

Environmental Sustainability Newsletter



The Environmental Sustainability (ES) Good Newsletter aims to keep readers engaged with initiatives to improve ES on campus and research into ES at the University and beyond.

Welcome to our June newsletter. This month is packed full of content, with highlights including; A recap of [FBMH's ES Showcase](#), the launch of a [voluntary ES concordat](#) in the UK and the latest community engagement activity at the [Firs Botanical Ground](#).

Read our previous ES Newsletters: [February 24](#), [October 23](#), [June 23](#)

Please send any news stories, events, funding opportunities or involvement opportunities that you would like to be included in future newsletters to srbmh@manchester.ac.uk.

Associate Dean Update

Associate Dean update June 2024

Welcome to the fourth Environmental Sustainability (ES) Good Newsletter. For this month's Associate Dean update, Maggy provides a run down on all the latest ES news within the Faculty.



[Find out more](#)

Have You Noticed? A journey towards a nature-positive campus

Biodiversity is declining rapidly in the UK. In this blog, Jacob discusses the University's efforts to combat this, including how his final year project is enhancing biodiversity of our Fallowfield campus.

[Find out more](#)



Food made in a test tube: Artificial starch synthesis from CO₂

Scientists at the Tianjin Institute of Industrial Biotechnology (TIB) have managed to synthesize starch in a cell-free manner after designing a clever and efficient novel chemo-enzymatic system.

[Find out more](#)



Read previous student blogs on our [Social Responsibility blogsite](#)

Events

WILD exhibition at Manchester Museum

5 Jun 2024 - 1 Jun 2025

Manchester Museum's new exhibition, Wild, explores our relationship with the natural world and looks at how people across the globe are creating, rebuilding and repairing connections with nature.

[Find out more](#)



Institute of Teaching and Learning Conference 2024

Wednesday 26 June and Thursday 27 June, University Place (Hybrid)

This is an excellent chance for our community to come together, share insights, and learn from each other's experiences in advancing teaching and learning practices. Running throughout the conference are 4 key themes, including 'Sustainability and the socially responsible curriculum'.

[Find out more](#)



Research

What a difference a year makes... the sustainability train has finally left the station...

In this blog, Maggy discusses the recent voluntary environmental sustainability concordat, co-developed by more than 25 organisations across the UK research and innovation sector.

[Find out more](#)



Wellcome release their new environmental sustainability policy

The research funding body, Wellcome, have released their new environmental sustainability policy, outlining their expectations for organisations and researchers receiving Wellcome funding to follow sustainable research practices.

[Find out more](#)



Climate action group launches walking route to combat air pollution

Campaign group Ardwick Climate Action, with the support of University researchers, have launched a green route where local people can avoid the excessive pollution caused by motor vehicles.

[Find out more](#)



Microplastics in rivers and the sewage scandal

Landmark research by physical geographers at the University has established that urban river beds can be heavily contaminated with microplastics.

[Find out more](#)



Teaching and Learning

Sustainable Futures Seminar Series: Dr Maggy Fostier talks environmental sustainability projects in the School of Biological Sciences

As part of the Sustainable Futures Seminar Series, Dr Maggy Fostier presented a talk around the environmental sustainability research projects undertaken by UoM's Biological Sciences undergraduate students in their final year.

[Find out more](#)



FBMH Environmental Sustainability Showcase 2024

The Faculty recently held its second ES showcase, welcoming back Martin Farley, newly appointed Associate Director of Environment and Sustainability at UKRI and co-founder of the Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF).

[Find out more](#)



Fueling sustainable commutes: A recap of our active travel breakfast event

As part of Sustainability Action Month, FBMH hosted an Active Travel Breakfast event to encourage staff from the Faculty and across the university to use active travel to get to campus.

[Find out more](#)



Trees for Life Stalls: How the School of Health Sciences promoted tree conservation in June

The School of Health Sciences Environmental Sustainability group and friends have run a series of fun part-wildlife, part-science stalls about trees at three events in June to inspire staff, students and local communities to value the benefits of trees for people and planet.

[Find out more](#)



A look into the Division of Medical Education's Biodiversity Social Afternoon

Recently, the Division of Medical Education (DoME) held their annual social gathering with an environmental twist aimed at promoting biodiversity on campus and at home.

[Find out more](#)



Meet the team behind the Michael Smith Quad

The hard work and dedication of the landscaping team, quad managers, and volunteers has been essential in ensuring the Michael Smith Quad remains a flourishing space for all.

[Find out more](#)



The Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute is leading the chill up way...

CRUK Manchester Institute is embracing the chill up movement, raising the temperature of ~90% of their ultra-low temperature freezers to -70°C.

[Find out more](#)



The latest community engagement activity at the Firs Botanical Grounds

The Firs Botanical Ground is on a mission to provide a green oasis in Manchester, researching, educating and engaging the community about biodiversity, food security and the environment. Find out about their recent community engagement activities, including the RHS Urban Show and their community open day.

[Find out more](#)



Talk 200 – new podcast on energy and climate change

This episode of Talk 200, a lecture and podcast series marking our bicentenary, discusses the past, present and future of energy challenges and the crucial, ongoing interdisciplinary work at Manchester to provide solutions for a rapid reduction in carbon emission and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

[Find out more](#)



104,000 panel solar farm set to power The University of Manchester

The University of Manchester has signed a landmark new deal that will see up to 65% of our electricity demand supplied through a brand-new renewables project.

[Find out more](#)



Sustainability Action Month: A month of impact and inspiration

Throughout April our University campus came alive with over 46 exciting events spread across four weeks, each dedicated to addressing crucial facets of sustainability and capturing the essence of our collective commitment to a more sustainable future

[Find out more](#)



IT Amnesty Week in review

During the kit amnesty last month, staff and students handed in their unwanted kit to IT Services, amassing to a total of 5.5 tonnes!

[Find out more](#)



Tips for a Digital Cleanup

In 2020, the sector of information and communication technologies (ICT) was responsible for between 1.8% and 2.8% of global GHG emissions. Find out how the University is helping to tackle ICT sustainability challenges.

[Find out more](#)



Relax with nature on campus

Check out this short video showing the beauty of our campus during the Spring season.

[Find out more](#)



Useful links and resources

- Sign up to the **UoM Sustainable Future** [Newsletter](#) to find out the latest research news and our seminars/training sessions.
- Sign up to the **UoM Climate Network** [Newsletter](#) to find out about all the Climate events in Manchester, apps and publications
- Become a [LEAF champion](#) (FBMH PGR students and research staff), a green champion (FBMH PGR students and staff – [email Maggy](#)) or a FBMH [6R champion](#) (UG)
- Useful eco-guides: [Easy Eco actions for all in Manchester](#), plastic focused guides: [6R for practicals and labs](#), [6R for home and campus](#)
- BBC Radio 4 podcasts ([39 Ways to Save the Planet](#), [Costing the Earth](#), [The Climate Question](#)).
- Sign up to the Planet Bee Newsletter created by students: [website](#) and [Instagram](#).
- UoM free [open access course](#) on public health and the UN sustainable development goals
- [Green QEPEP toolkit](#), a guide for ES projects in a clinical/community setting.
- **New:** SUstainable MCR - [how to do a digital cleanup](#) and [digital waste](#) informative posters.

Social Media:

X (formally Twitter):

- [UoM Biology, Medicine and Health](#)
- [UoM Sustainability](#)
- [Social Responsibility](#)
- [FBMH Social Responsibility and Public Engagement](#)

Instagram:

- [UoM Biology, Medicine and Health](#)
- [UoM Sustainability](#)
- [Social Responsibility](#)

LinkedIn:

- [Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health](#)

To find out more about Environmental Sustainability: visit the Faculty's [intranet page](#), [website](#) or contact srbmh@manchester.ac.uk. For more information on Environmental Sustainability at the University watch this [short film](#) or visit their [website](#).

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact srbmh@manchester.ac.uk

[Read our previous ES Newsletters.](#)