



UM Sustainability Forum

October 3, 2025

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Agenda:

- I. Introductions
 - A. Office of Sustainability
 - 1. John Brugge
 - B. RC South
 - 1. Rory Ledbetter
 - C. RSOs
 - 1. SEEDS- Natalie Sims
 - 2. ECO- Hailey Smith
 - D. University of Mississippi Sustainability Forum
 - 1. Purpose, Meetings, Goals
 - a) Aiming to reshape the UM Green Fund
 - b) Open forum for campus stakeholders to discuss projects, network, get involved with Green Fund
 - c) Increases transparency and accessibility
 - d) Once a month, first of the month
 - e) Anyone can propose an item on the agenda
 - 2. UMSF Associated Committees
 - a) STAM
 - b) Garden
 - 3. Operating Committee Member Applications
 - E. University of Mississippi Green Fund
 - 1. Purpose, Projects, Goals
 - a) Fund Faculty, Staff, Student projects that promote sustainability with broader impacts for the UM and city community
 - 2. Committee Member Applications
 - a) Awaiting new charter approval
- II. Commenced and Prospective Sustainability Initiatives
 - A. Dorm Cardboard Recycling
 - 1. One-page recap will be released in upcoming newsletter
 - 2. 43 volunteers, 6-7,000 lbs of cardboard moved out of dorms
 - 3. Learned that recycling programs that avoid contamination are possible, will inform larger-scale recycling projects

- B. Sustainability Report
 - 1. Pilots and programs reported in one document
 - 2. Shareable document to share our story and track annual progress
 - 3. Selected repository for certification metrics
- C. Compost Program
 - 1. Past volunteer event (9/17)
 - 2. Upcoming volunteer events
 - 3. Food Rescue project (led in part by capstone student)
- D. Recycling Bin Standardization and Optimization
 - 1. America Recycles Day- Waste Audit of select UM buildings
 - 2. Developing new recycling standard with MDEQ (State standard)
 - 3. Greek life competition “Battle of the Cans” to recycle aluminum
 - 4. E-waste
- E. Campus Ecological Features and Gardens
 - 1. Bee Campus Certification
 - 2. Dragonfly pond near Campus Garden
 - 3. Larger Campus Garden renovation project (trees, pond)
- III. Sustainability Initiative Proposals
 - A. Open to Faculty, Staff, and Student projects
 - B. Please reach out to OOS team to add to the next agenda
- IV. UM Green Fund Project Proposals
 - A. New Charter is being reviewed by Admin
 - B. Awaiting confirmation and renewal
 - C. Will accept proposals after approval
- V. Questions and Comments
 - A. Field Station is having Field Fest on October 18th from 12-3:30 pm
 - 1. Groups are welcome to table
 - 2. Contact sknight@olemiss.edu for more information
 - B. UM Garden Club is welcome to meet inside the RC South building
 - C. Harvest Fest is October 25th at the RC South Front Lawn
 - 1. Stage with live bands, food from Ole Miss Dining, lawn games
 - 2. OOS and RSOs are welcome to table
 - D. Biology Open House is 10-2 on October 31st
 - E. Winter event surrounding rest and winding down
- VI. Next Meeting
 - A. November 7, 2025, 1-2:30 PM, Barnard Observatory Room 108
 - B. Email sustainability@olemiss.edu to add to next meeting’s agenda
 - C. Find this meeting and the upcoming meeting notes at olemiss.edu/sustain/