

# The Fate of the Earth Symposium

**SUSTAINABILITY:  
EMBRACE THE MESS!**

March 26-27 at the MSU Union

Scan the QR code  
for full schedule  
and registration



**This free event invites students, faculty, staff, and partners to engage with the complexity of sustainability and the messy, collaborative work of turning vision into action.**

## **DAY 1 | BIG IDEAS & ACTION**

- Plenary sessions featuring the untold, complicated stories of sustainability in action and inspiring speakers who challenge us to think differently.
- Keynote delivered by Alessandra Carreon, Chief Climate Officer, Office of Climate & Energy Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy
- Concurrent sessions on Energy, Food, Natural Resources, and Circular Economy blending research and applied insights, operational perspectives and external voices
- Lunch Book Talk with Authors of *Reconciliation in a Michigan Watershed*, Gail Gunst Heffner and David P. Warners
- An interactive afternoon exploring the work of the Sustainability Systems Think Tank, charged with developing MSU's sustainability framework, and how participants can shape the next phase

## **DAY 2 | GENERATION GREEN: SUPPORTING STUDENTS IN LEADING FOR CHANGE**

- Panels on sustainability careers featuring recent graduates and seasoned professionals
- Be Spartan Green Challenge: Student competition focusing on solutions to reduce campus waste
- Closing keynote delivered by Marcene Mitchell, Senior Vice President of Climate Change, World Wildlife Fund
- Optional campus sustainability tours (open to all, pre-registration required)



Environmental Science  
and Policy Program  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Office of Sustainability  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

[espp.msu.edu](http://espp.msu.edu)  
[sustainability.msu.edu](http://sustainability.msu.edu)



## Concurrent Session: Strengthening Michigan's Circular Economy March 26, 11 am - noon | MSU Union

The transition to a circular economy represents one of the most significant industrial and societal transformations of the 21st century. Achieving it demands a coordinated approach that bridges the gap between knowledge creation, policy development, and commercial implementation. A successful circular economy cannot emerge from isolated efforts it must be co-designed and continually refined through the shared expertise of industry, academia, and regulatory bodies.

Participants in this session will learn what a circular economy is, what challenges and opportunities Michigan industries are overcoming to transition to circularity and the leadership role students are doing to assist in this transition.

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### Panelists:



**REX LAMORE, PHD**

Director, MSU Center for  
Community and  
Economic Development



**CHELSEA JENSEN**

Project Leader,  
Michigan Circular Economy  
Industry Council



**ABIGAIL CARRIGAN**

MSU Circular Economy  
Research Assistant



**HENRY JERRED**

MSU Circular Economy  
Research Assistant