Sustain Dane Summit

A conference for sustainability enthusiasts to learn, connect, and build professional skills.

2026



Keynote: Ingredients for a Sustainable Food System

400 Attendees

17 Speakers

19 Exhibitors

12 Award Nominees

Change happens when inspired people take action

SUSTAIN DANE

"The Sustain Dane Summit is one of my favorite events of the year! I appreciate the diverse perspectives among attendees and the opportunity to be inspired by all of the great work happening in our community."

– Summit Attendee



Program Highlights

- Participants network, connect, & engage with facilitated conversations
- Keynote on Sustainable Food Systems with Sarah Lloyd and Michelle Orge
- On the Menu: Chefs & Sustainability Panel
- Year in Review: Data Centers, Composting, & Building Energy Savings Program
- Local Businesses Taking Action in Sustainability - Featuring Kleenmark, EUA, and Midwest Solar Power
- Live Forward Awards honor regional change-makers: Ryan Holley from River Food Pantry and Troy Farm & Troy Kids' Garden



Local Businesses Taking Action

"I always enjoy this event. It creates a space for community that cares about sustainability to get together and enjoy some interesting topics, meet new people as passionate as you are & be with one another."

– Summit Attendee





Live Forward Awardees

"Every year I look forward to the Sustain Dane Summit. It's an opportunity to network and celebrate partners and be reminded of how we each can make a ripple effect and advance holistic sustainability."

— Summit Attendee







97%

of survey respondents said they were inspired to take action on something they learned at the Summit



Sustain Dane Staff

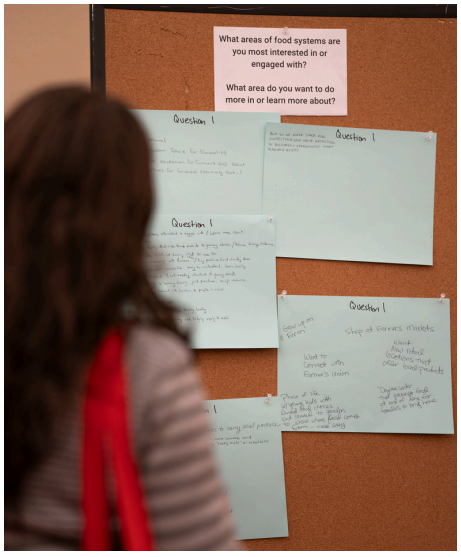
"The Summit is something that absolutely fills my cup and gives me energy to do this good work!"

— Summit Attendee

The word cloud below summarizes Summit attendees responses to the question:

How did you experience sustainability this year?

all electric kitchen
buying local produce
home insulation
walking, biking, or taking the bus
community bike tune-ups
Recycle Better
native plants
clothing swaps
zero waste Madison
repair cafes
composting
leave the leaves
busing to work
alternative transit
rainwater collection
better recycling
hybrid car
making biochar
reusable water bottles
sharing about energy savings



Summit attendees also gave input on:

- Areas of food systems they are most interested in
- Areas of food systems they want to learn more about
- One food-system change they'd like to see in Dane County over the next 5–10 years

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Catalent

Christ Presbyterian Church

City of Fitchburg

City of Middleton

City of Sun Prairie

City of Stoughton

Common Grace

Covenant Presbyterian Church

CBRE

Dane Buy Local

Dane County Extension

DC Engineering

Destination Madison

Downtown Madison, Inc.

Emmi Roth

Envest Microfinance

EZ Office Products

FaireShare CSA Coalition

Flad Architects

Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce

Green Life Trading Co.

Greenlink Energy Solutions

Groundswell Conservancy

Habitat ReStore of Dane County

Harker Heating & Cooling

Henry Vilas Zoo

Holy Wisdom Monastery

Ian’s Pizza

Induction Cooking Collaborative

JP Cullen

Kahler Slater

Klein's Floral and Greenhouses

KL Engineering

Linda and Gene Farley Center for Peace, Justice & Sustainability

Little Luxuries

Madison Children's Museum

Madison College

McFarland United Church of Christ

Middleton Chamber of Commerce

Midvale Community Lutheran Church

Monona East Side Business Alliance

Mundo Esperanza

New Year Investments

Noel Development

Overture Center for the Arts

Pellitteri Waste Systems

PKSD Accident and Injury Lawyers

Placon

Promega

REAP Food Group

RINKA

Root 2 Rise

Rooted

SCS Engineers

Sergenian's Floor Coverings

Sketchworks Architecture

SmithGroup

Summit Credit Union

Sun Prairie Area School District

Sunny Side Development

Sun Vault Roofing

Sustainable Business Council

TDS Telecom

The River Food Pantry

TLJ Coaching and Consulting

TrueNorth Collective

Uniek, Inc.

UW-Madison Office of Sustainability

Village of McFarland

Village of Mount Horeb

Village of Shorewood Hills

Village of Waunakee

350 Wisconsin

Wisconsin EcoLatinos

Wisconsin Environmental Initiative

Wisconsin Green Muslims

Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce

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