

# THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENQUIRER

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## CHEERS TO A SUSTAINABLE SEMESTER!

*By Luke Waugh (Grade 12)*

As the semester comes to a close with the club's final publication for 2024, I am extremely satisfied with the work we have accomplished during this first semester. This week, we successfully implemented battery recycling sites at each school on the RBBCSC campus! These sites are another way the Environmental Club promotes sustainable practices, not just in the high school but throughout the entire campus. Additionally, we are in the



*Edgewood High School*

final stages of our project to recycle used plastic grocery bags into pillows, which will be donated to Bloomington's unhoused population. This initiative is a testament to our club's commitment to the community, addressing pressing needs while promoting an important environmental message. We are also collecting bottle caps again for donation to the ILC, which will be repurposed into filament for various needs within the school. The start of this school year has been filled with numerous accomplishments, both big and small, and I am eager to see what 2025 has in store for us!

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

*By Gabby Buckley (Grade 12)*

Mrs. Myers's contributions to Edgewood's environmental initiatives have been incredible. She has worked with the ILC crew by providing different types of plastic to use in extruders, which can be used in products the ILC designs/makes. Using her connections to Cook, she has discussed what types of plastic the ILC needs and has given them a steady supply. She also oversees the Edgewood Coffee Corral, which has incorporated products in the business that are made from plastics, such as the syrup holder. Mrs. Myers also continues to check in to see what the ILC is making from plastic and promotes these products to other consumers, further growing the ILC business. Her positive attitude and dedication have greatly advanced Edgewood's sustainability efforts.



*Mrs. Myers's pictures from a trip to Cook to learn about their plastics*

*Photo from Mrs. Myers*

## STUDENT INTERVIEW

*By: Hannah Clark (Grade 11)*

Today, I spoke with Senior Lilly Hash. Hash said, "My favorite project was making wreaths from scratch, it was so much fun. I got to work with tools and people I never thought I would work with." When asked what she hopes to see from the club, she said, "We are hoping that one day we can install solar panels, and that would be very beneficial and environmentally friendly for the school."



*Photo from Lilly Hash*



*Photo by Mike Badrov / The Indiana Daily Student*

## MONROE COUNTY NEWS

*By Chrislyn Miller (Grade 12)*

Along with the upcoming addition of Stewart Park in Ellettsville, Monroe County is adding another recreational park on the campus of Indiana University: the Student Recreational Sports Center or SRSC. Chris Arvin, project director and executive director of IU recreational sports, said, “A new 30,000 square foot outdoor recreational park is coming to the IU Bloomington campus, featuring dedicated turf for soccer and futsal, six pickleball courts, one full-sized basketball court, an outdoor fitness court, and a general social space” (Badrov). The concept of this park is to provide an outdoor gym for the students at IU to stay fit while also not having to travel far, as this park is located near multiple dormitories on campus. This new park has the first regulation pickleball courts on campus and is open to everyone in Bloomington now!

## STATE-WIDE NEWS

*By Meri Crowe (Grade 12)*

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management recently wrote a helpful article on how we can make decorating environmentally friendly this holiday season. First, they discussed what to do with old broken lights. They recommended recycling old lights at RecycleForce, Ray’s Trash Service, Christmas Light Source, Holiday LED Light Recycling Program or the Indianapolis Zoo. Throwing away holiday lights is not only wasteful but also inconsiderate with the amount of recycling resources Indiana provides. Next, they advise how to recycle holiday trees after the festivities end. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management states, “When it’s time to take down the holiday decorations, remember cut trees can be turned into material for chippings/mulch, erosion protection, or shoreline stabilization”.



*An example of what a Christmas tree could be turned into*



*Gifts wrapped in old newspaper*

## STATE NEWS CONT.

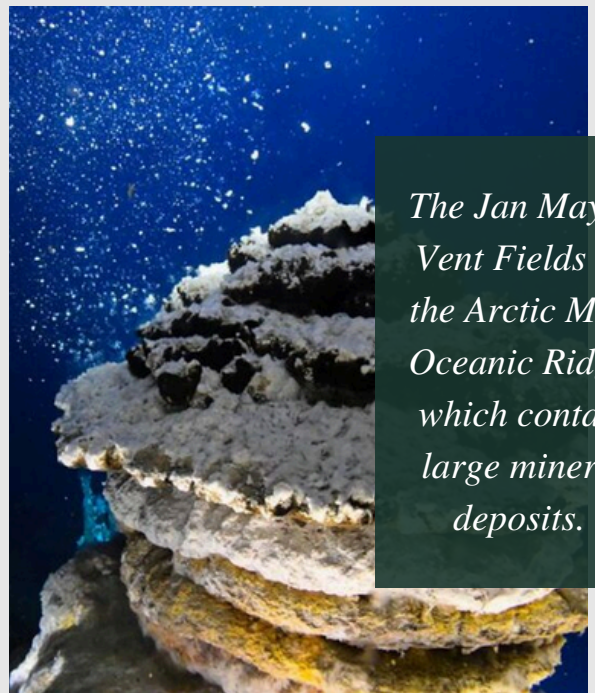
*Meri Crowe (Grade 12)*

Numerous resources in Indiana provide tree recycling services for residents. They suggest consulting Earth911 to find the closest tree recycler to you. Additionally, they provide various tips and tricks to make your holiday cleaner. Purchasing energy-efficient lights is an easy switch that not only lowers your electricity bill but helps our planet too. Energy Star LEDs are recommended by The Indiana Department of Environmental Management. When wrapping presents, consider using newspaper or fun magazines to wrap your gifts, purchase wrapping paper made from recycled paper, reuse bows and ribbons from previous seasons, and save your bows and ribbons this year. All of these things can help make your holiday season cleaner and greener!

## GLOBAL NEWS

*By: Xander Frye & Addy Hash (Grade 12)*

A small environmentalist party in Norway has succeeded in blocking plans to mine the sea bed at the bottom of the Arctic. Although the plan is only suspended and preparatory work can continue, this is considered a huge win by environmental campaigners as Norway has taken the lead role in a global race to mine ocean floor metals that are in high demand. The plans involved opening large sea bed regions and license obtainment for miners. The blockage of the plan opposed by a coalition of 32 countries, including Germany, France, Canada, and Brazil gives hope that the deep sea mining plan can be fully shut down in the future.



*The Jan Mayen Vent Fields on the Arctic Mid-Oceanic Ridge, which contain large mineral deposits.*

University of Bergen

# Contact Info



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Edgewood High School

# WORKS CITED

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- <https://www.idsnews.com/article/2024/11/outdoor-recreational-park-iu>
- (Global News) <https://www.cnbc.com/2024/12/02/norway-hits-pause-on-controversial-deep-sea-mining-plans.html>
- (Global News) <https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2024-12-01/norway-to-stop-deep-sea-mining-says-party-supporting-minority-government>
- <https://www.in.gov/idem/recycle/resources/holiday-recycling/>