

SUMMER 2025

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The Sustainability Office
Newsletter



FALL 2025 SUSTAINABILITY SERIES

Fall Sustainability Series 2025

Kick off the new school year with sustainability themed events all quarter long. Our annual Fall Sustainability Series features opportunities to get involved, get connected, and learn about the local environment and climate issues. Events this year include a public transit orientation, Harvest Fair with a sustainable product refill station, a campus sustainability tour, habitat restoration, and more!

For additional details and the full schedule, visit <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/sustainability/get-involved/events/fall-sustainability-series/>

Highlights:

Harvest Fair: October 27, 10:30am-1:30pm, C Courtyard

Refill Station Event: Bring your empty containers and fill up on free, sustainable products!

October CSA Produce Box Sale: Come get local, fresh, & organic produce all in a convenient \$20 box.

Choose Your Way Transportation Fair: Learn about all the ways to get around the Puget Sound region.

Washington Conservation Corps: Stop by to learn how you can get involved and help conserve Washington's natural resources.

Voices of Action: November 12,
Session 1: 11:30am-12:20pm
Session 2: 12:30pm-1:20pm
N201, N208, N Lobby.

Listen to conversations with community members and Bellevue College students and staff about their sustainability work.



Habitat Restoration Update

The Grounds Crew and Sustainability Office led two environmental science classes to continue working on invasive species mitigation at the BURito Restoration site in parking lot 5. Students and staff worked together to continue the removal of blackberries and other noxious weeds.

Last fall, the college was awarded a grant from the National Wildlife Federation to install a compost BURito or Bio Urban Retention device. The compost BURito is comprised of a mixture of sand and compost to filter out harmful chemicals from stormwater runoff. This work builds on previous work done by the City of Bellevue, University of Washington and Washington State University. King County has put together an overview of the effects of 6PPD-Q in various tributaries across the county - check out <https://vimeo.com/1063710783> to learn more.

If you are interested in getting involved in this effort, please contact sustianability@bellevuecollege.edu.

Transit Tracker

This fall, the Sustainability Office is excited to roll out new transit trackers that make it easier for the BC community to ride the bus. These signs show the live bus schedule at stops around campus. When you're busy studying or going from class to class, you can easily glance at a transit tracker to know when the next bus is coming. Look for them in the L Building, N Building, U Building and Library.

This project was created by student alum, Nick Frey, a previous Sustainability Outreach Coordinator and now a UW urban planning student. Funding for project was provided by the Student Environmental Sustainability Fund (SESF).

Learn more here!

<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/sustainability/sustainbc/transportation/transit-trackers/>





Bike Rental Program Update

Bike racks for vehicles are now available to rent for \$30 a quarter! Bike racks provide a convenient way to get your bike to campus, trails, and anywhere else.

Don't forget the Sustainability Office offers quarterly bike and bike locker rentals too!

If you are interested, please email: transportation@bellevuecollege.edu



Have a Project Idea to Implement on Campus?

The Student Environment Sustainability Fund (SESF) provides students, faculty, and staff a means to enhance Bellevue College's sustainability efforts and create positive social and environmental change on campus.

Fill out the paper work and present to the SESF committee for the opportunity to get your project funded!

Get started here.

Please email the ASG Social Responsibility Representative at asgsocial@bellevuecollege.edu if you would like to be a committee member or join a meeting as an observer!



Energy and Water Conservation Tips

Energy

Over the summer, the college officially implemented preventative maintenance as part of the process toward reaching Clean Building Performance Standards Compliance*. Just like you get regular oil changes for your car, building equipment requires similar regular maintenance to ensure it is running smoothly and efficiently. Over the past year, the college has worked with a mechanical vendor to help evaluate all building equipment and develop a maintenance schedule of when equipment needs to be serviced that's balanced around the college schedule.

*Clean Building Performance Standards Compliance – A Washington State Law requiring all commercial buildings over 20,000 square feet are required to measure and report energy usage every five years.

Water

Did you know that water conservation is important year-round? As the saying goes, if you feel thirsty, you're already dehydrated. The same goes for water conservation; if the word drought is being mentioned, we're behind in our water conservation efforts. Unfortunately, as the Earth continues to warm, the water cycle becomes more erratic. This can lead to wetter wet seasons and drier dry seasons. Here in the Puget Sound region, our drinking water comes from snowmelt. Summertime in Washington is typically dry, making it even more important to be mindful both during the dry season and during the wet season.

The City of Bellevue Utilities has a Waterwise Garden at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. If you are interested in learning more or joining the volunteer team, go to <https://bellevuewa.gov/volunteering/environmental-stewardship/waterwise-garden>

