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July 2024 Newsletter

[Sustain Dane](#) is the sustainability organization of Dane County. [Join us](#) and get involved in accelerating community well-being.



Esha Chhabra
Summit Keynote
Announcement

Announcing the Sustain Dane Summit Keynote

We are excited to announce the [2024 Sustain Dane Summit](#) keynote speaker - Esha Chhabra.

Esha has been a writer and journalist focused on global development, the environment, and business for over a decade. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Economist, Guardian, Forbes, The Washington Post, Fast Company, Wired, and more. Her debut book, [Working to Restore](#), won the 2023 Best Business Book of the Year at Tata Lit Fest, amongst other accolades.

Looking across nine industries, *Working to Restore* highlights examples of how businesses are moving their work into an era that is more thoughtful,

conscious, and equitable. Esha will draw from her experiences to facilitate a keynote and workshop about the nuanced realities and opportunities of regenerative business operations.

Join us Friday, November 8, at the [Sustain Dane Summit](#) to hear her exploration of what's possible through a selection of stories from around the world, all connected by a common thread: a restorative approach to business

[Register](#)



July Sustainable Breakfast Series A Bird Friendly Future

7/23 Sustainable Breakfast Series 'A Bird Friendly Future'

Our [July Sustainable Breakfast Series](#) explored the connection of sustainability, birds, and our human impact. The program covered every aspect of birding, from the influence of climate change on birds to the importance of bird-friendly architecture and creating a safe, inclusive birdwatching environment for all. Program slides are available for viewing [here](#).

Want to get involved with birding? View a list of speaker resources below:

- Citizen Science Efforts
 - [Project FeederWatch](#)
 - [Great Backyard Bird Count](#)
 - [Audubon Climate Watch](#)
- BIPOC Birding Club
 - [Website](#) & [Facebook](#) Group

- Madison Public Library: [Birding Backpacks](#)
- Birding Apps- iNaturalist, [eBird](#), Merlin Bird ID

Thank you to our wonderful speakers: Benjamin Zuckerberg (UW-Madison Professor), Jeff Galligan (BIPOC Birding Club of Wisconsin Co-founder), and Monika Miller (SmithGroup Architect).



Last Chance for Live Forward Award Nominations

Who do you know that makes a positive impact in the community? This is your chance to nominate a changemaker for the 2024 [Live Forward Awards](#).

Help us recognize the innovation and impact happening in our neighborhoods. The Live Forward Award acknowledges inclusive leaders who are promoting local sustainability and community well-being. A nominee's work will ideally impact one or more areas of holistic sustainability: a healthy environment, equity & social well-being, and a just economy. Click [here](#) to see past winners.

Nominees and awardees will be celebrated on Friday, November 8, at the 2024 [Sustain Dane Summit](#). Awardees receive a recognition of \$250. Submit them through the [nomination form](#) by Sunday, August 11.

[Nomination Form](#)



Powerful Teen Leaders Program

Powerful Teen Leaders Program Launch

Our [Powerful Teen Leaders](#) (PTL) program is underway. The PTL coalition provides employment programming for teens including paid work experience and workforce readiness training for future employment in green jobs. Recent programming includes:

Workforce Development: Completed financial empowerment course with our member [Summit Credit Union](#), updated resumes with the [McKenzie Regional Workforce Center](#), and visited [Operation Fresh Start](#) to learn about their programs. Teen Leaders also joined SD member the City of Madison, where they gained hands-on experience with electrical work, learning about apprenticeship pathways through their [GreenPower](#) program.

Natural Habitat Restoration: Participants had the opportunity for direct involvement in clearing brush from a prairie remnant post-prescribed burn, establishing a trail in a 22.2-acre urban forest extension of White Tail Ridge Park, and learning skills like using cutters, loppers, and hand saws. Leaders also pulled Japanese Hedge Parsley, contributing to the restoration of a mixed hardwood woodland and learned about birding through the Arboretum.

Bike Transportation: PTL took a field trip to [Wheels for Winners](#). They pledged to complete 30 hours of community service in exchange for a bike to use for program and personal transportation.

In the final month of the program, leaders will study solar installation at the Madison College solar lab and learn about stormwater management in Madison, while continuing their outdoor restoration work throughout the community.



Fitchburg Efficiency Navigator Work

Fitchburg Efficiency Navigator Assessment

We are now in the first phase of work for the Fitchburg [Efficiency Navigator](#) program. Sustain Dane staff members, Claire and Frankie, along with Fitchburg Access Community Television (FACTv), recently visited a building undergoing an assessment. Building assessments are a step in the process to identify the priority areas that need energy efficiency upgrades. Measures implemented often include insulation, air sealing, or air source heat pump installation, which reduce the building's carbon emissions and lower annual energy costs for tenants.

The Efficiency Navigator supports small to medium-sized affordable apartment housing to become more efficient, affordable, and resilient. Learn more about the program through the [FACTv coverage](#) or our [website](#).



SUMMER SOCIAL

Sips for Sustain Dane

Olbrich Biergarten

Saturday, August 10

12 PM – 10 PM

Sat. 8/10 Sips for Sustain Dane

Soak up the sun and catch up with your sustainability community at our [Sips for Sustain Dane Summer Social](#) on Saturday, August 10 at Olbrich Park Biergarten.

Sustain Dane staff will be at the Biergarten from 4 to 7 PM. Proceeds throughout the day (12 to 10 PM) will go to support our mission of holistic sustainability.

When: Saturday, August 10, Fundraiser 12:00-10:00 PM & Sustain Dane Social 4:00-7:00 PM

Where: The Biergarten at Olbrich Park (3527 Atwood Ave, Madison)

All ages are welcome to join. Individuals under 21 years old need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. In case of bad weather, this event will be rescheduled to Sunday, August 11 ([RSVP](#) to be notified).

RSVP

Welcome New Members!



Holy Wisdom Monastery



WHOLE TREES[®]
STRUCTURES

SCS ENGINEERS
Environmental Consultants and Contractors



+ 7 individual members

SUSTAIN DANE MEMBERSHIP

New Member Recognition

Welcome our newest members to the Sustain Dane community:

- [Holy Wisdom Monastery](#)
- [WholeTrees Structures](#)
- [SCS Engineers](#)
- [Little Luxuries](#)
- +7 individual members

We appreciate all Sustain Dane members and the work they do to move sustainability forward in our community. [Support](#) local organizations and businesses that value sustainability.

Interested in becoming a member? Learn more and sign up [online](#). Members receive complimentary access to Sustain Dane programs and other benefits.



RECYCLE BETTER

Recycle Better Q & A- Clamshell Containers

Question: Can I recycle plastic clamshell containers that often hold produce, and to-go items?

Answer: Yes! In most Dane County cities plastic containers #1-#7 are recyclable. Confirm it is one of those numbers, clean it to your best ability and keep the lid on.

Check out answers to common recycling questions and see local guidelines at sustaindane.org/better and on social media #recyclebetter.



Mammoth Mission

Join us in achieving our "Mammoth Mission" goal of collecting 22,000 pounds during our [Farmers' Market Food Scrap Drop-Off](#) program. The target of 22,000 pounds represents the weight of two mammoths, which once roamed Wisconsin during the Ice Age. Last year, our compost interns successfully reached a goal of collecting 16,000 pounds of food scraps, which we called "Operation Double Hippo."

Help us reach this year's goal by bringing your food scraps to any of our three market locations: [East Side](#) and [South Side](#) (Tuesdays) or [West Side](#) (Saturdays). With the recent addition of the Saturday Westside Community Farmers' Market location, we have collected over 9,900 pounds to date, almost halfway to our target! Learn more about program locations and acceptable materials [here](#).

Sustainable Breakfast Series Recording Available

Healing Our Climate Anxiety



Sustainable Breakfast Series 'Healing Our Climate Anxiety' Recording

The [recording](#) for our February [Sustainable Breakfast Series](#) '[Healing Our Climate Anxiety](#)' is now available to the public on the [Sustain Dane YouTube](#) channel.

Listen in as speakers from the Center for Healthy Minds Dekila Chungyalpa and Christy Wilson-Mendenhall, explore the complexities of climate anxiety and share insights on ways to cope with it.

Don't want to wait for the recording to be released to the public? Join the Sustain Dane [membership](#) to get immediate access once available.



Warner Park Cleanup

July Volunteer Event

This month, we came together as a sustainability community and spent a Sunday morning volunteering with Wild Warner.

Thirty individuals hopped into canoes and removed over 165 pounds of trash from the lagoon at Warner Park and the surrounding area. A special shout out to Sustain Dane members Uniek, TLJ Coaching & Consulting, and Focus on Energy for joining us in making a difference!



In the community

August 1 [Gardening with Climate Change in Mind: Trends, Challenges, and Adaptations](#) from Olbrich Botanical Gardens

August 3 [Westside Community Market Food Scrap drop-off](#) from Sustain Dane * Every Saturday

August 3 [Troy Farm Wellness Fair](#) from Rooted

August 6 [Eastside & South Madison Farmers' Market Food Scrap drop-off](#) from Sustain Dane * Every Tuesday

August 9 [Electric Car Expo](#) from Sessions at McPike Park and MG

August 10 [Sips for Sustain Dane](#) from Sustain Dane

August 11 [Live Forward Award](#) Nominations due

August 11 [Summer Market](#) from the Farley Center

August 14-18 [Sweet Corn Festival](#) from Sun Prairie

August 15 [More Comfort, Lower Energy Bills](#) from the Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change

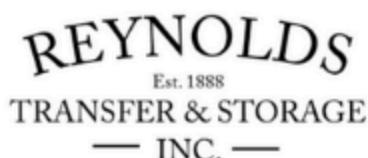
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Join the Sustain Dane Membership at the Forest, Tree, or Leaf level.

Support organizations that value sustainability



STARTINGBLOCK
MADISON'S STARTUP HUB





THE
NEUTRAL
PROJECT



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