



News from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
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UW-EAU CLAIRE HOSTS BLUGOLDS GO GREEN

EAU CLAIRE, Wis., Oct. 5, 2016—More than leaves will be changing color this fall as the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire hosts its second annual Blugolds Go Green litter pickup. Sponsored by the Student Office of Sustainability, the event will take place throughout various locations on campus this Saturday, Oct. 15, from 1-2 p.m.

During this largest, single-day cleanup in the UW System, students, faculty and volunteers join together in an effort to preserve the environment and promote sustainability among the university community.

Over 300 participants are expected to attend this year's pickup, which will take place in conjunction with the locally-organized Amazing Eau Claire Cleanup—a citywide volunteer event with a similar environment-conscious goal.

While the university currently spends close to \$50 thousand each year on litter cleanup, Chancellor James Schmidt believes being proactive about the issue can help lessen the economic impact.

“Events like this one help reduce the financial burden on the university and free up those funds to be spent on worthwhile academic and student life programs,” Schmidt said. “While we will always be Blugolds, it’s okay that one day a year we can call ourselves ‘green.’”

During last year's inaugural event, over 126 pounds of litter—the amount produced by an entire family over one month—were collected, including both trash items and recyclables. But despite the need for waste-handling awareness, one survey revealed that nearly 90 percent of students on campus believe sustainability is an issue of importance.

While Eau Claire community volunteer Timothy Peterson acknowledged this movement in a green-minded direction, he also expressed a desire for an environmentally-secure campus of the future.

“I hope that someday we don't have to have these kinds of events and instead can get together and simply celebrate the unadulterated beauty around us,” Peterson said. “But until that day, I am proud to help make this campus a little more beautiful than it was the day before.”

Actions and attitudes that serve the environment and encourage sustainability play a large role in UW-Eau Claire's reputation as one of the most gorgeous campuses in the Midwest. So when it comes to the ongoing conversation of conservation, Blugolds understand where their priorities lie.

For more information about Blugolds Go Green, please contact the Student Office of Sustainability at 715-836-4646 or sos@uwec.edu.

The University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire is dedicated to providing its students with the necessary tools to succeed in both academic goals and personal passions. From the classroom to the residence halls, Eau Claire believes in maintaining a campus environment that will foster learning, encourage positive interactions and prepare students for a life beyond graduation.

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