

# Spectrum Lecture Series 2022-2023

## Sustainability – Pursuing a Balance

Monday, April 24, 2023, 4:30 PM  
Montgomery College  
Germantown Campus  
**BE151**

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Abstract: Sustainability is a subject capturing much attention. What is “sustainability?” Technology and its impacts are accelerating and many people work earnestly to help us keep pace. Ongoing concerns over natural disasters and the climate have stirred action. What are the issues and what can we do? Since the industrial revolution, we have been dealing with the social and environmental ramifications of our creations and industries. We want our stuff but what is the real cost, the total cost? We live in an industrialized world dependent on electric energy. How do we balance our lifestyles with the desire to maintain the beauty of the world around us? We will take a brief look at how we got here. And then we will see where we are and what better steps we can take locally, nationally, and globally.

Mark Sankey grew up through the 60’s and 70’s amid increasing environmental awareness. After gaining a B.S. in Chemical Engineering he landed with an industrial air pollution control company, Research-Cottrell. That began a 40-year journey in marketing and project work leading him to Bechtel in 2005. He has spent time at plants under construction as a project manager and as an engineering specialist, and operated alongside VPs, project directors, lawyers, and welders and electrical subcontractors. While with Bechtel, opportunity with Engineers Without Borders provided two trips to Uganda to develop water supplies for villages. After retirement in 2015, international exposure continued as Mark pursued energy and environmental consulting work in Uganda. He has served on an ASME committee on energy, environment, and waste during their review of proposed EPA policies. Mark has presented papers at Air & Waste Management Association and other industry conferences, and is published in trade journals including Power Engineering. He is a current member of the Frederick County Sustainability Commission. He advocates for electric supply reliability and sound energy and environmental policy.

As always, Spectrum Lectures are appropriate for a general audience and admission is free. No tickets are required. For questions or to request accommodations for physical disability, please contact Rick Pires at [Richard.Pires@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Richard.Pires@montgomerycollege.edu) or 240-567-7798. More information about Spectrum Lectures can be found at: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/events/spectrum-lectures/index.html>