

UR GREENNEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER October 23, 2011
Volume 1, Issue 4

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sustain-A-Bowl

October 14 —November 11
Wilson Commons Gowen Room
ur.sustainabowl@gmail.com

Sustainability Seminar:
"Sustainability Initiatives in the Finger Lakes Region: How Lifecycle Assessment Can Help Inform Decision Making"
October 27
12:30pm

Wilson Commons Gowen Room

Annual E-Cycle Day

October 28 6:00am—4:30pm Park Lot

Halloween Sustainable Costume Contest

October 28 5:00pm—7:00pm Community Living Center

Clothing Exchange

November 3
Hirst Lounge
Donate any article of clothing you
do not want to the Clothing
Exchange

Register for the "National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment: Environment and Security" January 18-20 Washington, D.C. Learn more at http:// www.environmentandsecurity.org/

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

New Solar Powered Charging Station Added to Campus

Recently installed outside of Meliora Hall on the outskirts of Rush Rhees Library, the Solar Dok is a self-sustaining solar powered charging station that houses four standard electrical outlets, two USB outlets and an LED lighting system for nighttime use.

Designed and fabricated by EnerFusion, Inc., the Solar Dok gives the campus community the opportunity to charge laptops and cell phones with green energy. Through photo-voltaic panels, the Solar



Dok takes the power of the sun and converts it into usable energy, efficient enough to power devices day and night. Operation at night is supported with a battery bank system that is charged during the day from the same panels.

The plastic components that comprise the table are made from a range of recycled materials. EnerFusion estimates that approximately 1,200 milk jugs go into every Solar Dok. In addition, the structural parts of the Solar Dok are made from aluminum, which is non-toxic and also recyclable.

The Solar Dok can be used at night, as the LED lights under the umbrella illuminate the table. These lights use around 80 percent less energy than regular incandescent bulbs. In terms of cost,



Photo courtesy of Dan Schied

the table is reportedly valued around \$10 thousand, while installation was provided for free.

The University joins a growing list of

The University joins a growing list of schools that feature Solar Doks on campus. The University of Florida, University of Central Florida and Texas A&M have all invested in the bench as a way to promote sustainability and the use of alternative power sources such as solar energy.

Although the bench is not cheap and may not be used year round, it is one more example of the comprehensive approach to green practice on campus.

> Michaela Kerem University of Rochester '15



CONTACTS & RESOURSES:

<u>Sustainability @ the University of</u> Rochester

Facilities
The Green Dandelion

Dining Services
Team Green

SA Student Sustainability Coordinator Will Finnie

The Environmental Sustainability UCIS

Karen Berger

Council on Sustainability

<u>Karen Berger</u>

<u>Cam Schauf</u>

Sustainability within the community:

Center for Environmental
Information
EnvironmentRochester.com

E&E Publishing, LLC

Environment & Energy Publishing (E&E) is the leading source for comprehensive, daily coverage of environmental and energy policy and markets.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

United Nations

HIGHLIGHTS

Recycle Electronics on E-Cycle Day

Friday, Oct. 28, the University will host its fourth annual E-Cycle Day from 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Park Lot. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to donate any used, broken or unwanted household electronics

The list of accepted electronic equipment ranges from laptops to scanners to anything with a circuit board or cord. The complete list can be found at Sunnking, an electronics-based recycling company.

For every pound of electronic scrap metal Sunnking receives, they will make a monetary

donation to Foodlink, an organization that aims to build hunger-free communities. Additionally, by participating, one can earn five points for one's hall in the Sustain-A-Bowl competition. Please keep in mind that University owned and departmental electronics will not be accepted.



Dress up for the Halloween Sustainable Costume Contest

As part of Sustain-A-Bowl, a contest between residence halls to find out who is most sustainable, the student organization Grassroots is hosting a Halloween sustainable costume contest at the Community Living Center

on Friday, Oct. 28 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Students can compete by designing their own sustainable costume using salvaged clothing and recycled materials.

Sustain-A-Bowl program cochair Colleen McHale, along with co-chair Catherine Lambert, created this event as "a fun way for people to get involved in sustainability." The contest consists of two categories, with the first based on the amount of recycled materials used to make the costume, and will be judged by Grassroots members at the event. The second category is creativity and will be judged by everyone at the event. Earn residence hall points and win Halloween-inspired prizes. Come dress up in the spirit of Halloween and sustainability!

Wilson Commons Goes Green

Renovation of Wilson
Commons has resulted in a
much greener environment in
terms of waste reduction,
energy efficiency and the use
of sustainable materials.
Among the changes: Paper
waste was reduced to near zero
due to the installation of



digital menu boards; a new lighting control system considerably reduces the amount of electricity consumed; self-closing doors on reach-in refrigerators and freezers as well as automatic defrost cycles conserve energy, and where possible, gas appliances were chosen over electrical appliances for their greater efficiency. For a longer list of changes, visit Sustainability at Rochester.



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