

ECO-NEWS

SUSTAINABLE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WRITTEN & CREATED BY:



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OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY AT USM

 @usmecoreps

 @sustainability_usm

<https://usm.maine.edu/sustainability>

SPRING PROJECT REVIEW

GREEN CLEANING PILOT

During the Spring semester, the Environmental Health Eco-Reps implemented a green cleaning project in Philippi Hall. While the homemade cleaning products did not get a lot of use, it wasn't for a lack of interest-cleaning dorms is just not a common task. Due to the demand for low toxicity products, over the next year the team work on creating and piloting homemade laundry detergent that will help reduce exposure to harmful chemicals, packaging waste, and save your pocketbook!

FOOD WASTE RECOVERY

Last semester, a Material Resources Eco-Rep implemented a food waste collection pilot program on the second floor of Upperclass Hall. The result? Over the course of two months, 169 pounds of food waste was diverted from the municipal solid waste stream! This year you can be on the watch for an expansion to this pilot program in Upperclass Hall.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Each summer, staff from the Office of Sustainability manage the community garden located on the Portland campus. This year, a new partnership was created with the Food Studies Program to help plant in the community beds and tend to the harvest. Everything from beets to herbs were grown and shared with the USM community.



UPCOMING EVENTS

USM Sustainability Fair-Gorham
Friday September 7th-11am-1:30pm
Brooks Dining Hall

USM Sustainability Fair-Portland
September 12th, 11am-1:30pm
Woodbury Campus Center

Greater Portland Energy Expo
Saturday October 20th, 10am-2pm
Abromson Community Center,
Portland Campus

Repair Cafe

Time and date TBD, follow us on social media for updates

Want to get involved?



Contact USM's Sustainability Education & Outreach Coordinator for more information on becoming an Eco-Rep!
chelsea.malacara@maine.edu

SUSTAINABILITY TIP

Dorm living can be a great way to limit your energy use! Make sure when doing laundry that you have a full load! It will increase your free time while limiting washes that require water, energy, and resources.