**Sustainability proposal**  
Sustainability Workshops

Submitted by:

Kelsey Esther

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1. **Identification of Sponsors**
   1. **Project Sponsors** 
      * 1. Kelsey Esther

1808 E Smith St

Springfield, MO 65893

(417) 894-5218

esther326@live.missouristate.edu

2. Ashley Newson

1106 E. Loren St

Springfield, MO 65807

(816) 489-1531

Newson579@live.missouristate.edu

* 1. **Faculty/Staff advisor**

1. Dr. Judith Meyer

Associate Professor, Geography Coordinator

Pending

* 1. **Project Manager**
     + 1. Kelsey Esther

**II. Description of Proposed Project**

1. **General Description of Proposal** 
   1. A weekly workshop series that will give students both the information and the take-home tools to encourage sustainable lifestyles. The proposed project’s workshops will engage the university community and encourage “recycling, soil and water conservation, waste reduction, and environmentally responsible purchasing” as every topic will touch on at least one of those areas. We anticipate an average of 25 students will attend any given workshop.
2. **Proposal Details** 
   1. Every two weeks we will explore a new topic, see Appendix A for a sample schedule. The schedule will allow two different days and times of the week to accommodate more students. The workshops will range greatly in topic and can stand-alone. Depending on the topic, students will engage in discussion, will make goods to aid their sustainable lifestyle choice, or will hear from professionals. See Appendix A for tentative schedule and topic areas.
3. **Proposed location for the object of the proposal** 
   1. Every week the class will meet in a central location. If the venue does need to change, the composting workshop will be held at the campus garden for instance, we will meet at the classroom then walk over together.
   2. Potential options:
      * PSU stage
      * Temple classroom
      * Other science class room
4. **Alternative Uses** 
   1. Supplement academic courses
   2. Greek life education courses/sisterhoods
5. **Drawbacks**
   1. Two potential drawbacks are not enough attendance or too much attendance. The supplies will only be purchased the month before a particular workshop to reduce over-buying and any storage limitations. We will advertise that only the first 25 students will receive will receive take homes. Any additional students will still be able to participate and receive information.
6. **Necessary modifications to existing structures** 
   1. There will be no modifications to existing infrastructure.
7. **Estimated Cost of the Project** 
   1. **Provisions of Alternatives in Order of Preference** 
      1. The purpose of this proposal is to teach students the varied and multitude of ways of being “sustainable”. Therefore the procurement of the supplies should be as sustainable as possible. We budgeted for 28 people, using the most preferred vender.
      2. Bulk buying ingredients
         1. Mama Jeans
            1. Local
            2. Sustainable business model
            3. We’ll receive a 10% discount on their retail when buying in bulk
         2. Chartwells
         3. Amazon
            1. Buying multiples of standard qualities at a discounted rate
            2. More packaging
         4. Sam’s Club
      3. Plants/Dirt
         1. The proposal budgets for purchasing the seeds, dirt, and bamboo or compostable pots.
            1. Free seeds from Baker Seeds through the campus garden
            2. Local nursery
      4. Amber jars
         1. Premiumvials
         2. Specialty Bottle Company
         3. Other used jar vendor

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Budget Category | **Amount Requested** | **Examples of Included Items** |
| Media, Advertising & Educational Awareness | 300 | Signs, Posters, t-shirt printing, labels, other |
| Workshop ingredients | 1066.63 | Baking soda, coconut oil, vinegar, lemon juice, essential oil, bee’s wax, Shea butter, Epson salt, herbs, cloth, other |
| Workshop Supplies | 900.94 | Jars, muslin, funnel, Auspens, whisk, mixing bowl, totes, planter, measuring cups, other |
| Operations cost | 200 | Using PSU projector, burner or water kettle other |
| Shipping | 80 | Jars, planters |
| Miscellaneous Items and Unexpected costs | 50 |  |
| Total | 2597.57 |  |
| 10% overrun | 259.76 |  |
| Grand Total | 2857.33 |  |

* 1. **Provisions of Complete Cost Breakdowns**
  2. **Provisions of any Ongoing Costs** 
     1. The goods will be purchased the month before the particular workshop or will use left over supplies from previous weeks.

1. **Estimated Completion Time of Project**
   1. Project will begin the first week of September 2016, and will take place every week from 9/12/2016-12/5/2016 and 1/23/2017-5/1/2017. The specific days will be decided on at the beginning of the semester to accommodate the university schedule.
2. **Estimated Life of Project** 
   1. One academic year
3. **Justification of Project** 
   1. This project will give students both the education and physical tools to implement the university’s sustainability commitment of “providing educational programs and encouraging environmental inquiry for students and the community concerning positive environmental practices.” By providing the students with the means to be sustainable we remove any potential barriers to living sustainable.
4. **University Support** 
   1. Will include in final proposal

**Appendix A**

The workshops will coincide with the sustainability theme of the month when applicable and weather permitting. Additionally, guest speakers will be invited to help facilitate and provide “real life” examples. Here are some potential workshops in a tentative order:

1st Workshop-Introduction (Discussion)

Here we will gage the students’ previous knowledge of sustainability, how the students view sustainability, and provide an introduction of the workshop schedule and themes for the semester.

Campus Tour (Hands-On)

Take a tour of the campus’ sustainable components. This will include recycle bins, past proposals (solar panel charging stations, solar panel bike station, bike maintenance station, etc.), other sustainable aspects of campus. Students get acquainted with where to how to interact with this sustainable campus. We will also broadly discuss the academic avenues of involvement pertaining to the environment and sustainability on campus: Student’s For a Sustainable Future, Sustainability Commission and sub-committees, Eco-Reps, et cetera.

Clean Cleaning (Hands-On)

DIY dish soap, detergent, all-purpose cleaner

Students will make simple recipe cleaners and while being guided through a discussion on typical cleaners impact on the environment and water pollution in particular. The provided containers will list the ingredients and the cost of the product.

Apartment Composting (Hands-On)

This workshop will held with the help of campus garden. Here we will build vermacomposts for indoor composting, while discussing what can be composted, why composting is important, and its benefits. There will be a vermacompost on display showing the different stages so students know what to expect in their own compost.

Truth in Labeling (Discussion)

Discuss topics such as:

Greenwashing

Food and goods labels’- how to read them

What organic, fair trade, natural, etc. really mean

Advertisement, marketing and the media

This will be a discussion, but also includes brought in items/examples.

Offer optional field trip to the farmer’s market following Saturday.

Bulk buying (Field Trip)

Overcome the anxiety of bringing your own containers to the grocery store. We will provide students with two jars and will walk them through the process of buying bulk food items at Mama Jeans.

Greensgiving (Hands-On)

Either discuss how to cook a vegan or vegetarian meal, cook the meal itself, or have a potluck with a “sustainability competition”. Discuss the benefits of eating less meat, vegetarian/vegan options, and reducing food waste. Also, discuss how to be “green” during large meals.

Greening Your Holiday (Hands-On)

Provide materials for making their own homemade gifts or wrapping. Choose one or two activities to do and discuss the rest.

Gifts- homemade, thrift, local, used online items, experiences

Wrapping-- blanket, fabric, newspaper, makes it apart of the gift

Optional field trip to a thrift store or local boutique for Buying Used/Local

Green Careers (Discussion)

Discuss what career options are related to sustainability and how to advertise yourself as a “green” individual to employers. Express the need to understand being sustainable as a job requirement. Could also have a sustainable company speak about their position and the businesses’ position in a changing (greening) economy.

Clean Grooming (Hands-On)

DIY deodorant, toothpaste, lotion, or other

Students will make a simple recipe personal care product while being guided through a discussion on a typical item’s impact on the environment and their bodies. The provided containers will list the ingredients and the cost of the product.

Green Student/Scheduling (Discussion)

Discuss how to be sustainable as a student:

Where and what school supplies to buy: office supplies, ebooks or rentals, computers, apps

“What’s in your backpack” game

Discuss sustainability related classes at MSU and the sustainability minor

Solar Panels Made From Cans (Hands-On)

Discuss energy consumption and how to reduce your usage, solar shares, and solar panels. Together we make one medium sized solar panels made from used cans.

Gardening/Herb (Hands-On)

This could be at the campus garden or another outside space. We provide materials for planting herbs in pots (sprouted herbs, soil, pots). Discuss the benefits of growing your own herbs/food and different options for gardening or growing your food (hydroponics, raised gardens, etc.)

Bee Keeping Workshop- Discuss challenges bees are facing, why bees are important to protect, and how you can support them. Possible field trip to DAR to see the bees’ hives and have MSU Bee-Keeping Club facilitate workshop.