

THE UTICA COLLEGE GREEN-TRAX GAZETTE

Number 4
November 12, 2010

Make Sustainability a Way of Campus Life

Welcome to another edition of the Utica College Green-Trax Gazette, a publication of the Utica College Committee on Sustainability! Making small changes in the way you think about the impact you have on the environment and act to reduce your consumption of resources and recycle used materials can make a huge difference in bringing us closer to a sustainable way of life and preserving our planet for future generations. You are invited to learn about the latest “Go-Green” activities on campus, UC’s recycling guidelines, and interesting tips and facts for a sustainable lifestyle. See what UC has been doing to make sustainability a way of campus life.

The Three R’s – Reduce-Reuse-Recycle: Still One of the Best Ways to Establish a Sustainable Lifestyle!

Look for the Recycling Bins across campus with signs similar to those below to recycle white and colored paper, cardboard, and plastic (numbers 1-5), glass, and metal containers. Please do your part to recycle and be careful not to add unrecyclable trash to these containers! It couldn’t be more convenient!

Please Recycle CONTAINERS Here

Plastic bottles (remove lids)
and plastics with codes:



Glass Bottles and Jars



Milk/Juice Cartons



Cans (Aluminum &
Aerosol) & Foil



Please make sure they are not full.

Please do not put plastic bags,
straws, or bottle caps in bin.

Please Recycle PAPER Here

White &
Colored Paper



Junk Mail &
Envelopes



Newspapers &
Magazines



Paperback Books



Please do not put napkins, tissue,
paper towels, or paper plates in bin.

Cardboard (including empty pizza

For information about UC’s recycling program, go to: <http://www.utica.edu/finance/environment/>

Exciting News! New, Easier Recycling Methods Coming Soon!

The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (OHSWA) will be installing a new Single-Stream recycling system at their facility in Utica that should be operational by the summer of 2011. What does this mean for UC and all of the residents of Oneida and Herkimer Counties? It means that paper, cardboard, bottles, cans, and plastic will all get collected together – there will be no need to sort anymore! Why is this better? It's easier for residents to recycle and as a result, the OHSWA expects better compliance, up to 15% more collection of recyclables which won't end up in the Ava landfill as waste! For more information, go to: <http://ohswa.org/PDF/Final-LSWMP.pdf>

The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (OHSWA)-Your Source for Recycling Information

You can get so much information about recycling, trash disposal, composting, household hazardous waste, the OHSWA facilities and Ava landfill, and special programs by visiting the OHSWA website at: <http://ohswa.org/>

No More Styrofoam Recycling

The committee continues to search for a way to reuse Styrofoam. Although Styrofoam has been eliminated from products used on the UC campus, we still receive fragile electronic equipment such as computers packed in Styrofoam. UC had been taking our Styrofoam to Meyda Tiffany Co. for use as packaging material. However, Meyda has not been accepting Styrofoam due to the poor economy and slower business. The OHSWA does NOT accept polystyrene/Styrofoam (triangle 6 symbol) for recycling. Any ideas for reusing or recycling are certainly welcome! We will keep looking for ways to reuse or recycle this material.

E-Ride/Commuter/Carpool Board

An electronic ride board was brought up by the Committee as a good initiative for the college to consider. Promoting carpooling and sharing rides is a great way to cut down on carbon emissions and save us money on gas! The proposed-ride board would be secure and accessed by UC users with passwords only - UC students, faculty, and staff. More to come!

Need a Fundraiser?

Consider a bottle drive! The Committee on Sustainability has ideas for your bottle drives. For more information call Rob Cross, Chairperson, at x3743.

Free Notepads!

UC's Copy Center provides 'recycled' note pads made from discarded paper in a variety of sizes. They are free for the asking.

Green Initiatives on Campus

Utica College is a greener and more sustainable community for all of us and continues its' efforts to promote a sustainable campus. The Committee on Sustainability thanks all those who have helped!

Here is what we are doing:

- ♻️ Recycling is more convenient with the addition of blue paper recycling baskets for offices and recycling stations for paper and containers in administrative and academic buildings. Once single stream recycling is here in mid 2011, recycling will be even easier!
- ♻️ Residence Hall clothing drives in 2009 and 2010 resulted in over 150 bags of clothing being donated to the Salvation Army each year.
- ♻️ An Earth Day event was held in the Strebel Student Center lounge on April 22, 2010. Displays were presented for recycling, Aramark, and Barnes & Noble. Sustainability facts, free go-green posters, and a personal carbon footprint calculator helped the UC community to understand the meaning of sustainability.
- ♻️ More and more UC publications, including telephone directories, paystubs, catalogs, and class schedules have gone paperless.
- ♻️ The St. Lukes Hospital natural gas cogeneration power project has been operating for over a year! About 70% of the power for Utica College is being produced by this project, which is more efficient than 'grid' power.
- ♻️ Aramark continues "trayless" serving in the cafeteria going on 2 years now. This has saved water and electricity necessary to wash these trays and wastes less food which would end up in the landfill and took resources to produce. Aramark has also eliminated all Styrofoam serving containers, plates, and cups replacing them all with biodegradable materials made from corn!
- ♻️ Refillable coffee mugs are available around campus to reduce waste. There is less trash and it only costs \$1 to refill your mug! The Mello Moose coffee shop in the Strebel Student Center has a "Mello Moose" mug, while the new Commons Grounds coffee house in the library has a "Java City" refillable mug.
- ♻️ The bookstore continues to sell "green" products including totes, organic tee shirts, water bottles made from recycled material, post consumer printer and loose leaf paper, and recycled notebooks.
- ♻️ UC's custodial group continues to use Greenseal approved cleaning chemicals.
- ♻️ Additional bike racks have been placed around campus to encourage bicycling.
- ♻️ Campus Safety purchased a golf cart in 2008 to use in place of a large patrol vehicle, saving hundreds of gallons of gas each year and reducing carbon emissions.
- ♻️ UC's Copy Center provides 'recycled' note pads made from discarded paper. They are free for the asking.
- ♻️ IITS continues to replace old copiers and printers with ones having 2-sided printing capability.
- ♻️ Sustainability and UC's recycling guidelines are part of RA/RD training each year and new employee and faculty orientations.
- ♻️ The Day Sheet includes Green-Trax Facts of the Day!
- ♻️ Recycling guidelines are presented to many first-year students in UCC101.

How Much Does UC Recycle?

- ♻️ 60 cubic yards of plastic bottles, food containers, and soda cans per month – that’s the contents of two construction-size dumpsters per month!
- ♻️ 200 cubic yards of cardboard, office paper, magazines, and envelopes per month. That’s the contents of almost seven construction-size dumpsters per month!
- ♻️ Damaged and out-of-date hard cover books by the ton.
- ♻️ 2 miles of straight fluorescent light bulbs per year!
- ♻️ 600 compact fluorescent, sidewalk, and stadium bulbs per year!
- ♻️ 750 pounds of chemical waste from laboratories every year.
- ♻️ 600 pounds of old batteries per year!
- ♻️ 4,000 pounds of old computers and electronic equipment per year.
- ♻️ Other items that UC recycles include used tires, old paint, scrap metal, used oil and filters from our vehicle fleet, parts cleaner, and empty aerosol cans!

What Can You Do to Help?

- ♻️ Got old ink cartridges? Give to a good cause – G.R.R.O.W.L.S. (Golden Retriever Rescue Operated With Love Statewide) and take your old cartridges to Carol Downing’s collection box, outside her office, room 214 Faculty Center. Donated cartridges help raise money for this great cause!
- ♻️ Save your water bottles! Water bottles are now returnable for 5 cents as of October 22, 2009.
- ♻️ Carry a reusable water bottle with you. Not only are you reducing energy and water consumption (used to make and recycle plastics), but you can save a whole lot of money too! And, municipal water is often better for you than the water you buy in plastic bottles.
- ♻️ Turn off your room or office lights, computers, printers, and other electronic equipment when you’re out – that includes while on vacation and college holidays.
- ♻️ Save water and energy! Report all leaky faucets, toilets, showers to Facilities Management. Call x3191, or use the work request form (faculty and staff) by going to www.utica.edu/finance/facilities/request on your computer, but you’ll have to sign in first with your email user name and password.
- ♻️ Sign up for direct deposit pay! This will save on paper, ink, and time.
- ♻️ Use the 2-sided copying option available on most printers and copiers – it uses HALF the paper and if you are a student, it only counts as a single sheet of paper for your yearly allotment.

Have a Great Idea or Need More Information?

Feel free to contact anyone on the committee if you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns about sustainability. We encourage students, faculty, and staff to join or simply sit in on one our meetings – your ideas and opinions matter!

Rob Cross, Chairperson (x3743), Environmental Health & Conservation

Don Harter (x3191), Facilities Mgmt.

Rich Kennedy (x3191), Facilities Mgmt.

Sharon Kanfoush (x3134) Faculty, Geoscience

Sharon Wise (x3356), Faculty, Biology

Margaret Morgan-Davie (x3406), Adj.Faculty, Economics

Ken Kelly (x3100), Student Affairs

Uchenna Baker (x3285), Residence Life

Lauren Partyka (x3197), Bookstore

Lisa Mudrie (x3145), Communications

James Farr (x2386), IITS

Melissa Henson, Student

Angelica Pascone, Student

Campus Dining