



Appalachian State: Student Perspectives on Sustainability

Devyn Barron



“Whether it’s earth day or not I would do it, I mean everyday is earth day... I work with plants a lot, whether it is something like this or working with seeds, or herbs, just in general I like plants a lot... It brings back a deeper connection with myself.”



“The food pantry is really amazing. I had never thought much about working for a food pantry but it is really inspiring to see people coming in and using it... sometimes I am there and I will see like 6 people coming in and using it and I am like woah that’s awesome people who need this are actually using it. It is just really important to feed everyone. We are animals just like the birds and squirrels but they don’t have to pay to eat. So ideally that’s what is so great about this [the community garden], you know if we have little plots like this all over the country everyone can have access to food... I definitely feel inspired now to feed everyone.”



“I consider sustainability to be the preservation of the natural environment. I really want to start composting and we always recycle at my apartment”.



“The earth is the only thing we have. Everything we use comes from it and it can be easy to forget that because of the way we live our lives, but we always want to come back and remember this is the source of everything and if we don’t protect it while we can we are going to be screwed. So love the earth! Plant a tree!”





“I think for me earth day is doing something you don’t normally do to better the environment. So like I do small things everyday like obviously turning off the water while I brush my teeth, or don’t use the paper towels, or throwing away cigarette butts, but I feel like doing something bigger. Like today I got to help build something that even the preschool kids get to use. I just woke up on earth day so excited to be outside and I think that is so important. Especially with politics and stuff today just shows how important it is.”



“For me taking time out of the day and work in the garden and do something whether it is pruning the grape vines or fruit trees, or repotting raspberry bushes, it is very therapeutic to work in the garden”



“Traveling has opened my eyes to sustainability. I have seen people living on very little and with little impact, and it inspires me to do the same!”



“I’m all about tribe mentality, everyone has a role you know?... For sustainability to stick some people need to care about zoning ordinances, some people need to care about the political side, you need people that are just really passionate about losing themselves in dirt all day. Just that tribe mentality where everyone has a role to move together sustainably.”



“I am very big on nature so it does upset me to see so many buildings and knowing the nature is diminishing. As someone one with PTSD and depression just escaping up here and seeing the mountains takes the sadness away from me. Even just being at this elevation makes me feel like I can actually do stuff and not feel so ehh.”

“I like Boone but I like to escape more up to Asheville or the park near where I live and it is absolutely beautiful. There is just this overwhelming sense of peace and it’s awesome... I would like to move to NY. I don’t want to get into philosophy or anything but if you believe in past lives, sometimes I feel like I might have lived there in a past life because my heart just really starts beating when I see it and I am a theatrical person... For me the asheville area just speaks to me... some of my ancestors helped build it so that might be why.”

Simplify, simplify

Henry David Thoreau

EARTH DAY

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