

B_Sustainable Newsletter

C4/Sustainability August 2019 UPDATES

WELCOME BACK!!

I hope everyone has had a great summer thus far. As we are winding down and preparing for the new academic year, I created this late summer newsletter to keep you abreast of some updates and pertinent info. Please take a minute to read over this short newsletter and respond accordingly.

FY 2019 Accomplishments

We have a lot of accomplishments in sustainability to be proud of. Check out last fiscal year's accomplishments published here on this link:

<https://www.bowiestate.edu/files/resources/fy19-c4-accomplishments.pdf>

Sustainability site updates

(NEW solar projects page)

In addition to minor changes made to our website, we have added a new page for solar projects.

Check it out! <https://www.bowiestate.edu/about/sustainability/bsu-solar-projects/>

Climate Action Plan

We plan to convene a Task Force sometime in September or October to create a new University Climate Action Plan called the 'BSU Climate Action Plan 2020'.

WE ARE IN NEED OF INSTRUCTORS. If you are not able to serve on this group, please refer any of your colleagues who may be interested.

Green/bio wall

We are in the design and discussion phases of installing a biowall (aka 'living wall', 'green wall', 'vertical garden', wall of wellness') however it is not yet confirmed. If this project is approved, we are looking at possibly a mid-late November timeline for installation. We will have more info at a later time. Check this article out for info: <https://today.umd.edu/articles/wall-wellness-50a931e9-e716-42ab-a08f-ecbaa2d300f1>



Stickers for BSU IDs are available in HR to Regular Full-Time Staff and Faculty ONLY, which entitle you to free ridership on the MTA buses, light rail and subway. This program recently approved by the State of Maryland, can be effective in helping to combat traffic and traffic pollution and lower carbon emissions in the area.

Please contact HR for more info.





PROJECT UPDATES



Bikeshare program--- THE BIKES ARE HERE! The Student Center will operate our first ever BSU Bikeshare program. C4 has donated the locks and helmets for the bikes. The Bikeshare guidelines were created and approved along with Terms and Conditions that must be signed before checking bikes out. A link will be posted soon under the Office of Auxiliary Services/Student Center on the website. The official launch program will be a short, informal program where we intend to have President Breaux speak. More details to come at a later time.

Bikeshare launch program- Thursday, Sept 5. 11:00am

Solar charging units--- See attached picture. The units are outdoor charging centers for charging smart devices while you sit. These are off-grid, 100% solar powered. (Company website: <https://www.solarsynthesis.us/#/>)We will have three of these units located next to existing sitting benches. Locations are two on the East promenade in front of Student Center lawn facing the rear of the Library. One will be placed next to bench between Library and Henry Bldg nearest to Henry Circle.



Estimated completion- early September

Mini solar table by Kennard—Repair update: Over time, the table has incurred major wear & tear and is now missing three of the four seats. We will have all four seats replaced and I am working with the company (SolGreen Solutions) to have this work done. The hardware is custom made by only one fabricator. The new seats and mounts will have to be re-created. This process will take several weeks. The company will install the new seats once the parts have been shipped to the campus. Total time is about 8 weeks.



Estimated completion- mid-October

Parking Lot I solar canopy (Capital project)—The new @ 400 space parking lot is under construction with a planned completion time of late November. The new lot will include an extensive solar panel canopy network similar to current Lot G.

Estimated completion- late November



LEED Platinum plaque (CNSMN)—A plaque from the US Green Building Council is planned to be purchased to publicize the building’s prestigious recognition . It will likely be placed somewhere in the lobby. This project has been in the works since April, and is in the hands of URM. Several inquires have been made for a status, but we are unsure of a timeline completion. Hopefully, we will have a status by our first meeting in Sept.

Estimated completion- unknown

Big Belly trash compactor— Verizon, T-Mobile and AT&T have announced plans to discontinue their 3G networks beginning Dec 31st 2019. As a result of the scheduled shutdown, Bigbelly stations, which run on the network will be impacted and will stop communicating when the network is shut off. In order to ensure connectivity and for the stations to continue to work, the stations will have to be converted to the 4G LTE network which is guaranteed to be maintained and active until @ 2030.




Estimated completion– early October

Dorm Mania 2020—We just this week received confirmation from Mr. Rodney Peters that there is currently storage space to accommodate items for Spring move out. Our plan is to try again this year to start this program. Updates will be given at a later time.





Calendar of Events

Date and Time	Topics	Meeting Locations
Thursday, Sept 5 TBD	 BSU Bikeshare Launch Program	Student Center Lawn Area
Wedn, Sept 18 3:00-4:00pm	C4 Meeting	Library Conf Room
Sunday, October 13 TBD	Post Homecoming Campus wide clean up	Campus-wide
Wednesday, October 16 3:00- 4:00pm	C4 Meeting 	Library Conference Rm
Sun, Oct 27-Tues, Oct 30	AASHE Conference 2019	Spokane, WA
Thursday, Nov 5 10:30am - 1:00pm	Shred Day	Henry Circle
Wednesday, Nov 20 3:00-4:00pm	 C4 Meeting	Chesapeake Room, Student Center
Tuesday, November 5 10:30am - 1:00pm	Shred Day	Henry Circle
Tuesday, December 10 3:00pm- 4:00pm	C4 End of Semester Meeting	Computer Science Room

For more information on any of the events listed above, please contact Mr. Walker via email at jswalker@bowiestate.edu or 301-860-3471

INTERESTING ARTICLES:



A Community in America's Cancer Alley fights for its life----
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/plasticfreejuly/a-community-in-americas-cancer-alley-fights-for-its-life-against-a-plastics-plant/ar-AAE4Gxk?ocid=spartanntp>

Eight surprising items you should never put in the recycling bin--- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/smart-living/gum-wrappers-pizza-boxes-and-shopping-receipts-the-eight-surprising-items-you-should-never-put-in-the-recycling-bin/ar-AAF74qw?ocid=spartanntp>

WHO SAYS CLIMATE CHANGE ISN'T REAL?

Here's What Pollution has Done to these pristine beaches--- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/news/heres-what-pollution-has-done-to-these-once-pristine-beaches/ss-AACFl4u?ocid=spartanntp#image=1>

Two states facing mandatory water cutbacks
<https://weather.com/news/news/2019-08-19-arizona-nevada-face-first-mandatory-water-cuts-from-colorado-river>

GREENHOUSE GAS LEVELS REACH HIGHEST IN 800,000 YEARS
<HTTPS://WEATHER.COM/SCIENCE/ENVIRONMENT/NEWS/2019-08-13-STATE-OF-THE-CLIMATE-2018-REPORT-GREENHOUSE-GASES-REACH-RECORD>

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY



THE POWER IS IN THE GREEN

