



Former NGO Sustainability Summer Intern Reconnects with NGO Sustainability

“Since graduating from the University of the Connecticut where I studied Environmental Science with a concentration in Global Change, Geoscience and GIS (Geographic Information Systems), I’ve worked in the field of chemicals and waste management at the BCRC-Caribbean (The Basel Convention Regional Centre-Caribbean) providing support for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions through research and assistance with French and Spanish informational capacity. I am also responsible for social media with a commitment to public awareness and education. I will continue to serve the Government of Trinidad and Tobago until 2022 as part of my scholarship agreement. After, I intend to pursue my Master’s in Environmental Hazards and Risk Management at the University of Cote D’Azur in Nice, France.” - Kervelle Baird

SoundWaters Teaches about Plastic Pollution in the Long Island Sound through “One Million Bottle Caps!” Project

SoundWaters, an organization located on Cove Island Park in Stamford, CT, works to protect the Long Island Sound through education. They teamed up with Stamford Public Schools to challenge 6th grade students to collect 1 Million bottle caps, which they did. Through a hands-on investigation of the water, students can visualize the problem that plastic presents, and are inspired to find solutions. The bottle caps collection is part of the larger goal of preventing 2 tons of plastic (the weight of a car) from going into the Long Island Sound. The bottle caps will ultimately be melted down and transformed into benches for schools.

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Photo: Erik Trautmann

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“New Jersey is the first state to add climate change to its K-12 education standards” David Williams, CNN

“New Jersey students will start learning about climate change in kindergarten and keep studying the crisis through graduation under the state’s new education standards” making it the first state within the U.S. to educate its students on climate change from K-12. Tammy Murphy, encouraged the new curriculum, saying that “This generation of students will feel the effects of climate change more than any other, and it is critical that every student is provided an opportunity to study and understand the climate crisis through a comprehensive, interdisciplinary lens.”

[Full article](#)

“Joe Biden has a chance to make history on climate change” David Roberts, Vox

Joe Biden needs “turnout and enthusiasm” from youth voters and the Democratic Party’s base; bold climate policy is the best way to do this. “Climate has become a unifying, enthusiasm-generating issue across the left.” “If Biden pushes a strong climate message based on investments, jobs, and help for struggling communities, he might just be able to peel off a few Trump voters and bring in more youth voters at the same time.”

[Full article](#)



“Why COVID-19 will end up harming the environment” Beth Gardiner, National Geographic

Despite early optimism that the coronavirus shut downs would allow time for the Earth to heal, it is likely that in response to Covid-19, we are facing a more polluted planet. As soon as economies re-open the same infrastructure returns that has been polluting and contributing to climate change. China was one of the first countries to shut down, and thus the first to re-open; they are proof that temporary environmental improvements did not withstand the economy reopening. Even worse, the U.S. government is limiting environmental regulations in hopes of allowing an easier economic recovery.

[Full article](#)



“Greta Thunberg says Covid-19 response shows world can ‘suddenly act with necessary force’”

Zahid Mahmood and Ray Sanchez, CNN

“The coronavirus pandemic proves the world can ‘act with necessary force’ when faced with a global emergency,” teen climate activist Greta Thunberg says. While many people think the pandemic has greatly helped the environment, the changes to daily life have had very little effect, especially considering the drastic measures needed to mitigate climate change. “All parts of society come together and politicians put their different views aside and cooperate for the greater good of everyone,” Thunberg said. Everyone should be able to come together to deal with the climate emergency, as they have for the pandemic, and people must become more aware of our need to depend on science.

[Full article](#)

Images: CNN (above), The Hustle (below)

“Chew On This: Farmers Are Using Food Waste To Make Electricity” Allison Aubrey, NPR

It is estimated from the U.S. Department of Agriculture that the United States produces enough food waste to fill a Chicago skyscraper 44 times annually. In the landfill, this waste produces methane, constituting for 10% of human-made greenhouse gases. By depositing food waste into anaerobic digesters, methane emissions are captured and renewable energy is generated, instead.



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Producer: Roma Stibravy, President

Editors: Juliana Koller, Lauren Steensma

Designer: Ian Bernstein

Contributors: NGO Sustainability Interns Summer 2020

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