

## **Announcements**

### **Podcast: What will become of the Amazon?**

"Jeremy Campbell, associate director for strategic engagement in George Mason University's Institute for a Sustainable Earth, says that at its current pace the vast Amazon rainforest, in five to 10 years, could pass a tipping point in which it could transform into grasslands. That process, fueled by deforestation and climate change, is a threat to the biodiversity and socio-cultural aspects that define the region, and has global implications as well. In this fascinating conversation in recognition of Earth Month, Campbell explains to Mason President Gregory Washington the magnitude of what the loss of the Amazon rainforest would really mean, and how the Institute for a Sustainable Earth is on the front lines in the region."

[Click Here to Listen to the Podcast](#)



- [Students learn how to create food security and multistory garden](#)
- [2024 Sustainability Summer Fellowships for Graduate Research Partnership](#)
- [10 ways you can help the planet—and Mason—this April](#)
- [Office Supply Swap is a staple of sustainability at Mason](#)
- [A native food forest takes root on Mason's Fairfax Campus](#)

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## Events

### **Student Research Poster Presentation: Geography of Resource Conservation (GGS 303-001)**

Date: 4/24/2024

Time: 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Venue: GGS Open Space - Exploratory Hall - [2nd Floor]

Professor Maction Komwa of the Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science invites all to come view his students' end-of-semester poster presentations. Students will present their findings on topics related to geography and conservation. These topics will explore the use of GIS in conservation efforts, the effects of human activity on wildlife, the success of conservation programs, and the impact of environmental issues like air pollution and plastic pollution. Students will showcase their research and analysis skills through visually compelling posters designed to engage a wide audience.

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Free &  
Open to  
Everyone

*Engage with Us!*

## Energy and Environment Forum

hosted by the Loudoun County Environmental Commission



**Thursday, May 14, 2024**  
**5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**



**Academies of Loudoun**  
**42075 Loudoun Academy Drive, Leesburg**

**Breakout Sessions - Learn about ongoing activities in the areas of energy and the environment and provide comments on the following topics:**

- Electric Vehicles
- Environmental Careers
- Everyday Home Energy Savings
- Invasive Plants
- Energy Equity
- Solar Energy
- Watersheds
- Wildlife Corridors

**Ongoing Listening Session - Provide feedback on what Loudoun should be working on with respect to environmental and sustainable energy matters.**

**Find detailed information:**  
**[loudoun.gov/environmentalforum](https://loudoun.gov/environmentalforum)**



**LOUDOUN  
COUNTY  
VIRGINIA**

If you require a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability or need language assistance in order to participate in the Energy and Environment Forum, please contact Keara Moore at [keara.moore@loudoun.gov](mailto:keara.moore@loudoun.gov) or 571-258-3443/TTY-711. Three business days' notice is requested.

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## **Funding Opportunities**

Heather's Highlights: Each week we will highlight current funding opportunities, alternating between the six ISE Research Themes.

### **Research Theme 4: Clean Energy, Decarbonization, and Climate Action**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a call for the Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program.

The Community Change Grant will fund community-driven projects that address climate challenges and reduce pollution while strengthening communities through thoughtful implementation. This historic level of support will enable communities and their partners to overcome longstanding environmental challenges and implement meaningful solutions to meet the community needs now and for generations to come.

Application Due Date: November 21, 2024

Anticipated Funding Amount: \$1-3 million

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#### **Research Theme 5: Enhancing Equality, Equity, and Access to Basic Goods and Services**

The Directorate for Education and Human Resources in NSF has announced a call for proposals addressing Racial Equity in STEM Education.

Proposals funded by this solicitation will: (1) substantively contribute to institutionalizing effective research-based practices, policies, and outcomes in STEM environments for those who experience inequities caused by systemic racism and the broader community; (2) advance scholarship and promote racial equity in STEM in ways that expand the array of epistemologies, perspectives, ideas, theoretical and methodological approaches that NSF funds; and (3) further diversify project leadership (PIs and co-PIs) and institutions funded by NSF.

Application Due Date: Oct. 8, 2024

Funding Amount: \$5,000,000

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#### **Research Theme 6: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions to Support Thriving Economies**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has a call for Global Centers proposals

This solicitation describes an ambitious program to fund international, interdisciplinary collaborative research centers that will apply best practices of broadening participation and community engagement to develop use-inspired bioeconomy research to address one or more global challenges identified by the scientific community.

Application Due Date: June 11, 2024

Funding Amount: \$5,000,000

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## **Student Opportunities**

### **Summer Paid Internship with Fairfax County Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination**

Students apply now for this paid summer internship from June through August. The position will support activities within the Fairfax County Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination (OEEC) including the implementation of the Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) and Resilient Fairfax, the county's climate adaptation and resilience plan. The Work Student III position provides technical support, develops informational and educational outreach materials, and participates in community engagement activities.

## PATRIOT PACKOUT (APRIL 15 – MAY 10)

### WHAT ITEMS CAN YOU DONATE?

GENTLY USED, LIKE NEW, OR NEW CONDITION



BIKES,  
SCOOTERS, &  
SKATEBOARDS



CLOTHING,  
SHOES, &  
ACCESSORIES



UNOPENED NON-  
PERISHABLE FOOD  
& TOILETRY  
SUPPLIES



TEXTBOOKS,  
TESTING  
SUPPLIES, & ART  
SUPPLIES



SMALL  
APPLIANCES &  
ELECTRONICS



SMALL  
FURNITURE &  
EQUIPMENT

IF YOU WOULDN'T GIVE IT TO A FRIEND, DON'T GIVE IT TO PPO

Patriot Packout (PPO) 2024 runs from April 15 – May 10! Your donations benefit Mason's PPO partners in need. Join us and help #sustainMASON!

[GO.GMU.EDU/PATRIOTPACKOUT](https://go.gmu.edu/patriotpackout)

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



### CONFUSED ABOUT MOVE-OUT?

Contact HRL's Residential Help Desks at Eisenhower (703-993-2750) and Piedmont (703-993-9880). Desks are open 24/7.



@sustainMASON

### DONATION LOCATIONS

#### Fairfax Campus

Lobby Drop-Off:

- Northern Neck
- Commonwealth
- Dominion
- Hampton Roads
- Eastern Shore
- Tidewater
- Piedmont
- Bluebridge
- Sandbridge
- Taylor Hall

Outdoor Drop-Off:

- Hanover Hall (patio)
- Harrison (walkway)
- Truman/Kennedy (courtyard)
- Liberty Square (courtyard)
- Patomac Heights (breezeway)
- Rogers and Whitetop (courtyard)
- The Globe (parking deck)

#### SciTech Campus

- Beacon Hall (parking lot)

#### SMSC Campus

- G.T. Halpin Family Living and Learning Community (residence hall lobby)



**The Institute for a Sustainable Earth (ISE)** aims to connect members of the Mason community with others across the Mason community—and with other communities, policy-makers, businesses and organizations—so that, together, we can more effectively address the world's pressing sustainability and resilience challenges.

**The ISE Newsletter** provides up-to-date information on conferences, funding opportunities, and research pertaining to environmental science and sustainability. The biweekly newsletter aims to facilitate information sharing among researchers, practitioners, and relevant local, national, and international organization.



Institute for a  
Sustainable Earth

[ise.gmu.edu](https://ise.gmu.edu)

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