

WOMEN in SUSTAINABILITY

JOIN A WOMEN IN SUSTAINABILITY (WIS) CIRCLE – APPLICATIONS OPEN EACH SPRING!

WHAT IS A WIS CIRCLE?

WIS Circles provide a supportive space to build connections, discuss challenges, share opportunities, and explore topics related to leadership, equity, and sustainability.

Each Circle includes 6-8 WIS members and is led by a volunteer Circle Guide. Throughout the circle, every member gets one dedicated session in the "Hot Seat," where the group focuses on their specific needs, goals, or challenges. Topics can range from career development to integrating sustainability. The goal is to provide valuable feedback and actionable insights in a confidential, empathetic, and collaborative environment for your colleagues working to advance sustainability. Each WIS Circle is a confidential, safe space where members can share openly and respond with empathy.

CIRCLE STRUCTURE:

Circles kick off in spring through an application and pairing process. Based on your goals, we match you with a group and a group leader. Once paired, you and your group select a recurring weekly meeting date and time that works best for everyone. Circles last 6-8 weeks depending on how many are in your circle.

1. Kickoff Meeting

- 45 minute
- Introductions, circle rules
- Discuss/decide key topics

2. Weekly Hot Seat

- 30 min weekly for 6-8 weeks
- A single person in hot seat each meeting
- Group offers feedback

3. Wrap Up Meeting

- 45 minutes
- Recap and reflections
- Plan next steps (if any)
- Feedback for future circles

HOW TO JOIN

Interested in joining a Circle? Applications open each spring! Circles kick off each year at our **International Women's Day – Sustainable Leadership Event in March**.

STATEMENT OF INCLUSION

At WIS, we believe that an inclusive and diverse community is essential to advancing sustainability and equity. Our Circles are open to all who identify with the language of women, including cisgender women, trans women, womxn, Black and Indigenous women of color, and non-binary, and gender nonconforming individuals. We unequivocally recognize and welcome trans women as women.

We are committed to ongoing anti-racism learning and practice and expect the same from all participants. All are welcome and encouraged to join.

INTERESTED IN LEADING A CIRCLE?

Circle Guides play a crucial role in fostering a positive, inclusive, and safe environment for open discussions. You don't need to be a professional facilitator, just be comfortable leading group conversations in a virtual setting.

As a Guide, you will:

- Uphold group agreements and integrity.
- Schedule and manage recurring virtual meetings.
- Set up and share meeting invites.
- Create (and adjust as needed) the Hot Seat schedule.
- Facilitate discussions (or designate a substitute if unavailable).

If you want to lead a Circle, let us know when you apply!