

Welcome to *The Wave*!

The SEA's monthly newsletter where we share our passions, projects, and pressing environmental issues with YOU!

General Announcements:

- Next meeting: Thursday, April 15th at 7pm on Zoom (check CampusGroups for a link)!
- Please also reach out to Doug or Samina if you'd like to get involved with 'the Wave' and/or the SEA!

Spring is here! Get outside & enjoy the sunshine & fresh air (with a mask of course)!

Look Out For:

- Earth Week Challenges
- Spring Photos taken by members of SEA!



the Wave

April 2021

Instagram: @wac.sea
Facebook: The Student Environmental Alliance at Washington College

FROM THE STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCE AT WASHINGTON COLLEGE

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Photo taken by
Mirabelle White

Looking Towards a Sustainable Future: Consuming Less

The word “consumption” related to the environment and climate change refers to the use of resources such as fossil fuels, water, land, and materials in everyday life. Consumption includes the gas used to drive cars, the water used in making a new article of clothing, and the metals that go into making an electronic device.

In today’s society, consumers are bombarded with advertisements wherever they go to buy more and more products. Although it is extremely difficult to abstain from consumption, we can take steps as individuals to reduce our culture of overconsumption. Realizing we as consumers can control whether we buy second-hand items rather than all new items, how we take care of or repurpose our belongings we might otherwise throw out, and being conscious of the companies we support with our dollar is a major step to improving our consumption habits. Of course, there are aspects of consumption that we cannot control, but getting too caught up in those is not healthy or productive for us as individuals. Focusing on the aspects of our consumption that we as individuals can control will help us live more sustainably.

Consuming less can save you money & help reduce harm to the environment!



EARTH DAY

→ Things to Do!

- 1. Sign Petitions!** There are always causes out there that need your help, so finding, signing, and promoting petitions is an easy way to make a difference.
- 2. Clean up your neighborhood!** Go for a walk around your town with friends or family and have an hour-long neighborhood clean-up.
- 3. Start an herb garden!** Growing your herbs at home instead of buying them at the grocery store is a great sustainable practice. Mint, basil, oregano, and parsley are all great herbs to start with.
- 4. Go meat-free!** Eating a vegetarian diet lessens the demand for animal products, water, land, and energy that is typical in a meat-based diet. Going meat-free for one day a week even helps.
- 5. Bike to work!** Not only is this a healthy practice for you, but it's great for the earth. The production and maintenance of bicycles produces fewer carbon emissions than that of cars, so biking is a great green alternative. Just remember to wear a helmet!

PROTECT  OUR EARTH



Earth Week Challenges

April 19th - 23rd

Each day this Earth Week, SEA challenges you to complete a new action item in addition to the challenges from previous days of the week.

Monday 4/19: Switch out your plastic water bottles and bags with reusable ones

Tuesday 4/20: Read an article or sign a petition about an environmental issue. Not sure where to start? You can search for [local issues](#) or “environmental justice,” “environmental issues,” etc. on a petition website such as [change.org](#).

Wednesday 4/21: Compost the leftovers from your meals (see the [March edition of The Wave](#) for what to compost as well as some tips and tricks from the WAC Composting Team).

Thursday 4/22: Share how you’re celebrating Earth Day with five friends, family, coworkers, or peers, and encourage them to complete one action item from this week’s challenge.

Friday 4/23: Participate in a trash clean-up in your area (take a picture to post and tag the SEA account to be featured on the Instagram!).



Earth Week Programming From Around Campus

April 19th - 23rd

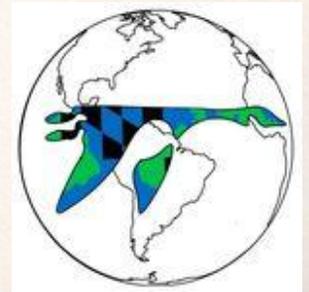
Monday 4/19

Visit the Compost Team's [Instagram](#) (@wacompostingteam) for a composting video tutorial.



Tuesday 4/20

Visit the Office of Sustainability's [Instagram](#) (@wac.sustains) for an interactive Earth Week challenge!



Wednesday 4/21

WC Sustainability Committee is hosting a 6pm panel with Kent County Public Library on zero waste communities titled "Wait, Wait, Don't Throw That Out!" - details on [Campus Groups](#)



Thursday 4/22

5pm "Campus Trees and Bees" panel with Starr Center, CES, and ESFL - details on [Campus Groups](#)



Friday 4/23

7:30 talk with guest speaker David Radcliff, titled "Humans v.s. Nature: Nobody wins" with WCC - details on [Campus Groups](#)



Maryland Plastic Pollution Legislature

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The Maryland Congress is currently considering three bills that if enacted could substantially reduce plastic pollution. Contacting your representatives to voice your support of these bills is a great way to show your support for local environmental issues!

Oceana has an editable email to easily reach out to your representatives which can be found here <https://act.oceana.org/page/76420/action/1>, or you can write your own email and find contact info here <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/Members/District>.

ACT NOW!!

Passing these three House Bills would...

HB #314 - Would reduce wasteful single-use plastic bags, such as grocery bags.

HB #391 - Would prohibit the intentional release of balloons into the air.

HB #21 - Would ban specific, harmful chemical conversion processes in Maryland.

***click the Bill # to learn more about each**

Photos taken by:
Emma Cease

