2021

ACCELERATE SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

Our Accelerate Sustainability Workshop is a professional development opportunity designed to help start sustainability initiatives at Dane County organizations. Grounded in current sustainability plans and research, this workshop presents best practices, local case studies, and changemaking strategies. Participants leave with an action plan for projects to make change at their organizations.

PROJECT AREAS

100% of participants would recommend the workshop to a colleague

Thank you to our program supporters

PARTICIPANTS

21 Organizations, 26 Participants

Affiliated Engineers, Inc
Alzheimer’s & Dementia Alliance of WI
CG Schmidt
DC Engineering
Destination Madison
Extreme Engineering Solutions
First United Methodist Church
Habitat ReStore of Dane County
Ho-Chunk Gaming Madison
Kahler Slater

Mad City Dream Homes
Mead & Hunt
Middleton Sustainability Committee
Movin-Out Inc
National Decision Support Company
Nowak Eco Properties
REAP Food Group
Reynolds Transfer & Storage
TDS Telecom
The Digital Ring
Wingra School
**Participant Spotlight**

**TDS TELECOM**

Leah Kinmonth, Data Analyst & Green Associate Resource Group Founding Member at TDS Telecom

The Green Associate Resource Group (ARG) was created by TDS associates with a mission to encourage environmentally responsible behavior at work and home. The group is open for any associate at the TDS family of companies to join and is housed under TDS Telecom’s Diversity and Inclusion umbrella. With headquarters in Madison, TDS Telecom and its affiliates consist of over 3,000 employees. Achievements of the Green ARG include:

- A **searchable energy database** developed with energy savings offers, energy audits, and other energy benefits. All TDS, TDS Telecom, US Cellular, OneNeck, and Suttle Strauss associates can use the database to find energy saving incentives near them.
- **Focus on Energy** pop-up show to allow WI associates to purchase kits that include efficient products like LED lights and aerators.
- **Lunch-n-Learn sessions** on a wide array of topics including but not limited to: gardening, interesting facts about plants, energy efficiency projects that TDS family of companies are working on, and environmental justice.

**MORE PROJECTS**

Other participants completed projects that span a range of sustainability subjects, including:

**Energy**
- 100% Renewable energy through Madison Gas and Electric (MGE)’s Renewable Energy Rider (RER) program
- Energy Audits
- Lighting upgrades
- Solar Energy

**Waste Reduction**
- Waste audit
- Centralizing trash bins
- Composting
- Recycling Signage & Education

**Sustainable Food**
- Local, organic school lunch program and onsite educational garden

**Employee Engagement**
- Start a Green Team or Sustainability Committee
- Employee volunteer programs

- **Reusable** coffee mugs and silverware purchased from secondhand stores in office.
- **Earth Day** Recycled Art Show, Plastic Free July Bingo, and volunteer events such as our stretch of highway for the WI Adopt-A-Highway program
- **Monthly newsletter** and Yammer group where encourage posts such as Meatless Monday Recipes, Tip Tuesdays, Water Conservation Wednesdays, Thoughtful or Thought-provoking Thursdays, and Feel-Good Fridays.

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"**MY GOAL AS THE LEADER OF THE GREEN ARG IS TO SUPPLY ANY TYPE OF RESOURCES THAT I CAN TO HELP TDS ASSOCIATES BE BETTER STEWARDS OF THE EARTH.**"

– Leah Kinmonth