

Staff Updates for Environmental Commission, February 2025

Office of Sustainability and Innovation

Sustainability Forum: Circular Innovation in Ann Arbor's Food and Beverage Sectors: Wednesday, February 26, 6–7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Downtown Branch, fourth floor multi-purpose room. Many local food and beverage businesses are adopting sustainable practices to reduce their environmental impact in addition to providing wonderful products to residents and visitors. Join us at the downtown branch of the Ann Arbor District Library for the second session of the 2025 Sustainability Forum series to learn about the work Ann Arbor's office of sustainability is doing to advance sustainability within the local food business community, as well as hear from the local food entrepreneurs who are reducing landfill waste and advancing a more circular, regenerative food system! Learn more at osi.a2gov.org/events.

Public Services

Barton Dam embankment work and public access restrictions to begin in March. In early March 2025, Barton Dam construction work will begin in Ann Arbor, restricting public access to certain areas of the adjacent Barton Pond, Barton Nature Area, Bird Hills Nature Area and trails to and along the Huron River. This planned, required work will include stabilizing a berm on the downstream slope of the right embankment to address seepage and stability concerns and is projected to be completed by June 2027. City Council voted to approve the embankment rehabilitation on August 19, 2024. Learn more at <https://www.a2gov.org/water-treatment-plant/about-us/dams-and-hydros/>.