

About National Wildlife Federation's Higher Education Programs



El Paso Community College

Since 1989, the National Wildlife Federation has worked to advance sustainability at colleges and universities across the country, working with students, faculty and staff on efforts including energy conservation, habitat restoration, sustainable food, consumption and waste, and more. In recent years, we have commenced several efforts to hone in on specific audiences and strategies. In 2014, we launched the [NWF EcoLeaders Community](#) to support high school and college students and young professionals in gaining skills in leadership, sustainability, and project design and implementation through campus and community projects. A key feature of this community is the opportunity for individuals to earn leadership certification to share with prospective employers. The EcoLeaders community also includes an online [career center](#) that features over a dozen career sector outlooks with information on required education, credentials and trends and an interactive tool to help individuals map out their own personal career plans. NWF hosts an annual [EcoCareers Conference](#), a two-day virtual conference, connecting these students and young professionals with leading analysts, counselors, and green employers. Campus sustainability remains at the core of NWF's higher education work, and in 2018, NWF began managing the [RecycleMania](#) program that engages campuses in a friendly competition to reduce waste of all types and increase recycling. Additionally, we host a [Campus Pollinator Pledge](#) that helps educate about pollinators and encourage campuses to take action to create and restore habitat to protect pollinators.

Some 18 billion pounds of plastic waste flows into the oceans every year from coastal regions – the equivalent of five grocery bags of plastic trash sitting on every foot of coastline around the world. (2017 study, “Production, Use, and Fate of All Plastics Ever Made”)²

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to recognize and thank the following colleges and universities featured in *Stemming the Tide: Taking Action Against Plastic Pollution on Campus*.

Aquinas College, Michigan, page 14
Auburn University, Alabama, pages 19, 33
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