

Excursion 20.-21.05.2017 to Ecovillage ZEGG in Bad Belzig:

The ecovillages approach to climate change

Location: ZEGG Community, Rosa-Luxemburg-Str. 89, Bad Belzig, Brandenburg

Schedule:

Sa. 20.05.	<i>8.45 am</i>	<i>Meeting at platform 5, Cottbus Hbf</i>
	<i>09.01 am</i>	<i>Departure of train (changing at Berlin Ostbahnhof)</i>
	<i>12.15 pm</i>	<i>Arrival at Bad Belzig train station, walk to the Ecovillage (40 min)</i>
	<i>1.00 pm</i>	<i>Lunch, afterwards putting up tents</i>
	3.00 pm	Introduction, ZEGG guided tour
	<i>6.30 pm</i>	<i>Dinner</i>
	8.00 pm	Workshop: ZEGG, other ecovillages, the Global Ecovillage Network
Su. 21.05.	<i>9.00 am</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>
	10.30 am	Workshop: Climate change from a scientific and a deep ecological view
	<i>1.00 pm</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
	3.00 pm	Discussion, Reflection, open questions
	<i>4.30 pm</i>	<i>Preparing departure</i>
	<i>5.45 pm</i>	<i>Departure of train (changing at Berlin Ostbahnhof)</i>
	<i>8.59 pm</i>	<i>Arrival at Cottbus Hbf</i>

Costs: 20 EUR incl. meals (organic and vegetarian) and accommodation in own tents. (The excursion is subsidized by StuRa and ERM BoSt). The fee is to be paid by bank transfer before April 28th.

Participants: max. 22 people (students of BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg)

Registration: Registration is necessary and is to be done using the online form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/nv8YyxvAB7qJLyF2>

(registration will be opened Wednesday, April 19th, 09:00 am).

What to bring:

- tent (if you have one)
- mattress
- sleeping bag (blankets and pillow if needed)
- semester ticket
- water bottle
- towel
- warm clothes
- boots for walking

Contents:

Climate change is one of the biggest issues of humankind in the 21st century, but is a symptom of a much bigger issue: We humans do not live sustainably on earth! Modern society focuses mainly on new and green technologies and greater efficiency as solution of climate change and this is of course one step towards climate protection. But much more is possible!

The ecovillage movement is a bottom-up approach from people, who do not want to wait for policy or technology solving the climate change problem. Ecovillages are models of experienced sustainability and show that a more sustainable living is possible without affecting our quality of life. They test in a microcosm what can be adopted on a large scale. There are four keys in the ecovillages approach to climate change: ecological, economic, social and worldview.

The excursion consists of three parts:

In the first part we get known to the ZEGG community in a guided tour and talk about how the ZEGG community works. The ZEGG community is an ecovillage of 100 people living and working together cooperatively, with a CO₂ footprint per person only half as big as the average in Germany. This is possible due our renewable energy and heat supply system, our garden and the edible landscapes, our water supply, constructed wetland and compost toilets.

In the second part we give a little insight what climate science knows about climate change and which solutions it suggests. We discuss the arguments of the climate sceptics and try to understand why it is so hard for our society to reduce CO₂ emissions. This part will be taken over by Dr. Tobias Bayr. He is a climate scientist, who did his PhD about climate change and lived one year in ZEGG.

In the third part we give a little insight in the ecovillage approach to climate change. Beside ecological aspects we will focus on the social and worldview aspects, i.e. we give a little insight, which instruments we use in ZEGG for community building and for communication. Conscious communication from the heart will enable us to enter into new forms of contact with ourselves, with people around us and with the environment. We want to support change with co-empowerment, transparency, connection and flow. Thus we are creating a non-violent culture of respect for all living beings inspired also by the knowledge of indigenous peoples. This part will be taken over by Ina Meyer-Stoll. She lives since 30 years in communities and ecovillages and teaches in the ecovillage design education program.

If you want to learn more about ZEGG visit: <http://www.zegg.de/en/>