



Circular Economy in Action: Ann Arbor’s Path to a Carbon-Neutral Future

On Friday, March 13th (2–3 PM), the CCED was pleased to host a webinar that spotlighted the Ann Arbor Circular Economy Action Plan and how the city is advancing a just transition to community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030.

Participants learned how Ann Arbor is putting circular economy principles into practice by rethinking how materials are used, reused, and recovered, while strengthening sustainable food systems and community resilience as part of the city’s A2Zero plan to achieve community-wide carbon neutrality. Featuring leaders from the Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations, the webinar offered a conversation on how communities can translate circular economy ideas into real-world programs and partnerships.

Click the link here to listen to a recording of the event: <https://youtu.be/C11P9POm-Vk?si=ijSB9u7O5E3sgdHa>

Ann Arbor Circular Economy Action Plan Webinar

See Circular Economy in Action!


The A²ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan outlines the City of Ann Arbor’s bold vision to achieve a just transition to community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030. Led by the Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations (OSI), the plan defines six core strategies designed not only to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but also to deliver meaningful co-benefits such as strengthening the local economy, lowering energy bills through efficiency, improving air quality, and enhancing community resilience.

This session will spotlight the leadership of OSI’s Circularity and Resilience teams in advancing Strategy Five: Change the Way We Use, Reuse, and Dispose of Materials and Strategy Six: Enhance the Resilience of Our People and Our Place.


Participants will explore innovative projects and programs that promote community resilience, strengthen sustainable food systems, advance sustainable material pathways, and protect natural features. The session will also introduce OSI’s Circular Economy Action Plan, currently being co-created with circular economy experts and the Ann Arbor community. This action plan establishes clear, actionable steps to accelerate a thriving local circular economy and maximize the impact of Ann Arbor’s sustainability efforts.

Friday, March 13th
2 – 3 PM


[Register Here!](#)



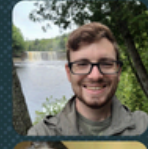
A²ZERO SPEAKERS




Bryce Frohlich, Community Resilience Specialist
 Bryce (he/him) focuses on resilience-building initiatives and programs within the Office of Sustainability and Innovations. A graduate of the University of Michigan’s School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS), he is passionate about co-development when it comes to implementing solutions for how our communities address climate impacts. As the Community Resilience Specialist for the Office of Sustainability and Innovations (OSI), Bryce facilitates a myriad of different resilience initiatives, including the A²ZERO Ambassador Program and Resilience Hub partnerships.




Azella Markgraf, Sustainability Coordinator – Food
 Azella’s work focuses on programs and initiatives that advance a more resilient, sustainable, and equitable community food system in Ann Arbor. A native of Central Ohio, Azella has a professional background in regenerative agriculture, farmers market and nonprofit management, and food justice advocacy. She received a Bachelor’s Degree in Environmental Studies and Anthropology from Davidson College. Azella describes herself as a passionate lover of all things fresh and delicious and sees the growing and sharing of food as an opportunity to foster meaningful connections between people, food, and land.



Sean Reynolds, Senior Analyst
 Sean oversees work on various environmental and community resilience programs and initiatives, including air quality monitoring, the Pollinator-Aware Yard Care program, and the 10,000 Trees initiative – a program aimed at getting trees planted on private property. He has prior urban forestry experience through Casey Trees, a non-profit in Washington, D.C., and has an M.S. degree in Forestry from Auburn University. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, reading, cooking, and spending time with his husband and their two cats, Glacier and River.



Genevieve Rattray, Sustainability and Innovations Manager
 Genevieve is passionate about circular economy practices and policies and in her role focuses on strategy 4 and 5 of the city’s A2ZERO Plan. Prior to joining the OSI team, Genevieve focused on reducing the impact of single use plastic through coalition building and community collaboration. She designed and directed environmental conservation programs for the Belle Isle Conservancy, the nonprofit organization supporting Detroit’s 982-acre island park on the Detroit River, an international waterway shared by the US and Canada. Genevieve has her Master of Social Work degree with a macro concentration in Innovation in Community, Policy and Leadership (I-CPL) and her Bachelor of Fine Art.



Claire DeBlanc, Sustainability Coordinator – Circular Economy
 Claire’s work focuses on advancing initiatives and programs centered around advancing an equitable, sustainable, and resilient circular economy in Ann Arbor. Programs that Claire works on includes clothing swaps, electronics recycling/refurbishing collections, refrigerant management, and circular economy action planning. She is passionate about making sustainable practices accessible so everyone can be involved. Claire is a graduate of Central Michigan University where she studied environment science, political science, and environmental studies and also worked in the university’s office of sustainability.