

# THE CHARGING STATION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF A<sup>2</sup>ZERO AND  
THE ANN ARBOR OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATIONS



## IN THIS ISSUE:

WELCOME.....	1
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	1
COLONIAL SQUARE.....	2
THE ARBOR.....	4
BRYANT SUSTAINABILITY.....	6
CLIMATE ACTION HERO.....	8
DISC-OH NO.....	9
HIGHLIGHT: YOU!.....	11
COOKBOOK EXCERPT.....	12
ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	13
UPCOMING EVENTS.....	14

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**CONNOR DAILEY, Energy Analyst,**  
[cdailey@a2gov.org](mailto:cdailey@a2gov.org)

**BRYCE FROHLICH, Resilience  
Specialist,** [bfrohlich@a2gov.org](mailto:bfrohlich@a2gov.org)

**JORDAN LARSON, Engagement  
Innovator,** [jlanson@a2gov.org](mailto:jlanson@a2gov.org)

**GRACE FRANKE, Communications  
Coordinator,** [gfranke@a2gov.org](mailto:gfranke@a2gov.org)



*The Office of Sustainability and Innovations (OSI) pictured with Dr. Katharine Hayhoe (pictured in the middle with the A<sup>2</sup>ZERO totebag) – world-renowned climate scientist and communicator.*

## WELCOME

Welcome from the City of Ann Arbor’s Office of Sustainability and Innovations (OSI). In this issue of the Charging Station, OSI is delighted to share details about Neighborhood Decarbonization. If you are interested in learning more about any of the organizations featured in this issue and how you can get involved, more detail can be found on our website: [www.a2gov.org/sustainability](http://www.a2gov.org/sustainability). As always, thank you for your interest in sustainability activities in Ann Arbor!

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Equity and justice are at the center of A<sup>2</sup>ZERO and staff in OSI are continuing to ground our work in these critical principles. In that light, we’d like to take a moment to honor the geographic and historic space we share. We acknowledge that the land the City of Ann Arbor occupies is the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Anishinaabe and Wyandot peoples. We further acknowledge that our city stands, like almost all property in the United States, on lands obtained, generally in unconscionable ways, from indigenous peoples. The taking of this land was formalized by the Treaty of Detroit in 1807. Knowing where we live, work, study, and recreate does not change the past, but a thorough understanding of the ongoing consequences of this past can empower us in our work to create a future that supports human flourishing and justice for all individuals.

# COLONIAL SQUARE

## ONE COMMUNITY'S JOURNEY TO DECARBONIZATION

Colonial Square Cooperative (CSC) has participated in multiple programs offered by the Office of Sustainability and Innovations (OSI) and its collaborators, including the A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Home Energy Advisor (HEA), Home Energy Rebates (stacking with DTE incentives), the Washtenaw 2030 District's Commercial Solar Technical Assistance Program, and even working with OSI to get a geothermal test well.

CSC members selling their homes have received Home Energy Score (HES) assessments under the City's Home Energy Rating and Disclosure (HERD) ordinance, and the community tracked its energy and water usage under the City's Energy and Water Benchmarking Ordinance.

While some projects are still in the exploratory phase, CSC's board, Sustainability Committee, and members have tirelessly explored and advocated for sustainability measures that touch nearly every part of the City's A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Plan. Equally as important as the work the community is doing, the community has discussed these projects with great intentionality and care, and having deep conversations about how to incorporate sustainability into the cooperative's present and future.

CSC's next steps for building decarbonization are reviewing the results of the geothermal test bore currently underway, discussing community interest in moving toward geothermal heating and cooling, and assessing bids for solar on the community office and clubhouse. With spring officially here, the community is also gearing up for work in their community garden and tree nursery.



*Photos of work underway at Colonial Square.*

# COLONIAL SQUARE

## ONE COMMUNITY'S JOURNEY TO DECARBONIZATION

### TIMELINE

#### Apr '24 - Jan '25:

Colonial Square Members participate in the Home Energy Advisor (HEA). Units being sold receive assessments through the Home Energy Rating and Disclosure (Ordinance.) The community starts thinking about energy efficiency.

#### Fall '24 - Spring '25

Colonial Square starts their first City compost service.

#### June '25

Colonial Square tracks energy and water usage under the City's Energy and Water Benchmarking Ordinance.

#### Aug '25

Washtenaw 2030 District contractor conducts initial site visit to check feasibility of solar on the community's clubhouse.

#### Nov '25

OSI attends Colonial Square meeting to discuss broad sustainability goals of the Cooperative.  
Colonial Square is identified as a potential site for geothermal heating and cooling.

#### Jan '26

OSI, the 2030 District, and Colonial Square meet regarding clubhouse/carport/EV solar charger

#### Apr '26

Clubhouse solar bids start being submitted  
Geothermal test bore conducted

#### Spring '24

Colonial Square purchases electric leaf blowers in advance of the first summer period of gas leaf blower phase out.

#### Nov '24

OSI Staff invited to speak about the HEA at the Ann Arbor Senior Center.

#### Jan '25

Colonial Square invites DTE and OSI to speak about the HEA, City rebates, and DTE rebates.

#### Jan '25 - Jul '25

Colonial Square, OSI and DTE discuss a pilot weatherization project.

#### Jul '25

OSI and DTE meet with Colonial Square about weatherization pilot and agree to provide funding to move it forward.

#### Oct '25

Weatherization work begins

#### Dec '25

City and Colonial Square meet to discuss geothermal and a potential test bore in Colonial Square to explore the feasibility of geothermal.

#### Mar '26

Colonial Square approves a geothermal test bore  
Clubhouse solar RFP goes live

# THE ARBOR

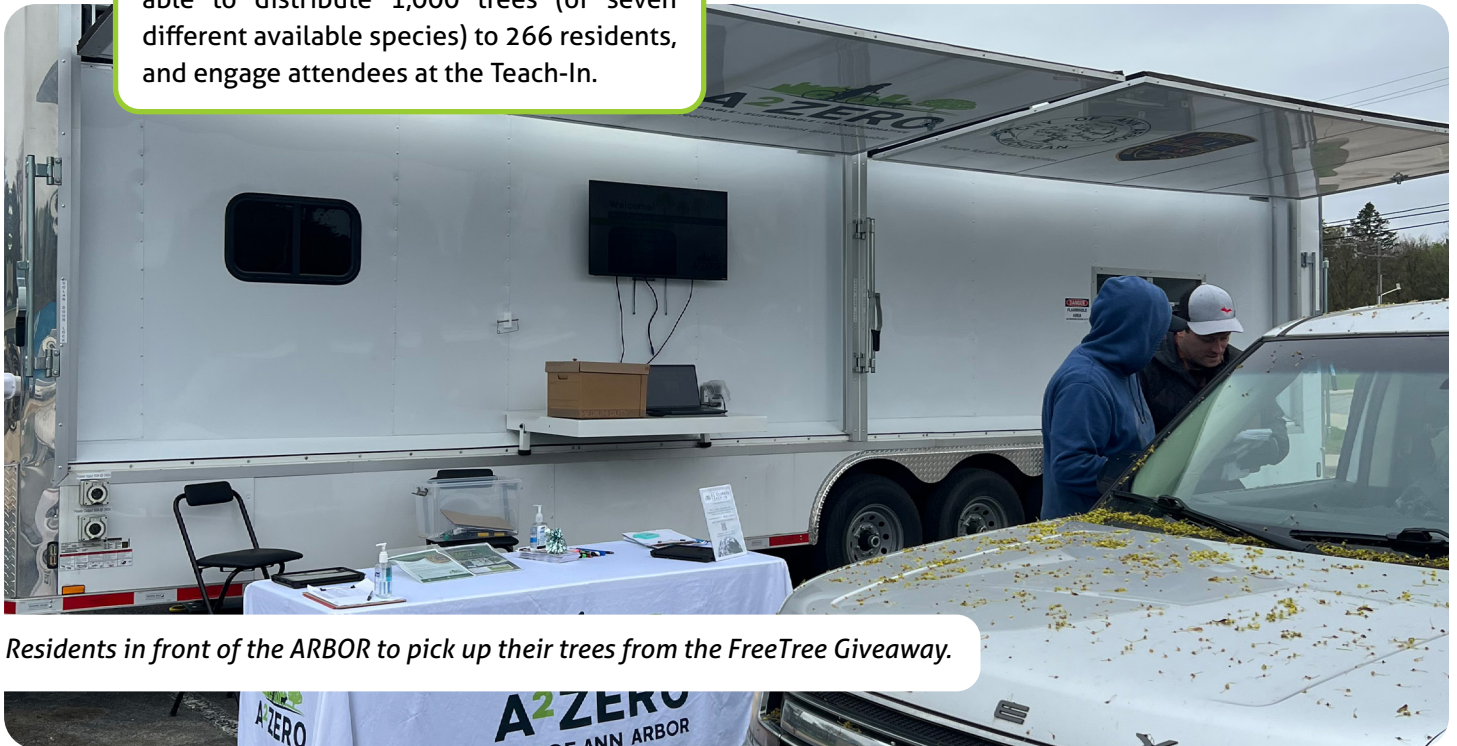
ANN ARBOR'S MOBILE RESILIENCE UNIT COMING TO AN EVENT NEAR YOU!

## MOBILE RESILIENCE IN ANN ARBOR

Soft-launched at Green Fair in September, 2025, Ann Arbor's mobile resilience unit has a new name thanks to submissions from the community: The ARBOR. This unit is a fully self-sustaining, solar-powered trailer that's as versatile as it is innovative. The ARBOR will serve as more than just a mobile power source; it's a hands-on, mobile classroom and community engagement tool aimed at bringing sustainability and resilience education directly to Ann Arbor residents.

The ARBOR's first deployment in the community this year was for the Spring FreeTree Giveaway and Fourth Annual Climate Teach-in, events at the same site on April 25. There, it supported the community engagement at both events, providing shade, solar power, and engagement resources. With this help, the FreeTree Giveaway was able to distribute 1,000 trees (of seven different available species) to 266 residents, and engage attendees at the Teach-In.

*Debbie Dingell, US Representative for the State of Michigan, stopped by to visit the Teach-in and the ARBOR, pictured here with Engagement Team Manager DeAndre' Calvert.*



*Residents in front of the ARBOR to pick up their trees from the FreeTree Giveaway.*

# THE ARBOR

ANN ARBOR'S MOBILE RESILIENCE UNIT COMING TO AN EVENT NEAR YOU!

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

The unit uses retractable solar arrays to capture and maximize on-site renewable energy, unfolding in seconds for rapid deployment and compact transport. It also features a hydrogen fuel cell and battery storage system, enabling continued, resilient use should the solar be unavailable.

Inside, the unit is outfitted with tables, chairs, and whiteboards, providing a flexible and adaptable space for engaging residents or for staff to work. The unit is a "living, learning lab" meaning that the technology that powers it is on display for visitors to see and learn!

Outside, tables fold out, and there's a plug-in for TVs. On a hot summer day one can imagine learning about local resilience in Ann Arbor beneath the shade of its solar panels. Residents won't have to imagine for much longer, however – the ARBOR will next be coming to Huron River Day at Riverside Park on Saturday, May 16 and will be in the community during A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Week, May 31 - June 6 (read more about A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Week on page 13).



The solar panels raising in a process that takes seconds.



A line of residents in front of the ARBOR at the FreeTree Giveaway to receive their trees.



The ARBOR with the solar panels deployed.

Get an inside look of the ARBOR on our socials!

Instagram: @a2zero2030

Facebook: A2Zero

LinkedIn: City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations

# BRYANT SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

AN UPDATE ON DECARBONIZING THIS ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Over the last five years, OSI has been supporting the Bryant Sustainability Project, a collaborative initiative with residents of the Bryant Neighborhood, Community Action Network, Elevate, and other community partners to make Bryant one of the first fully decarbonized existing neighborhoods in the country! The Bryant Sustainability Project aims to set a blueprint to address the climate crisis, while honoring and celebrating the neighborhood's sense of community and identity.

By partnering with and working through the Bryant Community Center, which is already embedded in the neighborhood, OSI approaches work in Bryant as a process of co-design that builds trust and centers the knowledge, needs, and aspirations of residents. This project explores what equitable decarbonization looks like in practice, and what residents want and need from action on sustainability and climate change in the neighborhood. OSI and CAN have been building community capacity and conducting extensive engagement and outreach to ensure resident voices are heard and integrated throughout the project. From this community engagement, the project identified that it must accomplish the following to be successful: reduce energy costs, improve comfort, health, and safety, and help stabilize households grappling with cost prohibitive maintenance needs.

## COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK

CAN is an organization that serves under-resourced residents of Washtenaw County through a network of local community centers. In Bryant, CAN's largest partner community, they operate the Bryant Community Center, which also serves as one of Ann Arbor's first resilience hubs.



## WHY BRYANT

Bryant is located on the south side of Ann Arbor, just south of I-94 on the east side of Stone School Road. The neighborhood, as defined for the project, is comprised of Bryant Elementary school, Arbor Oaks Park, the Bryant Community Center, and 262 single-family homes built between 1969 and 1971. Over the years, this neighborhood has grappled with under-investment from local, regional, and state agencies, nonprofits, and others. As a result, many Bryant residents face high energy bills due to under-insulated homes, poor indoor and outdoor air quality thanks to the neighborhood's proximity to the adjacent freeway, and chronic flooding due to poor drainage. Roughly 50% of the homes are owner-occupied, while the other 50% are rented.

# BRYANT SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

AN UPDATE ON DECARBONIZING THIS ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY

## PROGRESS AND CURRENT EFFORTS



- **HOME UPGRADES:** To date, CAN and OSI have combined to secure more than \$5.5 million in grant funding to support residents with upgrades based on the needs of each household. These upgrades include emergency home repair (e.g., drainage remediation, replacement of roofs, windows, and doors), weatherization (e.g., air sealing, attic and crawlspace insulation), and electrification (e.g., water heaters, induction ranges, clothes dryers, and electric panel upgrades). More than 40 homes have already been upgraded, with an additional 20 that are currently in the final stages of upgrade construction. With the remaining grant funds, the project team anticipates completing upgrades in 40 more households by the end of August, reaching a milestone of supporting more than 100 total homes before the end of the 2026.

- **SOLAR - SEU PILOT:** Solar is a key component of the Bryant Sustainability Project's strategy to reduce energy costs in tandem with electrification. The City is leveraging additional grant funds to install more than 100 solar plus home battery systems in Bryant through Ann Arbor's new Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) in 2026. These will be the very first systems operated by the SEU, and will provide Bryant residents with a significantly discounted rate since the solar equipment is funded through grant dollars. Residents of Bryant are particularly excited about receiving solar and backup energy storage, and the project team got to share more information about SEU solar with residents at a recent community meeting. Just after celebrating the SEU's 1st birthday on April 27th, the first solar installations began!

- **GEOTHERMAL:** In addition to providing home upgrades and solar, the Bryant Sustainability Project has also been hard at work solving perhaps the most difficult decarbonization hurdle: HVAC heating and cooling. In 2023, OSI and CAN received a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to plan and design a district-scale geothermal system that could provide up to 75% of the heating and cooling load for the whole Bryant neighborhood. A transition to geothermal could increase energy efficiency, reduce energy and HVAC replacement costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve indoor comfort, and significantly improve indoor air quality. A year and half later, the system design was shared with DOE, and OSI was awarded an implementation grant in late 2025 to finalize a build a portion of the designed system. Last November, the project team hosted a neighborhood event to celebrate the project moving forward with residents. Currently, the City is working to finalize a Request for Proposals for construction of the first phase of the system.

## LOOKING AHEAD

2026 is looking to be the most transformative year yet for the Bryant Sustainability Project. Home upgrades, solar installations, and geothermal are all coming together to make meaningful and lasting impacts for residents in the Bryant community. As part of a current project evaluation effort, residents have shared that, "It has been a huge blessing to have these home repairs and upgrades!" and "Everyone is so friendly and helpful and our community is bonding over helping each other." While the work continues, so too will OSI and the Bryant Sustainability Project team continue to serve and celebrate these neighborhood voices.

# A<sup>2</sup>ZERO CLIMATE ACTION HERO

KRIS OLSSON IS MAY 2026'S HERO

Beginning January 2026, the Office of Sustainability and Innovations started recognizing and celebrating Climate Action Heroes operating right here, in our community. These Heroes are individuals who are taking steps to help the community achieve its A<sup>2</sup>ZERO goal of making a just and equitable transition to community-wide carbon neutrality by the year 2030. The ideal Climate Action Hero is someone who inspires others to make positive change.

Each month, a Hero will be selected by the Office of Sustainability and Innovations from all nominated applicants. Selected Climate Action Heroes will be celebrated with a column in the Ann Arbor Observer, as well as in this newsletter and on OSI's social media. In 2026, all Climate Action Heroes will also be recognized at an awards ceremony.

Individuals are encouraged to celebrate the Climate Action Heroes in their lives by nominating them at [OSI.A2GOV.ORG/HERO](https://OSI.A2GOV.ORG/HERO). Anyone can submit a nomination, but the Hero themselves must live or work in Ann Arbor.



## KRIS OLSSON

### ADVOCATE AND LEADER

education about natural resources has led to a career overflowing with impact, characterized by her judgment-free guidance and understanding."

The City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations is especially grateful for the impact Kris has had in the Ann Arbor community, and all of the action she has both taken and inspired. Learn more about the Huron River Watershed Council at [hrtc.org](https://hrtc.org) and read the article they wrote about Kris at the time of her retirement in the [Spring 2024 edition of the Huron River Report](#). Learn more about building community and tackling climate change with your neighbors at [the Office of Sustainability and Innovations website](#).

For over 40 years, Kris has been a tireless advocate for the environment and climate action. Many know her from her 31-year tenure at the Huron River Water Council (retired in 2024) where she helped create programming, workshops, and guidance that helped protect nature. Her passion has continued into retirement as Kris works with community groups throughout the region, advocating for climate action at the local, state, and national levels.

Upon accepting this nomination, Kris said, "A majority of Americans want Clean air, clean water, and a healthy climate. It's nonpartisan. We need to feel empowered to talk about these things and demand action. Being a good environmentalist is not just about pestering people to recycle or eat less meat; it is about making political change that holds polluters accountable and produces clean air, water, and energy."

"I have a hard time thinking of a climate-related meeting, event or conference in Michigan that I attended without seeing Kris. She's had a huge presence in the work," wrote community member who nominated her. "Her commitment and passion for

**Thank you Kris for being a Climate Action Hero in our community!**  
Submit your Hero at [OSI.A2GOV.ORG/HERO](https://OSI.A2GOV.ORG/HERO)

# DISC-OH NO

## HOW ONE A<sup>2</sup>ZERO AMBASSADOR PRACTICES AMBASSADORSHIP

The A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Ambassador program is a 12-session training program that hosts community members to explore pathways for advancing local sustainability initiatives, resilience, and carbon neutrality in Ann Arbor. At the end of the training, they graduate as A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Ambassadors and are encouraged to take what they've learned back to their neighborhoods, jobs, and lives to promote local sustainability and community resilience. This month, Avni Rao, A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Ambassador and Sustainable Cultural Organizer as a student at the University of Michigan, wrote about an event she helped design and host that aimed to build resilience for an uncertain climate future.

What do lemon circuits, an eccentric chef, and a drag queen have in common? They were all part of "[Disc-Oh No! Flood on the Dance Floor](#)", a retro disco-themed, campy event put on by all the Sustainable Cultural Organizers (COs) at University of Michigan Student Life Sustainability on April 9th and 10th in the Michigan League. The event imagined that attendees were at a nightclub to see drag queen Portia Lynn perform, when suddenly, news spreads of a flash flood. Attendees were safe, but needed to figure out how to survive using only the resources available at the club.



This event was based on the idea of [Social Emergency Response Centers](#) and aimed to equip participants with the skills and mindset needed to survive an extreme weather event, such as a flood. Attendees had to focus on immediate needs, such as food, electricity, and getting help, to create a plan to survive the hypothetical flood. They rotated through five different stations in this part escape-room, part immersive theater experience to focus on a different art form or emergency preparedness action.



At the collaging station, participants used found materials and old disco posters to create emergency signage. At the music and sound station participants built a message transmitter with lemons from a stubborn bartender and learned how to use Morse code. At the dance station participants were able to learn about semaphore emergency flag signaling (pictured above) and created mini choreographies with different messages to help "generate electricity" using kinetic energy. At the food station participants completed an escape room style scavenger hunt to find ingredients around the kitchen and determine what to make with it. Finally, at the raft station participants learned how to construct a basic raft using pool noodles. Once all of the activities were completed by all participants, the raft was "sent out" and Portia Lynn was able to be "brought to safety" and performed for attendees.

# DISC-OH NO

## HOW ONE A<sup>2</sup>ZERO AMBASSADOR PRACTICES AMBASSADORSHIP

Participants left with a clearer understanding of how to resource availability, both physical and social, in emergency situations. The event prominently featured items from the Planet Blue Lending Library, a resilience resource on campus. Most importantly, participants built unexpected joy together and stayed grounded in these shared moments of togetherness.

Cultural Organizing uses the arts and social practices to engage individuals around sustainability and climate change in an approachable, holistic way. The team of cultural organizers (COs) at UM examines sustainability from this very unique lens of creativity and intentionality, to help push the boundaries of traditional activism. Throughout the academic year this team of COs have been putting together workshops that deal with individual art forms rooted in how they can be used to better connect with nature and other community members.



*Above left: Holding hands to close the circuit on our morse code transmitter. Above right: Combining different thoughts during an ideation session. Below: The student team of Cultural Organizers who put on the event.*



# COLLABORATOR HIGHLIGHT: YOU!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT AND SHARE YOUR SUSTAINABILITY STORY



The City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations launched the “I Am A<sup>2</sup>ZERO” storytelling campaign on Earth Day, 2026, with a video showing some of the wide variety of things the Ann Arbor community is doing to become more sustainable. Celebrating residents taking actions both big and small, this campaign highlights the impact of climate action in the Ann Arbor community straight from the members of the community themselves and is now live at [osi.a2gov.org/iama2zero](https://osi.a2gov.org/iama2zero).

Since its adoption in 2020 the A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan has precipitated vast, meaningful action throughout the community and helped enhance action already in motion. Residents featured in the I Am A<sup>2</sup>ZERO video epitomize this work, telling stories spanning from serving as environmental educators to bike commuters, to those using reusable materials. Together, these stories demonstrate that regardless how big or small an action is, it can and is having an impact. Hear residents describe their stories in their own words and share your own below!

“It’s good for the environment, it’s good for me, it’s good for climate action,” describes Ann Arbor Mayor Christopher Taylor in the video as he stands next to his e-bike – a method of transportation he’s well-known for.

Watch the videos and hear from residents themselves at [osi.a2gov.org/IAmA2ZERO](https://osi.a2gov.org/IAmA2ZERO), or on our [socials](#)!

**We want to hear what you do to advance sustainability!**

**Whether it’s decarbonizing your whole home or walking to work, we want to see and hear from you. Tell us how you embody A<sup>2</sup>ZERO at**

**[osi.a2gov.org/IAmA2ZERO](https://osi.a2gov.org/IAmA2ZERO)**

# FROM THE A<sup>2</sup>ZERO COMMUNITY COOKBOOK

VIEW THIS RECIPE AND 70+ MORE AT [OSI.A2GOV.ORG/COOKBOOK](https://OSI.A2GOV.ORG/COOKBOOK)

## RHUBARB CHOCOLATE CHIP CAKE

From the Kitchen of: Julie Roth, Energy Manager, OSI

**Preparation Time:** 10 minutes | **Cook Time:** 45 minutes | **Yield:** 12 slices

**Common Allergens:** Milk, Egg, Wheat, Tree Nuts

This rhubarb chocolate chip cake is a delicious cake combining the tangy flavors of rhubarb and decadent chocolate. Recipe contributor, Julie loves to make this recipe with the rhubarb that grows behind their house each year. Julie says, "This is the only thing that I bake, because I do not bake! That's how good this is!"

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Preheat the oven to 350° F.
- In a large mixing bowl, cream together the brown sugar and butter. Once the sugar and butter are smooth and combined, add the egg and vanilla.
- In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, and salt.
- Next, add the flour mixture to the creamed mixture, alternating with buttermilk, and beating with each addition.
- Stir in the rhubarb and chocolate chips.
- Pour the batter into a greased 9 x 12-inch baking dish.
- In a medium bowl, combine the topping ingredients, then sprinkle the toppings over the batter.
- Bake the cake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean with a few tender crumbs attached.
- Let the cake cool and enjoy!



### INGREDIENTS:

#### FOR THE CAKE:

- 1 cup brown sugar (can add up to an additional ½ cup depending on sweetness desired)
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup buttermilk or sour cream
- 1 3/4 cups chopped rhubarb
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips

#### FOR THE TOPPING:

- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

### ALL ABOUT RHUBARB:

Rhubarb is a perennial vegetable that is traditionally "in season" in Michigan between April and May. It has a sour taste, and is often used in pies and jams.

You can freeze rhubarb for up to a year, or turn it into a delicious jam or compote to use on top of granola, yogurt, ice cream, or baked goods.

Fresh rhubarb keeps for about a week in the refrigerator.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INSULATE ANN ARBOR.** This new pilot between the City of Ann Office of Sustainability and Innovations and DTE Energy is offering up to \$1 million in combined rebates, to qualified multifamily rental properties installing energy efficiency upgrades. The pilot program, Insulate Ann Arbor, offers rebates for insulation and air sealing upgrades that improve comfort, reduce energy costs, and make multifamily rental buildings healthier, more affordable, and more sustainable. Learn more at [osi.a2gov.org/insulatea2](https://osi.a2gov.org/insulatea2).

### HOME ENERGY RATING DISCLOSURE FREE

**ASSESSMENTS.** A new online portal for Ann Arborites needing a free Home Energy Score Assessment debuted April 16, 2026. Residents can now select the exact date and time that best meets their schedules for a free assessment at time of their request. Learn more at [osi.a2gov.org/HERD](https://osi.a2gov.org/HERD).

**A<sup>2</sup>ZERO'S EXPANDED ELECTRIC YARD CARE REBATES** are off to a strong start, with 26 reservations and applications submitted in the first week of the new program. Rebates are available for a host of electric and manual yard care equipment, year-round. Interested in going electric for your yard care? Visit the [A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Electric Yard Care Rebates page](#) for information on what is eligible for rebates and how to apply.

### THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY UTILITY TURNS ONE.

April 27, 2026 was the Sustainable Energy Utility's first birthday! In its first year it has transformed from an idea to action. Learn more, track its booming progress, and join the waitlist at [a2seu.com](https://a2seu.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MOVE-OUT DROPOFF AND A<sup>2</sup>ZERO CLOTHING SWAP

*May 3, 12 - 4 PM | Lord of Light, 801 S Forest Ave, Ann Arbor*

Donated items, including clothes leftover after the swap, will benefit: Salvation Army of Grand Rapids, House N2 Home, A2ZERO Clothing Swaps, and the Maize & Blue Cupboard. Learn more at [lu.ma/a2zeroclothingswaps](https://lu.ma/a2zeroclothingswaps).

### PLANT-BASED SAMPLING AT THE ANN ARBOR FARMERS MARKET

*May 6, 7 AM - 3 PM | Ann Arbor Farmers Market*

Join VegMichigan at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market to learn about the connection between our food choices and climate and to taste free samples of delicious, plant-based foods. While you're there, sign up for the 30 Day Plant-Based Pledge program to receive a free bag of delicious, plant-based food.

### BIKE TO WHEREVER DAY

*May 3, 7 - 10 AM | Fuller Park Pathway*

Please join Walk Bike Washtenaw, the City of Ann Arbor, GetDowntown, and businesses across the community in celebrating Bike to Wherever Day. A network of pop-up commuter stations, hosted by local businesses and organizations, will be out to support you along the way with free food, drinks, games, and more from 7-10 a.m. on Friday, May 8, 2026. Remember to post images of your journey social media with the hashtag #MyA2Commute

### 2030 DISTRICT LUNCH AND LEARN

*May 13, 12 - 1:30 PM | Virtual*

The City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability will share progress on plan strategies and goals as well as specific actions being undertaken to accelerate decarbonization in the built environment. The presentation will look at historic actions as well as those planned to be implemented over the next year, with a special focus on how architects, engineers and contractors are critical program collaborators. Learn more at [2030districts.org/annarbor/event/may-lunch-and-learn/](https://2030districts.org/annarbor/event/may-lunch-and-learn/).

### PARK WORKDAY

*May 15, 3 - 5 PM | Allmendinger Park*

Join the Office of Sustainability and Innovations on the third Friday of each month from 3 - 5 PM to take care of one of Ann Arbor's many parks! Activities during these workdays may include cutting invasives, picking up trash, and other physically handy work. Please come wearing close-toed shoes and clothes suitable for outdoor work.

### HURON RIVER DAY

*May 16, 12 - 4 PM | Riverside Park*

This free, family-friendly event is a celebration of the Huron River and all the conservation efforts made by partnering organizations and the surrounding community! This year, Huron River Day will feature several interactive sessions the morning of the event where community members can participate in workshops, guided walks, clean ups, crafts and other opportunities to learn more about the Huron. **CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **HURON RIVER DAY (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE) | May 16, 12 - 4 PM | Riverside Park**

In these sessions will be given a Huron Hero Card to redeem for prizes later at the festival. In the afternoon you can look forward to a festival atmosphere with hands-on activities and games, live animals from Leslie Science & Nature Center, a kids area with inflatables and face painting, live music, local eco-friendly exhibitor tables and more! Learn more at [a2gov.org/parks-and-recreation/activities/huron-river-day/](https://a2gov.org/parks-and-recreation/activities/huron-river-day/)

### **PLANT-BASED SAMPLING AT HURON VALLEY WALK AND WAG | May 16, 8 AM - 1 PM | Rolling Hills Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd, Ypsilanti**

VegMichigan will be tabling at the Walk and Wag event hosted by the Humane Society of Huron Valley! We will be providing education on the link between our food choices and the climate, giving out free plant-based food samples, and inviting attendees to participate in our 30-day plant-based pledge.

### **WASHTENAW FOOD HUB SPRING FLING | May 17, 10 AM - 4 PM | Washtenaw Food Hub**

This family-friendly celebration of spring will be full of community, agriculture education, and local flavor. Enjoy live acoustic music from talented local musicians, browse artisan products, and savor delicious local food. Guests of all ages can take part in nature-based crafts and hands-on educational activities that highlight the importance of local agriculture and environmental stewardship. Connect with community members and mission-driven nonprofits, and discover why supporting our community and local food systems matters. [Register for the Washtenaw Food Hub Spring Fling HERE!](#)

### **MONTHLY CLOTHING SWAP + SCREEN PRINTING WORKSHOP | May 21, 4 - 7 PM | Larcom City Hall**

Swaps are an opportunity to refresh your wardrobe, without buying new. Swaps are also a chance to gift your gently used clothes to members of your community, without contributing to the 92 million tons of textile waste generated globally each year. These are completely free events. Plus, learn to screen print (bring something to print or grab something at the swap to print!). Learn more at [lu.ma/a2zeroclothingswaps](https://lu.ma/a2zeroclothingswaps).

### **SUSTAINABILITY FORUM: BUILDING SOCIAL RESILIENCE | May 26, 6 PM | Ann Arbor District Library Downtown**

Join Ann Arbor's Office of Sustainability and Innovations and A2ZERO Ambassadors for the final session of the 2026 Sustainability Forums! Hear from City staff and fellow residents about how getting involved in your community can build social resilience and support sustainability and learn about the resources and tools to help you along the way. Learn more at [osi.a2gov.org/events](https://osi.a2gov.org/events).

**A<sup>2</sup>ZERO WEEK BEGINS MAY 31! Join us for a week of climate action and community through June 6. Learn more on page 15 and at [osi.a2gov.org/a2zeroweek](https://osi.a2gov.org/a2zeroweek)**

## CONNECT WITH A<sup>2</sup>ZERO

Click the links below to see the latest updates, events, and more!

[Facebook @A2Zero](#)

[Instagram @a2zero2030](#)

[YouTube](#)

[a2zero.org](https://a2zero.org)

[Join our mailing list](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

# A<sup>2</sup>ZERO WEEK IS MAY 31 - JUNE 6!

JOIN US FOR THIS WEEK OF CELEBRATION AND COMMUNITY

Join local businesses, organizations, and community members for a week-long celebration of climate solutions and community in Ann Arbor. Here, we've listed the names and dates of all the A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Week events. Full event descriptions and further details can be found online at [osi.a2gov.org/a2zeroweek](https://osi.a2gov.org/a2zeroweek).

**We can't wait to see you there!**

## SUNDAY, MAY 31

- Dexter Ann Arbor Race / Taste of Ann Arbor, 11 AM - 5 PM, Main Street. *Don't forget your reusable utensils!*
- All-Electric Home Tour, 1 - 4 PM
- Bike, Bus, Scoot & Boogie, 1 - 4 PM, Human Electric Hybrids

## MONDAY, JUNE 1

- A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Proclamation from City Council – *Happy birthday, A<sup>2</sup>ZERO!*

## TUESDAY, JUNE 2

- Climate, Coffee, and Conversation with your Ward 1 Councilmember, 12 - 1 PM\*
- Guided Tree Walk, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, Farmer's Market
- Climate Trivia, 7 - 8:30 PM, Argus Farm Stop Packard Cafe

*\*Time, date, and/or location will be updated online soon.*

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

- OSI at the Farmer's Market, 8 AM - 2 PM
- Climate on the Menu: Sustainable Food Walking Tour, 11 AM - 1 PM, Farmer's Market
- Mindfulness Hike, 3 PM, County Farm Park
- A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Awards Ceremony, State Theater\*
- Climate Board Game Night, 5 - 10 PM, Bløm Meadworks
- Climate, Coffee, and Conversation with your Ward 3 Councilmember, 2 - 3 PM\*
- Climate, Coffee, and Conversation with your Ward 4 Councilmember, 11 AM - 12 PM\*

## THURSDAY, JUNE 4

- Guided Tree Walk, 11 AM, Buhr Park
- Climate, Coffee, and Conversation with your Ward 5 Councilmember, 1 - 2 PM\*
- Michigan Animal Protection Laws and Sustainability, 5 PM, Humane Society of Huron Valley Education Center

## FRIDAY, JUNE 5

- Climate, Coffee, and Conversation with your Ward 2 Councilmember, 11 AM - 12 PM\*
- Sustainable Food and Circularity Party, 1 - 4 PM, BYOC Co.
- A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Solar-Powered Party, 5 - 10:30 PM, Bicentennial Park

## SATURDAY, JUNE 6

- Electronics Collection, 10 AM, Zion Lutheran Church
- Washtenaw County Conservation District Plant Expo, 9 AM - 1 PM, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
- Clothing Swap, First United Methodist Church\*
- AFC Ann Arbor Game, 6 PM, Holloway Field

Learn more about the family-friendly events, resources, and more at

[osi.a2gov.org/a2zeroweek](https://osi.a2gov.org/a2zeroweek)

