

# Directory of Ann Arbor Area Sustainability-Focus Organizations (Compiled by the Ann Arbor Energy Office)



*If you feel your organization warrants inclusion on this list, please email:  
[energy@a2gov.org](mailto:energy@a2gov.org)*

## —ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT —

### *Ann Arbor "Creekshed" Groups*

Allen's Creek Watershed Group

Contact - Rita and Vince Caruso, [info@acwg.org](mailto:info@acwg.org) , <http://www.acwg.org/>

Malletts Creek Coordinating Committee

Facilitator – Jerry Hancock, 734-794-6430 ex. 43709, [jhancock@a2gov.org](mailto:jhancock@a2gov.org)

Millers Creek Action Team

Facilitator - Steve Kapeller, (734) 327-1200, [skapeller@barr.com](mailto:skapeller@barr.com)

### *Ann Arbor 350/Ecology Center*

Ann Arbor 350 is an action group created by people in the Ann Arbor area that is raising awareness about global warming and implementing practical and local solutions to address the issue of global warming. Ann Arbor 350 is a project of the Ecology Center and inspired by 350.org, but is collaborative project involving many volunteers and is open to all.

Contact: Monica Patel, [annarbor350@ecocenter.org](mailto:annarbor350@ecocenter.org), (734) 761-3186, <http://www.aa350.org/>

### *Buhr Park Children's Wet Meadow Project*

The Buhr Park Children's Wet Meadow is a group of wet meadow ecosystems in [Ann Arbor's Buhr Park](#). The wet meadows provide a habitat for native plants and animals, an attractive educational site for children, neighbors and other visitors, and an environmental filter for stormwater runoff from the park grounds.

Contact: Jeannine Palms, 734-971-5870, <http://www.wetmeadow.org/>

### *Burns Park Green Energy Association*

Our core value and guiding principle is our belief in [community based solutions](#). We believe that community is the building block to true social change and awareness. We recognize the undeniable truth that the Burns Park Community has an abundance of knowledge, immense capital resources, and a unified desire to affect real energy change.

Contact: Nate Ayers, [nate@burnsparkgreen.org](mailto:nate@burnsparkgreen.org)

### *Clean Energy Coalition*

Clean Energy Coalition (CEC) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting clean energy technologies as a way to create healthier, energy independent communities.

Contact: [info@cec-mi.org](mailto:info@cec-mi.org), (888) 818-0987, <http://www.cec-mi.org/>

### *Clean Water Action/1Sky Campaign*

Clean Water Action is an organization of 1.2 million members working to empower people to

take action to protect America's waters, build healthy communities and to make democracy work for all of us.

Contact: Emily Woodcock, Office Manager, [annarbor@cleanwater.org](mailto:annarbor@cleanwater.org)

#### *Ecology Center*

The Ecology Center (EC) is a membership-based, nonprofit environmental organization based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Founded by community activists after the country's first Earth Day in 1970, the Ecology Center is now a regional leader that works for a safe and healthy environment where people live, work, and play.

Contact: (734) 761-3186, [info@ecocenter.org](mailto:info@ecocenter.org), <http://www.ecocenter.org>

#### *Energy Works Michigan*

Energy Works Michigan is a non-profit technical resource, building a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous energy future in Michigan.

Contact: [info@energyworksmichigan.org](mailto:info@energyworksmichigan.org), (734) 369-9699, <http://energyworksmichigan.org>

#### *Environment Michigan*

We focus exclusively on protecting Michigan's air, water and open spaces. We speak out and take action at the local, state and national levels to improve the quality of our environment and our lives.

Contact: [info@environmentmichigan.org](mailto:info@environmentmichigan.org), 734-662-9797, <http://www.environmentmichigan.org/>

#### *Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (Lansing)*

The Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association is a nonprofit organization that educates, advocates, promotes, and publicly demonstrates renewable energy technologies.

Contact: [info@glrea.org](mailto:info@glrea.org), 517-646-6269, [www.glrea.org](http://www.glrea.org)

#### *Huron River Watershed Council*

The mission of the Council is to inspire attitudes, behaviors, and economies that protect, rehabilitate, and sustain the Huron River system.

Contact: 734-769-5123, <http://www.hrwc.org>

#### *Leslie Science and Nature Center*

The Leslie Science and Nature Center is a nonprofit organization that provides environmental education and experiences for children, families, and other individuals to honor and perpetuate the legacy of Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Leslie by fostering understanding, appreciation, stewardship and respect for the natural world.

Contact: 734-997-1553, [info@lesliesnc.org](mailto:info@lesliesnc.org), <http://www.lesliesnc.org>

#### *Michigan Energy Office (Lansing)*

The Bureau of Energy Systems promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy resource development to Michigan's residents, businesses and public institutions.

Contact: (517) 241-6228, <http://www.michigan.gov/dleg/0,1607,7-154-25676---,00.html>

#### *Michigan Public Services Commission (Lansing)*

The mission of the Michigan Public Service Commission is to grow Michigan's economy and enhance the quality of life of its communities by assuring safe and reliable energy,

telecommunications, and transportation services at reasonable prices.  
Contact: (517) 241-6180, <http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc>

#### *Michigan Saves*

Michigan Saves is a nonprofit organization dedicated to making energy improvements easy and affordable. Michigan Saves works with a network of partnering lenders to offer the Michigan Saves Home Energy Loan Program and is designing additional financing programs for commercial, institutional, and renewable energy projects. Michigan Saves provides lenders default support and maintains a network of authorized contractors that promote Michigan Saves loan programs to customers.

Contact: [info@michigansaves.org](mailto:info@michigansaves.org), (734) 494-2190, <http://www.michigansaves.org/>

#### *National Wildlife Federation (Great Lakes Regional Center)*

NWF advocates for national and international policy and legislation that will cut greenhouse gas emissions to levels that scientists deem necessary to avoid major climatic impacts.

Contact: 734-769-3361, <http://www.nwf.org/Regional-Centers/Great-Lakes.aspx>

#### *Nature's Voice Our Choice*

Nature's Voice Our Choice (NVOC) strives to preserve, conserve, and restore water resources through Local Action by providing information and technical support that allow people to make informed decisions about water use, understand alternatives, and implement balanced community based water resource projects.

Contact: Valerie Strassberg, 202-713-6657, [vstrassberg@nv-oc.org](mailto:vstrassberg@nv-oc.org), <http://www.nv-oc.org>

#### *Recycle Ann Arbor*

As a private nonprofit organization, Recycle Ann Arbor is dedicated to providing education and innovative services in the collection, processing and distribution of recyclable materials.

Contact: (734) 662-6288, [info@recycleannarbor.org](mailto:info@recycleannarbor.org), <http://www.recycleannarbor.org>

#### *Solar Ypsi*

SolarYpsi is made up of people dedicated to the use of renewable energy sources.

Contact: Dave Strenski, <http://solar.ypsi.com/>

#### *Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office*

It's all about power! Green power to run our homes and business, and economic power to sustain our communities through efficiency and sustainable energy generation. Michigan is on the cusp of an energy revolution, and our region and laying the groundwork to keep our local governments on the forefront of policy and program development, ultimately showcasing southeast Michigan as a leader in the green economy.

Contact: (248) 546-2380,  
[http://www.michigansuburbsalliance.org/regional\\_cooperation/energy\\_office/](http://www.michigansuburbsalliance.org/regional_cooperation/energy_office/)

#### *S|Y|N Associates – Dreaming Green Program*

To let people know that others are concerned about the environment too, that there is something each and every person can do, and that there are people, organizations, governmental agencies, and companies doing the work today that they can join.

Contact: Steve Nose, 734 717-9028

### *Transition Ann Arbor*

As our community comes together to face the challenges of peak oil (end of cheap oil), climate change, and economic instability, Transition Ann Arbor cultivates and collaborates with local efforts to: Build resilience, Relocalize, Unleash the creative genius of our community as we transition to a low-energy future.

Contact: [info@transitionannarbor.org](mailto:info@transitionannarbor.org), <http://www.transitionannarbor.org>

## **—TRANSPORTATION—**

### *Ann Arbor Transportation Authority – The Ride*

It is the mission of the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority to provide useful, reliable, safe, environmentally responsible and cost-effective public transportation options for the benefit of the Greater Ann Arbor Community.

Contact: (734)973-6338, [aatainfo@theride.org](mailto:aatainfo@theride.org), [www.theride.org](http://www.theride.org)

### *Allen Creek Greenway Conservancy*

The mission of the Ann Arbor Greenway Conservancy is to promote the creation of a full-scale public park and Greenway system, with provisions for non-motorized transportation, in the Allen Creek floodplain.

Contact: 734.769.0770, <http://www.acgreenwayconservancy.org>

### *Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society*

Leads group bike rides in the community.

Contact: <http://www.aabts.org>

### *Bike Ypsi*

Bike Ypsi is a group of local cyclists who like riding bikes and engaging in bike-related shenanigans.

Contact: <http://bike.ypsi.org>

### *Common Cycle*

We are a community-based organization empowering Ann Arbor to ride bicycles by providing access to education, workspace, and resources. Commonly found at the Ann Arbor Artisan Market providing free repairs and know-how.

Contact: [info@commoncycle.org](mailto:info@commoncycle.org), <http://commoncycle.org/>

### *East Quad Bike Co-Op*

The East Quad Bike Co-op is a (UM) student-run organization promoting bicycle maintenance and sustainability. Also, we hope to host bicycle themed events, such as weekly rides and bike parties. If your bike is broke, bring it in and we'll fix it.

Contact: [egbcofficers@umich.edu](mailto:egbcofficers@umich.edu), <http://www.eqbc.org/>

### *GetDowntown*

The mission of the getDowntown Program is to reduce the number of downtown commuters driving to work alone and to create more transportation choices for downtown commuters through promoting existing transportation options and advocating for new ones. getDowntown strives to accomplish this mission by promoting existing choices, providing research on the benefits of

sustainable transportation, organizing events, interacting with downtown employers and employees, and interfacing with numerous downtown stakeholders.

Contact: Nancy Shore, 734-214-0100, <http://www.getdowntown.org/>

#### *MDOT MichiVan Commuter Vanpool*

MichiVan, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Transportation and operated by VPSI, Inc., supplies fully insured passenger vans to commuter groups. Under this program, 5 to 15 commuters share a van along an established route, riders pay a monthly fee, and one person volunteers to be the primary driver of the van and rides free. The vanpool program is open to individual members of the public. MDOT also helps employers develop vanpools and ridesharing programs for their employees.

Contact: 877-971-POOL, 734-973-6338, <http://mirideshare.org/en-US>

#### *PEAC – Programs to Encourage All Cyclists*

Programs to Educate All Cyclists' purpose is to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities by using cycling for transportation, integrated recreation, fitness, and therapy.

Contact: 734-484-2758, [info@bikeprogram.org](mailto:info@bikeprogram.org), <http://www.bikeprogram.org/>

#### *Washtenaw Bicycling & Walking Coalition*

The Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition promotes transportation options that make sense for a sustainable and livable community. We're dedicated to increasing the quality and quantity of bicycling and walking opportunities in Washtenaw County, Michigan through advocacy and education. We're comprised of local organizations, agencies and retail stores, as well as individual cyclists and walkers.

Contact: 734-864-4095, [info@wbwc.org](mailto:info@wbwc.org), <http://www.wbwc.org/>

#### *Washtenaw Partners for Transit*

Partners for Transit are committed to providing robust, county-wide public transit to promote economic vitality and support a high quality of life for all Washtenaw County residents.

Contact: [www.partnersfortransit.org](http://www.partnersfortransit.org)

### **— FOOD —**

#### *Ann Arbor Farmers Market*

Located in the historic Kerrytown District in a lovely open-air marketplace, the Ann Arbor Farmers Market features locally grown food, plants, handcrafts and prepared food items.

Contact: Molly Notarianni, Market Manager, 734.794-6255

#### *Growing Hope*

Helping people improve their lives and communities through gardening and healthy food access. Growing Hope fosters learning, improves nutrition, encourages self-reliance, and promotes positive community futures.

Contact: 734.786.8401, [info@growinghope.net](mailto:info@growinghope.net), <http://growinghope.net/>

#### *Project Grow*

Project Grow provides Ann Arbor–area residents with the space, know-how, and inspiration to grow your own fresh, organic food. Gardens are located throughout the community, many near public transportation, so you can choose a site that's close to home. Project Grow identifies under-developed land, arranges for its use, and maintains it as part of our network of community gardens.

Contact: Cynthia Rutherford, (734) 996-3169, [info@projectgrowgardens.org](mailto:info@projectgrowgardens.org),  
<http://www.projectgrowgardens.org>

#### *SELMA*

SELMA is the Soule-Eberwhite-Liberty-Madison-Affiliation. Selma Cafe is an all volunteer organization dedicated to our local foods community. Friday morning from 6:30 to 10:00 we offer a casual breakfast gathering spot on the Westside of Ann Arbor.

Contact: Lisa Gottlieb and Jeff McCabe, [http://arborwiki.org/city/Selma\\_Cafe](http://arborwiki.org/city/Selma_Cafe)

#### *Slow Food Huron Valley*

Slow Food is a global, grassroots organization with supporters in 150 countries around the world who are linking the pleasure of good food with a commitment to their community and the environment.

A non-profit member-supported association, Slow Food was founded in 1989 to counter the rise of fast food and fast life, the disappearance of local food traditions and people's dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from, how it tastes and how our food choices affect the rest of the world.

Contact: [leadership@slowfoodhuronvalley.com](mailto:leadership@slowfoodhuronvalley.com), <http://www.slowfoodhuronvalley.com/Welcome.html>

#### *10% Washtenaw*

We eat over \$1 Billion in food each year in the county and we are sending almost all of those dollars outside our state primarily to companies that are not looking after our best interests in food quality, security and health benefits. Just imagine what we can reap if we plant the seeds of self-reliance and community support here where we live. This site and this campaign are open source, open mind and open mouth.

Contact: [info@tenpercentwashtenaw.org](mailto:info@tenpercentwashtenaw.org), [www.tenpercentwashtenaw.org](http://www.tenpercentwashtenaw.org)

### **—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN—**

#### *U-M Center for Sustainable Systems*

The Center for Sustainable Systems advances concepts of sustainability through interdisciplinary research and education. CSS collaborates with diverse stakeholders to develop and apply life cycle based models and sustainability metrics for systems that meet societal needs. CSS promotes tools and knowledge that support the design, evaluation, and improvement of complex systems.

Contact: (734)764-1412, [css.info@umich.edu](mailto:css.info@umich.edu), <http://css.snre.umich.edu>

#### *U-M Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute*

With joint sponsorship from the Graham Foundation and the [University of Michigan \(U-M\)](http://www.umich.edu), the Graham Institute is a collaborative partnership of schools, colleges and units across the U-M. The Graham Institute fosters cross-disciplinary collaboration to create and disseminate knowledge and to offer solutions related to complex sustainability issues.

Contact: 734 615-8230, [graham-institute@umich.edu](mailto:graham-institute@umich.edu), <http://www.graham.umich.edu/>

#### *U-M Student Sustainability Initiative (or similar)*

The Student Sustainability Initiative is a collaborative group of leaders in campus organizations, environmental groups, and student governments interested in making the University of Michigan a more sustainable place. We are not just a student group, but rather a part of the university

designed to bridge the gap between students and the administration. To that end, we work closely with the [Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute](#) and the [Office of Campus Sustainability](#).  
Contact: <http://www.umich.edu/~umssi/contact.html>, [ssi-board@umich.edu](mailto:ssi-board@umich.edu)

#### *Planet Blue @ U of M*

Planet Blue teams is part of the Environmental and Energy Initiative (EEI), an outcome of the President's Environmental Task Force. The EEI is a six-point initiative that seeks to make the campus more sustainable in the wake of rising energy costs, climate change concerns, and depleting resources.

Contact: [planetblue@umich.edu](mailto:planetblue@umich.edu).

### **—CITY OF ANN ARBOR—**

#### *Energy Commission*

Oversee City policies where energy efficiency and renewable energy should be addressed and advise City Council.

Contact: Andrew Brix (staff), [abrix@a2gov.org](mailto:abrix@a2gov.org), (734) 794-6430 x437311, [www.a2gov.org/energy](http://www.a2gov.org/energy)  
Wayne Appleyard (chair), [wayneapple@aol.com](mailto:wayneapple@aol.com)

#### *Environmental Commission*

The Environmental Commission was created by City Council in 2001 and is comprised of up to 13 members of the public appointed by City Council.

Contact: Matt Naud (staff), [mnaud@a2gov.org](mailto:mnaud@a2gov.org), (734) 794-6430 x43712,  
Steve Bean (chair), [sbean@berginc.com](mailto:sbean@berginc.com)

#### *Greenbelt Advisory Commission*

The Greenbelt Advisory Commission is appointed by City Council and serves as the advisory body to City Council on all Greenbelt acquisitions. The Commission is a diverse group of citizens with a wide array of expertise. The Commission consists of 1 City Council representative, 1 farmer, 1 developer, 2 environmentalists, 1 biologist, and 3 at-large community members.

Contact: Ginny Trocchio, Project Director, [gtrocchio@a2gov.org](mailto:gtrocchio@a2gov.org), 734-794-6210 x42798,  
<http://www.a2gov.org/greenbelt>

#### *Natural Areas Preservation*

Natural Area Preservation (NAP) works to protect and restore Ann Arbor's natural areas and to foster an environmental ethic among its citizens. This involves conducting plant and animal inventories, ecological monitoring, and stewardship projects in Ann Arbor parks. These tasks are performed by both staff and volunteers.

Contact: David Borneman, Manager, [nap@a2gov.org](mailto:nap@a2gov.org), [www.2gov.org/nap](http://www.2gov.org/nap)

#### *Parks Advisory Commission*

The Parks Advisory Commission provides a formal opportunity for public involvement regarding community park and recreation services. Topics discussed include park rules and regulations, park and recreation facility policies, fees, hours and scheduling, annual operating budget, park land acquisitions, major new development projects, and capital improvement and acquisition funding. Non-land acquisition meetings are open to the public and public commentary is welcome.

Contact: Lynn Brown, PAC Secretary, [LBowen@a2gov.org](mailto:LBowen@a2gov.org), 734.794.6230

#### *Planning Commission*

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission is responsible for adopting and maintaining the City Master Plan and advising the City Council on matters relating to the future public and private development of the City.

Contact: Eric Mahler (chair), [planning@a2gov.org](mailto:planning@a2gov.org)

#### *Transportation Planning*

The Transportation Planning Program is mainly responsible for managing major transportation planning projects.

Contact: Eli Cooper, Transportation Program Manager, [ecooper@a2gov.org](mailto:ecooper@a2gov.org)

#### *Recycle Ann Arbor*

Recycle Ann Arbor is committed to developing innovative recycling programs that will limit the abundance of reusable materials from ending up in landfills every year while supporting initiatives to improve the environmental quality of our community through recovery, reuse, recycling, and effective energy use.

Contact: (734) 662-6288, [invo@recycleannarbor.org](mailto:invo@recycleannarbor.org), [www.recycleannarbor.org](http://www.recycleannarbor.org)

### **—OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (Engaged in regular or occasional sustainability initiatives)—**

#### *Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum*

The mission of the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum is to inspire people to discover the wonder of science, math, and technology. Our vision is to be the leader in imaginative and interactive learning experiences.

Contact: (734)995-5439 [museum@aahom.org](mailto:museum@aahom.org) , [www.aahom.org](http://www.aahom.org)

#### *Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice*

ICPJ empowers people of faith and people of conscience in the Washtenaw County/Ann Arbor, Michigan area to act on their moral and religious values to build a better world.

Contact: (734) 663-1870, [info@icpj.net](mailto:info@icpj.net), <http://www.icpj.net/>

#### *Michigan Interfaith Power & Light (Oakland County)*

Michigan Interfaith Power & Light (MIPL) is a coalition of congregations across the State whose mission is to involve communities of faith as stewards of the earth by promoting and implementing energy conservation, energy efficiency, renewable energy and related sustainable practices.

Contact: (248) 808-2518, [director@miipl.org](mailto:director@miipl.org), <http://www.miipl.org/>

#### *Neutral Zone*

The Neutral Zone is a diverse, youth-driven teen center dedicated to promoting personal growth through artistic expression, community leadership and the exchange of ideas.

Contact: 734.214.9995, <http://www.neutral-zone.org>

#### *Think Local First of Washtenaw County*

Our mission is to support and cultivate locally-owned, independent businesses in Washtenaw County, Michigan that are committed to making our community a healthier and more vibrant place to live.

Contact: Ingrid Ault, Executive Director, (734) 730-6905, [Ingrid@ThinkLocalFirst.net](mailto:Ingrid@ThinkLocalFirst.net),  
<http://www.thinklocalfirst.net>

*YMCA- Ann Arbor*

The Ann Arbor YMCA is a charitable association of men, women and children joined by a shared commitment to nurturing the potential of children and teens, promoting healthy living, and supporting our neighbors. Each day, we work to ensure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the chance to learn, grow and thrive.

Contact: (734) 996-9622, <http://www.annarborymca.org/contact>