

STUDENTS LIVING **CARDINAL, GOLD AND GREEN**

Each summer, the City of Ames teams up with the ISU Office of Sustainability for the annual Rummage RAMPage event. This initiative aims to prevent reusable items from ending up in landfills while hosting a community rummage sale. Open to all for both donating and shopping, the event brings energy to the community through social connection and building a common identity toward a sustainable future. Organizing and completing such an event involves a lot of preparation and relies heavily on volunteers. In eight years of this event, the Ames community has energized the diversion of over 380 tons of household items from being landfilled and given energy to Ames, Iowa State University and Story County communities through providing nearly \$300,000 to non-profit and ISU student organizations in support of their missions, goals and initiatives.

This summer, 19 Iowa State University student organizations stepped up to energize and give energy to the 2024 Rummage RAMPage event. As these groups collaborated to bring the event to life, their dedication highlighted the spirit of community involvement and sustainability. From coordinating logistics to engaging with shoppers and donators, their efforts made an energizing difference. This month's issue of Students Living Cardinal, Gold and Green highlights six of the ISU student organizations that brought their energy to Rummage RAMPage, and the unique energy they bring to campus and community year-round.

**RUMMAGE
RAMPAGE**

Image Courtesy of City of Ames

Creating Bonds Through Impactful Participation

For the last two years, the Agronomy Graduate Student Club (AGSC) has participated in Rummage RAMPage. For AGSC, volunteering for this event builds on what their organization is all

about. The student organization promotes social and educational opportunities between graduate students and department members in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University. Creating impactful connections and energizing their communities is the goal of the club. One of their key activities is 'Agronomists from Around the World,' where students share agricultural practices and backgrounds from their home countries or towns.



Photo Courtesy of Agronomy Graduate Student Club

They also host an international potluck every semester, where students and faculty bring dishes from their hometowns, creating an opportunity to connect, share cultures and strengthen the agronomy community.



Image Courtesy of Agronomy Graduate Student Club

The AGSC sees Rummage RAMPage as the perfect opportunity to build these connections while helping to reduce waste and promote sustainability. Participating in Rummage RAMPage is a fun and engaging way to involve more agronomy students who enjoy volunteering and want to give back to the community. Agronomy Graduate students who are interested in participating in AGSC can learn more by visiting the [Iowa State University Student Organizations website](#).

Uniting Passion and Service for a Vibrant Future

The Ames Furry Club is dedicated to fostering connections among

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Iowa State and Ames community members through acceptance and community service. The club aims to unite people to celebrate their passions and cultivate a welcoming environment. They enliven their members with game nights, arts, crafts and movie screenings. In addition to fun activities, the Ames Furry Club actively contributes to the community through vitalizing events like co-sponsored stuffed animal sewing at ISU AfterDark, creating cat toys for the Ames Animal Shelter and volunteering for Rummage RAMPage.



Image Courtesy of ISU AfterDark

So far, they have participated in two Rummage RAMPage events and look forward to continuing their support. The club also sees the event as a fantastic opportunity for members who remain in Ames over the summer to volunteer while raising funds to support their activities. The money raised from Rummage RAMPage has enabled the Ames Furry Club to provide free transportation to a yearly furry convention in Minneapolis and help finance recent events at ISU AfterDark.



Photo Courtesy of Ames Furry Club

The Ames Furry Club welcomes all current ISU students and members of the Ames community who enjoy art, crafts or simply want to spend time with a friendly group. For more information, visit the Ames Furry Club webpage on the [Iowa State University Student Organizations website](#).

Cultivating Connection and Sustainability

Living and studying in a state that significantly influences conventional farming, the Sustainable Agriculture Student Association (SASA) serves as a hub for diverse student ideas on sustainable agriculture. SASA energizes both the Iowa State and Ames communities by promoting sustainable practices and encouraging students to reflect on their impact on sustainability through agriculture. The organization supports various sustainable events across Iowa and fosters broader national and global perspectives through the Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture and its annual Symposium. SASA members have gone on to invigorate their communities by working with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA),

agribusinesses and even starting their own farming operations, all while carrying forward their passion for sustainable practices. The association also champions local food security by supporting [Food at First](#) (Ames' community free-meal program and food pantry), growing fresh produce for donation and hosting monthly community meals.

Since its inception in 2016, SASA has volunteered at Rummage RAMPage, viewing the event as an excellent opportunity to serve the community through waste reduction and helping valuable items find new homes. Members take pride in giving back to Ames while supporting local sustainability efforts, with proceeds reinvested into travel expenses for sustainable agriculture conferences like [Marbleseed](#) in Wisconsin.



Photo Courtesy of the Sustainable Agriculture Student Association

SASA maintains active social media pages on Facebook ([sasa.isu](#)) and Instagram ([sasaisu](#)), where they regularly share updates about volunteer opportunities, garden workdays and social events—making it easy for interested students to stay connected and get involved.

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The group welcomes members from all majors and backgrounds. Follow them or learn more on the [Iowa State University Student Organizations website](#).

Fostering and Energizing Planning for Community

The Community and Regional Planning Graduate Student Club (MCRP) Club is dedicated to fostering networking and professional development for its members at Iowa State. By connecting students with professional planners, the club provides insights into the industry and prepares them for their future. The MCRP Club also organizes social events that bring together faculty and students and encourages participation in professional meetings and conferences within the planning field. The MCRP Club aims to educate the community about the role of planners and how individuals can collaborate with local governments to implement sustainable policies and initiatives in their communities.



Photo Courtesy of the Sustainable Agriculture Student Association

An exciting event like Rummage RAMPage allows club members to engage meaningfully with

each other outside of their academic commitments, while also promoting sustainability to the public. This volunteer experience helps reinforce their dedication to planning and creating a sustainable future. This year marked the MCRP Club's second participation in Rummage RAMPage. To learn more about Community and Regional Planning or getting involved, visit the [Iowa State University Student Organizations website](#).



Photo Courtesy of the Community and Regional Planning Graduate Student Club

Building Fellowship and Growing Empowerment

The Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization (PLP-GSO) is dedicated to energizing students through a supportive system of encouragement, learning and research. PLP-GSO fosters communication about plant pathology while recognizing the importance of making a positive impact in their community. They focus on engaging new graduate students by providing essential resources and support to help them thrive while attending Iowa State University.

By building a strong network, they aim to create a welcoming environment where students



Photo Courtesy of the Community and Regional Planning Graduate Student Club

feel connected. In addition, PLP-GSO prioritizes strengthening relationships with the Ames community, working collaboratively toward a shared goal of promoting a healthy and sustainable environment for both Ames and Iowa State University. This commitment is evident in their proud participation in Rummage RAMPage for the past three years. They view this event as a valuable opportunity to give back to the community while addressing societal, economic and environmental issues.



Image Courtesy of Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization

For PLP-GSO, involvement in Rummage RAMPage serves not only as a fundraising effort but also to contribute to the sustainability of Ames and Iowa State for future generations. Members understand that it can be easy to become absorbed in academic pursuits and overlook the vibrant community of Ames.

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This event allows them to actively engage with residents, strengthening the bond between the university and the community. Rummage RAMPage reinforces their dedication to making a positive difference beyond campus boundaries. To learn more about PLP-GSO, visit the [Iowa State University Student Organizations website](#).

Championing Stewardship and Community

The Animal Breeding and Genetics Graduate Student Organization (ABGGSO) is dedicated to advancing animal breeding and genetics through collaboration, research and education among students. The organization aims to enhance networking opportunities and share innovative solutions for improving animal production, health and welfare via genetics, with a strong focus on sustainability, academic excellence and success and community engagement.



Photo Courtesy of Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization

This past summer, ABGGSO participated in Rummage RAMPage for the first time, motivated by its alignment with their values of sustainability and

community involvement. By repurposing and recycling items, they aimed to reduce waste while giving back to the community. This participation underscored ABGGSO's commitment to sustainable practices, both professionally and personally. The event not only allowed them to contribute to the community but also energized the organization, providing concrete ways to promote sustainability and engage with residents. Members were able to translate their scientific focus on sustainability into actionable efforts, fostering team spirit and camaraderie.

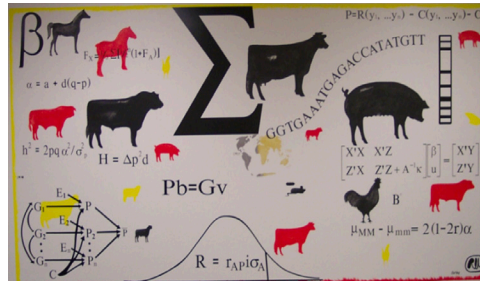


Photo Courtesy of the Animal Breeding and Genetics Website

ABGGSO is dedicated to incorporating sustainability into their daily activities, not just during events like Rummage RAMPage. They promote sustainable practices through academic research and outreach, focusing on sharing current publications related to the genetic enhancement of animals for improved efficiency and reduced environmental impact. Their efforts contribute to a sustainable future by advancing technologies applicable to global animal agriculture. Through events like Rummage RAMPage and other initiatives, ABGGSO promotes

a culture of sustainability and environmental awareness within campus and the wider community. For more information on the Animal Breeding and Genetics Graduate Student Organization and how you can get involved, visit the [Iowa State University Student Organizations website](#).



Photo Courtesy of the Animal Breeding and Genetics Graduate Student Organization

Student organizations at Iowa State University are integral to the success of Rummage RAMPage each year. This event provides a valuable opportunity to connect Iowa State students with the surrounding Ames community. Through collaboration, college students and community members engage in meaningful activities that foster mutual support and energize one another. Together, they contribute to the sustainability movement, creating lasting impacts that benefit and energize both the environment and the community. To learn more about the annual Rummage RAMPage event and how your student organization can get involved, visit the [City of Ames Rummage RAMPage website](#).