

# Sustainable Marquette ERG

Quarterly Newsletter | September 2023

## POCKET PRAIRIE GOING WILD!



The Go Wild! Pocket Prairie was successfully planted by dozens of volunteers this spring. Even during its inaugural year, the prairie bloomed with many colors over the course of the spring and summer. If you walk by this fall, you will see those rich autumn colors starting to emerge. As intended, the prairie was used as a research site for insect monitoring through the BioSci and MPM partnership. The prairie is a communal effort and therefore, it is encouraged to utilize the site for classes, lunch, a morning coffee, or artistic endeavors. Stay tuned for more ways to engage, or reach out to [gowild@marquette.edu](mailto:gowild@marquette.edu).

## IGGY'S MARKET: A WIN-WIN FOR STUDENTS & SUSTAINABILITY

This fall, Marquette Sustainability launched part 2 of its sustainable move out/move in program called Iggy's Market. Over the course of two sales, items collected during the MarKept Move Out program in the spring were sold to our international, graduate, and first-generation students. A final sale was held on day 2 of campus move-in. Iggy's Market brought in approximately 250 customers! Items ranged from free (clothing, books) to \$40 (furniture), and all the revenue will go back into paying the incredible sustainability interns who run the program. Special shout out to ERG members Casey Dunn, Karli Webster and Toni Uhrich who were instrumental volunteers for both MarKept Move Out and Iggy's Market!



**"We have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."**

~ Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*

## AASHE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023: YOUR INPUT SOUGHT

Co-chairs Chelsea Malacara and Elisa Coghlan would like your input to inform a session on ERGs that they will prerecord for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education 2023 annual conference in Boston (October 29-31). Their session, "Channeling climate anxiety toward collective action through the employee resource group model," will offer insights from Sustainable Marquette about the ERG as a model for not only building collective campus sustainability action and engagement, but also improving the wellbeing of its members. The session will become publicly available on the AASHE resource hub after the conference.

### Action Items:

- **Would you share a personal story** about how the Sustainable Marquette ERG has affected your sense of belonging at Marquette or helped your climate anxiety? Chelsea and Elisa would like to include personal experiences in their session. Informal write-ups or recordings should be sent to [chelsea.malacara@marquette.edu](mailto:chelsea.malacara@marquette.edu) and [elisa.coghlan@marquette.edu](mailto:elisa.coghlan@marquette.edu) by Friday, September 29.
- **Consider attending the AASHE conference.** You are eligible for Marquette's institutional membership discount. Chelsea and Elisa will be there, too! Ask Chelsea for questions.



### THE CANNONBALL: What was your sustainability turning point?



ERG Co-chair Elisa Coghlan

"I wouldn't say I had a cannonball moment but rather a cannonball period. In the early Aughts, I was living in Denver, Colorado, during a years-long drought. Reservoirs were low, and water was rationed. This was my first encounter with weather-induced scarcity, and it coincided with the release of the movie *An Inconvenient Truth*. It was no longer possible to ignore the gut-punchingly powerful interplay between human behavior and the survival of humans and other living beings. That sense of connection--and, in turn, responsibility--has changed the course of my life."

### YOU'RE INVITED: October 4 Wine & Cheese Reflection

The Sustainable Marquette ERG and the Faber Center would like to invite you to a wine and cheese reflection October 4, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Come get to know other ERG members and Faber Center staff!

## CAMPUS EVENTS

### Campus Sustainability Tours

Second Friday of every month, September-December, 12:00-1:00 p.m. All welcome. Meet at the Service Building (1404 W. Clybourn St.).

### All We Can Save Book Club

September 20, October 4; 12:00-1:00 p.m., on Teams.

### Campus BioBlitz

September 25-29. Check @marquetteugreen Instagram or ERG Teams page for details.

### Lunch & Learn: Working Sustainability at Marquette (GROW Course)

October 3, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Location TBD. Learn more and register: [eventbrite.com/e/working-sustainably-at-marquette-tickets-710481789157](https://eventbrite.com/e/working-sustainably-at-marquette-tickets-710481789157)

### Faber Center-Sustainable Marquette ERG Wine & Cheese Reflection

October 4, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Faber Center.

### Marquette Sustainability 2.0 Conference

October 23-24. Learn more and register: [marquette.edu/business/sustainability-lab/conference.php](https://marquette.edu/business/sustainability-lab/conference.php)

## ERG CO-CHAIRS



**CHELSEA MALACARA**  
Sustainability & Energy  
Management Coordinator



**ELISA COGLAN**  
Coordinator of Marketing and  
Outreach, Raynor Memorial Libraries

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### AASHE Annual Conference

October 29-31, Boston. Learn more and register: [aashe.org/conference/](https://aashe.org/conference/)

### UMACS Annual Conference

September 22-23, U. of South Dakota. Learn more and register: [umacs.org/2023conference.html](https://umacs.org/2023conference.html)

## RESOURCES

### Free Energy-Saving Packs

Help Marquette win \$5,000 for an energy-efficiency project and reduce your own carbon footprint! Focus on Energy, a statewide program, is giving away efficient lighting, bathroom fixtures, power strips, and more. [Order your free pack](#) online. HE-MRQ is the promo code.

## TIP: POWER DOWN

Even when your computer is in sleep mode, if it's still plugged in, it's still draining energy. Turn off devices when you leave your workplace for the day. Better yet, turn off/disconnect devices at the power point to prevent "vampire loads" from pulling energy even while the devices are technically "off."

