

UR GREEN NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
April 14, 2013
Volume 2, Issue 11



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Zero Waste Dinner
April 15
5:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.
Douglass Dining Hall

Grassroots Weekly General Interest Meeting
April 15
8:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.
Ruth Merrill Center, Wilson Commons

Engineers for a Sustainable World General Interest Meeting
April 16
7:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Goergen 109

Green Open *No* Mic Night
April 18
8:00 p.m. — 10:00 p.m.
Drama House

Sustainability Seminar: "Assessing Emissions from the Transport of Sand, Water, and Waste in High-Volume Hydraulic Fracturing Activities"
April 19
2:00 — 3:00 p.m.
Dewey Hall 2-110D

Earth Day Festival
April 20
12:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.
Hirst Lounge

Biodiesel Meeting
April 23
7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.
Hylan 201

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

EarthFest 2013: Heading Toward a Movement, Not a Moment

Grassroots' annual signature event surrounding Earth Day, EarthFest will not only coalesce a larger, more diverse group of students but will also merge new and old activities this year. Themed "Project 365: What Can You Do Everyday," this year's EarthFest, running April 15 to April 20, aims to encourage the University community to turn the activities of the week into a reflection of a sustainable lifestyle year-round.

Since this past December, Grassroots has collaborated with student organizations such as MicroFarm, Engineers for a Sustainable World, Greenspace, Circle K, and others to offer a host of activities in celebration of the Earth. The highlight of EarthFest — the Earth Day Festival — will be held on Saturday from 12 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Ultimately, EarthFest's activities are intended to produce an ambiance of excitement for sustainability that will linger beyond the week. One new gathering is Acoustic Jam Night, also known as "Open No Mic Night," an evening involving music, poetry, and food. Co-sponsored by Music Interest Floor, UEC, No Jackets Required, and Drama House, Jam Night will be held on Thursday, April 18 at 8 p.m.

"While Saturday's festival should be fantastic, I am most excited about our new 'Open No Mic Night' on Thursday," senior and Earth Day Chair Kathleen Black said. "Hopefully our combined advertising efforts will draw a large and diverse crowd to this fun event to save energy."

As Local Foods Week occurs in parallel, Grassroots is co-sponsoring a Zero Waste Dinner in Douglass Dining Hall on April 15 with Team Green, a group of five students who act as a liaison to Dining Services. Team Green will tabulate the amount and type of waste per person, which will supplement ongoing research.

In an effort to increase awareness of EarthFest, Grassroots will feature a multi-media mural on the Expression Wall outside of Starbucks. Sophomore and Earth Day Chair Gouri Mahadwar said that Grassroots will also paint the tunnels and table in Wilson Commons throughout the upcoming week.

As the EarthFest theme implies, however, a sustainable lifestyle should not be limited to one day of the year. "Living sustainably does not [solely] require organized activities," Black remarked. "We hope that the banner for the Expression Wall will capture that spirit as students write how they improve the environment each day."

For questions or more information, contact Earth Day chairs [Mahadwar](#), [Black](#), or [Ling Rao](#).





HIGHLIGHTS

Data Center Earns Recognition for Energy Efficiency

The University recently received \$168,000 from NYSEG/RG&E's Commercial and Industrial Rebate program for leadership in data center energy efficiency.

The University's data center is a prime example of reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions primarily because of its OptiCool system, which cools the electronic equipment close to sources of heat by using rear-door units installed on the back of computer cabinets. According to [Rochester News](#), the heat from

the electronic equipment is captured by a refrigerant that loops through coils to outdoor air condensers for final heat rejection.



When used for high heat density cooling, the OptiCool system is up to 95 percent more energy efficient than conventional data-center cooling, has up to five times more cooling capacity, and can reduce floor space dedicated to cooling by up to 90 percent.

"The data center provides critical support to University-wide operations 24 hours a day, every day of the year, so investments in its energy efficiency will have

exponential benefits far into the future," University Vice President of Information Technology David Lewis said.

According to OptiCool Technologies President Jeff Burke, data centers consume "nearly three percent of all electricity in New York State... which can be reduced substantially with new innovative technologies."

CONTACTS & RESOURCES:

Sustainability @ the University of Rochester

Facilities
[The Green Dandelion](#)

Dining Services
[Team Green](#)

SA Student Sustainability Coordinator
[Siobhan McLaughlin](#)

The Environmental Sustainability UCIS
[Karen Berger](#)
[Daniel Reichman](#)

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.

Dash for Trash Service Begins on April 22

In an effort to offer new options to promote waste reduction, Goergen Athletic Center will offer compostable bags and latex gloves at the front desk for those

who would like to go on litter-collecting runs.



Named "Dash for Trash," the service will begin on April 22 and is open to anyone interested in participating.

Business Librarian Suzanne Bell, a runner and an environmentalist,

originally thought of the idea when she spotted bouts of trash during one of her running routes around campus.

Bell collaborated with the University's Athletics, Grounds, and Recycling departments, as well as Waste Management, to make her idea possible. For more information regarding Dash for Trash, contact [Amy Kadrie](#).

15th Annual Environmental Forum Approaches

The 15th Annual Environmental Forum will be held at Monroe Community College in The Theatre, Building 4 on Thursday, April 25. Maude Barlow, a renowned advocate of water as a human right, will deliver this

year's Forum's Keynote Address from 7 to 9 p.m. As the National Chairperson of the Council of Canadians, Barlow will continue last year's conversation on designating "fresh water as a Commons for the benefit of all," according to the [Forum site](#).

An environmental fair from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. will precede the keynote address. As part of the

forum, a series of workshops will be offered at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) on April 26. Participants can choose from three tracks: "The Commons and the Public Trust," from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. open to all, "Water Steward Leadership Summit," from 12 to 2 p.m. for students only, and a "Do it Yourself" session from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To learn more, visit [Sierra Club site](#).

SUSTAINABILITY:

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

[United Nations](#)



UNIVERSITY of
ROCHESTER

For information about the newsletter:
Michaela Kerem '15
Editor
mkerem@u.rochester.edu

