

SEPTEMBER 2019

## The 2019 Green Labs Fair



The Green Labs Fair (GLF) is an event for showcasing laboratory products and practices that specialize in environmentally-friendly alternatives for laboratory work. The 2019 event will occur on September 11, 2019 from 12-2pm in the South Lobby of Building 10. The GLF will focus on displaying and educating NIH staff about green products, sharing green practices, and spreading awareness of the environmental initiatives currently happening at the NIH. Vendors will exhibit their various green products during the GLF, giving NIH staff hands-on experience with these products and allowing them to ask questions directly to the vendor. Additionally, IC Green Teams and other groups share their efforts towards making the NIH more sustainable. Lastly, the Division of Environmental Protection will present many of their initiatives that are most crucial to protecting the environment and the NIH.

The Green Labs Fair has been a staple event for staff interested in green practices for over a decade. This event was created through the voluntary efforts of a few laboratory staff, namely Minoos Shakoury-Elizeh (NIDDK), Daman Kumari (NIDDK), Barbara Zwiesler (NIDCD) and Jean Tiong-Kohler (NIA). They began many years ago by hosting smaller events in multiple buildings. However, over the course

of many years, the GLF has expanded and consolidated at its current home in the South Lobby of Building 10. This has allowed the fair to greatly increase the number of vendors in attendance, while also providing a location central to the Bethesda campus with lots of visibility. If you are around Building 10 on September 11, please stop by!

The Green Labs Fair presents products and practices that cover a wide variety of environmental topics, such as recyclable or reusable packaging, less-toxic chemical alternatives, reduced-plastic products, energy-efficient equipment, digital imaging techniques and many more. The current list of vendors that will be present at the GLF is also very diverse. Please check our [NEMS webpage](#) for the most up-to-date information on which vendors and other groups will be in attendance.

Each year, the GLF attempts to add a few new exhibits to embrace current trends and promote new initiatives. As an example, this year the GLF is welcoming the Spread the Warmth initiative and the ACT label. The Spread the Warmth initiative collects surgical covers from NIH operating rooms and creates blankets for local homeless. You can read the full story on the Spread the Warmth initiative [here](#). The ACT label is a "nutrition label-equivalent" from My Green Lab that summarizes the environment impact of laboratory products. The goal is to allow scientists to quickly and easily determine how a given product effects the environment. You can read more about the ACT label [here](#). There will be many other new vendors at the 2019 GLF as well!

Please contact [Josh Haines](#) with any questions about the Green Labs Fair.

## TAKE ACTION



### The ACT Label

The ACT label seeks to provide clear and accurate information on many facets of sustainability for participating products. This information can be used by consumers to make informed purchasing decisions for laboratory products. Click below to learn more about this label.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



### The Spread the Warmth Initiative

A group of NIH staff led by Carrie Wellen is creating blankets from surgical equipment covers from the Clinical Center. These covers would otherwise be discarded to the trash, but now can serve to help those in need. Please read the full article below to learn more.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## NEMS TRAINING

**Did you know?** The Green Labs Fair has been a staple event at the NIH for over a decade. This event was created through the voluntary efforts of only a few NIH lab personnel, which showcases the difference each of us can make through a little hard work! To learn more about sustainability at the NIH, please visit the [NEMS Training webpage](#) to view a short (20 minute) NIH environmental awareness training video.