

Sustainability Section

Month in Review: May 2022

HOT TOPICS:

- Sustainability's collaboration with Boulder County, Colorado to create the Four Corners Carbon Dioxide Removal Coalition (CDR) received unsolicited media attention this month. The coalition is working to pool private and public resources to accelerate carbon dioxide removal. The coalition's current focus is on the concrete sector. Press coverage can be found on [Grist](#), [The Hill](#), and [Weather Channel](#).
- The second round of the Northern Arizona Solar Coop launched on May 15th and in just nine days, we've already met the initial coop goal of getting 100 members to join. Enrollment closes on July 31st. To learn more please visit us at <http://solarunitedneighbors.org/naz2022>

The graphic features the Solar United Neighbors logo at the top. Below it, the text reads "Let's go solar together!" and "Join the Northern Arizona Solar Co-op". A section titled "Why join a Solar Co-op?" lists five benefits: Expert help (get unbiased support), Save money (get a group rate on your solar), Community (go solar with 50-100 people), Nonprofit (we're not a sales company), and Free to join (no commitment to go solar). A "Join us to learn more!" section includes a Zoom Webinar on May 24th at 6:00pm with a "SIGN UP HERE" link. There are two photos: one of a woman saying "I LOVE MY SOLAR" and another of a man saying "WE WENT TO SOLAR!". Logos for Flagstaff Sustainability Program and Cocconino County are also present. The URL solarunitedneighbors.org/NAZ2022 is at the bottom.

CLIMATE ACTION:

- Over 30 staff from the City, County, MetroPlan, NAU, MountainLine, and ADOT attended a transforming transportation workshop in early May. This workshop was hosted by the City and MetroPlan and facilitated by outside experts, to help staff take the first steps towards the "Big Shift" and create a better transportation network.
- In partnership with NAU, Sustainability staff have begun meeting with micro-mobility companies (like bike share and scooter share) to explore how Flagstaff can bring shared micro-mobility to Flagstaff residents and visitors.
- Staff are finalizing revisions to the Energy Efficiency Rebate program, to increase effectiveness and reach. The program received significant federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act and will distribute over \$200,000 in rebates to residents in the next fiscal year. The revised rebate program will begin on July 1st.
- The Sustainability Office hired its Youth Climate Leadership VISTA for the 2022 to 2023 term. They will start their full-time one-year service in early July. This position will work closely with Flagstaff Unified School District to support climate action.
- Staff hosted two 4th grade classrooms from Marshall Elementary. Students tested their climate action knowledge and spoke eagerly about what climate change was, how it is affecting us, and expressed a need for urgent action. The students rounded out the visit with a litter clean-up. Thank you Marshall Elementary!



COMMUNITY STEWARDS/LITTER PREVENTION:

- Welcome Sanoma Boynton, our new Stream Steward Coordinator AmeriCorps Member! The coordinator is a shared position between Sustainability and Friends of the Rio.

Sanoma will be responsible for coordinating and helping the Stream Stewards program to grow. She recently graduated from the University of Hawaii Maui College with a degree in Sustainable Science Management and is continuing her education through the Climate Science and Solutions Master's program at Northern Arizona University. Having grown up in Flagstaff, she is excited to reconnect with the community and explore the Rio de Flag. Some of her hobbies include photography, hiking, and swimming. She looks forward to being an AmeriCorps member and spending time with the Flagstaff community. Welcome, Sanoma!



- May Litter Cleanup Data:

Date	# of Volunteers	Total Hours	Bags of Trash	Bags of Recycling
5/4	62	186	40	15
5/6	8	8	4	0
5/7	3	5	2	0
5/11	18	18	5	0
5/11	6	6	3	0
5/14	11	17	6	1
5/15	11	22	4	2
5/21	2	4	4	2
Totals	121	266	68	20

FOOD SYSTEMS:

- Sustainability and Terra BIRDS are hosting free monthly workshops at community gardens throughout the summer. Monthly workshops include "High Altitude Gardening", "Pollinators, Pests, and Plants" and more!
- Work parties at the community gardens are offered on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 - 6:30 pm to work on composting, weeding, mulching, and infrastructure projects. So far, these work parties have seen 15 participants.



MATERIALS MANAGEMENT:

- The May Drop-off Day event diverted 15,015 lbs. of waste from the landfill. More than 415 community members participated:
 - **Elevated Shredding**
 - Shredded 8,000 lbs. of shredded paper materials.
 - **Hazardous Products Center (HPC)**
 - 1,640 lbs. of batteries
 - 91 lbs. of aerosols
 - 140 CFLs (about 4oz each, about 35lbs)
 - 194 fluorescent tubes (roughly 113 lbs. or approximately 848 feet of fluorescent tubes)
 - **Ponderosa Medical Waste**
 - 176 gallons of syringes and OTC medications (approximately 240 lbs.)
 - **R3 Electronic-waste**
 - 4,619 lbs. of E-waste
 - **Drug Enforcement Agency**
 - 277 lbs. of unwanted medications
 - **Total:** 15,015lbs. or 7.5 tons

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION:

- In the meeting on May 26th, the Sustainability Commission heard presentations from FY21 Neighborhood Sustainability Grant Recipients and took part in a Regional Plan activity.
- Next meeting: Thursday, June 23rd, 2022, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Join us in distributing sandbags for residents in the Museum Flood area!
 - Volunteers will be assisting residents who are elderly or have a disability repair their emergency sandbag mitigation.
 - Volunteer shifts will be from 8 am-12 pm and 1 pm-4 pm on June 4th and June 18th. Meet at Coconino County Health and Human Services at 2625 N. King St.
 - Please wear sturdy shoes, pants, and sun protection, and bring a refillable water bottle and work gloves if able. Food will be provided!
 - Register here: <https://loom.ly/kYtSY4k>

SOCIAL MEDIA:


- The top post on Facebook was the Weather Channel article.

- The top post on Instagram was the Community Garden Work Party.



Flagstaff Sustainability Office
Published by Hootsuite • May 19 at 6:03 PM

Flagstaff was in the news this week! We were highlighted by the Weather Channel for our leading work on carbon dioxide removal. Check it out:



WEATHER.COM
Boulder, Flagstaff Asking Other Communities to Help Strip CO2 From the Air - Videos from The Weather Channel | weather.com

See Insights Boost unavailable

18 4 Shares

Like Comment Share

Write a comment...

Like by chris_peters_junges and 12 others

Add a comment...