

UR GREEN NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
April 22, 2012
*Volume 1, Issue 14



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Free film screening: "One Day on Earth"

April 22
4:00—7:00 p.m.
Hoyt Auditorium

Grassroots Weekly General Interest Meeting

April 23
8:00—9:00 p.m.
Ruth Merrill Center, Wilson Commons

Discussion: How a Bike Corridor Could Spur Economy

April 24
6 p.m.
Staybridge Suites Hotel
RSVP to [Emily Klotz](mailto:Emily.Klotz@ur.rochester.edu).

Sustainability Seminar Speaker: Tom Wilber, Journalist and Author of "Under the Surface: Fracking, Fortunes, and the Fate of the Marcellus Shale"

April 24
12:30—1:30 p.m.
Hubbell Auditorium

Engineers for a Sustainable World Meeting

April 25
8:00—9:00 p.m.
Conference Room 507, Wilson Commons

Sustainability Seminar: "Greening Fort Apache": Appropriate Technology as Environmental Justice in South Bronx"

April 26
12:30—1:30 p.m.
Goergen 110

Arbor Day Celebration

April 27
11 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Genesee Valley Park
(Elmwood Avenue entrance)

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Planning EarthFest 2012: The People Behind the Preparation

It is no small feat to prepare for Earth Day, a day meant to increase awareness and appreciation of the Earth's natural environment.

Grassroots, UR's environmental action and awareness club, has spearheaded our annual campus celebration since its inception in 1997. Historically, the club organized the event without much involvement from other campus organizations.

However, this year, under the leadership of Co-Presidents Kathleen Black '13 and Stanton Yuwono '14, Grassroots decided to make the event more inclusive and one of the most engaging yet. The organization made "a special effort to involve every group, to help make the event even bigger and reach a wider pool," Black said

Grassroots Earth Day chairs, Alice Chen '15 and Edith Hanson '12, were charged with creating a nearly week-long event. Acting on the decision to expand, Chen and Hanson developed the EarthFest committee, a group comprised of eight members representing the groups interested in being involved. These included Engineers for a Sustainable World, Green Space, Rochester Water Brigades, Dining Services and Facilities. Chen and Hanson established the committee in November and began biweekly meetings in January. The committee planned over ten events spread out over several days, culminating in the main celebration in Wilson Commons on the 21st.

During one committee meeting, Hanson proposed the theme of "local." The choice was swiftly approved. Hanson added that the mantra of "think global, act local" contributed to the ease in deciding the event's theme. Director of Campus Dining Services Cam Schauf, and of the committee's members, collaborated with Good Food Collective, a multi-farm project that connects people to local foods and farmers in the area, to arrange a market with over 20 local vendors.

While Hanson views EarthFest as more of a celebration than anything else, she believes that awareness is the key to igniting and instilling change, adding that "learning what opportunities are readily available in Rochester, the practicalities of reducing, reusing and recycling, and discussing what we can improve upon – these are the key points of Earth Day in my mind. And, yes, I think that is a good starting point [for awareness.]"



* Denotes final edition of Volume 1. Volume 2 will resume in fall 2012.



HIGHLIGHTS

Artist Examines Environment Through Sculptures



"Passage" 2011

On June 28, Cornell University professor Roberto Bertoia will present a lecture in the Memorial Art Gallery (MAG) that will shed light on his passion for the preservation of the natural environment,

demonstrated through sculptures that Bertoia crafted from hand with the use of local

wood. Bertoia imagines "the viewer inhabiting or moving through the works, peering through openings to observe the environment."

Bertoia's lecture will be the fourth of a series of six lectures by artists featured in the 5th Rochester Biennial. For more of his work, visit [Bertoia's site](#).

KEY Scholars Present Solar-Inspired Projects

For the 2012 Kauffman Entrepreneurial Year (KEY) capstone presentations, three KEY students approached entrepreneurship from a solar perspective. KEY, a tuition-free fifth year, allows students to transform and solidify their ideas, be it through a project, internship, or business plan. KEY scholars Olga Pikul and Glenn Packard devised the project "Initiative to

Encourage Solar Panel Usage in Rochester, NY," which involved researching grants and subsidies that are available for solar installations, as well as investigating the potential benefits of solar radiation levels in upstate New York. For various businesses, the duo came up with a detailed financial summary of all the benefits that solar energy could provide. "We wanted to bring awareness about solar energy and its feasibility even in such a snowy city as Rochester," Pikul said. For KEY scholar GaoXiang

Chen's project, "Solar Cooker: Creating Clean and Affordable Energy in Third & First World Countries," Chen advised non-profit organizations, particularly those in regions that are abundant in solar energy, about the benefits of solar cookers. Chen's interest stemmed from her volunteer work and when she built solar cookers for use in Western Africa. So far, Chen has worked alongside the non-profit organization World Citizens Association, Australia to implement solar cookers in a district of Bangladesh.

Micro-farm Internship Immerses Students

Animal Place, one of the largest and oldest sanctuaries for farmed animals in the country, invites students to apply for year-round internships at their 600-acre sanctuary in the Sierra Foothills of Grass Valley, California. Accepted interns will work on a 3-acre vegan micro-farm and will be

directly involved in all aspects of the micro-farm and land stewardship. Parallel to their work, interns will participate in readings, discussions and workshops, and have the opportunity to volunteer at other farms. Interns will also be given the flexibility to initiate and lead projects that reflect their particular interests. These projects will be tested in the field with the primary focus on reducing labor and energy use.

Animal Place hopes that "this broad exposure to the many aspects of horticulture... will foster an ethical approach to agricultural and landscape ecology." Each internship lasts a minimum of four weeks; extended internships are possible. For more information, visit the sanctuary's [internship site](#).



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
[Karen Berger](#)
[Cam Schauf](#)

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](#)



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