

# UR GREEN NEWS

THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER'S BIWEEKLY SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NOVEMBER 8

#### ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY SEMINAR:

**VINCENT MARTINSON, UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, WILL GIVE A TALK ON "THE GUT MICROBIOTA OF BEES AND WILD DROSOPHILIDS."**

3:00 -4:00 P.M.  
HUTCHISON HALL, ROOM 314  
FREE

### NOVEMBER 15

#### ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY SEMINAR:

**DAVID DUNEAU, CORNELL UNIVERSITY, WILL GIVE A TALK ON "HOST SEXUAL DIMORPHISM AND ITS CONSEQUENCES ON PARASITE EVOLUTION."**

3:00 -4:00 P.M.  
HUTCHISON HALL, ROOM 314  
FREE

### NOVEMBER 16

#### GREENSPACE'S THIRD ANNUAL RECYCLE THE RUNWAY: A FASHION SHOW THAT SHOWCASES RECYCLABLE AND REUSED MATERIALS MADE INTO FABULOUS OUTFITS

5:00PM  
INTERFAITH CHAPEL, RIVER LEVEL  
FREE

### JULIA SKLAR '14 • EDITOR

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## CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

# Weigh-in at sixth annual E-Cycle Day reflects changing trends in technology

Every year, for the past six years, UR's University Facilities has hosted E-Cycle Day, and this year was no different. The annual event, held on October 25 in Park Lot, marks an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and the community to responsibly recycle electronic equipment with minimal effort, as the drop-off station is on campus.

Facilities collected 25,000 pounds of recyclables, which is fewer than last year, but likely represents a change in the nature of electronic devices, rather than a lapse in participation. The last decade has seen a tremendous shift toward lighter-weight, thinner electronics. For example, E-Cycle Day no longer sees as many deposits of CRT TVs.

"The event is becoming less about the number of pounds we collect and more about the convenient service we offer to our community to safely and responsibly recycle their electronic items," says University Recycling Coordinator Amy Kadrie.

Recycling, which is contingent on breaking down objects into their base materials and reforming them into new objects, was the focus of E-Cycle Day, but reusing was also an objective of the day.

In addition to broken

electronics, individuals could also drop off old items. The Brockport-based recycling company, Sunnking, which managed picking up the recyclables, is selling still-functioning, but outdated, objects in eBay. The rest of the objects were brought to a local recycling plant.

By transporting the items in bulk in one trip, E-Cycle Day also helps reduce the emissions from individuals each bringing their recyclables to a processing plant on their own.

A large quantity of the items

dropped off at this year's E-Cycle Day came from the Medical Center, which, like any up-to-date hospital, overturns medical electronics on a regular basis.

Some of the items recycled at this year's event include printers, televisions, laptops, LCD televisions, LCD monitors, and power cords.

In addition to facilitating efficient recycling, this annual event also spreads knowledge about the appropriate way to dispose of electronics, which many people are unaware can be recycled in the first place. ♦



COURTESY OF UR SUSTAINABILITY

**There were more CRT TVs at last year's E-Cycle Day. Electronics are getting lighter, contributing to a smaller total weight of recycled objects.**



**CONTACTS & RESOURCES**

**FACILITIES:**  
THE GREEN DANDELION

**DINING SERVICES:**  
TEAM GREEN

**SA STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR:**  
MICHAEL SILVERSTEIN

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY UCIS:**  
LEILA NADIR & DANIEL REICHMAN

**COUNCIL ON SUSTAINABILITY:**  
KAREN BERGER & CAM SCHAUF

**SUSTAINABILITY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY:**  
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**SUSTAINABILITY:**  
MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE PRESENT WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE ABILITY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS TO MEET THEIR OWN NEEDS.  
—UNITED NATIONS

**SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT**

**University wins twin awards for success in transportation and grounds maintenance**

The University of Rochester has just received two awards in recognition of the school's success in sustainability. The awards, the Greater Valley Forge (GVF) Sustainable Award and the Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) Green Star Award, specifically laude environmental efforts within transportation and grounds maintenance respectively.

GVF, a non-profit organization that works toward providing economically reasonable transportation systems, awarded UR their platinum level accolade, the highest possible level, for providing affordable and sustainable commuting alternatives.

The platinum level of the overall award derives from averaging the University's success in certain subcategories that were measured in the 2013 application.

In particular, UR achieved bronze level for its recycling and carpooling initiatives; silver level for the use of alternative fuel vehicles,

selling transportation passes on campus, and providing showers and lockers for bicycle riders; and, lastly, platinum level for providing employees and students with free or subsidized shuttles and for being accessible by

“The grounds management team eliminates the use of pesticides by taking a preventative approach to plant care. Keeping the grounds clear of diseased leaves reduces the amount of airborne spores that can reinfect sick plants.”

public transportation.

The PGMS award recognizes the University's level of professionalism and excellence on grounds management. The award is assigned based on pictures of the property, maintenance prac-

tices, challenges encountered and solutions found, and photos of staff doing their jobs. Sustainability is taken into account when assessing maintenance practices, and contributes very heavily to a high score.

In particular, the grounds management team at UR works to eliminate the use of pesticides by taking a preventative approach to plant care. Keeping the grounds clear of diseased leaves reduces the amount of airborne spores that can reinfect sick plants. This action allows plants to stay healthy by decreases their susceptibility to infection.

Additionally, grounds workers hand weed flower beds, which, although more expensive and more labor-intensive, also reduces the need for pesticide use.

In addition to doling out awards, PGMS is also responsible for connecting institutions that are grounds management role models on a national level, in an effort to further these institutions' efforts. ♦

**CEI 2013 COMMUNITY SALUTE TO THE ENVIRONMENT**  
November 19, 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. • Louise Slaughter Hall, RIT

Each year CEI celebrates community leaders and initiatives that have made a positive impact on our natural environment and honors the numerous environmental accomplishments in the Greater Rochester and Finger Lakes Region.

This year's keynote speaker is Richard L Kauffman, and the event will center around the theme of Clean Energy Development and Finance. Attendees will have an opportunity tour the newly-constructed \$38 million, LEED Platinum home of the Golisano Institute for Sustainability.