

Human Ecology (Biol 345) Report 2015

For this third year undergraduate biology course the Students researched and uploaded an ignite talk to YouTube on a topic of their choice, created or improved a Wikipedia article on a topic related to sustainability in or around Vancouver and designed and carried out an ecology or sustainability project that benefited their local community.

Ignite Talks on YouTube

City of Vancouver: Greenest City Action Plan

Student: Kimia Parsian

Kimia discusses the City of Vancouver Greenest city 2020 action plan, specifically comparing and contrasting two proposals to reduce organic waste going into landfill, centralized composting and internal food waste disposers.

Link: <http://y2u.be/z8kYFg3DXLO>

Plastic ocean: The effect of Toxic marine debris

Student: Lacey Smith

Lacey tells us about the great pacific garbage patch, focusing on where the garbage comes from and why it is so detrimental for the oceans and its wildlife.

Link: <http://y2u.be/26ZhWVcY5f0>

Acid Mine Drainage in British Columbia

Student: Laura Sierra

Laura investigates why acid mine drainage in British Columbia is so harmful to the environment, focusing on Britannia mine in Squamish.

Link: http://y2u.be/_Yij1YtzTEM

Wildlife collisions in British Columbia

Student: David Ko

David discusses wildlife collisions in BC, how wildlife crossings in Alberta have helped prevent wildlife deaths and examines whether they would be effective in BC.

Link: <http://y2u.be/jxV61Bwx4A0>

A local invasive species: deer on Haida Gwaii

Student: Peter Lambert

Peter tells us about the invasive deer species *Sitka Blacktail* on Haida Gwaii and how hunting might help reduce their numbers.

Link: <http://y2u.be/C7jwnMpPxDs>

Sustainability Initiatives of UBC and UConn

Student: Rachel Cho

Rachel compares and contrasts the sustainability initiatives of the University of British Columbia and the University of Connecticut

Link: <http://y2u.be/QuIXikUObD8>

Don't frack with the Yukon

Student : Eva Regehr

Eva tells us about fracking and the potential impacts fracking might have on the Yukon.

Link: <http://y2u.be/JqNXwLz8Gug>

Diatoms and ceramic water filters

Student: Jacob Bosancich

Jacob discusses ceramic diatom filters, how cheap and effective they are and how they could help save lives in places without access to clean drinking water

Link: <http://y2u.be/c7icHi-wzw0>

Carbon capture and storage in Canada

Student: Batuhan Albas

Batu discusses the pros and cons of carbon capture and storage in Canada and whether it is a viable option to help reduce Canada's carbon emissions.

Link: https://youtu.be/_PNjEN-0ck

Entomophagy: Insects as food

Student: Henry Yeh

Henry investigates the sustainability benefits of insect consumption and how switching from eating meat to eating insects could be healthy and good for the environment.

Link: <http://y2u.be/8ZUFQkOJAQA>

Dying Sustainably

Student: Jocelyn Bussieres

Jocelyn instructs us how to ensure that when we die, our bodies don't contribute to pollution of the environment.

Link: <https://youtu.be/yQdU7oqprjk>

The Childhood Obesity Epidemic

Student: Taylor Keraiff

Taylor talks about the rise in childhood obesity, some of the potential causes and solutions.

Link: <http://y2u.be/Tvts6VCJb-w>

Superweeds

Student: Christopher Vilayphonh

Chris investigates how the use of herbicide resistant crops and other changes in agricultural practices have caused the growth in the prevalence of superweeds.

Link: <https://youtu.be/UfR5k4WA2Mo>

Alberta Oil Sands

Student: Dylan Iruretagoyena

Dylan investigates the economic and environmental impact of the Alberta Oil Sands and what the future of the oil sands might look like.

Link: <https://youtu.be/Q1H0YVENImM>

Wikipedia Articles

Malcolm Knapp Research Forest

Students: Taylor Keraiff and Rachel Cho

Taylor and Rachel created a new article on UBC's Malcolm Knapp Research Forest in Maple Ridge

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_Knapp_Research_Forest

Richmond Nature Park

Students: Laura Sierra and Kimia Parsian

Kimia and Laura created a new article about Richmond Nature Park

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richmond_Nature_Park

Maplewood Flats Conservation Area

Students: Jacob Bosancich and Eva Regehr

Jacob and Eva created a new article about the Maplewood Flats Conservation Area in Vancouver

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maplewood_Flats_Conservation_Area

Vancouver Community Gardens

Students: Jocelyn Bussieres and Christopher Vilayphonh

Jocelyn and Chris produced a new page about Community Gardens in Vancouver including a list of locations

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vancouver_Community_Gardens

Waste Management in Turkey

Students: Batuhan Albas

Batu's new article is about waste management practices in Turkey

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waste_management_in_Turkey

Protect Our Winters

Students: Arik Tadeo and Lacey Smith

Arik and Lacey created a new article about Protect Our Winters, a non-profit environmental organization.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protect_Our_Winters

UBC Biomass Research and Demonstration Facility

Students: Dylan Iruretagoyena and Adrian Cheng

Dylan and Adrian have created a new page about the biomass research facility here at UBC

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UBC_Biomass_Research_and_Demonstration_Facility

Central Park (Burnaby)

Students: Peter Lambert and David Ko

Peter and David replaced a stub article about Central Park in Burnaby with a greatly improved and expanded version.

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Park_\(Burnaby\)](en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Park_(Burnaby))

Community Projects

Yoga Mat Recycling

Student: Taylor Keraiff

In the yoga studio where she works, Taylor set up a mat upcycling corner. People leave old mats they no longer want, and for a small donation people can buy these mats. In the first few weeks of the scheme she raised over \$75, which she will donate to an environmental charity.

Organics composting

Student: Laura Sierra

To educate and encourage her neighbours to compost their organics, she set up a compost bin in her front garden, visible from the road, and arranged to regularly collect compost from four family houses including her own. She handed out leaflets to her neighbours to inform them of her project, the benefits of organic composting and what can and can't be composted! She plans to grow vegetables with the compost produced to share with the participants.

Community Book Box

Student: Jocelyn Bussieres

Jocelyn set up a community book box in the UBC community café Seedlings. The aim of the box is for people to share books, magazines, infosheets, receipts etc. that are focused on sustainable living.

Battery Recycling

Student: Batuhan Albas

To encourage people to recycle their used batteries, Batu arranged to collect batteries from his neighbours. In total he collected 74 batteries which he took to the recycling location 'Call2Recycle'. He also gave his neighbours a flyer for 'Call2Recycle' to encourage them to recycle their own batteries in the future.

Reusable mug recycling

Student: Lacey Smith

Lacey designed and carried out a survey to understand why people on UBC campus do not use their own reusable mugs more often when buying hot drinks. This project is going to be part of UBC's Social Ecological Economic Development Studies (SEEDS) initiative.

UBC Marketplace Apartment Recycling

Student: Kimia Parsian

To encourage individuals living in UBC Marketplace apartments, Kimia is putting recycling bins outside each apartment (if they have given her permission). She is informing each apartment what they can recycle and until she moves out she will collect the recycling and reward those that recycle with homemade cookies!

Garry Point Shoreline Cleanup

Student: Shonah Mhene

Shonah recruited students from Robert A. McMath high school to help him clean up the beaches at Garry Point.

Invasive Species Poster

Student: Arik Tadeo

Arik produced a poster identifying the invasive plant species at Lynn Headwaters park. The poster will be displayed in the parking lot.

Compost bin in apartment building

Student: Jacob Bosancich

Jacob set up a composting bin for his apartment complex to encourage his neighbours to start composting. His neighbours have been enthusiastic about the project and the bin has been filling up quickly.

Hummingbird feeders

Student: David Ko

To encourage people to hang hummingbird feeders, David made his own feeders, took photos of the hummingbirds that fed at the feeders and posted them online <https://instagram.com/davidkooko>

Sustainable Travel to Whistler

Student: Dylan Iruretagoyena

Dylan created a website for UBC students to inform them of sustainable ways to travel to Whistler and sustainable activities to do once they are there.

blogs.ubc.ca/communityprojectbio345

Sausage making workshop

Student: Peter Lambert

Peter organized a sausage making workshop to encourage people to get to know their meat comes from. His workshop was such a success that has applied for a grant from the Vancouver Foundation Neighbourhood Small Grants program to run more workshops.

E-waste recycling in UBC Kinesiology

Student: Christopher Vilayphonh

Chris organized an E-waste recycling day at UBC's department of Kinesiology (chrisvilay.wix.com/cv2014). He collected four boxes worth of electronics from over 30 students and took them to be recycled.

Reduction of Chemical Detergent Use

Student: Dongyuan Wu

To encourage people to make their own eco-friendly soap, Donguyan ran a homemade soap making workshop for his community in Kerrisdale Quilchenca.

Scaring away crows

Student: Henry Yah

Henry investigated safe and sustainable ways to deter crows from gardens.

Pen Recycling

Student: Adrian Cheng

Adrian is in the process of setting up a pen recycling scheme for students at UBC.

Sustainable salmon

Student: Eva Regehr

Eva's project was to inform consumers in Vancouver how to make sustainable choice when buying and consuming salmon. She created a website where she reviewed restaurants and retailers.

selectsustainsalmon.wordpress.com