

# Sustainability Opportunities

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## 2016 Monthly Focus Areas

January & February    March & April    May & June

**LAND**

**WATER**

**PEOPLE**

July & August    September & October    November & December

**AIR**

**ENERGY**

**MATERIALS**

## At the Johnson Space Center (JSC)

- Already reduced energy consumption 10% since 2000



- Planting 90% native vegetation, decreasing water needs

- Diverting 50% of trash from landfills through recycling, reuse, and reduction



## What are you doing?

- Calculate and reduce your ecological footprint



- Get involved in your community

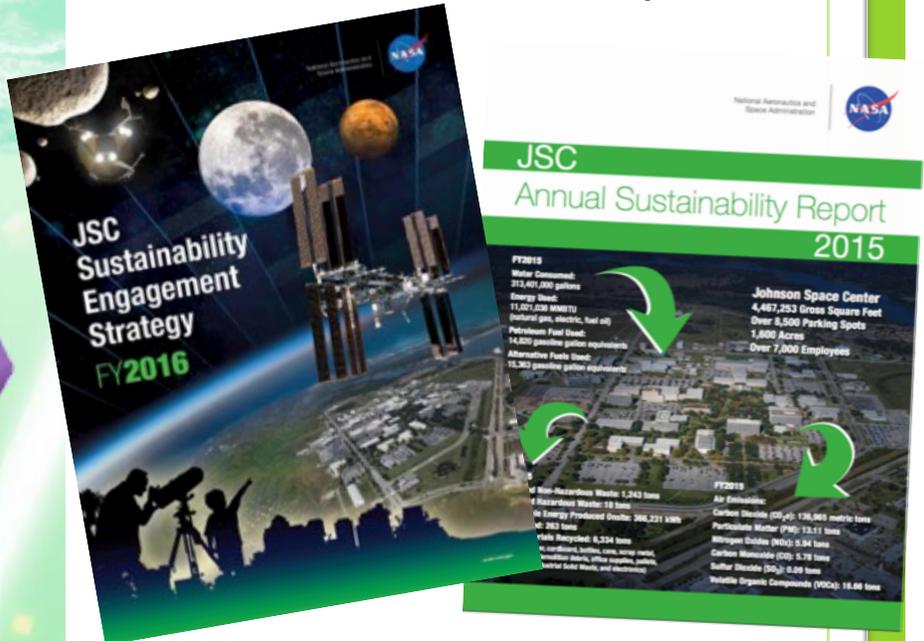


- What else?



“My goal as the JSC Center Operations Director is to create a working environment where JSC employees feel happy, comfortable, and productive to support our mission. Similarly, my vision for sustainability is that it’s something we don’t even think about; it’s ingrained in our thinking. We just do it.”

**Joel Walker, JSC Center Sustainability Officer**



If everyone lived your lifestyle, how many Earths would it take? Calculate your **ecological footprint!**

**#nasagoesgreen**

tag your green actions!

To unsubscribe from this newsletter, go to <https://lists.nasa.gov/mailman/listinfo/jsc-sustainability>



## Upcoming Energy Competition

A Look at Previous Years

The Green Team is back with another Power Play vs. Power Slay Energy Competition, in which they hope to defeat the evil Energy Vampire, who sucks energy out of plugged in (but unused) appliances! Starting August 1 and spanning ten weeks, buildings onsite will compete to reduce electrical usage by as much as possible. The goal is continue being conscious of phantom appliances after the competition is over, and keep overall energy usage down!

JSC has competed in two prior Energy Competitions, in 2011 and 2013. The buildings are split into two categories – inside the mall and outside. In 2013, the winning building inside the mall reduced their energy consumption by 19.8%, and the winning outlying building reduced by almost 19.4%!

How can you help defeat the Energy Vampire? Start with the simple stuff – unplug your computer, speakers, or chargers at night. Turn off the lights when you leave the room. Ensure the coffee maker is not plugged in when it is not being used. These steps may seem small, but all of your individual actions can add up and make a huge difference! Buildings will be monitored every other week for energy changes.

### Did you know?

**You can use the Green Team internal site as a one-stop shop for links about climate change, quick tips on how to be more sustainable, and local daily data on air quality!**

[Green Team Website](#)



# Bring Your GREEN TO WORK

ENERGY STAR



with ENERGY STAR®

The small steps **you** take at work to save energy can make a **big** difference.



# Ongoing Events

Note: **Green** indicates a JSC internal event

## **Free Day in Nature - every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday**

Hike the trails (guides available). View the prairie, forest, marshes, and reptiles on display.

12:00 – 5:00PM

Armand Bayou Nature Center

Further info: (281) 474-2551x10 or [www.abnc.org](http://www.abnc.org)

## **Nassau Bay Farmer's Market – every Wednesday**

Enjoy organic produce and other products just across the street!

3:00 – 6:00PM

Upper Bay Rd., Nassau Bay, TX 77058

POC: Ann Rogers

## **Nature Nurture Series – every first Saturday**

Free admission and family friendly! This upcoming class is on Camping!

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Baytown Nature Center

## **Bayou Bikers – every first Sunday**

Free admission, just bring your own bike! 25 – 40 mile bike rides around beautiful Houston.

Starts at 8:00AM

Market Square

## **Sheldon Lake Prairie Restoration – every Tuesday**

Free to participate! Come enjoy nature and help restore the prairie.

11:00AM – 1:00PM

Sheldon Lake State Park, 14140 Garrett Road, Houston, TX 77044

## **Houston Urban Gardeners – every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday**

Come to these meetings to learn how grow your own food and find fresh, local produce.

Starts at 6:30PM

Multiservice Center, 1475 W. Gray, Houston

# Upcoming Events

Note: Green indicates a JSC internal event

## **August 6<sup>th</sup> – Marysee Prairie Work Day**

Put on your boots and come clean up the tallgrass prairie with the Texas Land Conservancy. Tools are provided!  
Starts at 9:30AM  
220 County Road 2077, Hull, TX

## **August 10<sup>th</sup> – JSC Sustainability Partnerships Team Meeting**

### **August 11<sup>th</sup> – The Year of Reading Dangerously**

Join us in a discussion over *Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know* by Joseph Romm.  
12PM – 1PM  
The Houston Public Library

### **August 13<sup>th</sup> – Starting a Community or School Garden**

Join us for this \$20 workshop to learn how to build a community garden, from funding to the actual creation of the garden. Please bring a sack lunch.  
8:30AM – 2:30PM  
University of St. Thomas, Malloy Hall, Rm 017

## **August 16<sup>th</sup> - JSC Green Team Meeting**

### **August 16<sup>th</sup> – Environmental Brown Bag**

Join the Environmental Office and Steve Seltzer from Houston's Green Building Resource Center to discuss low impact development (LID) techniques that help maintain existing hydrology when constructing new structures and reduce flooding impacts.  
12PM – 1PM  
B12/Room 200

### **August 18<sup>th</sup> – Nature Revealed: All About Birds**

Get an introduction to bird biology and bird watching, both inside the classroom and out! \$10 member/\$25 nonmember  
2:00PM – 4:00PM  
Houston Arboretum and Nature Center

### **August 27<sup>th</sup> – Estuarine Odyssey**

Explore the estuarine ecosystem, tidal flats, and marshes of the Armand Bayou. Bring your sense of adventure and a change of clothes! \$25/person.  
9:00AM – 12:00PM  
Armand Bayou Nature Center

## Featured Employee: Ann Rogers

Making a hobby into a creative means of sustainability

Ann Rogers is a recently retired NASA employee who worked in the nutritional biochemistry lab for eleven years.

Ann has always enjoyed purchasing handmade soaps. She took a class to learn how to make them and soon began to sell soaps at a Farmer's Market in 2007, turning a hobby into a fun and creative way to be economically and materially sustainable.

These soaps contain no chemical preservatives, which means that what goes down the drain is not harmful to the environment. She also wraps soaps in expired wallpapers – reusing a product that would otherwise go into the landfill.

It can be easy to incorporate sustainable aspects into our consumer decisions and life outside of work in actions you enjoy; for Ann, that is

making her own soap. What can you think of to make your daily actions more “green”?



Ann with soaps at the Farmer's Market

## Green Team Photo Competition



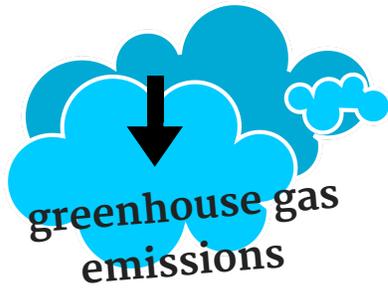
**This Month's Winner Is...**

Chris Gerty (@gertycam, instagram)

"The protected wildlife @nasajohnson appreciates that #nasagoesgreen - finding shade amongst space hardware."

# Sustainability Goals

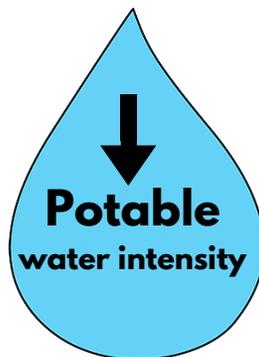
JSC is working towards reaching all ten goals set by Executive Order 13693.



Lower building energy consumption



Divert waste from  
← landfills



Evaluate climate change

## RISKS

Work with energy-efficient equipment



Use renewable energy



*Award investment value to energy performance contracts*