
GREEN MOUNTAIN CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY

2023 - 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Green Mountain
Center for
Sustainability

Prescott College

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The mission of the Green Mountain Center for Sustainability at Prescott College is to promote solutions-based learning that cultivates the skills and knowledge needed to create a more just and sustainable society



OUR VALUES:

JUSTICE

COMMUNITY

STEWARDSHIP

WELLBEING

Our Goals:

- Create a rich sense of community on the Prescott College campus and in online spaces for students, staff, community members, and alumni from both Prescott College and Green Mountain College
- Encourage and support on-campus and online sustainability courses, independent studies, senior projects, and co-curricular activities that use a bioregion as a laboratory for solutions-based learning.
- Serve as an incubator for sustainability research, community projects, and community organizing.
- Document the distinctive bioregional approach to education that characterizes many of Prescott's programs, and highlight the innovations in this approach that make Prescott a sustainability education leader.
- Collaborate with community partners on sustainability work, events, and advocacy within the Prescott Quad Cities Region and beyond.



A WORD FROM THE CO-DIRECTORS

Eleanor Tison, co-director of the Green Mountain Center for Sustainability
Laird Christensen, co-director of the Green Mountain Center for Sustainability



Greetings from the Prescott Campus! As Co-Directors of the Green Mountain Center for Sustainability at Prescott College, we welcome you to our 2023-24 Annual Report and hope you will enjoy hearing about what we've been up to.

This past academic year began with the Center's physical move across Butte Creek to the Wren Building, inspiring a series of renewed efforts to develop a sense of place and build community around the gardens and student housing on the West Campus. Our regular weekly and special events continued in both Fall & Spring Terms of 2023-24, with sustained and lively participation; these events are discussed in more detail below.

In the meantime, all around campus you will find evidence of the commitment and creativity of students who have made use of Sustainability Funds for their own projects, as well as functions and initiatives facilitated by the Green Mountain Center. These projects are indicators of social sustainability in an objective sense, but we have also seen students who were once moderately involved in our efforts truly blossom into creators, collaborators, and leaders of new initiatives, either supported by Sustainability Funds or as work-study student employees.

We have also expanded our efforts to create a rich sense of community online, welcoming alumni and online students to join the Sustainability Council, where they work with

Prescott College staff, faculty, community members, and residential students. Online students across the country (and beyond) can now apply for Sustainability Funds to develop projects in their own communities, as well as on campus. We also have increased access to project-based learning, creative opportunities, and co-curricular activities online.

The Green Mountain Center Advisory Council has added two new members: Amy Barra, from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, and Annie Baker, a Prescott College graduate who now manages the Community Compost Project through the Prescott Farmers Market. We have been building out Mentoring opportunities with alumni working in sustainability fields, as well as creating a new social media venue to serve the Green Mountain College Community, with specific thematic and chronological chats to help alumni connect with old friends. Perhaps most memorably, we helped facilitate an official reunion of Green Mountain College in Vermont last summer, with over 80 alumni and former staff in attendance.

Below, we've highlighted just a few examples of the local work of the Green Mountain Center, noting student catalysts or community partners. These events brought students and community members into the Sustainability Lounge, Campus Gardens, or into other campus spaces to celebrate or learn more about sustainability.

Our students and staff have committed themselves to helping our campus community engage more fully with the wider Prescott community, providing hands-on learning experiences and building essential skills.

Toward Zero Waste Initiative. This initiative was led by Nat Burgeff '23, our BEST Fellow at the Green Mountain Center (Building Ecological Skillsets for Transitions to Sustainability). It included redesign of our signage, outreach and education, collection systems, and participation in waste audits for measuring diversion of materials generated on campus (food scraps, clothing and household goods, cardboard/paper, glass, plastic).

Taco Tuesdays. Led by Kacey Griffin '23 & Audrey Hall '26, our students provided students and staff a free meal of build-your-own tacos with homemade tortillas, salsa, guacamole and veggie toppings every Tuesday evening.

Prescott Harvest Celebration '23. In partnership with Slow Food Prescott, the Green Mountain Center initiated the third annual Harvest Celebration on campus in October. This event featured student arts and crafts vendors, performers, and student-prepared, locally-harvested or wild-crafted meals to celebrate sustainable farming and gardening – featuring produce grown on campus or at local farms.

Seed Mania '24. Also in partnership with Slow Food Prescott, this very well attended early Spring event was hosted for the first time on the PC campus, inviting the community at large to encourage and support seed saving, sharing, growing and healthy food.

These notable 2023-24 Center actions take their place among other established projects and events, such as maintaining the campus Free Store; offering free soup lunch at Free-Store Fridays; hosting weekday evening activity nights; and expanding and managing five Campus Gardens and two Composting Stations. All of these activities help us realize the mission on which the Center was founded in 2019: “By building learning communities through events and programs, facilitating connections among stakeholders, and sharing resources, the Center cultivates the skills and knowledge to create a more just and sustainable society.”

Credit for this renaissance of campus community around sustainability goes to the peer leadership of our outstanding work-study Sustainability Crew of 14 students and our full-time Sustainability Coordinator, Zachary Czaprynski, while building on our own efforts as Co-Directors to creating opportunities for hands-on learning about sustainability and social connection, both in and beyond the classroom.

If you would like to help support the work of the Green Mountain Center, click the button below to donate. Simply specify that you'd like your gift to go to the Green Mountain Center under Gift Restrictions. Thanks so much!

[**MAKE A DONATION**](#)

OPERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

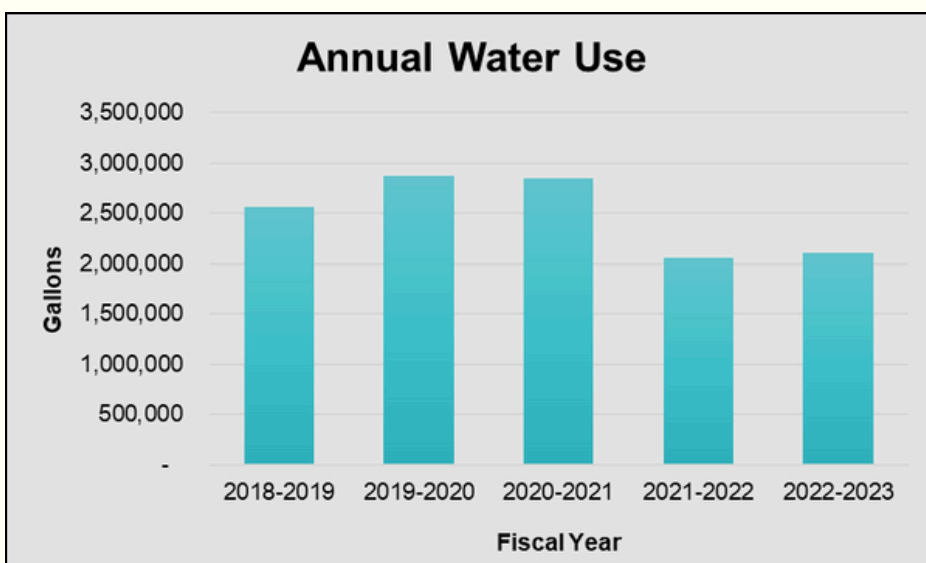
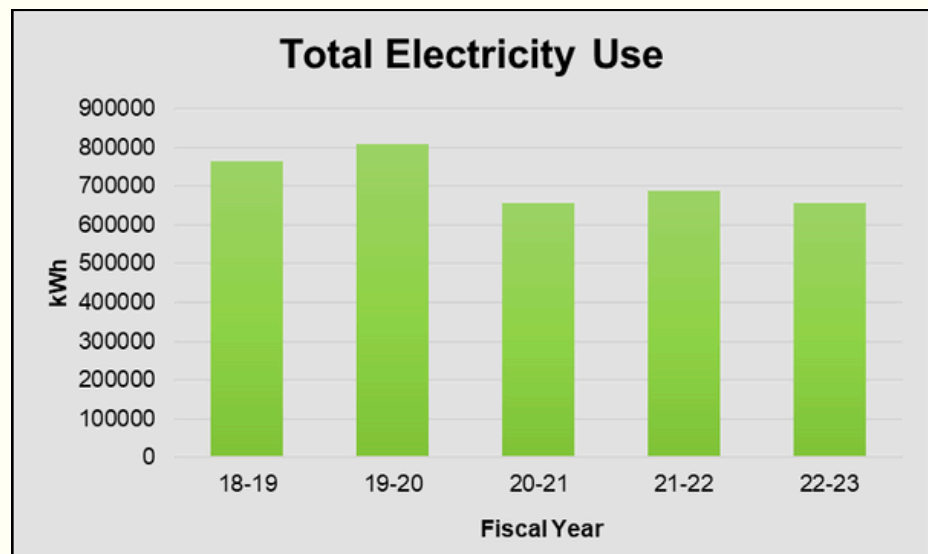
The Green Mountain Center aspires to improve the environmental, social, and economic sustainability of campus by integrating sustainable practices into everyday operations. It takes all of us to be sustainable! We regularly keep track of different data to see how the college is performing. View some of our most up-to-date info on water, energy, waste, and engagement. A full report will be released in March 2025 through the AASHE STARS reporting framework.

19%

LESS ELECTRICITY USE SINCE 2019

Strategies to lower electricity use:

- keep office lights off when natural light is maximized during the day
- turn off all tech at the end of the day, especially before weekends
- keep doors and windows closed when AC is on to prevent loss

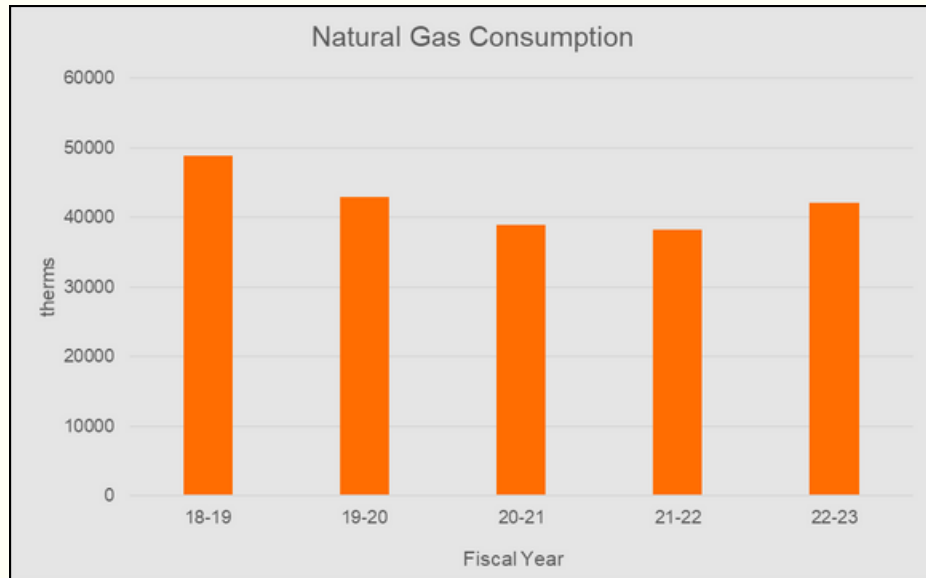


26%

LESS WATER USE SINCE 2019

Strategies to lower water use:

- turn off faucet while washing office dishes, scrubbing hands, or cleaning desk/kitchen surfaces
- if “greening” your office space, use drought-resistant, native plants
- report any leaks or loose pipes to our amazing facilities team ASAP!



14%

LESS NATURAL GAS USE SINCE 2018

Strategies to lower natural gas use:

- keep windows and doors CLOSED in winter, as much as possible
- insulate any leaks from windows or doors with weatherstrips
- report any major heat leaks to our amazing facilities team ASAP!

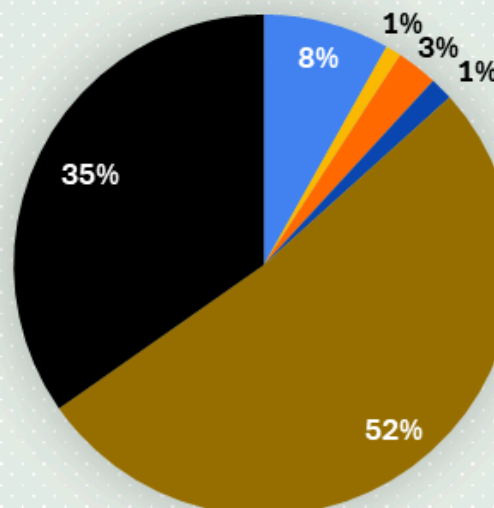
65%

RESIDENTIAL MATERIALS DIVERTED
FROM LANDFILL

Strategies to reduce waste:

- utilize reusable kitchenware as often as possible to minimize disposables
- take unused electronics to IT for e-recycling
- ask colleagues for items before purchasing new ones
- compost all organic waste in designated containers (ask Sustainability Center for one if needed)
- shop the campus Free Store in the Wren building

Spring 2024 Waste Audit (by weight)



Paper Plastic Glass Metal Organic Landfill

PRESCOTT COLLEGE ZERO WASTE: A NEW REPORT BY THE POST-LANDFILL ACTION NETWORK

A new report authored by the Post-Landfill Action Network (PLAN) has been published about Prescott College's journey towards zero waste! This work is deeply driven and influenced by Prescott College masters student, Nathalie Burgeff, a former fellow with PLAN and the Green Mountain Center. Nat interviewed key Prescott College stakeholders about zero-waste policies and practices at the college, and this data informed the 34-page report. The report assesses Prescott College's current zero-waste standings via Scope 1 (Hard Goods: Surplus & Hard-to-Recycle Materials) and Scope 2 (Soft Goods: Food, Plastic & Compost). Some of the main findings are listed below.

- The residential and cafe compost collection systems are an excellent component of recycling organics on campus by students.
- There is little communication between staff, faculty, and facility offices regarding surplus redistribution (e.g., office supplies, furniture), an important aspect of keeping hard-to-recycle materials out of landfills.
- Prescott scored highly for recycling electronics through IT; however, communication of the electronic recycling program needs improvement.

The report then concluded with recommendations by PLAN for Prescott College to take the next steps toward a zero-waste campus.

- Establish a Zero Waste Task Force that regularly meets to address zero waste challenges and implement strategies in the PLAN report.
- Adopt a sustainable procurement policy for commonly purchased items (e.g., office paper, whiteboard markers, cleaning supplies)
- Establish, communicate, document, and implement a campus-wide Soft Good bin and signage standardization system, and work to update all bins and signage across campus, ensuring that material collection systems are clear and universal across campus and that bins are always paired together at collection stations.

Nat also created a film, produced by student Jamie Frith, to address the question: "What *actually* happens to recycling in Prescott?"

The film can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjUCIXGF4V8>



All of our sustainability tracking data is publicly viewable on [AASHE STARS](#). We submit a new report every three years, with our next report planned for release in March 2025. Last submission, Prescott College earned a Silver STARS rating over four categories:

- Academics,
- Operations
- Engagement
- Planning & Administration.

Next submission we look forward to receiving significantly higher scores after working on our “Towards Zero Waste” and “Water Conservation” initiatives. This time, we want to GO FOR GOLD! We cannot do it without the participation and interest from everyone because being sustainable truly counts on each and every person within an organization to make the “greenest” choices when possible. So, we just want to say *thank you!*



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Green Mountain Center prioritizes building social capital on campus and beyond. We believe a sustainable future requires promoting social equity, cohesion, and inclusion by creating communities and societies where people have access to essential services, opportunities for personal and professional growth, and a quality of life that allows for a healthy, productive, and fulfilling existence.

2,000+

PARTICIPANTS IN GREEN MOUNTAIN
CENTER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES
DURING THE 23-24 ACADEMIC YEAR!

As inclusivity, justice, and sustainability are fundamental values of Prescott College, the Green Mountain Center has directed intentional efforts towards cultivating a sense of community on-campus and for online students. Located in the Wren Building down by the Creekside Courtyard, the Center provides a multifunctional space for studying, socializing, and hands-on learning. We have an indoor and outdoor lounge space, a campus Free Store, a kitchen, tables for studying, and several gardens and chickens -- a campus favorite!

At the Center, our 12-15 work-study students are dedicated to planning and hosting daily events for any student, staff, or faculty to join. Highlights from this year included Study Night, Taco Tuesdays, Mycology Club, Earth and Craft Night, Cooking Club, and Free Store Fridays. We love to continually provide lively spaces and opportunities (online and on campus) for anyone to join in enriching our community!





SEED MANIA: CELEBRATING ALL SEEDS!

Seed Mania 2024 brought over 370 community members to the Prescott College campus on Sunday, March 3rd, to empower local participants to plant a garden this Spring. Co-sponsored by Slow Food Prescott, the Prescott Farmers Market, and the Green Mountain Center for Sustainability, the event gathered many resources and knowledge available in our region. Tables from eighteen organizations lined the circumference of the Prescott College Crossroads Center, sharing books on gardening, bags of flourishing mushrooms, a scion exchange, and seeds of all varieties, shapes, and colors. Simultaneously, local food experts provided hour-long talks in classrooms overflowing with participants eager to learn about seed starting, water-efficient gardening, tree planting and care, mushroom cultivation, and pruning. In the Crossroads Cafe, a "Kids Activity Zone featured seed harvesting from

sunflowers, compost critter identification, and a "chicken play-pen" outside in the adjacent garden. The afternoon of activities culminated in a community meal: a "three sisters" chili with cornbread, kale slaw, seed cookies, tea, and coffee.

While enjoying the communal meal, we were honored to have Angel Martinez of the Yavapai-Apache Tribe provide an invocation over the meal and the day's festivities. Matching the theme of Seed Mania, Angel spoke about seeds, though in a different sense from the day's activities. She spoke of the "seeds" planted inside us by our ancestors that now await planting in the world and our communities through intergenerational reciprocity. The planting of the seed takes time to root and establish itself, requiring continued watering and nourishment even if we do not always see the results at first, for the rooting takes place below the surface. Only after a strong rooting can we see sprouts break through the surface; then, we become aware of our deepest connections and interdependence. Angel asked that we consider what roots we are currently anchoring into our communities and how we nourish them, as they will have lasting intergenerational impacts. For Seed Mania, we hope that the education, skills, and traditional knowledge shared will nourish a younger generation rooted in reciprocity and care for each other, Mother Earth, and our communities.



After Angel's invocation, we welcomed a Prescott College alum, Shanti Rade, to give a keynote talk. Shanti came to Prescott College in the 90s without knowing what she wanted to do after graduation. One summer, she interned at a farm and fell in love with the process of farming. She immediately decided to dedicate her life to growing food (and, eventually, flowers). Shanti and her husband Cory were at the very first farmers markets in Flagstaff and Prescott, back when only a few fruit and vegetable stands were setup. After 25 years and several children, they are now one of the most established and popular vendors at the Prescott Farmers Market. Shanti reflected on her career and experiences as a farmer over the last few decades: "It's definitely not easy, but it's always worth it." The magical feeling of planting a tiny seed in April and eating its fruits in Autumn has never diminished since Shanti started farming as a young Prescott College undergrad, not knowing where her future would take her.



FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL: FOOD & GRATITUDE

On Saturday, October 7th 2023, Prescott College hosted its 3rd annual Fall Harvest Festival, partnering with Slow Food Prescott this year. The festival occurs at an iconic time of year in northern Arizona--comfortable temperatures, falling pine needles, yellowing leaves, and lots of local produce--the perfect conditions for a harvest celebration.

Starting mid-afternoon, community members displayed tables with information about the Slow Food movement, community composting, rainwater harvesting, and the Yavapai-Apache Nation Garden of Life. Meanwhile, across the Crossroads Courtyard, students demonstrated their musical talent through various acoustic performances, covering some songs and singing some originals. Kids activities included worm composting and critter identification, a "green" scavenger hunt in nature, and building boats out of toothpicks and apple slices (a favorite of the Embry-Riddle participants). Next to the Yoga Circle, there was an endless line of participants



chopping apples and pressing homemade cider with our campus cider press.

As the golden Harvest sun set over the Crossroads bridge, Angel Martinez of the Yavapai-Apache Nation gave an invocation. Angel talked about the importance of reciprocity and healing in our food systems and relationship with the Earth. We share the knowledge, skills, and support found within our community and previous generations to allow us to cultivate healthy gardens and food, and we must also remember to give back to the Earth and take care of her as we close the cycle of the Harvest season. After the talk, an autumn meal was served. The meal included a squash soup, spaghetti squash pasta with pesto sauce, quinoa and beans, sourdough rolls, and a roasted veggie medley. All produce was sourced locally from the Prescott Farmers Market including Whipstone, Aguiar, and Hernandez Farms, and even some from our campus gardens!



The theme for this year's Harvest Festival was gratitude. Thus, we launched a new series of awards to recognize some of the most outstanding folks in the local food system. Molly Beverly, president of Prescott Slow Food, distributed four Gratitude Awards.

- **The Educator Award** was given to **Ashley Fine**--School Garden Coordinator of **Skyview School**--for being an outstanding and dedicated educator in Prescott's local food system.
- **The Farmer Award** went to **Corey and Shanti Rade** of **Whipstone Farm** for their exceptional agricultural and farming practices.
- **The Restaurant Award** highlighted **Chef John Panza** from **BiGA** for being a leader in Prescott's local food system by supporting farm-to-fork dining.
- **The Organization Award** went to **Kathleen Yetman**--Executive Director of **Prescott Farmers Market**--for being a critical asset to Prescott's food system by supporting healthy, local, and accessible food.



In South America, there is a saying, *Buen Vivir*--"to live a good life." Unlike Western thought, *Buen Vivir* resists ideas of individualism and extractivism as leading to a "good life." Instead, it reenvisions an orientation of life built on reciprocity between humans and nature, much like Angel's invocation reminded us. The Fall Harvest Festival calls us to reflect on the reciprocal cycles we depend on as community members. In deep gratitude, we cherish Mother Earth providing her nutrients for growing food, the long hours of labor by our local producers, access to nutritious delicious foods, the talent and dedication of our students and community members, and the many smiles and laughs around a shared dinner table.

Buen Vivir is more than a saying; it is a philosophy of life rooted in the significance of communal reciprocity. The Fall Harvest Fest was a tangible example of the many things that make up "the good life" for us.



EARTH MONTH: CELEBRATING NATURE

April was a busy Earth Month for Prescott College sustainability, blooming with activities and events. Thanks to all who participated and shared in this celebration of the Earth and our community!

Earth Day on the Square-

The Green Mountain Center joined 30+ other organizations on the square of Prescott for Earth Day weekend. Situated between The Lookout and Save The Dells, students from the Center hosted a booth with free seeds, a compost demonstration, and a vegetable painting activity for kids of all ages! Many families stopped by the sustainability booth to inquire about Prescott College programs and sustainability initiatives while placing their onion and bell pepper prints on a blank banner. We even met some alumni and online students!



Arbor Day-

Earth Month came to an end on a mild, overcast Saturday along Butte Creek. Over 30 participants, including a small group of Boy Scouts, went to the Arbor Day event hosted by the Prescott College Butte Creek Restoration Council and Tree Campus USA. The day included informational tours of Butte Creek and vegetation on campus by Joel Barnes and Doug Hulmes, a workshop on invasive species and how to remove them, and a workshop on biodiversity and how to plant new native trees. Energized with hot tea and snacks, participants removed over 200 invasive Siberian Elm trees and planted various Cottonwood and Ash trees along Butte Creek. Overall, Arbor Day was a celebration of our trees and vegetation on campus and the commitment of those who came long before us stewarding the Butte Creek watershed. Special gratitude goes to students Viola Nelson and Jake Linnon, as well as faculty members Mariana Altrichter, Peter Sherman, Joel Barnes, and Doug Hulmes, for making this event a big success!

SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

The Green Mountain Center integrates sustainability into curricular and co-curricular activities. Curricular education provides the theoretical foundation, while co-curricular activities offer practical, hands-on experiences. Together, they foster critical thinking and a sense of global citizenship enabling our students to tackle complex social-environmental problems.



NEW STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY ORIENTATION

With the integration of Quest, Embry-Riddle, and PC students, we wanted to give a warm welcome to all new students from the Green Mountain Center! Prior to move-in days, our work-study students prepped small, grey compost bins and 5-gallon compost buckets for each suite in the Village and for the Tsegis and Cottages. Each container has a simple list of the "Do's" and "Don'ts" of composting for our residents who may be learning for the first time. Collecting food scraps is our expertise, and we wanted to ensure all residents properly diverted their organics from landfills! Plus, these food scraps mature into a beautiful, nutrient-rich humus material that feeds our gardens.

During move-in weekend, students were welcomed in the Village with a zero-waste bag containing a reusable-to-go container, zero-waste stickers, and coupons to Natural

Grocers, our local organic produce shop. There was also a spread of donations from last term's Green Moveout, including kitchenware, bedsheets, decorations, and other dorm essentials. Recycling the donations received each year from old students to new students is one way we close the material waste loop on campus. As students settled in, GMC hosted a welcome event for Quest transfer students to learn about sustainability on campus. Students played recycling basketball, went on a garden scavenger hunt, and engaged in other fun activities to learn more about sustainability on the campus groups.

Students in the Community-based Orientation experienced other local aspects of sustainability on campus. With deep gratitude to Professor Mariana Altrichter and PC alum Nic Balik, CBO students participated in an outdoor activity with upperclassmen in Restoration Ecology. Walking along the banks of our local Butte Creek, students identified the invasive Siberian Elm tree species. With gloves and shovels, they pulled and removed over 100 Siberian Elms and replanted a few native Cottonwoods along the bank. Another huge thanks to our amazing facilities crew for making preparations so this place-based, experiential class could happen!



FIELD TRIPS WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS



Earlier in November, a bus of students from Del Rio Elementary School in Chino Valley unloaded at Prescott College to take a sustainability field trip with the Green Mountain Center. While touring campus, 3rd through 5th grade students participated in four stations. They were introduced to the science-magic of composting and helped carry woodchips to the compost bins. These 'browns' are essential in compost and keep us stocked for the winter months when less are available. After stocking browns, students got to sift through nutrient-rich 'finished' compost to prepare it for use in the gardens. Many of the kids said that finding and collecting worms was their favorite part of the field trip! In addition to worms, students got introduced to our campus chickens, learning proper ways to care for and hold chickens. Needless to say, our chickens received much love and pets from all the kids! For the final station, students used the campus cider press to liquify the rest of our apples and taste some of the cider. It was a sweet and delicious way to end the field trip.



Student Nikki Gallegos' Senior Project had a meaningful impact on the Launch Pad teens and The Green Mountain Center for Sustainability. Early in the summer, sixteen teens came to the Center to participate in various outdoor tasks. They watered newly planted trees from Arbor Day, flipped an active compost pile, and painted their own pots to take home with Prescott Heirloom Tomatoes.

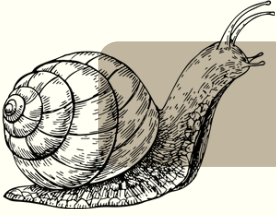
The teens showed up with enthusiasm and eagerness to contribute to the Sustainability Center's daily activities. This hands-on experience helped them fulfill their volunteer service hours, fostered a sense of responsibility and connection to environmental efforts, and got them interested in thinking about applying to Prescott College! Projects like these are crucial in building community spirit and teaching young people the value of environmental stewardship. Nikki Gallegos and everyone involved should be proud of their impact on sustainability and beyond.

WASTE AUDIT

As per sustainability reporting requirements and in continuation of efforts for Prescott College to achieve 'zero waste' by 2030, we conducted our bi-annual waste audit. This process involves diving into the dumpsters near the Village to retrieve bags of trash and recycling. These bags were then opened, dumped, and sorted by each material: glass, metal, organics, plastic, paper/cardboard, and miscellaneous. Some of the preliminary findings are summarized below:

- **Almost no compostable food scraps were present**, signifying the success of the campus composting system in capturing this precious resource
- Recycling was mostly done properly; however, **a few un-recyclable materials commonly found were flimsy plastics like plastic bags and trash bags**. These materials are not recyclable by the City of Prescott and should be disposed of in the black landfill bins instead of recycling.
- **Miscellaneous items found in the dumpster included clothing and electronics. Please DO NOT throw these items away.** The campus Free Store in the Green Mountain Center (Wren Building) will take clean clothing and textiles. Meanwhile, please bring broken or unrepairable electronics to the IT office. We enlist the help of [ER2](#), a company in Arizona that strips down electronics and salvages precious materials and metals.





DEGROWTH READING GROUP

We launched a new initiative this year to reach out to our online student population: a reading group about degrowth! Degrowth calls for a democratically-planned downscaling of production and consumption to lighten environmental pressures, increase human well-being, and work towards global solidarity and justice. It critiques the growth paradigm through lenses of (anti)-imperialism, decolonization, and (eco)-feminism, seeking a more holistic approach to economics that creates a world of meaning, connection, and care over Gross Domestic Product.

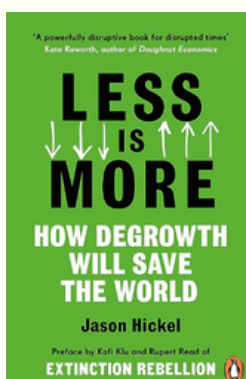
Learn more about the basics of degrowth [here](#) or check out this [comprehensive database](#).

Fall 2023 Reading: *Less is More*

Less is More by Jason Hickel is an accessible and introductory reading for anyone interested in learning about degrowth. The book begins by describing many of the crises our world currently faces and gives a broad historical account of how we got to this point of massive environmental degradation and social inequality. Enter degrowth. Jason is one of the most prolific researchers and authors in degrowth scholarship. He provides simple yet powerful descriptions and examples of degrowth, leaving readers on a hopeful note to a better future. Even more interesting is the afterword where Jason describes how he came to degrowth after being a long proponent of green economic growth.

Spring 2024 Reading: *Braiding Sweetgrass*

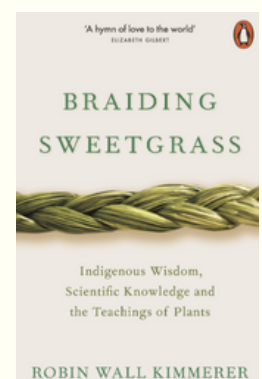
Robin Wall Kimmerer is a renowned author for a reason. Her writing style flows like a river meandering through difficult conversations about identity, science, modernity, healing, and ways of being. *Braiding Sweetgrass* weaves Indigenous stories and wisdom with questions that challenge the way most humans interact with and think about the world. Gifts, reciprocity, interdependence, care, and social connection are highlighted by Robin to challenge our current economic system that values money, individuality, exchange, transactions, and exploitation. Though not specifically about degrowth, Robin questions the current socio-political-economic paradigm similar to degrowth arguments.



Want to join the reading group next term?

Enroll on our Canvas page!

<https://prescott.instructure.com/enroll/FTKC7K>



SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING

The Green Mountain Center enacts sustainability planning by collaborating across campus departments, with city-wide partners, and beyond. Planning allows us to become more resilient to future changes while fostering strong partnerships that expand our capacity as a center to do vital sustainability work.

We are grateful to have a pool of funding, created by and paid by students, to fund sustainability at Prescott College. The fund supports free meals for students during the week at Taco Tuesday and Free Store Friday, and it supports sustainability projects, research, events, programs, workshops, and more! This year, the Sustainability Council approved approximately **\$30,000** for sustainability initiatives. See the budget breakdown below for more details on how we spent funds for this fiscal year.



KEY

Academic - student projects and capstones, grad conferences, sustainability education

Operations - gardens/compost, sustainability infrastructure and improvements

Engagement - weekly events, Seed Mania, Fall Harvest Fest

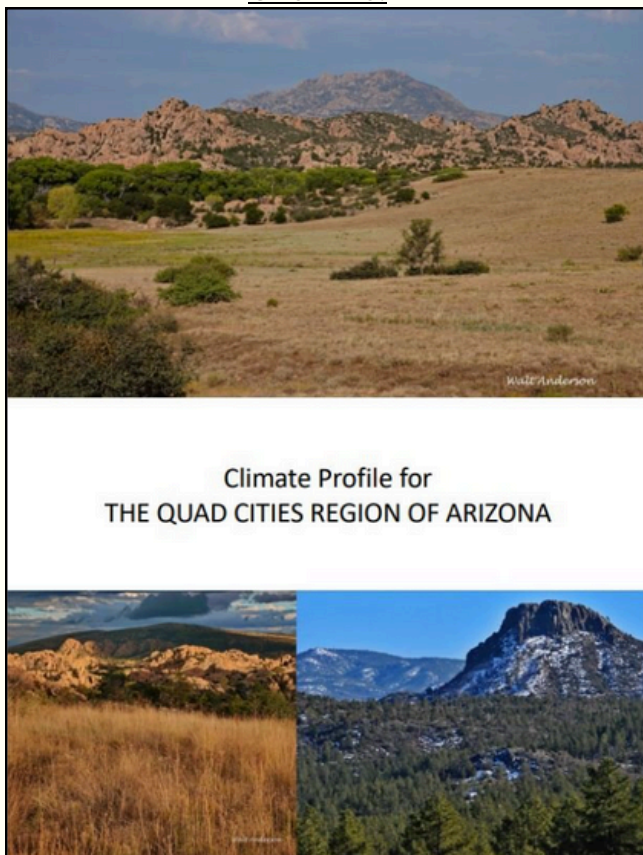
Planning - AASHE membership and benefits

PLANNING FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE

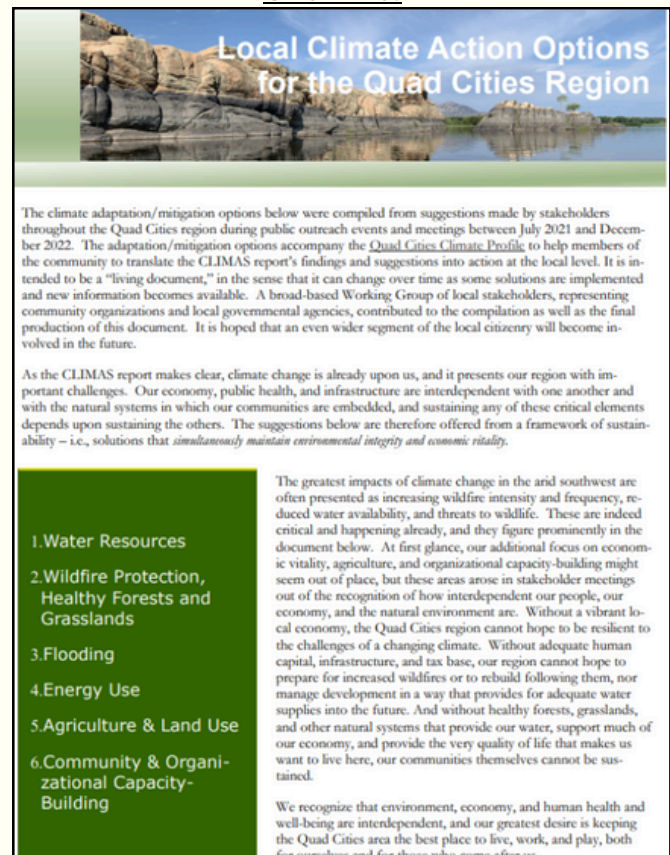
In partnership with the Quad Cities Climate Collaborative and the Sierra Club Yavapai Group, we have been actively contributing to local climate action within the cities of Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, and Dewey-Humboldt. This year, we focused efforts on Prescott as the planning process for the upcoming 2025-2035 general plan began. We participated in several stakeholder input meetings, community workshops, and General Plan Review Committee meetings to get sustainability into the City of Prescott's planning agenda. We even contributed to a series of four white papers that outlined specific goals and strategies for including sustainability in the city plan. We are happy to say that the current draft of Prescott's upcoming plan has included a substantial Resiliency and Sustainability section 24-pages long! Although there are plenty of edits and comments to address, we are proud of this draft and look forward to refining it with additional committal language so the General Plan is actively operationalized in the decades to come.

For more information about climate change in the Quad Cities Region and strategic work done by local stakeholders, visit <https://qcclimatecollaborative.org/>

[Click me!](#)



[Click me!](#)



VISIONS FOR 2024-2025

Last year, the Center set three goals for the 2023-2024 academic year: (1) strengthen community collaboration for education and engagement in climate & sustainability work in the Quad Cities Region, (2) expanding the GMC webpage with newly updated content, and (3) create a community-informed strategic plan for the Center. Setting these goals allowed us to prioritize our capacity in these areas. We made significant progress in the first two goals by working with local stakeholders to inform Prescott's upcoming city plan and working with the Marketing team to update the sustainability website with news and event updates. We are still making progress on the last goal by working with the Green Mountain Center Advisory Council, which was newly created last year.

Looking ahead for the 2024-2025 academic year, the Center has three intentions:

- Strengthen community partnerships with the Prescott Unified School District School Garden Educators as well as with Embry-Riddle and Yavapai College
- Engage the broader community in some of the Center's work on a monthly basis to complement the Fall Harvest Festival and Seed Mania seasonal events
- Provide students that are not work-study eligible with project-based opportunities to engage and collaborate with the Center to help make Prescott College more sustainable



STAY CONNECTED!

There are several ways to stay connected and interact with the Green Mountain Center! Every month we release a **newsletter**, **Sustainability Snippets**, which provides brief updates about sustainability news and projects on campus, remotely, and in Prescott. To be added to the mailing list, contact sustainability@prescott.edu

We also maintain an **Instagram** page **@pcgarden compost** where you can see how students on campus are engaging with sustainability or leading their own events! This is also a great way to keep a virtual eye on our campus chickens and see how the gardens are growing throughout the summer.

Check out our **webpage** on the Prescott College website: <https://prescott.edu/local-and-global-centers/green-mountain-center-for-sustainability/>

Lastly, you can always follow us on **Facebook** at facebook.com/prescott.edu



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Green Mountain Center for Sustainability is incredibly grateful for all the amazing work our students, staff, and faculty contribute to our community. You all embody the values infused in Prescott College--service, social justice, inclusion, sustainability--and we are proud to work alongside such dedicated changemakers

