

Dear sustainability enthusiasts,

Welcome to the 35th edition of the newsletter that we publish as the university's climate action management team. Here you will find small reports from the university's climate action and sustainability cosmos at more or less regular intervals.

If you have recently joined us (yay!), you can view the old issues on the [website](#). There is also a short survey waiting for you at the bottom of the newsletter.

The Future is on Board

We are kicking things off right away with an event invitation. On September 10, the Sustainability Sounding Board will take place for the third time—our university-wide public engagement initiative featuring various keynote presentations and hands-on workshops. This time, we are holding the event under an overarching theme: “The Future Is On Board.” With this theme, we aim to bring together the topics of mobility and generations/family. You will hear keynote talks on environmental awareness among parents, gender-equitable mobility, the role of remote work in the transportation transition, and a presentation from the City of Oldenburg’s Mobility Department. During the workshop session, you can delve deeper into the topic of gender-equitable mobility, gather concrete ideas for promoting night trains at the university, develop a family learning trail on campus, or brainstorm ways to communicate the university’s mobility offerings. We hope there is something for everyone in the program and look forward to your registration. You can register [here](#) starting now.

Universitätsplatz 1

One outcome of the last Sustainability Sounding Board meeting was a proposal by the City of Oldenburg to redesign the upper section of the street “Uhlhornsweg” (that is the section near our university) into a university plaza. Students associated with Students for Future held a workshop at the last Sustainability Sounding Board on climate-friendly redesign (and traffic calming) of “Uhlhornsweg” and were able to present the results at the subsequent meeting with city officials. One thing led to another, and now the city of Oldenburg has applied for federal funding to carry out this project. If the project were to succeed, it would of course not only be wonderful publicity for the effectiveness of our events (🤖), but also a great reward for the students’ commitment—and, of course, really good for our university in general. You can view the project proposal on the City of Oldenburg’s council portal [here](#). [link in German].

A Home for the Wild Bee Colony

Another student project—and not a small one at that—was carried out this spring at the Wechloy campus. Funded by the faculties’ sustainability budget (in this case, Faculty V), environmental science students built a large sandarium. Together with new, carefully selected plant species, this large nesting structure is intended to provide a new habitat for various wild bee species and other insects. The result can be admired behind buildings W33/W34; an information sign with further details is to follow. You can find more information about the project (and inspiration to try it yourself) [here](#).

Wildflower Meadows

While you are out and about on campus, why not take the opportunity to catch one last glimpse of the flowering meadows before fall arrives? Once again this year, Department 4 has created many flowering and wildflower meadows—perhaps you’ve already spotted a few of them. We’ve posted an overview map on our website where you can locate these flower-filled spots. You can find the map [here](#).

As you can smell, you cannot smell anything

Everyone knows that unpleasant feeling when the person next to you has, in your opinion, put on too much deodorant or perfume. But how do people get through life when nearly every fragrance is difficult or even unbearable for them? It’s not just deodorants or perfumes—but also, for example, fragrances in soaps—that make “normal” participation in everyday life nearly impossible for these individuals. Now the university has taken a first step and will only order fragrance-free soap going forward. While remaining supplies are still being used up in some buildings, in most restrooms the soap used for handwashing should no longer have any scent. Further information on this topic is available, for example, from the Federal Environment Agency [here](#)

We need you

If you work at the university, you’re probably familiar with PEO.E’s continuing education offerings, which include seminars and workshops on topics ranging from communication and Excel to health-related programs. Now we have a question for you: Suppose (purely hypothetically) there were a new category in this program on the topic of “Sustainability & Climate Protection”—which topics would interest you? Which offerings would you take advantage of? Where do you see a need—for yourself and/or your work environment? Please let us know by taking our survey [here](#) [link in German]

With these articles, we’ll leave you until the next issue (hopefully you haven’t noticed that our update on the campus bikes in our fleet has been delayed).

Perhaps you’d like to recommend this newsletter format to a friend or two—we’d appreciate it.

Best regards and have a great summer break,

Anna Krämer