

View results

Respondent
11 Jacob Burns

134:42
Time to complete

Instructions:

Please adhere to the session word counts. Project leads must present their project at a SSC Working Group meeting prior to the submitting their application. The Working Group meeting schedule can be found on the SSC website.

NOTE: This document will be shared publicly on our SSC Illinois Climate Action Plan (iCAP) portal so that others can learn from your project.

If you have any questions about Working Groups and/or the SSC application process, please contact the SSC at Sustainability-Committee@illinois.edu.

1

Is the Project Lead a currently enrolled Illinois student? *

NOTE: Only currently enrolled Illinois students are eligible to be a Project Lead.

- ☒ YES (by selecting YES, you affirm that the Project Lead is a currently enrolled Illinois student)
- ☐ NO

2

Project Lead's Name: *

Project Lead must be a currently enrolled Illinois student.

Jacob Burns

3

Project Lead's University Email Address: *

jwburns2@illinois.edu

4

Has someone from the project's team attended an SSC Working Group meeting? If not, please attend one and present your project. After presenting your proposed project (and attendance has been documented by the SSC), please return here to complete your application. *

The Working Group meeting schedule can be found on the SSC website.

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO

5

Select the Working Group meeting you attended. *

- ☐ Energy + Transportation & Infrastructure Working Group Meeting
- ☒ Food & Waste + Land, Air, & Water Working Group Meeting
- ☐ Education & Justice Working Group Meeting

6

Enter the date of the Working Group meeting you attended *

9/18/2024

7

What is your project's name? *

Achieving Sustainability at Atkins Golf Club

8

Total funding requested from the SSC for this project *

This application is restricted to students requesting \$10,000 or less.

10000

Please enter a number less than or equal to 10000

9

Project Category: *

- ☐ Education & Justice
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Food & Waste
- ☒ Land, Air & Water
- ☐ Transportation & Infrastructure

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Project Abstract *

In 100 words or less, briefly describe the project.

The Atkins Golf Club at the University of Illinois is in need of an environmental transformation to make the course more sustainable and competitive. The University and NRES Department are well-equipped to assist with Atkins staff and the DIA in achieving their goals while expanding conservation in the C-U area. This partnership is an excellent opportunity for multiple factions of UIUC to work together towards sustainability. This transformation would present many educational opportunities for all parties involved and would provide a great showcase of the university expanding efforts to support conservation on a large scale, while also achieving athletic goals.

Faculty/Staff Advisor

All student-led projects require a Faculty/Staff Advisor.

11

Faculty/Staff Advisor's Full Name *

Michael Ward

12

Faculty/Staff Advisor's Department *

NRES

13

Faculty/Staff Advisor's University Email Address *

mpward@illinois.edu

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Are there additional members of your project team? *

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO

Additional Team Member

15

Team Member's Full Name: *

Georgia Gmytrasiewicz

16

Team Member's Campus Affiliation/Department: *

NRES (undergraduate)

17

Team Member's University Email Address: *

georgia8@illinois.edu

18

Are there additional members of your project team? *

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO

Additional Team Member

19

Team Member's Full Name: *

Joelle Busby

20

Team Member's Campus Affiliation/Department: *

NRES (undergraduate)

21

Team Member's University Email Address: *

jlbussy2@illinois.edu

Project's Financial Contact

The project's Financial Contact must be a full-time Illinois employee who has the authority to manage the project's financials and generate financial reports on behalf of the project.

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Financial Contact's Full Name *

Michael Ward

23

Financial Contact's Department *

NRES

24

Financial Contact's University Email Address *

mpward@illinois.edu

Project Questionnaire

25

Have you spoken with UIUC's Facilities & Services (F&S) department for approval for your project? *

- ☐ YES
- ☒ NO

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List your proposed project's timeline and major milestones. *

NOTE: SSC funding agreements remain active for two years. Thus, your timeline should reflect your activities over a two year period or less.

Workday scheduled for shrub removal on 11/16/2024
Plants, shrubs, and prairies will be planted in Spring of 2025 (more detailed timeline below)
-Creation of 3 prairies (~3 acres): Start in mid-November, end around 6/1/2025
-Removal of invasive shrubs (holes 15 & 16): Start in mid-November, end around mid-November
-Planting of native shrubs (holes 15 & 16): Start in early spring 2025, end around 6/1/2025
-Removal of dead and dying trees for prairies: Start in winter of 2024, end around early spring 2025
-Strategic planing of native hardwood trees (e.g. oaks): Start in early spring 2025, end around 6/1/2025

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Describe your project in detail. *

Be sure to address the following:

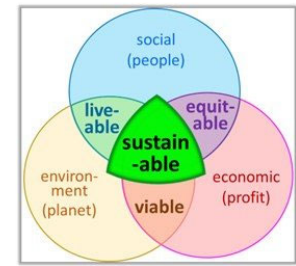
- What are your project's goals and how do you intend to accomplish them?
- What are your project's deliverables?

We are currently working in tandem with Atkins Golf Course personnel at attaining their goals of sustainability while maintaining competitiveness. This includes invasive shrub removal, the creation of prairies, the planting of native shrubs, the removal of unhealthy trees, the planting of native trees, bird box installations etc. Above is a rough timeline. We currently have a workday scheduled at the course with the RSOs Red Bison and the Wildlife Society on November 16th. Atkins will be doing environmental work at the course with or without NRES' consultation. It is beneficial for both parties that NRES is involved to ensure proper native plants and trees are planted and sustainable management techniques are applied while involving university undergraduates to gain knowledge and hands-on experience in restoration.

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Authentic sustainability consists of the overlapping area of 3 spheres: Environment, Society, and Economy.

Describe how your project addresses sustainability. *



I envision this project touching all portions of the above diagram. Atkins' initial goals of making the course more sustainable is to their economic benefit (and to the University's) while also contributing to the conservation of our local environment in Champaign-Urbana. People will absolutely be impacted. Firstly, the course is in the middle of a residential neighborhood, these residents and frequent users of the golf course (and its employees) will benefit from a healthier environment, a more competitive course, and education opportunities on sustainability and local/native plants and wildlife. The many students who will be assisting this process throughout its timeline will benefit from first hand restoration experience, outreach opportunities to educate the public on environmental science, and working closely with professionals in a variety of fields (Atkins staff, DIA, multiple NRES professors, herbicide/prairie specialists. The university will have countless opportunities throughout this process to highlight their work in conservation and cohesiveness between students, faculty, university employees, and Atkins golf course. I truly do see this project as a "no-brainer" for all parties involved (University, Atkins, NRES, Undergraduates etc).

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How many students will be directly impacted by this project? *

We expect 30-40 students to participate in this project, but possibly more.

30

How many students will be indirectly impacted by this project? *

Hard to quantify but we know that students who golf at the Atkins Golf Course will be indirectly impacted. The restoration and professional knowledge gained throughout this experience for students has great potential for to be taught to others and again is hard to quantify.

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What is the intended student impact? *

Be sure to address the following:

- How will this project benefit students?
- How will students be involved with this project?
- What educational components are there in this project?

Students will have opportunities for hands-on restoration experience (shrub removal and planting, tree removal and planting, prairie planting, those able may be able to perform prescribed burns and/or herbicide spraying), opportunities to work closely with university professionals (DIA, faculty) and Atkins staff, as well as outreach opportunities in the form of creating educational signage. Students will be heavily involved, we already have a workday scheduled on 11/16 and will benefit greatly from participating in this process. Countless educational opportunities for field work experience, collaboration etc.

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How does your project promote and increase environmental stewardship at Illinois? *

If applicable, also address what the carbon, water, waste, and/or energy savings is associated with your project.

The University technically owns the land/course. By practicing sustainable land management techniques they will be directly promoting environmental stewardship on their own land and in the state of Illinois. This is a great opportunity for the university to become a leader in the growing trend of golf courses shifting to a more sustainable approach. Other B1G universities have already begun these transformations and Illinois should do the same. By creating prairies, the course will ultimately sequester more carbon. A healthier tree composition/community at the course should also contribute to a larger carbon sink at the course, although this will take many years to come to fruition.

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Does your project aim to advance one or more of the Illinois Climate Action Plan's (iCAP) objectives? If so, describe how.

A full list can be found here: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/objectives>

Quite a few, most are self-explanatory based on previous answers

Improve space utilization, implement resilient landscape strategy, increase number of trees, increase pollinator-friendly areas, broaden sustainability education, local collaborations, urban biodiversity master plan, local sustainability issues, sustainable investing policy

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OPTIONAL: Please attach any letters of commitment or support here, along with any supplemental media that will support your application (presentations, photos, etc.).

Project Finances

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Has your project team or department previously been awarded funding from the SSC for the same or a similar project? *

- ☐ YES
- ☒ NO

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If additional funding is required to achieve your project's goals, do you have a plan in place to obtain additional funding from other sources? *

NOTE: SSC cannot guarantee financial support beyond that provided in an approved funding agreement.

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NOT YET
- ☐ N/A

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Download, complete, and submit the **SSC-Budget-Timeline_NEW APPLICATION_template** file linked below. Please be very detailed so that the SSC can fully evaluate the merit of your funding request.

<https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/2024-09/SSC-Budget-Timeline-NEW-APPLICATION-template.xlsx>

*

 [Achieving Sustainability at Atkins Golf Cours Jacob Burns.xlsx](#)