


Sustainability Section

Month in Review: September 2022

HOT TOPICS:

- The EV Charging Station project at the airport is complete! The 6 new stalls are available for public use, and, similar to all other City-sited EV Charging locations, there is no fee for charging at this time.
- The Climate Resilience Project, a collaborative initiative with the *Sustainability Office* and *Flagstaff City - Coconino County Community Library*, hosted our first event on September 13th. The event, *Climate Conversation*, was for community members to collaboratively learn and discuss Climate Impacts and Vulnerabilities in Flagstaff. Nearly 30 community members participated in the facilitated group discussion. The program was featured on the front page of the Daily Sun: [article](#).
- Sustainability launched the “Sustainability Minded Business Program” which is a free resource and consultation program that helps businesses conserve resources and save money. The first phase of the program includes resources targeted at short-term rental property managers and guests. Please visit our guides at [Property Manager Guide](#) and [Guest Guide](#)




Sustainability Minded


Short-Term Rental Management Guide

Become a more sustainable short-term rental host and save money by reducing waste, water usage, and energy usage at your accommodation. This guide, and the accompanying guest brochure, is designed to help you and future guests make a positive impact on our community!

WASTE: TAKE ACTION

 **Quick Fix**

- Provide recycling services on the property, including separate services for glass.
 - Call City of Flagstaff Solid Waste Department: (928) 213-2110.
- Educate guests on proper recycling practices:
 - Signage on bins:
 - Landfill
 - Recycling
- List available food recovery and donation locations within the house manual.
 - This allows guests to donate uneaten food items they may have left over from their stay.
 - A link is provided in the Guest Brochure provided by the Sustainability Office.
- Share a map of free city-led residential food scraps drop-off sites.
 - A link is included in the Guest Brochure provided by the Sustainability Office.
- Provide reusable shopping bags, water bottles, and to-go containers for guests when they are out and about. Many single use to-go items from businesses are not recyclable in Flagstaff and will go to the landfill.
- Promote drinking Flagstaff's tap water to deter guests from purchasing bottled water. Information is included in the guest brochure.




FLAGSTAFF SUSTAINABILITY GUIDE

Welcome to Flagstaff! The goal of this guide is to provide you with a list of simple actions that support the Flagstaff community's goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2030. Thank you for doing your part to conserve resources.

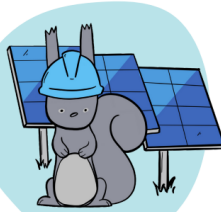
RETHINK WASTE

- ✓ **Recycle during your stay.** Learn more at recyclebycity.com/flagstaff
- ✓ **Reduce food waste by composting and donating excess food.** Free drop-off locations are listed on the last page.
- ✓ **Drink Flagstaff tap water, don't buy bottles!** Our tap water exceeds most bottled water ratings, so opt for a reusable bottle and tap water.
- ✓ **Bring Your Own (BYO)!** Check with your host to see if they have mugs, bottles, or utensils available for use on the go.



SAVE ENERGY

- ✓ **Turn off lights and unplug devices or chargers when not in use.**
- ✓ **Be thermostat conscious.** Keep the thermostat set at 68 °F / 20 °C during the winter and 78 °F / 26 °C during the summer.
- ✓ **Eco all the way!** Select the eco setting when using the washer, dryer, or dishwasher when possible.



CLIMATE ACTION:

- The Youth Climate Advisory Group is already making big plans! In addition to recruiting additional members to increase representation of the youth voice in Flagstaff, they are planning a Fall event, creating educational presentations on the Carbon Neutrality Plan

target areas, starting an inter-school climate action club, and preparing to review and respond to FUSD’s Climate Action Report.

- In partnership with the public library, staff are hosting a Youth Climate Book Club starting in October. This will be an opportunity for youth to read and discuss the book “All We Can Save”, and facilitate climate-focused conversations centered around youth voices.
- Staff met with the Flagstaff Unified School District (FUSD) Superintendent and new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction to discuss and plan climate action opportunities in Flagstaff schools.
- Sustainability staff are participating in a four-session Community Resilience Hub Training with Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) designed for in-depth learning about implementation, financial and social returns, and community ownership.
 - Home Weatherization Rebate Program Update: Rebates paid or in process: Over \$12,000 in 2.5 months (6%). This would have been 60% of the funding in previous years. The approximate average rebate: \$1,100
 - IQRM uptake: 10% of applicants
- Staff presented as an invited expert during the APS Trade Ally webinar event on Commercial Electrification Opportunities.
- Staff presented to the Sustainable Cities Network Climate and Resilience Working Group monthly meeting, discussing Carbon Dioxide Removal and local government’s role in this emerging space.
- Staff was featured on the Reversing Climate Change podcast by Nori – episode release date TBD.
- Staff are working across the City of Flagstaff to plan the 2022 revisions to the Carbon Neutrality Plan, focusing on incorporating resilience target areas from the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.
- Staff are working to support the development of the Flagstaff Regional Transportation Plan, a process led by MetroPlan Flagstaff. This Plan will include a scenario that would lead to the achievement of many of the transportation-related Carbon Neutrality Plan goals.
- Staff participated in the Lowell Observatory State of the Climate Panel on Sunday, September 25th for the Festival of Science. The panel presented to 40 people.

COMMUNITY STEWARDS/LITTER PREVENTION:

- AmeriCorps ELC service member Sanoma Boynton will be joining the Sustainability team for a second term as Stream Stewards Coordinator. Thank you, Sanoma.

September Litter Cleanup Data:

Date	# of Volunteers	Total Hours	Bags of Trash	Bags of Recycling
9/17/2022	10	10	3	0
9/10/2022	7	7	3	1
9/17/2022	8	8	3	1

9/17/2022	1	3	3	1
9/3/2022	11	14	10	0
9/3/2022	3	3	1	1
9/1/2022	153	2	5	5
Totals	193	351	28	9



FOOD SYSTEMS:

- The Flagstaff Sustainability Office was awarded a \$184,085.12 USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grant, which was approved by City Council on September 6th.
- “The Sustainable FLG Series: Preparing Your Garden for Winter Workshop” was held at the Bonito St. Community Garden on Tuesday, September 20th. Staff teamed up with Terra BIRDS and Native Americans for Community Action (NACA) to teach 20 community members about seed saving, cover crops, and mulching for the winter.
- Sustainability Staff co-hosted a Fruit Gleaning event with Flagstaff Foodlink on September 18th in the Coconino Estates neighborhood. 14 community members collected over 60 lbs. of crab apples. The yield was donated and offered to volunteers.



MATERIALS MANAGEMENT:

- The Expert Composter Certification launched on September 12th. This free 5-week program provides Flagstaff residents with the skills they need to become effective composters, educators, and advocates within their communities.
- Sustainability Staff participated in the NAU Community Welcome, which fosters a sense of community and connection between local and student residents. Staff distributed recycling materials to 175 households.



- On Saturday, September 24th, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, the Sustainability Office co-hosted a Community Rummage Sale event in partnership with Radio Sunnyside at Pine Forest School. 12 vendors from the community sold gently used items and were able to divert over 650 lbs. from the landfill. Notable items included a dehydrator, an electric guitar, an original Nintendo gaming system and much more!



SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION:

- In the September 22nd Sustainability Commission meeting, the Sustainability Commissioners heard Grand Canyon Youth's Neighborhood Sustainability Grant final report, discussed the Sustainable Building Resolution and Carbon Neutrality Plan revisions, elected a new Chair and Vice Chair to begin service in January, and picked a date to do a litter clean up on Aspen Avenue.
- Next meeting: Thursday, October 27th, 2022, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 10/1, 5:00pm-6:30pm, Expert Composter Workshop
- 10/15, 10:15am, Flagstaff 15-minute Makeover
- 10/15, Noon-2:00pm, Sustainability Fall Festival Join us in celebrating our wonderful volunteers, contributors, and partners at the Sustainability Office Fall Festival and Appreciation Event on October 15 from Noon-2pm.
- 10/20, 5:30pm, Downtown Library - [Tools for Climate Resilience in Public Spaces](#)
- 10/22, Make a Difference Day, location and project TBD
- 10/29, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, Flagstaff Police Department – [Drop-off Day](#)
- 11/1, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Flagstaff Sustainability Office – [Pumpkin Drop-off](#)
- 11/5, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, Joe C. Montoya Community and Senior Center – [Fix-it Clinic](#)



SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Our top post on Facebook was a post we were tagged in and shared from Killip Elementary about planting milkweed in their new Butterfly Garden.



- Our top post on Instagram was a post about Radio Sunnyside’s Community Rummage Sale.

