

## Sustainability Month 2022



Sustainability month took place during the month of October. Over the course of the month, The Office of Sustainability Practices aimed to help connect the University community with a wide range of opportunities to immerse themselves in and educate themselves about sustainability. This including several volunteer opportunities and educational events for student, faculty and staff to participate in.



## **Volunteering at the SAP**

Throughout the fall, The Sustainable Agriculture Project welcomes students and members of the community who are interested in learning more about sustainable agriculture to join them for their volunteer hours. 3 days a week, those who volunteer were able to assist with many of the various projects being carried out on the farm. This is a great way for those who are interested to learn about sustainable food systems and organic farming practices, as well as many other topics related to sustainable agriculture.



## **The SAP Farmstand**

In the harvest season, the SAP runs a farm stand on campus every Wednesday from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at which they fruit, vegetables, and other goods such as bouquets of flowers and homemade honey that have been produced at the farm. All the proceeds from the stand go toward supplies for the SAP and caring for the bees that are kept on the property.

## Harvest Party



On October 7<sup>th</sup>, the Farm Club and the Office of Sustainability Practices celebrated this season's harvest with their annual Harvest Party at The Sustainable Agriculture Project. Students, faculty, and staff were welcome to bring a dish to pass for a potluck. Throughout the farm there were games for everybody to play as well, and everybody has a great time learning more about the farm and the community built around it.



## Zero Waste Football Games



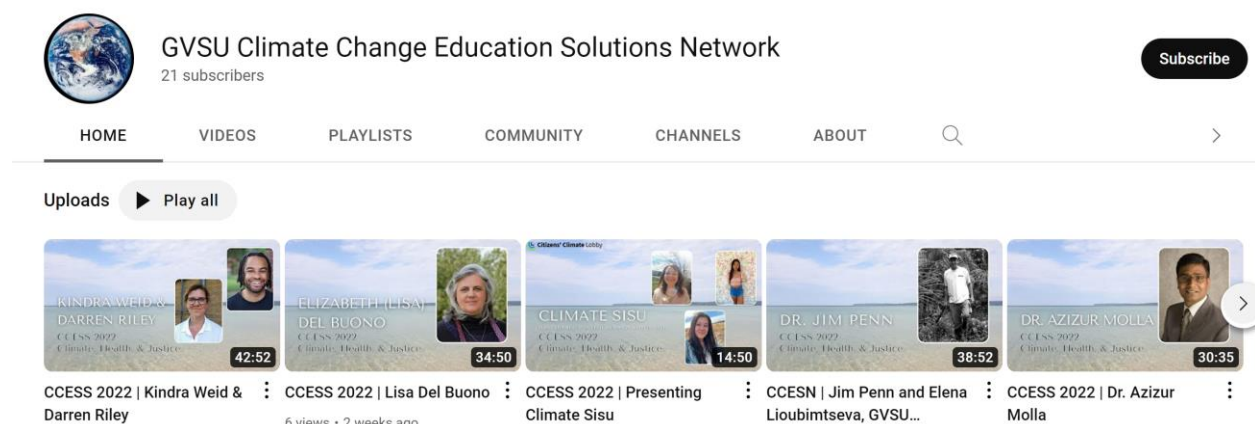
Every year, our office partners with other groups from across campus and the community with the goal of trying to ensure that our home football games produce as little waste as possible. We do this through volunteers assisting guests in sorting their waste at the games at the various stations placed around Lubbers Stadium containing recycling bins, composting bins, and landfill bins.

Though gathering volunteers for the event presented a challenge this football season as we get back into the swing of things post COOVID, we managed to gather a great group of volunteers from The Farm Club, Laker Food Co., and other students to make the last zero waste game a success! Together, we diverted a total of 93% of waste from landfills at the game.

# Climate Change Education Solutions Summit

This October, GVSU hosted the fourth annual Climate Change Education Solutions Summit. During this 3-day virtual event, The GVSU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Geography and Sustainable Planning Department, and Office for Sustainability Practices welcomed champions of climate change action from all over Michigan to share their work and knowledge. The event was in partnership with Global Climate Change Week.

Through bringing together scientists, educators, business leaders, students, citizens groups, and the public, we were able to share innovative ideas and perspectives on climate change education in Michigan and worldwide and its role in successful climate action. For recordings of the presentations given at the summit, please visit the CCESN YouTube channel, which can be found at [GVSU Climate Change Education Solutions Network - YouTube](#).



The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for the GVSU Climate Change Education Solutions Network. The channel has 21 subscribers. The navigation bar includes links for HOME, VIDEOS, PLAYLISTS, COMMUNITY, CHANNELS, and ABOUT, along with a search icon. Below the navigation bar, there is an 'Uploads' section with a 'Play all' button. Five video thumbnails are displayed, each with a title, a duration, and a thumbnail image. The videos are:

- CCESN 2022 | Kindra Weid & Darren Riley** (42:52)
- CCESN 2022 | Lisa Del Buono** (34:50)
- CCESN 2022 | Presenting Climate Sis** (14:50)
- CCESN | Jim Penn and Elena Lioubimtseva, GVSU...** (38:52)
- CCESN 2022 | Dr. Azizur Molla** (30:35)

## Make a Difference Day



Make A Difference Day is an annual day of service celebrated nationally dedicated to encouraging people to make a positive difference in the world. GVSU celebrates this event by transporting students to local community non-profits to participate in service activities. As part of this, a group of students were transported to the Sustainable Agriculture Project to help with projects around the farm for the day and learn more about sustainable agriculture.



## Open Access Week

Open Access Week is an international event held annually to inspire global momentum towards the open sharing of knowledge, often connected with the advancement of policy changes and the importance of social issues affecting people around the world. The GVSU University libraries participated in this year's theme of "Open for Climate Justice" through an exhibit located in the Mary Idema Pew Library Exhibition Space. The exhibit, titled *Open [Everything]*, explores ways in which Open Educational Resources, Open Access, and Open Research Practices are lowering barriers to learning, improving equity, and driving innovation. Visitors are invited to consider how they might respond to real scenarios facing researchers and educators and will learn how they can take action to support Open knowledge.



Another display at the Seidman House University Archives displayed the Polar Collection from former GVSU President, James Zumberge, to further highlight the theme of "Open for Climate Change".



## Social Media

Throughout the month of October, every Sunday the Office of Sustainability shared a journal prompt pertaining to sustainability on our Instagram page in hopes of facilitating reflection about the environment and sustainability within the lives of our social media followers. These prompts included questions such as:

- What is a gift from nature that you are grateful for today?
- What are some actions you can take to support sustainability in your community?
- What have you learned about sustainability this month? Are there any practices you will continue to take part in?

We also used our social media to promote the various events we had going on throughout the month! Please feel free to follow us on our social media accounts, which can be found on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.



***@gvsusustains***



***GVSU Office of Sustainability Practices***



***@gvsusustains***



## **Thank You!**

The Office of Sustainability Practices would like to thank everybody who helped to make celebrating Sustainability possible this month. It has truly been wonderful to see our community come together in immersing themselves and educating themselves on sustainability.

Without your support, participation, and dedication, our mission would be incomplete. We look forward to continuing to facilitate the growth of sustainability knowledge and practices all over the GVSU campus, and we hope to see you around!

Stop by our office anytime:

Office of Sustainability Practices

260 Lake Michigan Hall

(616) 331-7366

[sustainability@gvsu.edu](mailto:sustainability@gvsu.edu)



**ANCHORED IN  
SUSTAINABILITY**