

Spring has the Sustainability Office in the mood for celebrating!



Spring has the Sustainability Office in the mood for celebrating! We're leading efforts to make SB150's Birthday Weekend Celebration a low-waste event. We're also excited about energy efficiency at the Century Center and the new implementation focus of the Green Ribbon Commission.

Keep in touch: follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Thank you for working with us toward a vibrant, prosperous South Bend!

--Therese Dorau  
Director, Office of Sustainability

## Green Ribbon Commission Spotlight:



## Roy Saenz

Roy serves on the Green Ribbon Commission and is helping to shape a Commission strategy to *Create and Support a Sustainable Business Culture*. Roy says "My Liberal Arts education from IUSB helped me develop awareness in the concept of sustainability...I believe in tying my business interests with other sustainability activities. My work is focused on improving financial and business sustainability. I believe

## Sustainability In Action

The South Bend Office of Sustainability designs and implements projects and programs that bring environmental, social, and economic value to city government and to the community.

- In May, the Century Center will begin a multi-million dollar renovation, using energy efficiency financing to reduce energy and maintenance costs. Upgrades include 80% of lighting plus heating and cooling systems. New equipment and controls will tailor energy use to each room's needs, wasting less. Improvements will make the building less expensive to run, more comfortable for guests, and more marketable to event planners.
- Waste Reduction! Recycling! We have been working with SB150 Celebration

that if everyone this year met a neighbor and planted a tree or flower...we could keep the momentum going."

In the past few years, Roy has become involved in urban agriculture, learning how to farm on vacant/abandoned urban lots. "Because I grew up a city kid, I have had a vertical learning curve with farming. My neighbor grew up in the county and has been very helpful. I was also exposed to the world of honey bees this year and will be expanding my hobbies to include beekeeping this year."

Roy found South Bend an ideal location to grow his Primerica business, noting that South Bend "is poised for an organic rebirth of entrepreneurialism" and that he is excited to see private investment encouraged in South Bend.

Along with running his own business, his sustainable hobbies, and participating in the Green Ribbon Commission, he volunteers with the Junior Achievement, Latino initiatives, mentors veterans and IU South Bend students, and has served on the editorial board at the South Bend Tribune. Recently, he was elected as chair of the Republican Party of St. Joseph County.

Partners to put the [Zero Waste Event Planning Guide](#) to work. We have been advising a [Leadership South Bend Mishawaka](#) group planning a recycling program for downtown events and working with DTSB to make recycling easier for area businesses.

- Congratulations to John Wiltrout of South Bend Water Works for receiving the Kenneth J Miller award from the [Indiana Section AWWA](#) for his long-time support of Water for People. He has co-chaired the annual "Wine to Water" fundraising event in South Bend since 2009. [Water for People](#) brings together local entrepreneurs, civil society, governments, and communities in developing countries to establish creative, collaborative solutions that allow people to build and maintain their own reliable safe water systems.

## Sustainability on the Calendar

- The Green Ribbon Commission will meet at IU South Bend on Earth Day, April 22. Strategy Groups will tackle seven priorities that address goals of the Strategic Sustainability Plan. After the meeting, Commissioners, university faculty, staff, and students, and the general public are invited to attend the Center for a Sustainable Future's 6th Annual [Earth Day Reception and Awards](#).
- As [South Bend's 150th Birthday Weekend Celebration](#) approaches, we have been working with Celebration Partners and organizing committees to reduce waste from the event. Greener

energy, recycling, and purchasing options are being promoted. For more information, check out the [Zero Waste Events Planning Guide](#).

- Would you like to help celebrate by reducing waste and raising awareness? We need volunteers to help staff Resource Recovery Stations at the Birthday Weekend Celebration. Volunteers will be trained, and will service 3-4 hour shifts at the event as “Waste Watchers.” If you, your friends/family, or your organization are interested, please contact us at [sustainability@southbendin.gov](mailto:sustainability@southbendin.gov) with “Waste Watcher” in the subject line.
- Would you like to help in other areas of the Birthday Weekend event? Volunteer opportunities include: Kids Zone, Adventure Park (run the zip line!), Gus Macker tournament, Memory Lane (record “story corps” style stories about South Bend!), and more! Contact Kylie Carter at [southbend150@gmail.com](mailto:southbend150@gmail.com) or check out the [SB150 website](#) to volunteer.

## Sustainability Makes a Great Birthday Gift!

If you're a Celebration Partner planning on hosting an event for [South Bend's 150th Birthday party](#), check out our Zero Waste Events Planning Guide.



**ZERO WASTE  
EVENTS**  
Planning Guide



## New Faces in the Office of Sustainability

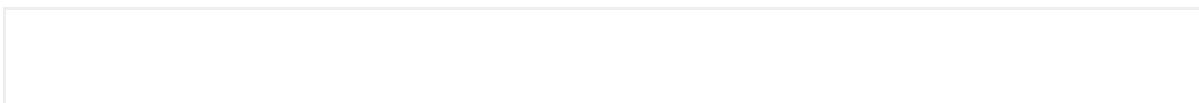


**Maggie Kent**  
Education and Outreach Intern  
**Robin Forsythe**  
Waste Reduction Intern



**Amanda Schockling &  
Sophie Manley**  
Energy Management Interns

We have *paid internship* and *volunteer* positions available for the summer. More details can be found [here](#).





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## South Bend Office of Sustainability

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