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March 2020 Newsletter
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**WashCo's BizRecycling
Provides Funding for Green Business
Directory/Awards**

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Area Green Business Directory and Awards. The county grant will be seed money for the project. Waste reduction is a requirement for businesses to be listed in the Directory. That's why BizRecycling, Washington County's recycling/reuse/reduce waste program, is a perfect fit. Businesses that are green, sustainable, and resilient will get a variety of perks and a marketing boost through the program, starting later this year.

Are you a sustainability expert in any type of business? Let us know what field you specialize in. Please click the link that says "Update your Preferences" at the very bottom of this newsletter, choose "Green Business" as your interest area, write a little more about your skills, and we'll keep you in the loop.

[Update Your Preferences](#)



CAR SHOW & INDOOR FAIR

DRIVE ELECTRIC EARTH DAY

WHEN: April 22, 2020 2PM-8PM
WHERE: The Water Street Inn, 101 Water St S, Stillwater, MN

Sponsored By:
SUSTAINABLE
STILLWATER
MINNESOTA

Logos:
- DRIVE ELECTRIC EARTH DAY (car with solar panel)
- Plug In America (car with plug, tagline: WE DRIVE ELECTRIC. YOU CAN TOO.)
- Electric Auto Association (car with plug)
- SIERRA CLUB (tree logo)
- WATER STREET INN (inn logo)

EV Car Show April 22 - Earth Day

Stay tuned for a cancellation if we are advised to do so because of the pandemic, but for now our EV Car Show is slated to go on. Audi, BMW, Chevrolet, Hyundai, Jaguar, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Porsche, Tesla, Toyota, and Volvo have all committed to exhibiting at Sustainable Stillwater MN's first Drive Electric Earth Day show at the Water Street Inn. Test drives are expected to be available, and private EV owners are volunteering to provide personal advice on EVs. Gateway Cycle will have electric bikes, Harley-Davidson is bringing an electric motorcycle. The indoor Carbon-Free Transportation Fair in the Water Street Inn's new conference center wing will include clean energy exhibits by Stillwater Area High School students and lots more! Interested in EVs? [MNEVBuyer.com](https://mnevbuyer.com), created by Jukka Kukkonen of the [MN EV Owners Association](#) and [PlugInConnect](#), provides great advice and direction on the advantages of EV ownership.

[Learn More About the EV Show](#)



Volunteers Needed for May 6 Bike to School Day in Stillwater

This is Rick from Sustainable Stillwater MN. Those of you who are moms, dads, kids, and teachers probably remember our successful Bike to School

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rodeo and a giveaway of 18 bikes to youngsters. Last year, Lily Lake had another event and Rutherford had their first Bike to School Day.

This year, we want Lily Lake and Rutherford to participate again, and are also asking Stillwater Middle School to have an event. Bike to School Day in 2020 is May 6th.

Sustainable Stillwater MN needs volunteers to work with the schools and organize the events. I will be coordinating the overall effort and we are looking for 2 to 5 individuals who can work approximately 3-6 hours per week between now and May 6th to organize and support the event. This would entail contacting school principals, meeting with school BTS committees, and ordering and distributing BTS information to the schools. On Bike to School Day, it would entail attending the BTS event and helping coordinate the day's activities with the school committee.

These events create healthy alternatives for children, promote safe bicycling around Stillwater, and are fun for kids. With your help and support, we can continue to grow this event in Stillwater and have more students experience the fun of biking to school on Bike to School Day.

If you can help with this fun event, join us for a meeting at 6 PM on Thursday, March 19th at the Stillwater Public Library to discuss.

Thanks! Rick Heidick, Ph: 651-274-6351, Email: fost.stillwater@gmail.com
Minnesota Safe Routes to School website:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/>

Learn More About Bike to School Day

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Pine-ning for a better planet?

PLANT A TREE WITH US!

Join SSMN and Washington County
Parks to Celebrate National Arbor Day!



**We're planting trees
on April 25th at
Pine Point Regional Park.**

Volunteer your time and muscle.
Kindly RSVP to participate:
<https://tinyurl.com/PlantTreesMN>



Help Us Plant an Oak Savanna for Arbor Day

April 25, 2020 starting at 10-am

All Ages Welcome! Bring the Family!

Bring Your Own Shovel, Hat, Gloves, and Water Bottle Sponsored by
Sustainable Stillwater MN and Washington County Public Works
Department

Roll up your sleeves and plant native trees and wildflowers with us on Saturday April 25. Sustainable Stillwater MN is hosting a tree-planting event at Pine Point Regional Park in Stillwater. Trees are nature's carbon sinks and the world needs a billion of them planted this year to help remove carbon from the atmosphere. The folks at Washington County will give us as many native saplings as we have signups. Please RSVP at the link above - we will need a headcount. Plus if the event is cancelled due to the COVID-19, you will be notified by email.

Did you know you can inexpensive trees for your own yard? Every November, the Washington Conservation District has a tree sale at <http://www.mnwcd.org/tree-sales> and it runs until they sell out (often by early to mid-March), with pick-up happening every year at the end of April at the County Fairgrounds. Bundles of 25 trees sell for \$35 and they have a wide variety of conifers, hardwoods, and shrubs, with lots of great options for providing wildlife habitat. Mark your calendars to check their website in November.



The Time is Now for Your Input on

Stillwater is asking for public input on the Aiple Property on the St. Croix River just north of the Zephyr Theater. The City has come up with a plan for developing the park out of the Aiple residence. Take a look at how this gorgeous location is envisioned as a city park, and add your input on what they are planning.

What's your idea of best use? One of our members suggests it should be a park that includes accessible dock access to the river for quiet watercraft like kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards. There should indoor and outdoor space for environmental education for community youth and adults. This park will probably be very popular given its proximity to the bike trail, so plenty of bike parking might also be an addition. It's right off the heavily traveled Highway 95, so safe and well-marked crosswalks from parking areas on the west side of 95 would also be useful. Please take a minute and do the survey. Share it with others. Thanks!

Please Take the Survey



Adopt-A-Drain Near Your Home This Spring

This spring take it a step further in helping our neighborhood ponds, lakes,

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kind to the frogs and turtles coming out of hibernation ready to gulp some fresh air and fresh water.

[Learn More About Adopt-A-Drain](#)

Meeting Calendar

>>> Our Board of Directors meetings take place every first Wednesday of the month from 6.30-8.00 pm and are open to the public at Community Thread, 2300 Orleans St. W. For updated details or to get on the agenda contact Roger Tomten, chair, at sustainablestillwatermn@gmail.com.

>>> The GreenStep team meets the third Wednesday of the month 6:30pm – 8:00pm Stillwater Public Library, third floor. For updated details contact us at sustainablestillwatermn@gmail.com.

>>> The Active Transportation Workgroup meets on the fourth Monday of the month from 6:30pm-8pm at the Stillwater Public Library. This team is helping to reduce our region's transportation carbon footprint and make our city a more walkable, bikeable, livable city for all of us without the tyranny of fossil-fueled vehicles.

Note - Meetings are sometimes changed on short notice. To stay in the loop, let us know you are coming by writing us at sustainablestillwatermn@gmail.com. For all our events, see our [Facebook page](#).

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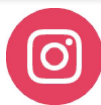
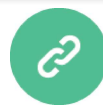
Bike To School - Meeting March 19

Join us to help put together another successful Safe Routes to School Project this year. Meet Rick, the project leader, at 6PM on Thursday, March 19th at the Stillwater Public Library to discuss and volunteer your time.

"Living Green at Home" Lecture Tuesday, March 24 | Free

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Environmental Stewardship Team will present "Living Green at Home: The Power of Our Choices!" Tuesday, March 24, 7-9 pm at St. Andrew's Great Hall Building, 900 Stillwater Rd. in Mahtomedi. Presenters include Minnesota State Fair Eco Experience founder Jeff Ledermann, a representative from Xcel Energy, and Jeff Riegle, licensed financial advisor and owner of Green Guardian Wealth Management. The event is free and open to the public.

Help Us Do More - Please Donate!

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The SSMN Newsletter is sent on the first of each month. The editors are Wendy Gorski and Kelsey Depew. Email them directly at ssmn.wendyg@gmail.com

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