Register for the next brown bag lunch

Looking for activity ideas for your Green Team? Join us on Thursday, Feb. 25 from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in 233A+B HUB-Robeson Center for a Brown Bag lunch to hear some of your fellow Green Team leaders present their successful events, followed by a brainstorming session on activities.

Featured successes include Smeal's health workshop, Outreach's speaker series and COMMunity's "freeshop."

Please register by Friday, Feb. 19 and don't forget to bring your lunch!
Many thanks to the Student Affairs Sustainability Council for sponsoring this event.

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HUB audit reveals that most of our trash really isn't trash
"Is this really trash?"

This was the question posed by the HUB Green Team at a recent event held at the HUB-Robeson Center's food court. With the help from Penn State's Sustainability Institute, the HUB Green Team collected 32 bags of trash from the food court area during peak lunch hours. The intent was to determine how much of the waste in the trash bins could be recycled or composted and to where to make improvements in the waste management set up.

Green Team members Heide Port, Kathy Moore and Kelli Dowd weighed each bag and sorted its contents into the correct bins.

What they found was startling: of the 202 pounds of waste collected, only 39.2 pounds of that material was actually landfill material; The rest could have been composted or recycled.

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Join the Nutrition Habit Challenge

Join the entire Sustainability Institute staff and other Pennsylvanians in making a positive nutritional change during the month of February. The Nutrition Habit Challenge provides a fun way to create positive, long-lasting lifestyle changes by focusing on one small change at a time.

Here's how it works:
  Who: You can participate as individuals, families and/or organizations. Why not sign up your Green Team and challenge your co-workers.
  How:

  - Select a nutritional change that you want to make before Feb. 1.
  - Register online by midnight, Jan. 31.
  - Each day of February, report your success.

Participants who are successful for 25 of the 29 days earn a chance to win a variety of prizes ranging from gift certificates to local restaurants to a trip for four to Walt Disney World.
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Resources

Request a Recycling and Composting Roadshow

Is there confusion about recycling and composting in your building? Would you like some answers?

Penn State’s Office of Physical Plant and the Sustainability Institute have created a traveling recycling and composting roadshow to help educate students, faculty and staff about the waste management system at Penn State and to facilitate a dialogue about waste practices. Anyone can request for a roadshow to take place in your building.

If there are any questions, please email Kaitlynn Hamaty at kjh5385@psu.edu or Lydia Vandenbergh at lv10@psu.edu.

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Paris COP21 in review

The world came together to address climate change issues for the first time at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. Since then, 21 COP (Conferences of Parties) have been held to translate the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) into an agreement with more actionable and measurable objectives.

In this blog from our Field Guide to Teaching Sustainability, Xiaoxin Shi from Penn State Institutes for Energy and the Environment highlights some of the bigger successes and points of contention from this most recent Conference of Parties.

More »

Upcoming Events

| JAN 29 | 2016 For the Love of Art and Chocolate  
Ramada Inn, State College, PA  
7 - 9 p.m. |
| FEB 3-4 | Film: "This Changes Everything"  
The State Theatre  
7 - 9:30 p.m. |
| FEB 12 | Winter Bike-to-Work Day  
Old Main  
7:30 - 9 a.m. |
Check out our calendar for more sustainability-related events.

**Spread the word**

**THON and the Sustainability Institute seek a zero-waste project manager**

The student project manager will be the central coordination point between the THON executive committee, involved faculty and Sustainability Institute staff to generate a report that reviews current operations, identifies areas for improvement and creates an implementation timeline to minimize waste generated during the three major events THON sponsors; 5K, Family Carnival and Dance Marathon Weekend.

Applications are due by Feb. 1 and students can apply online.

[More »](#)

Lydia Vandenbergh | Penn State's Sustainability Institute
108 Land and Water Building, University Park, PA 16802
(814) 863-4893 | lydia@psu.edu

**sustainability.psu.edu**

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