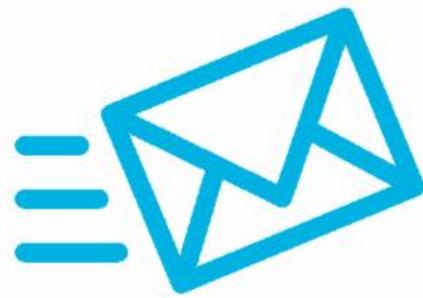




Auraria
Sustainable
Campus
Program



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2019 | April



ASCP State of Affairs

This past month, the ASCP has spent a lot of time focusing inward in preparation for an impending “spring bloom”—in many senses of the expression.

- **New Hires:** We've hired two new ASCP student staff that have already hit the ground running in the past few weeks! Check out their bios below and on our [website](#).
- **Website Makeover:** Phoebe, one of our talented new hires, has been giving our website some serious graphics love and uploading more resources and information about the ASCP ...[check it OUT!](#)
- **Eco-Reps/Waste Diversion:** Our Eco-Reps stepped up, yet again, to help us complete another waste audit—this one to see how well our waste sorting education is “sticking” a month after we offered bin-side education and placed table tents. Unfortunately, the results demonstrated that purity of each of our three waste streams dropped back down, to around 66% of our compost bin being comprised of actual compost. However, recycling in West 2nd floor break room is at an all-time high, so keep up the good work, West Classroom! We will be focusing heavily on community waste education at upcoming tabling events and in the first 2 weeks of class in the fall to set a precedent for the fall semester.
- **Garden:** We're starting to dust off our seed packets and tools to open the garden for the 2019 season! The Auraria Garden (on the south side of the science building) is all filled up for this season, but we're looking to increase our programming in the garden this year with even more workshops (compost, pest management, companion planting, etc.). Have an idea or expertise you'd like to share with the gardening community? [Email us!](#)
- **CBSM Training:** Two weeks ago, we all attended a training on Community Based Social Marketing to learn how we can better target and execute behavior change campaigns on campus (water and energy conservation, waste diversion, alternative transportation choices, etc). We hope to use the principles we learned in upcoming sustainability campaigns on campus!
- **Water Action Plan:** We've been working on finalizing our baseline data for our Water Action Plan to identify water conservation strategies on campus. Find the One World One Water table at our Earth Day Festival to learn more about what we learned in our baseline study! We are aiming to

complete the Water Action Plan by this fall and then set to work on tackling some of the identified strategies.

- Watch out for May's newsletter...it's sure to be a long one with LOTS of updates on big projects coming to fruition ;).

Yours truly,
ASCP Staff

Check out our social media pages to learn about events and get involved!



We are planning a 2-day Earth Week Festival (April 24-25) and we need your help! Join the ASCP and other Auraria sustainability organizations for an Earth Week festival featuring live music, food trucks, an art competition, lawn games and prize giveaways! This event will also highlight on and off campus organizations, student research and community projects that relate to sustainability.

Important:

- If you are a Student Organization on the Auraria Campus, a Nonprofit Organization, a Corporation with a sustainability focus, or another interested vendor, [please fill out this form](#) to table at our event!
 - If you'd like to volunteer at the event, please e-mail scp_contact@ahec.edu!
 - If you would like to show off your skills and participate in the Art Competition, [submit your proposal here!](#)
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Switch It Up!

BEHAVIOR CHANGES

Decreasing Our Waste

Over the past few months here at the ASCP, we have been diligently working on waste diversion projects. This includes creating alternatives structurally by adding new bins through our compost pilot program, as well as taking the time to educate staff and students alike about how to properly dispose of waste. Continuing in that spirit, it is important for us to take a moment and talk about waste diversion from the consumer perspective. To begin, it might be helpful to understand where we are as a state and why this issue is so important. By 'Waste Diversion' we mean 'waste that was diverted away from the landfill' so the higher the rate, the better we're doing. According to the Department of Public Health and Environment for Colorado, not only has our diversion rate for the state been dropping since 2012, but our waste output per capita has been increasing, as well. As Coloradans we produce an average of over 9 lbs. of waste per day and only roughly 2 lbs. gets diverted from the landfill (21% diversion rate) (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 2016). Compare that with the average of 5 lbs of per capita waste and a 30% diversion for the US as a whole (World Bank). That means we produce more waste and recycle less of it than most of the country. Although waste diversion may seem like an overbearing problem at times, it's actually much easier to fix than we realize and most of the change starts with us. To find out what behavior changes you can make to decrease your impact, check our website later this week where we'll have a blog post with tips everyone can do.

If you want to check out these statistics for yourself visit the [Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment Report](#), or [the World Bank MSW Generation by Country](#).

Sustainability in the News: Colorado House Bill - 1261

Late last month House Bill 1261 was introduced in order to combat Colorado greenhouse gas emissions. The bill proposes to cut emissions (based on 2005 standards of 123 million tons ¹) 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050. The bill comes under increased worldwide pressure for better emissions standards in order to reverse the effects of anthropogenic climate change. According to Westword writer Chase Woodruff, the new standards would require the state to eliminate 68.5 million tons of emissions by 2030. For comparison, Woodruff writes that the pledge made by Xcel Energy to reduce their emission output 80% by 2030 would only account for around 18 million tons. This means the state would need to find ways to cut an additional 50 million tons by the deadline. However daunting this may seem, it's apparent in the bill that the health and well being of our citizens and our environment is being prioritized.



If you would like to read the bill under consideration click on the PDF below, or to read a more summarized version, read Chase Woodruff's Westword article, "[Colorado Democrats Introduce Landmark Climate Bill](#)".

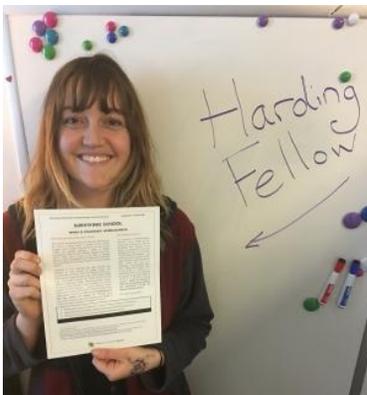
[House Bill 1261 Full Text](#)

¹ 2005 standards were gathered by the AQCC and published in the 2014 Colorado GHG Inventory Report.



Sustainability HERO SPOTLIGHT

April Campus Sustainability Hero: Coby Wikeslaar



This month's Sustainability Hero, Coby Wikeslaar, has been awarded the spotlight this month for her work on food recovery, food access and social justice. Coby led a successful campaign to earn a \$4,000 grant from the Auraria Participatory Budgeting program last fall to start a Campus Kitchen on the Auraria Campus. Campus Kitchens will work to recover would-be-wasted food and transform it (cook or repackage) into free and healthy meals for the campus community—particularly those struggling with homelessness and food access ([Take the campus kitchen survey](#)). Coby serves as the CU Denver Harding Fellow for Student Hunger and

Homelessness, where she works to increase dialogue about college homelessness and generate action on our own campus to better meet the needs of all students. This involves a monthly newsletter titled "Surviving School", increasing awareness about resources and creating programs and policy suggestions. She believes that a focus on creating, or in some cases returning to systems that nourish and respect life is deeply related to strengthening our educational system, moving towards equity and creating a livable world for future generations. Coby is a graduate student in CU Denver's Political Science Program and a native of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Known for her diligence, passion and energy, we are excited to partner with Coby on issues of social sustainability, food waste and food access. Thank you, Coby!

Know someone doing awesome sustainability work on campus? Nominate them to be recognized as a sustainability hero in our next newsletter by sending a brief description to scp_contact@ahec.edu.

Campus Kitchen is coming to Auraria Campus. This is a student-led initiative to rescue would-be-wasted food and transform it into healthful meals to distribute to the campus community. Your answers will determine where and how this food is best distributed on our campus.



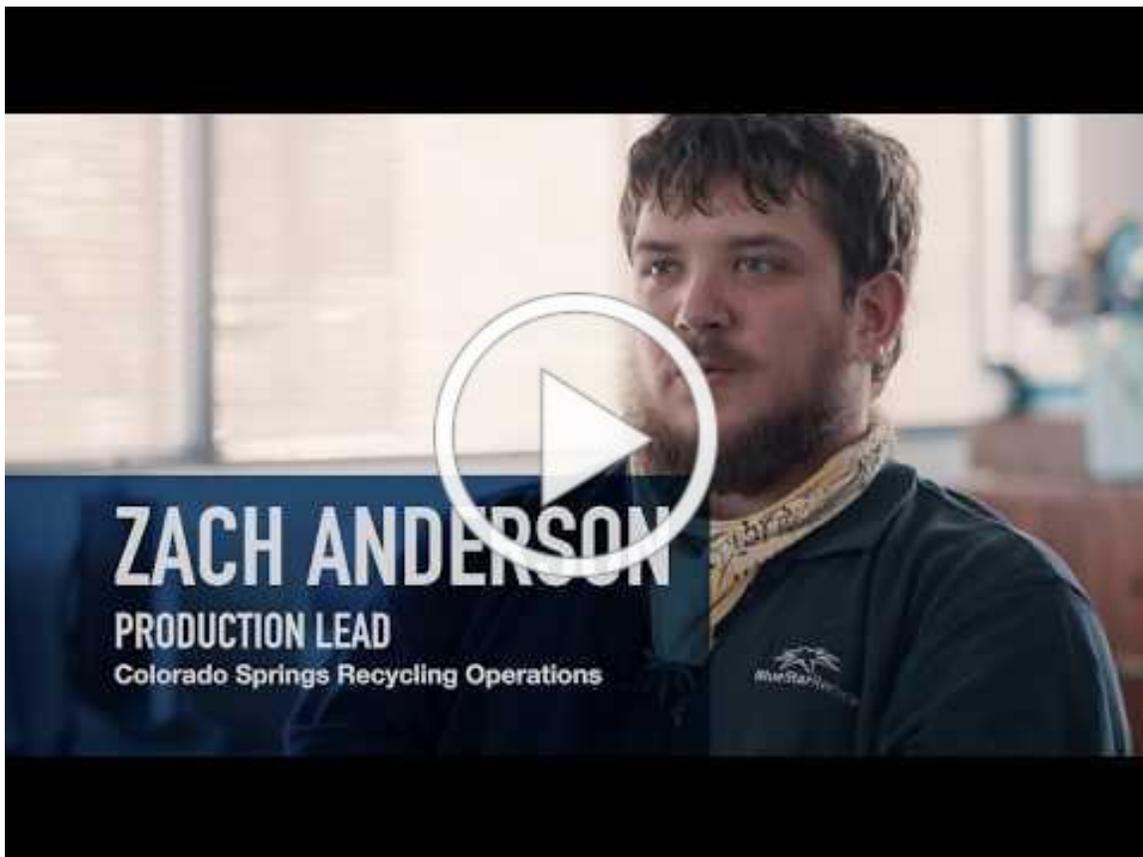
THE
CAMPUS
KITCHENS
PROJECTSM

Please take [BRIEF 7 QUESTION SURVEY](#) to help make Campus Kitchens successful.

[Take the campus kitchen survey here](#)

Off Campus Sustainability Spotlight: Blue Star Recycling

Have you noticed the gray e-waste bins on the first floor of the Tivoli and Arts buildings? Following our commitment to waste diversion, the ASCP has partnered with Blue Star Recyclers in an effort to responsibly and ethically dispose of our e-waste here on the Auraria campus. Blue Star Recyclers is a local non-profit that was founded in 2009 in order to create jobs around e-waste disposal. Blue Star is e-stewards certified, the highest e-waste certification in the world, and has a mission to 'Create Local Jobs for People with disAbilities'. To date they have recycled over 18 million pounds of electronics and generated over \$10 million in revenue for the state. We are proud to be partnered with Blue Star in our endeavor to collect and dispose of e-waste on campus properly. Watch their video below to learn more.



Meet Our New Staff Members!

Phoebe Loyd

Phoebe is currently a graduate student



at UC Denver obtaining a dual masters in Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning. Her desire to build more sustainable systems through policy and plants has brought her to Denver to explore how to make our cities current growth more ecologically sound. She currently assists in Digital Marketing & Design for ASCP.



Anthony Gambino

Hey I'm Anthony. I started practicing sustainability in my own life a few years ago when I learned about the virtual water footprint of meat and traditional agriculture. Those issues are still what largely drive my interest and passion of sustainable living, within the pending doom of anthropogenic climate change. I like to forget about the woes of the Earth and the damage we've done by hiking, camping, occasionally making some music, and wondering, "if we are on a rock, just flying through space, does it all really matter?". Nah just kidding, of course it does! This planet is just about the funnest I've ever been on so I'm here to work step by step on making it a better place for us all.



Upcoming Events ON & OFF CAMPUS

April 2: Climate Change Panel, 11 AM, Tivoli room 320, Auraria Campus.

April 8/15/22: Mondays in the Tivoli, you can pick up fresh food from the GrowHaus. To order your own foodbox visit their website.

April 10: E2 Webinar: Carbon Removal - A new American Agricultural Product.

April 11: Green Hacking Your Home! With Patagonia & Bring Home Denver.

April 20: Free Days in the National Parks!



On Campus Resources

[The Phoenix Center](#)

[Health Center at Auraria](#)

[Campus Recreation Center](#)

[LGBTQ Student Resource Center](#)

April 24th-25th: Auraria Earth Week Festival, Tivoli Quad, 10 AM - 3 PM Wed and Thurs.

April 27: WASSUP Earth Day River Clean Up

[One World One Water Center](#)

[Students for Sustainability Club](#)

[W.A.S.S.U.P.](#)

[MSU Geography Club](#)

[MSU Environmental Science Organization](#)

Off Campus Resources

[Denver Office of Sustainability](#)

[Lakewood Office of Sustainability](#)

[Woodbine Ecology Center](#)

[Alliance Center](#)

GET INVOLVED!

Every year, the ASCP reviews or drafts dozens of proposals brought to us by students, staff, and faculty. Do you have an idea that could make the Auraria Campus more sustainable? Let us know!

Stay Connected with us & follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!



[Visit the ASCP website](#)