

Sustainability Newsletter

Volume 4

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Did you know?: The global average sea level rose 7.4 inches from 1901 to 2010, as oceans expanded due to warming and melting ice.

In-Depth Waste Audit Completed in MEP



On August 2nd, NKU Sustainability conducted an in-depth waste audit of the Mathematics-Education-Psychology Center (MEP). This audit was conducted to examine recycling behavior and determine the success rate of the recycling pilot program that was implemented earlier in the summer. Tess Phinney, Sustainability Manager, and Ron Brown, Student Intern, conducted the audit by closely examining the content of one day's worth of trash and recycling from the entire building. We found that 17% of the total waste stream was sent to be recycled by building employees, but after diligent searching through both waste and recycling streams, we were able to increase that to 21%!

Office Supply Swap

On August 9th, NKU Sustainability hosted an office supply swap in University Center. Over fifty people came to donate and take away gently used office supplies to reuse on campus. This supply swap event was particularly successful, with 40% of all materials donated being taken by employees to reuse! Stay tuned for details on when the next supply swap will be held!

Campus Sustainability Month

October is Campus Sustainability Month on university campuses throughout the United States and Canada! According to AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education), Campus Sustainability Month was developed from Campus Sustainability Day, which was first celebrated by the Society for College and University Planning in October 2003. Recognizing the success and continued growth of sustainability on college campuses, AASHE created Campus Sustainability Month in 2015 and many universities now celebrate with planned activities, events, and demonstrations throughout the month of October.

What is NKU planning for Campus Sustainability Month? Below is a schedule of current planned events?

- On October 10th, NKU Sustainability will partner with the environmental science program to host a showing of *Look and See*, a documentary by Kentucky poet Wendell Berry about facing difficult choices that shape the relationship with land and community. More about this film and Berry can be found [here](#).
- On October 24th, a climate change forum will be held from 10am-12pm. This will give students, staff, and faculty the opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns on the state of the environment and how we, as a campus community, can take action to mitigate against the effects of climate change.
- On October 26th, the Thrift Shop is coming back due to popular demand! Bring two of your own items that you want of to the shop in the Student Union and take as much as you wish!