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UMB Sustainability

Nurturing our elm for years to come

Happy New Year from the Office of Sustainability! ❄️

We wish you a happy, healthy, and sustainability-filled 2023.

News and Upcoming Events

Freezer Rebate Program

The Green Labs Freezer Rebate Program has \$20,000 worth of funding available on a first come, first-serve basis for labs at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) who are looking to replace an old, inefficient ultra-low temperature (ULT) freezer with a new, more efficient model. This program is being established to reduce the number of old and under-utilized freezers on campus and incentivize the purchase of more energy-efficient freezers in support of UMB's energy and sustainability goals. **Applications will open on January 3, 2023 and will remain open until funding is depleted.** [For more information, visit the Green Labs webpage.](#)



If you are interested in participating, please email sustainability@umaryland.edu to confirm eligibility for the freezer you are planning to purchase.

UMBuy Nothing



Consider joining the UMBuy Nothing Microsoft Team. You may have heard about the Buy Nothing movement recently in the [Sustainability Champions series with Becky Ceraul](#). This new Microsoft Team adopts the philosophy of a gift-economy and is a space for UMB members to come together and gift, request, or lend items and services. Items can be in new or used condition. [You can join the team here](#) or by searching for "UMBuy Nothing" on your Microsoft Teams app. Please note: If you are from the School of Medicine, send a request to join this team to sustainability@umaryland.edu.

UMB Hungry

U Must Be Hungry (UMB Hungry) is a food rescue initiative aiming to minimize food waste and feed hungry students at UMB. The program is currently being piloted on campus.

What are the steps to participating as an *event planner*?

1. Review the [UMB Hungry Event Planner Training PDF](#) before your event
2. [Submit this form at your event with leftover food](#)
3. Have yourself or a designated person monitor food pick-up

What are the steps to participating as a *hungry student*?

1. [Sign up for the UMB Hungry alert listserv by filling out this form](#)
2. An event being hosted on campus has leftover food
3. A form gets filled out and gets sent directly to you
4. You go to the event location and get free food!



Join UMB Bike Commuters on Teams

Join the UMB Bike Commuters Teams community! Discuss the best bike routes for getting to and from campus, find a commute buddy, and more. The Teams site will be an informal meeting place for all students, staff, and faculty - from those who are new to biking or only beginning to consider it as an option to experienced cyclists.

[Join the community on Teams here.](#)

Launch of the UMB LabShare Program

If you have extra lab supplies or equipment that you would like to share with other labs on campus or you are in need of a particular item for your lab, consider participating in our new UMB LabShare program! Labs can post about what they have that they are giving away, and other labs can claim it and pick it up. Through this program, our campus will continue working towards reducing waste.



[Submit any item\(s\) you no longer need here.](#)

[See what items are currently available here.](#)

Monthly Green Tip

VEGANUARY 2023

Happy Veganuary! Take this time to reset and try a plant-based diet this month. Veganuary inspired and supported over 620,000 people to try vegan during the 2022 campaign – with participants from over 220 countries and territories.



Let's make #Veganuary2023 even bigger and better!



Our January green tip is celebrating Veganuary, an annual campaign to inspire and support people to try a plant-based diet.

Download the Green Tip graphic by [visiting our website.](#)

'Tis the Season to Buy Nothing Recap

During the season, consume more, whether that be from purchasing new gifts for loved ones or finding deals for yourself. This time of year is filled with the idea of "more." However, with increased consumption comes increased waste. [See our article in The Elm](#) for some ways we shared to lessen your impact on your wallet and the environment, both on- and off- campus.



Sustainability Champions Series



We would like to recognize Nicole Mattocks, research assistant professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work, as a Sustainability Champion! Dr. Mattocks conducts research in areas including ecosocial work, environmental justice advocacy, and the impact of environment on health and well-being.

[Read about Nicole's research, teaching, and other involvements with environmental work in The Elm.](#)

We would also like to recognize Anthony Consoli, UMB university architect, as a Sustainability Champion! In this role, Anthony has been a proponent of sustainability by steering campus projects toward better choices that promote more sustainable strategies. He advocates for a holistic view of design for UMB's campus that integrates sustainability, pedestrian safety, public art, green spaces, daylight access, and maintaining the distinctive character of exterior buildings.



[Read more about how Anthony advocates for sustainability in both his professional and personal life in The Elm.](#)

Resources



Specialty Recycling Collections

Curious how you can properly dispose of various specialty materials on UMB's campus? Visit the Specialty Recycling Collections page to get the lowdown on how to recycle batteries, electronics, ink cartridges, and more.

Sustainability Term of the Month

Energy Use Intensity (EUI): indicator of the energy efficiency of a building's design and/or operations in terms of energy used per square foot.



EUI can be thought of as the "miles per gallon" rating of the building industry. It is important to remember that EUI varies with building type - a laboratory will have a much higher EUI than an office building.

Join a Sustainability Working Group

Looking for a way to get more involved with sustainability at UMB? Join one of our four sustainability working groups! Working groups are open to students, staff, and faculty. Working group meetings are held once every two months for a total of six meetings each year. Meetings last one hour, and some work outside of bimonthly meetings will be required.

If you are interested in joining any of the four working groups (**Reduction, Resiliency, Engagement & Education, and Green Labs**), please [fill out this form](#). For a brief summary of each working group, visit [this page](#).



January Environmental Dates

Find a cause in January to support!



All of January
1/5

[Veganuary](#)
[National Bird Day](#)

Additional Resources

- [UMB Office of Sustainability Website](#)
- [Baltimore City Office of Sustainability](#)

Received this newsletter from a friend? Get the latest information on events and volunteer opportunities directly.

Have an upcoming event or opportunity related to sustainability, the environment, or social equity and justice? Tell us about it!

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Contact Us

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Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for more event information and resources.



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