies (fall, spring)
* CAS 1415 Introduction to Sustainability (fall, spring)
* CHEM 1010 – Chemistry Applied to Today’s World (summer)
* CHEM 1210 – Principles of Chemistry I (fall, spring, summer)
* ECON 3120 – Economics of Poverty
* ECON 3130 – Economics of the Environment (fall)
* ECON 3140 – Natural Resources Economics (spring)
* ECON 3220 – Economics of Human Resources
* ECON 3350 – Economics of Energy (spring)
* ECON 3710 – Cost Benefit Analysis (fall)
* ENG 3100J – Writing About Environmental Sustainability (fall, spring)
* ENG 3240 – Jewish American Literature
* ENG 3300 – Ecological Discourses in English Studies (fall)
* ENG 3850 – Writing about Culture and Society (fall, spring)
* ENG 4600 – Topics in English Studies (spring)
* ES 4250 – Watershed Management
* ES 4500 – Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar (fall, spring)
* ES 4910 – Environmental Studies Leadership Experience (fall, summer)
* GEOG 1300 – World Regional Geography
* GEOG 1310 – Globalization and the Developing World (fall, spring, summer)
* GEOG 2400 – Environment Geography (fall, spring)
* GEOG 3020 – Climatology (fall)
* GEOG 3150 – Landforms and Landscapes (fall)
* GEOG 3160 – Biogeography (spring)
* GEOG 3210 – Population Geography (spring)
* GEOG 3310 – Geography of Africa (spring)
* GEOG 3330 – Appalachia: Land and People (spring)
* GEOG 3410 – Geography of Hunger and Food Geography (spring)
* GEOG 3430 – Global Issues in Environment (spring)
* GEOG 3440 – Agricultural Ecosystems (spring)
* GEOG 3460 – Environmental Law (fall)
* GEOG 3500 – Land Use Planning (fall)
* GEOG 3530 – Environmental Planning and Assessment
* GEOG 3580 – Environmental Hazards (spring)
* GEOG 4110 – Advanced Physical Geography
* GEOG 4170 – Landscape Ecology
* GEOG 4450 – Gender, Environment, Development
* GEOG 4470 – Natural Resource Conservation (fall)
* GEOG 4520 – Environmental and Sustainability Planning (spring)
* GEOG 4560 – The City and the Environment (spring)
* GEOG 4900 – Special topics (Amy Rock)
* GEOL 1350 – Natural Disasters (fall)
* GEOL 1700 – Metal, Stone, Energy, and Society
* GEOL 2150 – Environmental Geology (fall, spring)
* GEOL 2310 – Water and Pollution (spring, summer)
* GEOL 2710 – Extreme Ancient Climates
* GEOL 3300 – Principles of Geomorphology (spring)
* GEOL 4270 – Water Geochemistry (fall)
* GEOL 4320 – Origen and Classification of Soils
* GEOL 4800 – Principles of Hydrogeology (fall)
* HIST 3060 – American Environmental History (fall)
* PBIO 1000 – Plants and the Global Environment (fall, spring, summer)
* PBIO 1030 – Plants and People (fall, spring, summer)
* PBIO 1090 – Americans and Their Forests (fall, spring, summer)
* PBIO 2060 – Sustainable Agriculture (fall, spring, summer)
* PBIO 2090 – Plant Ecology (fall, spring)
* PBIO 4350 – Plant Population Biology and Community Ecology (fall)
* PBIO 4380 – Soil Properties and Ecosystem Processes
* PHIL 2400 – Social and Political Philosophy (fall, spring)
* PHIL 3350 – Environmental Ethics
* PHIL 4300 – Contemporary Ethical Theory
* PHIL 4400 – Contemporary Social Philosophy (spring)
* POLS 4250 – Environmental and Natural Resources Policy and Politics (fall)
* POLS 4260 – Politics of the Environmental Movement
* POLS 4565 – International Human Rights (fall)
* POLS 4730 – Animal/ Human/ Machine
* POLS 4760 – American Political Thought
* POLS 4840 – Politics of Sustainability
* POLS 4880 – Environmental and Public Policy Dispute Resolution
* SOC 3090 – Sociology of Appalachia (fall, spring)
* SOC 3670 – Corporate and Governmental Crime (fall)
* SOC 4140 – Contemporary Social Movements (spring)
* SOC 4650 – Social Change (fall)
* SOC 4710 – Gender and Justice
* SOC 4810 – Environmental Sociology (fall)
* SOC 4950 – Sociology of Sustainable Development (fall)
* T3 4080 – Environmentalism in America
* T3 4605 – Culture, Energy, and Environment
* T3 4850: Sustainability Citizenship (spring)
* T3 4850 – Sustainability Citizenship (spring)
* WGSS 4100 – Global Feminism (spring)
* WGSS 4110 – Women and Globalization (fall)

**Resource List**

* Architecture, Design, and Construction <https://www.ohio.edu/design-construction/>
* Athens Farmers Market <https://www.athensfarmersmarket.org/>
* Athens Public Transit <http://www.athenstransit.org/>
* Campus Recycling <https://www.ohio.edu/recycle/index.cfm>
* Culinary Services <https://www.ohio.edu/food>
* Facilities Management and Safety <https://www.ohio.edu/facilities/>
* Food Studies Theme <https://www.ohio.edu/cas/undergrad/themes/food-studies/>
* GoBus <https://ridegobus.com/>
* Habitat for Humanity <http://www.habitatseo.org/>
* Office of Sustainability <https://www.ohio.edu/sustainability>
* Passion Works <https://www.passionworks.org/>
* ReUse Industries <http://www.reuseindustries.org/>
* Rural Action <http://ruralaction.org/about-us/who-we-are/>
* Transportation and Parking Services <https://www.ohio.edu/transportation-parking>
* Voinovich School <https://www.ohio.edu/voinovichschool/>