

# UR GREEN NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER  
September 11, 2011  
Volume 1, Issue 1



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Shred Paper, Save Trees: Personal Documents Roundup

July 15, 2011  
7:00am — 4:30pm  
Park Lot

Sponsored by University Facilities  
& Services and Iron Mountain®  
Bring unwanted personal  
documents from home to be  
securely destroyed and recycled.  
[http://www.rochester.edu/  
sustainability/ShredPoster.pdf](http://www.rochester.edu/sustainability/ShredPoster.pdf)

### Biodiesel Shuttle Bus Loops to the Greentopia Festival

September 18, 2011  
10:00am — 6pm  
Rush Rhees Library to High Falls  
The biodiesel bus will be shuttling  
students from River Campus to the  
Greentopia Festival at High Falls.

### Flexitarian Night: Home Cooked

September 19, 2011  
5pm — 8pm  
Douglass

### Environmental Sustainability UCIS: Seminar Series

September 22, 2011  
12:30pm  
Wilson Commons Gowen Room

## SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

### GreenSpace! A Sustainable Housing Opportunity

There is a new presence in the Burton dormitory this fall, creating a greener awareness in upperclassmen housing. Spear-headed by former EcoReps, a floor designated for students interested in green living and sustainability has been approved by residential life and named GreenSpace. Students can become resident or non-resident members, which will consist of varying participation in projects, hall programs, outreach, and meetings.

Ann Breed and Caitlyn Childress, now sophomores at the University of Rochester, began discussing the idea of special interest housing early in their freshmen year. Collaborating with their EcoRep leader and others, they spent months planning, connecting with people, and filling out paperwork until they achieved their goal only four months ago. "They approved us two weeks before the housing fair," Ann Breed said, so they were scrambling to recruit members last minute. "It was difficult," Ann admitted, "but we actually got two applicants for every space." And hopefully the numbers will continue to grow as more people hear about this special interest floor.

Located on the first floor of Burton dormitory, GreenSpace occupies half of the floor, housing 17 students in a mix of singles and doubles. Nonresidents, however, make up more than half of the GreenSpace membership. Not only will they be invested in projects to spread awareness and to decrease their environmental impact, but GreenSpace members will have their share of hall bonding activities as well.

For anyone interested in making campus greener, GreenSpace offers the perfect opportunity to try something new; the floor can act as the guinea pig for fresh ideas. The GreenSpace executive board spent their first few days together this fall brainstorming and planning. "We're talking to facilities about being a testing floor for green products," said Ann, and if results are positive, they could expand on the use of those products around campus. They are also considering bringing America Recycles Day to campus, an event that GreenSpace could make their own. There are many other ideas floating about, but luckily, they still have a whole semester ahead of them to experiment, and with growing interest, many years to follow.



Rachel Goldstein  
University of Rochester '13



## HIGHLIGHTS

### A New Minor Offered In Sustainability

After years of growing demand and student interest in the area of sustainability, faculty and staff from nine different departments have worked together to create the first minor in sustainability at the University of Rochester. Having a minor available is a major achievement for those who desire to see more

academic options in this area — a step up from the three clusters relating to sustainability and a step closer to a major.

“As a student who created a self-designed major in sustainability, I am so excited about the fact that there is an official minor in sustainability now being offered,” said Louisa Gag, a senior at the University of Rochester. “I think it will prove to be very popular.”

It is an interdisciplinary concept, consisting of courses from the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. The goal of the minor is to provide a curriculum that encourages students to learn to solve problems and to make connections between society and the environmental dilemmas we face. Detailed information can be found at the [Center for Interdisciplinary Studies](#).

### CONTACTS & RESOURCES:

Sustainability @ the University of Rochester

Facilities  
The Green Dandelion

Dining Services  
Team Green

SA Student Sustainability Coordinator  
Will Finnie

The Environmental Sustainability UCIS  
Karen Berger

Council on Sustainability  
Carol Shuherk

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.

### Changes in Monroe County Recycling



The [Monroe County Recycling Center](#) is now accepting plastic containers labeled one through seven, a big leap forward for recycling in the area. Prior to June of 2011, Monroe County only accepted plastics labeled one and two. With this change, yogurt containers, salad containers, and a variety of other packaging and products that are emptied and rinsed, can be recycled to help reduce resource consumption. Note

that plastic shopping bags still need to be brought to an in-store recycling station, although they may be labeled with a two. It is also important to separate recyclable bottles from their lids and caps before discarding them, given the variation in materials used to make them. Check the number on your plastics to contribute to the change!

### “Greentopia is Rochester”

The Greentopia Festival is Rochester and the Finger Lakes region’s celebration of the green movement and all that has been achieved to improve the environment — it is the first large-scale green festival ever held in Greater Rochester. A two-day event, Greentopia will be filled with a

variety of speakers, vendors, artists, and interactive activities that show-case what



Western New York region is doing to create a positive change on the planet. Engineers for a Sustainable World, Grassroots, and EcoReps will be showcasing some of University of Rochester’s achievements at the festival as well, while the Biodiesel Bus will be available to shuttle U of R students to the festival. More information can be found at the following link: [Greentopia Festival](#)

### SUSTAINABILITY:

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



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