

After reading Wild Ones, how can you make a difference in your personal life and your community?

At Home or On the Go

- Calculate your environmental footprint!
 - Visit www.footprintnetwork.org to see what you can do to leave a smaller impact on the world.
- Turn the heat down to 70 degrees in winter and the AC up to 76 degrees in the summer
 - Adjusting your thermostat by one degree could save you 10% on energy.
- Wash your clothes in cold water
 - Almost 85% of the energy used in a washing machine is used to heat water.
- Join the challenge to take a 5 minute shower
 - You use approximately 5 gallons of water every minute.
- Use reusable water bottles, cups, mugs, and bags
 - Americans used 50 billion plastic bottles in 2015 but recycled only 23% of them.
- Use your car less or carpool
 - Mason Parking and Transportation offers free shuttles, access to Zimride, Zipcar, and perks for biking to campus (parking.gmu.edu).
- Please Recycle! Make recycling easier by putting bins next to all trash cans
 - Recycling plastic saves double the energy used to incinerate it.
 - Mason has multi-stream recycling including white paper, mixed paper, cans and bottles, cardboard, and e-waste

Dining

- Buy local
 - Local food (250 miles or less) reduces the impact of shipping on the environment.
- Reduce food waste
 - Take only what you can eat.
- Eat a more plant based diet. Support the greenhouse produce.
 - Look for the Mason Greens logo and visit dining.gmu.edu to see what Mason is doing!

Engage at Mason

- See Wild Ones author Jon Mooallem speak at Mason on Thursday, September 29, at 4:30 pm in the Center for the Arts.
 - Visit fallforthebook.org for details.
- Volunteer in the Gardens or Greenhouses, for Campus Clean-ups, or Attend Green Patriots, Earth Month, Sustain the Sustainer Retreat, Bike to Mason Day, the GMU Organic Gardening Association, and more.
 - Visit green.gmu.edu for a complete list of events and organizations.
- Enroll for the Sustainability ENCORE, take a Green Leaf course, or declare a sustainability-focused major!
 - There are at least 125 courses and 25 academic programs found at sustainabilitystudies.gmu.edu

What are you going to do?

This year I commit to make a difference in my personal life by...

This year I commit to make a difference at Mason by...

One impact I hope to make this year by changing my actions is...

Have a great idea to green Mason's campus and want money to implement it? Apply for funding through the Patriot Green Fund at green.gmu.edu.