

Note: JCEP Board members conducted a round table discussion session at the Galaxy Conference. Participants were asked to write down responses on note cards to the questions of : 1.) How can we encourage sustainable practices through Extension programming in the future? 2.) What does sustainability mean to you? 3.) What does living sustainably mean to you? and 4.) How does sustainable living fit into your work? The notes were placed on posters sort for each question. These are the raw, unedited responses that were received from the 50 attendees to the session. The presenters (Viviane Simon-Brown (OR), Catherine Elliott (ME), Dick Senese (MN) and Chuck Otte (KS) will be processing the responses into ideas and suggestions for future action.

Sustainable Communities Initiative
Flipchart responses and
Climate Change session ideas

JCEP Galaxy conference
Indianapolis IN
September 15-19

Group ideas *How can we encourage sustainable practices through Extension programming in the future?*

... Competition between county offices to reduce % of consumption

... Know your carbon footprint

... reduce-reuse-recycle and acknowledge businesses that do

... Explore possible benefit of 4-day work week

... Work with zoning boards to reduce dependence on autos

... Increase # and accessibility of bike trails

... Network with other organizations to spread information

... Centralized location for items to be reused

... Eco-ventures sustainability program for youth and families.

www.ifplantscouldtalk.rutgers.edu

... Work with local community groups, watershed organizations, depts of environmental protection

... Youth and adults as environmental stewards

... Have kids write/do PSA's about sustainable living

- ... Reframe the issue to engage those who don't have an interest in sustainable living, ie, farmers interested in drought, homeowners interested in energy costs and then show the links
- ... University president established university office of sustainability. All county offices are seen as mini campuses, so will over next year set priorities on reuse, reduce and recycle (Iowa State)
- ... Market as 'the right thing to do', not climate change
- ... Incorporate sustainable living education into curriculums of existing programs instead of creating new programs
- ... Watch movies: The Story of Stuff at www.thestoryofstuff.com. Garbage: The revolution starts at home.
- ... CES is part of a university-wide sustainability initiative
- ... Walk the talk. recycle, promote healthy lifestyle, ie walking, etc.
- ... Have flexible work hours - 4 day weeks, etc... to save fuel
- ... Expand our networks and work groups
- ... LEED certified environmental education center at 4-H youth centers
- ... Promoting energy conservation and waste reduction
- ... Promoting community initiatives to find solutions to alternate energy sources that are viable in our state
- ... More work in the area of renewable energy (ie woody biomass)
- ... Go to www.afors.org Connect with non-profit organizations doing this work. Collaborate!
- ... Educate youth and adults on 3 R's
- ... Walking our talk by doing green practices in our offices (Yes!) (Ditto)
- ... Recycling at all conferences, meetings, etc
- ... Practice what we preach
- ... It's an incredible opportunity for Extension

Poster responses: *What does sustainability mean to you?*

- ... Being able to continue something longterm
- ... Around for awhile
- ... If we can meet the needs of today and tomorrow for the next generation
- ... Providing for the future while enjoying the present
- ... A chance for a good life for my children
- ... Means Extension will be viable and relevant for generations to come
- ... Environmentally conscious
- ... Economically, socially and environmentally viable now and in the future
- ... Keeping things going!
- ... Taking care of the resources so my grandchildren can have a good world
- ... Maintain AND improve
- ... The ability of a unit (family, community, nation) to produce goods/etc over and over and over
- ... Consistency and endurance and security
- ... Purchase an item, then have it work for several years without draining our resources
- ... Provide for immediate needs while preserving growing assets for future generations
- ... Sustainability: Being employed, alive, no growth. Same state over long period of time
- ... Knowing how to make informed decisions

Poster responses *What does living sustainably mean to you?*

- ... Intentional efforts to meet my own needs
- ... Leaving behind for others more than I used
- ... Reduce, reuse, recycle
- ... Doing what I can to 'save' the environment
- ... Leaving or giving as much as I take or use

- ... Only taking what I need. Thinking about ways to reuse
- ... Being comfortable with the safety of my food
- ... Meeting the family's need - food, \$, shelter, etc
- ... Reducing waste
- ... Leaving behind a better world for my children to live in
- ... Thinking long-range thoughts about EVERYTHING
- ... Having as minimal an impact on the environment as I can while still meeting my own needs!
- ... Not using any more resources than I need!
- ... A lifestyle that doesn't degrade our planet

Poster responses *How does sustainable living fit into your work?*

- ... Work in a LEED certified building
- ... Helping community members continue or start partial subsistence lifestyles which often includes relearning skills (food preservation/sewing...)
- ... Overweight issue has become focus of my efforts
- ... Doing sustainable development - sustainable cities initiatives
- ... We have a receptacle for pop cans
- ... Don't turn on the lights when I get to the office
- ... Working with the community (feed yard, dairy, security)
- ... Smart growth, walkable town, local foods, consumer choices, recycling, reusing
- ... Helping families understand green living
- ... Reuseable shopping bags, CFL lights, power save on computers
- ... Take my bags with me instead of getting more. Taking my water in reuseable bottles
- ... Grow your own fruits and vegetables
- ... As a principle to consider in community planning

... Saving scrap paper to print on for in-office use

... Balance of work and home

... Recycle as much as possible. Lower paper use. Reuse materials. Temperature at 68 F in winter, 75 F in summer

... Stop overfeeding people at presentations. MS is #1 in obesity

... We need to focus on getting rid of plastic grocery bags

... Being self sufficient

... We reuse bubble packs that we get in the mail

... Recycle everything

... Stop printing powerpoints

... For some programs, refer people to our websites instead of printing handouts. Charging fees to do cost recovery of programs.

... Making all the connections I have as an Extension agent fit together to use each other

... We need to make sure youth development is strong and of high quality so the future of our communities is sustained

... Helping families live healthier and successful lives

... We use used paper for note pads

... Integrating social, environmental and economic desires to create a balance in your life.

... Plastic grocery bags go to food pantry

... We recycle

... Promoting consumption of local foods