

The latest news for you

Your News! July 2023



Updates, News, Events and Highlights..

Sharing the exciting work that sustainability professionals and residents are doing to advocate for a more sustainable Miami Valley.

All Are Invited, Send Us Your Updates!

SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERS' UPDATES

CITY OF DAYTON

Twigs to Trees

The 'Twigs to Trees' project is a collaboration between the City of Dayton, The Ohio State University, Bartlett Trees, Casey Trees, and MITRE. It seeks to reforest urban land and assess the ability of native trees to grow and survive in cities. The Ohio State University Gardiner Lab donated 300 native trees which have been planted in Dayton parks and vacant lots.

Urban Trees are useful in many ways. They remove pollutants from our air, lower heating and cooling costs by providing shade in summer and blocking wind in winter, reduce flooding by slowing and filtering stormwater, absorb carbon to cool air and fight climate change and attract birds, butterflies, and other beneficial wildlife.

Renewable Natural Gas Capture

Every year Dayton's wastewater treatment plant produces millions of cubic feet of biogas. Previously, this biogas was burned and therefore wasted. But now, the City of Dayton is to convert this byproduct into renewable natural gas.

In a typical year, Dayton's water reclamation facility at 2800 Guthrie Road produced nearly 208 million cubic feet of biogas. About one-third of the biogas — 68.5 million cubic feet — is burned off in a process known as flaring, which converts waste gases into cleaner emissions. By converting this previously flared biogas into renewable natural gas, the City has an opportunity to either utilize the gas or sell the gas to competitive buyers. The main benefit of this project is the repurposing of the valuable biogas generated at the Water Reclamation Facility to a revenue-generating process estimated at \$1.3 million a year. Moreover, the conversion of this waste product into a useful resource reduces Dayton's carbon footprint and is in line with Dayton's commitment to reduce carbon emissions.

Earth DayTON

The City of Dayton celebrated Earth Month by encouraging citizens to get involved in sixteen Earth Day events. Those who attend three or more events (or one waste clean-up) were entered into a raffle to win sustainable prizes.

Dayton Sprouts

The City of Dayton is in the third year of its 8-week sustainability summer camp program entitled Dayton Sprouts. 300+ children ages 6-12 at Dayton Rec Centers are taught various sustainability topics including gardening, composting, waste, and energy.



Meg Maloney- New City of Dayton Sustainability Manager!

Congratulations to Meg Maloney for getting promoted to Sustainability Manager for the City of Dayton.

Meg has been an amazing force for the City of Dayton and the Dayton region and plans to focus on revising City Of Dayton's Sustainability Strategy with a Climate Action and Decarbonization Plan, expanding their renewable energy portfolio, and expanding their office!



MONTGOMERY COUNTY

First Solar Co-Op Opens to Miami Valley Businesses & Nonprofits

Montgomery County and the City of Dayton are working to help local businesses and nonprofits go solar and partnered up to hire Solar United Neighbors to manage the co-op.

Other partners include the University of Dayton Hanley Sustainability Institute Industrial Assessment Center, RE-VOLV, Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC), among others. The co-op will help members navigate the solar panel purchasing process and educate them on various incentives available. Those who join select a single company to complete all the installations. Members then purchase panels individually but at the installer's group rate, allowing them to buy in bulk and save money. Those interested in joining the Miami Valley Businesses and Nonprofits Solar Co-Op can sign up at SolarUnitedNeighbors.org/MVSolar. It's free, and members are not committed to purchasing solar panels. The deadline to join is Sept. 30.

Dayton Regional Green Wins Achievement Award

Dayton Regional Green brought home Green Energy Ohio's Community and Government Green Achievement Award. Each year, Green Energy Ohio honors individuals, businesses, universities, nonprofits and organizations for promoting sustainable energy policies, technologies and practices!

Two New Challenges Launched at DRG Sustainability Luncheon

Packed house at DRG's May Sustainability Luncheon!

100+ attendees listened to presentations by an artist, a sustainable design Lead professional, a professor of ecology and an elected official, all done PechaKucha style! The fast paced, storytelling, engaging luncheon, inspired and motivated attendees. DRG team presented a short demo of the newly designed platform as well.



Healthy Competition and Employee Engagement?

Did you know that Bring Your Green platform can provide your company with a points- based structure and software to engage your employees through internal team competitions?

Create a team, or several teams, for your company and invite your employees to join and take BYG lifestyle [sustainability challenges](#). We believe that competitive team-building challenges can foster unity, improve engagement and is a great way to bring people together to turn awareness into action and action into impact. Questions? Contact [Lamees Mubaslat](#)
[Create / Join a Team](#)

Dayton Regional Green Hosts its' First Walk n Talk Event!

On June 30, DRG hosted its first Walk and Talk event at Cox Arboretum MetroParks.

Attendees walked with sustainability experts and learned about native plants, quilt lawns, the power of trees, backyard composting, electric cars and much more. Raffles, snacks from foraged plants, free yard signs and fun faceoffs between Montgomery County and City of Dayton elected officials made this event one to remember!

Dayton Regional Green seeks to foster a culture of unity and sustainability and inject a healthy dose of fun through outdoors events. Stay tuned for future ones!



Motor Discounts for Bring Your Green Challenge Participants!

Motor is dedicated to helping drivers discover, switch to, and stick with electric cars through a delightful car shopping experience, easy at-home charging, and ongoing concierge service.

Bring Your Green Challenge [participants](#) under the Individuals / Enthusiasts platform who subscribe to an electric car with Motor receive \$200 off the activation fee and \$250 off the monthly subscription fee for the first 3 months.

[More on Motor BYG Discount!](#)

[Join Bring Your Green Challenge](#)

MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grant Secured

MVRPC led a team of interested communities and organizations for a planning grant from US EPA to conduct climate action planning for the Dayton metro area over the next 4 years. The Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) will provide \$1 million to support comprehensive GHG emissions reduction planning in the region and will set the stage for projects to apply for implementation funding in the future. The coverage area of the grant is Greene, Miami, and Montgomery Counties.

The planning process will begin in late summer for the development of GHG inventories and projections, setting emissions reduction goals, developing GHG emissions reduction strategies, and quantifying the benefits to the region as well as to Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities. The grant will also offer the opportunity to plan for Workforce Development needs and opportunities related to the clean energy economy.

Current partners include Greene, Miami, and Montgomery Counties, the cities of Dayton, Kettering, and Troy, the villages of Yellow Springs and Clifton, the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency, Five Rivers MetroParks, and SOPEC. Contact Matt Lindsay, MVRPC Manager of Environmental Planning, at mlindsay@mvrpc.org for more information.

BIKE MIAMI VALLEY

Bike Miami Valley and the City of Dayton hosted the Miami Valley Cycling Summit. This event brought together local leaders and cycling advocates from the region. Over 200 cycling enthusiasts and officials gathered in Dayton to share successes and struggles surrounding biking in the region. This year's theme was "Cycling Builds Community." Content experts shared how cycling can improve the transportation, health, and economic vitality of the Miami Valley. The summit focused on how to make cycling better, including diversifying ridership and trends in cycling.

PARTNERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable Suds and Buds

On May 25th Partners for the Environment and Greater Dayton Conservation Fund hosted a sustainability happy hour. Attendees were able to have good conversations with sustainable buds about how we can make the Dayton region a greener, more sustainable place



WASTE FREE DAYTON

Through the end of May, Waste Free Dayton has organized and participated in 7 litter cleanups in several different neighborhoods in Dayton and collected a combined 15,000 pounds of trash and debris during these cleanups. Additionally, Co-Executive Directors Natalie and Brett presented to the 460 fourth and fifth-grade students at Smith Middle School in Vandalia on the topic of sustainability.

In 2023, they plan to continue consistent litter cleanups, raising awareness on recycling, do more presentations, virtually or in person, for groups, businesses, and schools and provide options for hard to recycle items.



WORKSHOPS

2023 Master Recycling Program

Wednesdays, July 26 - August 16 at the Montgomery County Solid Waste District's Environmental Learning Center at the Sandridge Dr. campus. The Master Recycling program is 4 weeks of advocacy-level training for citizens who wish to make a difference in the community. Speakers include Solid Waste District staff, local reuse program representatives, and industry experts from Rumpke. Participants complete four classes and commit to 20+ hours of volunteer services with MetroParks and other county organizations to promote better waste management and assist with waste-free events. [Click here](#) to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Garden Tour: Native Plants at Wright Library

Saturday, July 15

10:30 am

Wright Memorial Public Library - 1776 Far Hills Ave., Oakwood, OH 45419

[See More](#)

Miami Valley Businesses & Non-Profit Solar Co-Op 101

July 18

Free event. Lunch provided!

12-1 pm

Alta Fiber - 230 Webster St, Dayton, OH 45402

[See More and RSVP](#)

Miami Valley Businesses & Non-Profit Solar Co-Op 101

August 30

Free event. Lunch provided!

12-1 pm

Dayton Arcade - 35 W 4th St, Dayton, OH 45402

[See More and RSVP](#)

PIVOT CONFERENCE, 2023

September 20, 2023

Sinclair Conference Center

[See More](#)

DRG Walk n Talk - Canyon Run Ranch

September 25, 2023

9-10:30 am

395 N. Rangeline Rd., Pleasant Hill, OH 45359

[See More and RSVP- Free Event!](#)

And that's a wrap! From all of us here, stay green and remember to send us your updates!

All Are Invited, Send Us Your Updates!

Dayton Regional Green | [Website](#)



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