

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.

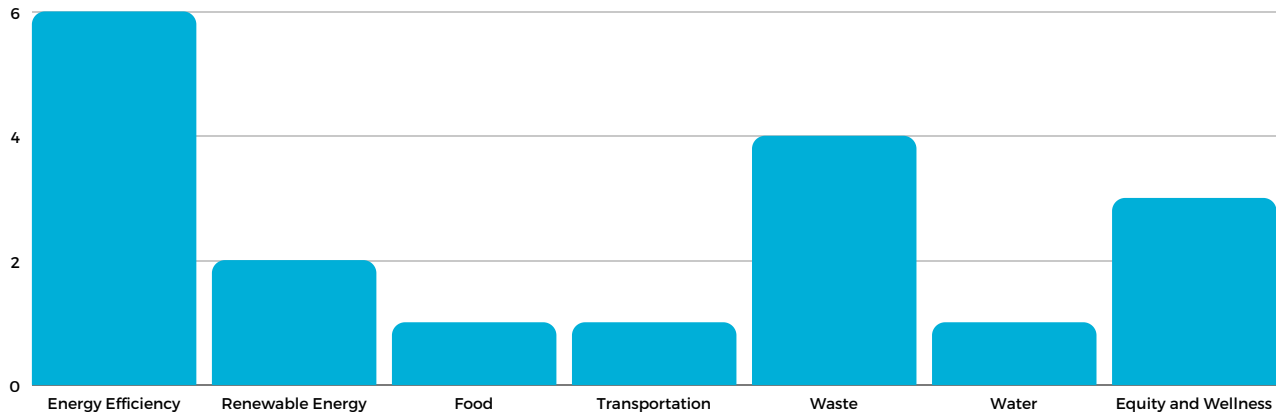
**100%**  
*of participants would recommend the workshop to a colleague*

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*Thank you to our program supporters*



## PROJECT AREAS



## 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.

- **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.



**“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*

## 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