

CRANBROOK

WINTER 2019

SUSTAINABILITY

NEWSLETTER



Sustainable Hint: Think Before You Print!

SUSTAINABILITY

NEWSLETTER



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HAVE SUGGESTIONS?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Suggestions for Cranbrook Sustainability and Newsletter ideas to sustainability@cranbrook.edu.

Cranbrook Sustainability Newsletter is published for Cranbrook Educational Community.

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Director's Blog

Cranbrook, A Sustainable Community: Charting Our Course

Ahoy & Happy New Year Everyone! Every year, President Dom DiMarco, (Our Captain) charts the course for the success of Cranbrook Educational Community (The Ship), by sharing the Strategic Themes (vision, mission, core values) [2019 Cranbrook Strategic Themes](#). As a Cranbrook Crew Member, I look forward to doing a self and crew assessment to confirm my crew members and I are fully integrating these themes into our work.

This way, we remain focused on supporting and staying aligned to the vision of the set course.

Cranbrook Vision Statement: Cranbrook is a diverse, sustainable community where education is prized, the human spirit is nurtured, and innovation and creativity are valued. Cranbrook challenges minds and transforms lives.

I believe our Vision Statement sets the course for Cranbrook and allows each Cranbrook Crew Member (faculty, staff and volunteers) to connect and get on board with the vision. To be on the right track, we often ask questions like how are we doing in accomplishing our mission and vision? How are we doing in the delivery of our programs and services to make up leeway? How are we doing collectively and individually in maintaining, developing and sustaining the spirit of excellence, innovation, collaboration, inclusiveness, stewardship and service at Cranbrook and beyond? How are we doing in modeling and practicing our core values? And, how can we each continue to do our part to help make our Cranbrook community more sustainable?

Some Cranbrook Crew Members may consider the above questions should only be asked, answered and acted upon by management and Senior staff. I disagree. I believe these are questions every Cranbrook Crew Member should be asking and responding to as they participate, maneuver and collaborate to make a sustainable difference as we sail forward.

What I admire most, is that we continue to ask questions and respond with fervor, trim our sails (adapt/navigate/change), practice (learn the ropes) and take sustainable actions. As a result, with all hands-on deck, we accomplish our goals, refine (turn the corner) as needed. Through these actions, we can sustain our position of excellence, challenge minds and transform lives.

One Cranbrook! Thank you Captain DiMarco, First Mates and all Cranbrook Crew Members for doing your part to help make the difference!

Sailing Sustainably,

Norma Jean Evans
Director Sustainability *First Mate*
Cranbrook Educational Community



Michigan Green Industry Association Recognizes Cranbrook House & Gardens with 2018 Chairman's Award

Cranbrook House & Gardens is honored to have received the Michigan Green Industry Association (MGIA) 2018 Chairman's Award. MGIA began in 1960 and is the official landscape association for the state of Michigan. The Chairman's Award is given

annually to "the group or individual who through leadership and example contributes to the quality of our environment and the magnificence of the landscape."

Other notable organizations to receive this esteemed award include: The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, The Henry Ford Greenfield Village, Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, and Frederick Meijer Gardens.

Pat Pampreen, Gardens Management Co-Chair for Cranbrook House & Gardens Auxiliary accepted the award on behalf of Cranbrook House & Gardens at MGIA's Annual Environmental Improvement Awards Program Banquet on Thursday, December 6, 2018.

Vinegar: A Natural Solution to Weeds

*Heather Davis, Gardener
Cranbrook House & Gardens Auxiliary*

I used a vinegar mixture to spray for weeds growing in the walkways of the gardens last summer and it worked wonders! It is a great natural herbicide for common hard to defeat weeds! There are lots of recipes/charts online that work off the same basic ingredients...Vinegar, salt, and dish soap (I use 1 gallon of vinegar, 1/2 cup salt, and 1/4 cup soap).



It is great for areas not directly in your garden (the salt can kill what you're growing or prevent things from growing) such as driveways, sidewalk cracks, paths etc. It's safe to use around kids and pets, plus it smells like dish soap! It's best used when it's hot and the sun is out, so the leaves of the weed can dry out. You spend less money on this when compared to buying herbicides and there is no potential exposure to harmful chemicals! A win win!

Below is a link with some info on the mixture and there are lots of other sites that can help with any more details that you need.

<https://www.hgtv.com/outdoors/gardens/planting-and-maintenance/make-your-own-natural-weed-killer>

Heather Davis at Cranbrook House & Gardens, Summer 2018. Photography by Nancy Kulish, Cranbrook House & Gardens Auxiliary.



Cranbrook Kingswood Middle School for Boys

Let's "Cell"ebrate

*Caleb Coldstein, 6th Grader
Cranbrook Kingswood Middle School for Boys*

The sixth graders at the Boy's Middle School, in Ms. Campbell's science class, have been studying a unit on cells. They have been learning about the organelles in a cell, as well as their functions and processes. As a culminating project, students designed their own cell (plant or animal) out of recycled materials that they brought in from their homes. Each student chose different recycled goods to use in their model to either resemble a certain organelle or demonstrate the job of a part of the cell. Many kids had creative ideas,

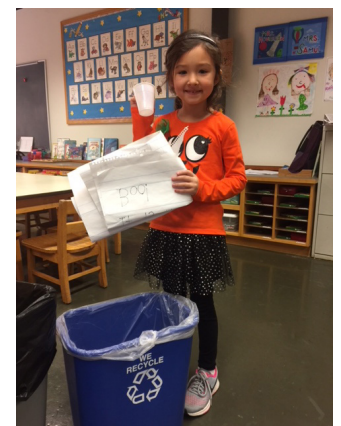
such as using a battery for the mitochondria, "the powerhouse of the cell." Other ideas included using candy wrappers for the Golgi apparatus because they package and distribute materials to the rest of the organelles. One student used a lentil bean because of its small, petite shape to resemble a ribosome while another boy used a tin can replicating the large, circular shape of the nucleus. Every student had to include at least 8 materials for their organelles and a description on how each piece related to a part of a cell. A perk to working on this

project was Parent Visiting Day. When everyone's parents came to school for a day, students had the opportunity to work alongside their parents on this project. The parents' aspiring ideas helped every child boost their project's creativity to the next level. With the finished projects a success, teacher Ms. Campbell commented, "I was delighted with the results of the recycled cell project again this year. It's amazing to me how much each model is unique yet immediately recognizable." Each student's design was definitely something to "cell"ebrate.

Cranbrook Lower School Brookside Future Leaders Modeling Sustainability in the Classroom

"We start them early!"
Trish Hourigan, Green Team Liason
Brookside/Early Childhood Center

*Pictured Right: Bianca D'Anna, Senior Kindergarten
Vlasic Early Childhood Center, Cranbrook Lower School Brookside*





Rejuvenation Efforts Begin at Cranbrook’s Japanese Garden - One of the Oldest in North America

Created in 1915 by Cranbrook founder George Booth and his father, Henry Wood Booth, Cranbrook’s Japanese Garden is among the oldest in North America. Although the garden today remains a place of inspiration and renewal for visitors, the space itself needs rejuvenation. With the support of the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit, Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research received a grant from the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) that kicked off the necessary work in October of 2019.

“There are six gardens worldwide that received one of these grants in 2018,” said Gregory Wittkopp, Director of Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research, “We are very fortunate to be one of these six gardens.”

The MLIT grant provided funding to bring six gardeners to Cranbrook from the Japan Federation of Landscape Contractors. Over the course of six days, the gardeners helped to transform one corner of Cranbrook’s Japanese Garden, the Lily Pond Cascade, into what will once again be a place of beauty and contemplation. The work on the Lily Pond Cascade was the first of a six-phase master plan for the entire Cranbrook Japanese Garden that is being designed by Sadafumi Uchiyama, Garden Curator of the Portland Japanese Garden in Oregon. The Master Plan study is being funded through a gift from Jeanne Graham.

Wittkopp said that Cranbrook wants to “respect the history and legacy of the garden, while also taking the opportunity to enhance it. Our goal is to make sure that this becomes a garden that is actively used for a variety of reasons, and that people find meaning here.”

Sustainability Topics at Cranbrook & Beyond

Wendy DeLaRosa, Contributing Researcher & Writer

Plastic Bags | We all know there is a problem with plastic shopping bags, but what can we do about it in our homes, work and community?

How can I do my part to help?

1. Educate yourself about how plastic bag pollution affects the planet. Plastic bags cause issues that affect human and animal health. Share some of the facts you discover with friends and family. Check out this interesting article from National Geographic: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2018/07/ocean-plastic-pollution-solutions/>
2. Count and take note of the number of plastic bags brought into your home in a week. A concrete number can incite you to take action and create solutions.
3. A great practice would be to re-use plastic bags you already have or bring re-useable shopping bags when you shop. Stash some in your car so you always have them accessible. Consider purchasing reusable hemp bags because hemp has natural anti-mold and antimicrobial properties.
4. Find stores that offer incentives for using reusable bags. Some stores will offer incentives or a cash credit for bringing reusable bags. Target stores gives 5 cents off for each reusable bag you bring and use at checkout and some Whole Foods locations will reduce your total up to 10 cents per bag that you bring from home. If you shop at Trader Joe's in Bloomfield Hills and bring a reusable bag for groceries, you will be eligible to enter their weekly raffle where the winner receives a \$35 Trader Joe's gift card.





Sustainability Topics at Cranbrook & Beyond

Wendy DeLaRosa, Contributing Researcher & Writer

Polution | How does idling hurt the environment and my health?

- The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has monitored air quality at schools during the hour coinciding with parents picking up their children, which has shown elevated levels of benzene, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and other air toxins. Lungs continue to develop until age 18. Research has demonstrated that exposure to elevated levels of these air pollutants increased a child's risk of developing asthma, respiratory problems and other adverse health effects. Pollution from exhaust also contributes to adult health issues.
- About half of U.S. states already limit idling for some types of vehicles such as school buses and state-owned vehicles. A study by the U.S. Department of Energy found that eliminating personal vehicle idling would be equivalent to taking 5 million vehicles off the road.

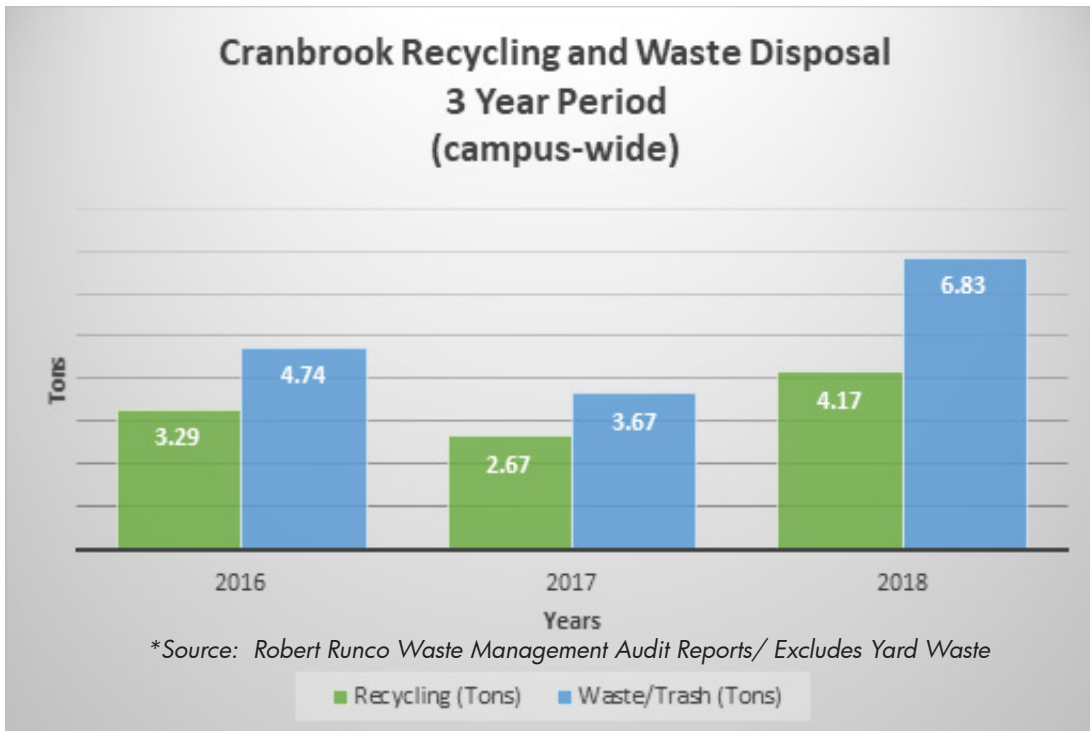
Articles on Idling

<https://www.epa.gov/schools/idle-free-schools-toolkit-healthy-school-environment>

https://afdc.energy.gov/files/u/publication/idling_personal_vehicles.pdf

How can I do my part to help?

- Turn off your engine when waiting. Contrary to popular belief, restarting your car does not burn more fuel than idling. Ten seconds of idling wastes more gas than restarting the engine.
- Warm up your engine by driving, not idling. Today's vehicle engines warm twice as quickly when driven. The best way to warm the engine and car cabin is by easing into your drive. Sitting in an idling car also means you are breathing in more of the harmful toxins from exhaust that leaks into the cabin.
- Encourage friends and family to reduce idling. Most people waste between 1 and 2 tanks of gas every year by idling. Turning off the engine will improve air quality, benefit community health and your pad your wallet.



Cranbrook Waste/Recycling How are we doing?

Shopping on line is a huge convenience. However, this may be potential evidence of the increase in the amount of waste.

Our Goals

Recycling Goal: 6 tons or more
Waste/Trash Goal: 3 tons or less

Cranbrook Sustainability Challenge:

What are you doing?
Let us know how you are doing your part!

What can you do now?

- Remember to separate waste from recycling in your office bins.
- If you need additional recycling bins, contact Physical Plant.
 - Make an effort to only purchase recyclable products.
 - Think sustainably!

Ideas are welcomed! Email sustainability@cranbrook.edu



What's Happening? Earth Day 2019 & More Events Save the Dates



Winter Greenhouse Sale

Cranbrook House & Gardens
Friday & Saturday, February 8 & 9, 2019
10:00am - 2:00pm

Study Day with Janet Macunovich

Cranbrook House & Gardens
Saturday, March 30, 2019
9:00am - 3:30pm

Spring Into Science

Cranbrook Institute of Science
Monday-Friday, April 1-5, 2019
11:00am - 3:00pm

April is the month that we celebrate the Earth and all the resources that help us in our everyday lives. Many of our partners in environmental education will join us to facilitate activities including but not limited to: The Oakland County Dirt Doctors, MSU Tollgate Farm, The Nature Conservancy, and the Friends of 1001 Inventions! Create recycled arts and crafts, see live baby animals, learn about our natural world, how we can help protect Mother Earth and more!

Contact Michele Arquette- Palermo at MArquette-Palermo@cranbrook.edu for additional information and volunteer opportunities

State of Michigan Earth Day

Lansing, MI
Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Michigan Earth Day Fest

Rochester, MI
Friday & Saturday, April 26-28, 2019

Detroit Zoo GreenFest

Detroit Zoo
Saturday, April 27, 2019
10:00am - 3:00pm

Academy of Art Material Exchange

Cranbrook Academy of Art
Monday & Tuesday, May 13 & 14, 2019

Contact Julie Montgomery at jmontgomery@cranbrook.edu for additional information and volunteer opportunities

47th Annual Spring Plant Sale

Cranbrook House & Gardens
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
10:00am - 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 15, 2019
10:00am - 2:00pm

CRANBROOK CRANNECTIONS

One Cranbrook | *Sustaining Relationships*



Welcome Cranbrook Crew Members!

All Aboard! We welcome all Cranbrook Crew Members that have joined us within the last 30-90 days. We look forward to meeting each of you as we sail forward. Feel free to reach out to an existing Cranbrook Crew Member if you have questions or just want to grab a cup of coffee. Interested in Sustainability at Cranbrook, feel free to reach out to one our Green Team Crew Members to share your ideas and learn how to connect.

Cranbrook Green Team "Crew Members"

Michele Arquette-Palermo Institute of Science

Sandra Avant Community

Norma Jean Evans Office of Sustainability & Business Services

Eric Franchy House & Gardens/Community

Cherie Hannan Physical Plant

Trish Hourigan Lower School Brookside

Judy Lindstrom House & Gardens

Marjorie Olt Mertz Kingswood Middle School for Girls

Allison Mitchell Chartwells

Julie Montgomery Academy of Art and Art Museum

Rita Norkiewicz Kingswood Middle School for Boys

Kimberly Sinclair Chartwells

Rod Spearin Community

Suzanne Tennet Kingswood Upper School

Suggestions Welcomed!
Email sustainability@cranbrook.edu

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