

April 6, 2022

ENERGY & COMFORT @ WSU

WSU Tenant Engagement Program Newsletter for French Administration, Lighty Student Services, and Smith Center for Undergraduate Education building occupants.

EVERYDAY IS EARTH DAY!

The team at the Integrated Design and Construction Laboratory is making another push to get as many **Smart Power Strips (SPS)** installed in WSU offices as possible! We hope to have on SPS in every office of every department within the French, Lighty, and Smith CUE buildings.

Certain devices, such as microwaves, printers, computer monitors, and televisions draw power even when they are not “on”. Powering these appliances adds up over time, and results in significant electricity use annually. “Smart” or “advanced” power strips, wall meters, or controlled power surge protectors are technologies that can display, manage, and control electronic devices that draw plug loads/electricity from a building's electrical system beyond the typical the workday that would otherwise be overseen by the utility, through a building electricity meter. Studies have shown that in small offices, plug load controllers such as smart power strips can reduce overall energy consumption by as much as 10%. These solutions allow facilities operations (or utility groups, etc.) to quantify the energy use consumed through plug loads and can help building users better understand the consumption of their everyday equipment, such as their computer, monitors, landline phone, or other desktop items they may have at their workstation.

We are looking for full-time WSU employees to participate in this study who have varying computer setups, schedules, and equipment needs at their workstations. The procedure includes measuring active energy use from the electronics used at your desk and installing a timed smart power strip. Once installed (takes about 30 minutes), the device will stay at the workstation indefinitely, but no further participation is necessary. If you, or someone you know is interested, **reach out to Zach.Colligan@wsu.edu to schedule an install.**



DO YOU WANT A FREE TOMATO PLANT?

On Earth Day, Friday the 22nd, to celebrate the change in seasons and the longer, sunnier days, we will be passing out tomato starts for staff and faculty in French, Lighty, and the Smith CUE buildings. With the change in seasons, the buildings on campus will begin to shift from heating to cooling and the space heaters will soon be put away! We ask you to be cognizant of this shift so as to **avoid heating your spaces unnecessarily**. Prepare to wear layers if you plan to leave the building late at night, as the evenings still get chilly; however, consider wearing a T-shirt during the day to **avoid using the fan prematurely!**

CELEBRATE THE EARTH IN AND AROUND THE PALOUSE!

With the warmer weather coming around, now's the time to get outside! In the spirit of comfort and well-being, we've created a list of places to go and things to do around the area:

LAWSON GARDENS:

Right here in Pullman you can find 13 acres of gardens including a shady gazebo and, a beautiful rose garden, a seasonal reflecting pool surrounded by the colorful paintings along terraced lawns and walkways.

COLFAX TRAIL:

This hiking/walking trail runs adjacent to a large stream, flanked with steep cliffs of basalt columns and a variety of trees. Enjoy views of rolling hills and the flowing stream from a series of resting benches.

PULLMAN RIVERWALK:

Make your way down this pedestrian and bike path along the south fork of the Palouse River in downtown Pullman. The looped trail features nighttime lighting, landscaping, and two bridges spanning the river.



AS THE WEATHER GETS BETTER REMEMBER TO:

Ride your bike to work! • Hang your clothes out to dry! • Take advantage of the long day and natural light!

EARTH DAY EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS THIS MONTH!

The Integrated Design and Construction Laboratory (ID+CL) is supporting the student group, the Environmental Sustainability Alliance (ESA), as they orchestrate sustainability related events on campus! They have invited a speaker to come and discuss the depoliticization of climate change and the role of economics in the problem and solution.

[\[IMBEDDED LINK HERE\]](#)
Once I get a website from ESA

They have also planned a community clean up for students, staff, faculty, and community members to help clean campus and parts of downtown Pullman! This is a wonderful time to enjoy the sunshine while also meeting new people on our post-COVID 19 campus.

Lastly, ESA arranged a clothing drive, just in time for Spring Cleaning! Throughout the week of April 11th through the 15th, there will be a location in the CUB to drop off lightly-used clothing. This is open to both staff and students! More information to come!

WHAT'S COMING UP?

ESA - KEYNOTE SPEAKER

(April 13th, 2022)

Join ESA, the Environmental Sustainability Alliance, in the CUB Senior Ballroom at 6pm to listen to their keynote speaker, **Bill Shireman**; as he presents on climate change.

ESA - COMMUNITY CLEANUP

(April 15th, 2022)

Sign-up outside the CUB for the cleanup! WSU Staff and students both will be joined to form teams to cleanup parts of downtown Pullman and campus.

EARTH DAY ACTIVITY

(April 22nd 2022)

To mark the day, the ID+CL team will be passing out tomato starts to celebrate new growth and prosperity, as our days transition to be longer and sunnier!