

# Sustainability Bulletin




Construction of the Purple Path.

## Going Green

In October 2006, UAlbany kicked off a "going green" campaign. You may ask what does going green mean? This involves another term: sustainability.

Sustainability can be defined as: meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This involves assessing the impact our 20,000 plus member community has on the environment and ourselves.



**Dr. Mary Ellen Mallia**  
Director of Environmental Sustainability

Sustainability is a growing trend in colleges and universities. UAlbany is a leader in having a full time professional office dedicated to coordinating and overseeing our efforts towards creating a more strongly sustainable campus.

Three months ago, the Office of Environmental Sustainability was created to educate the community about sustainability, initiate programs and influence policy.

The office is located in University Hall, room 212 and is directed by Mary Ellen Mallia. You can contact her at [mmallia@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:mmallia@uamail.albany.edu)

For more information about current projects, go to:

[www.albany.edu/gogreen](http://www.albany.edu/gogreen)

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2007 campus clean up day volunteers raking leaves. Campus clean up day this year will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Have you heard of the Energy Campaign?

What would you do with fifteen million dollars? That is what is spent each year at UAlbany on electricity. Of course, a campus with as many students as ours is bound to spend a large sum of money on energy, but can we reduce our energy usage? That's what the Energy Campaigns tried finding out. Last fall the residences strove to save energy and the amount of money saved through reduced usage was then returned to the residents to buy recreational items of their choice.

Coupled with the spring 2007 campaign, over \$25,000 of energy costs were avoided.



*“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.”*

*~Native American Proverb*

## Fall 2007 Energy Campaign Results:

Residential Building	Electricity Savings (kWh)	Dollar Savings (\$)
Indian Quad	20,683	1,858.76
State Quad	45,857	4,127.57
Dutch Quad	30,034	2,704.93
Colonial Quad	44,539	3,995.23
Empire Commons	No savings	No savings
Freedom Apartments	14,607	1,313.45
Alumni Quad	28,048	4,431.58

Congratulations to all the Fall 2007 Energy Campaign participants! Alumni Quad & Freedom Apartments saved 8% of their electricity consumption compared to last year.

## Speakers on sustainable food production

In accordance with the campus reading project, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, guest lecturers spoke on sustainable food production. These speakers included

Peter Martens, a 19 year old who farms over 200 acres of his own land as well as attending SUNY Cobleskill full time.

Dr. Shannon Hayes, an authority on sustainable agriculture and grass fed beef. Her family owns Sap Bush Hollow farm in West Fulton, NY. Check out [www.grassfedcooking.com](http://www.grassfedcooking.com).

Cheryl Nechamen and Liz Zuercher from the local chapter of the 100 Mile Diet. This diet doesn't count calories or carbs, but instead the distance the food traveled to get to your plate. The challenge is to only eat foods grown, produced or manufactured within a hundred mile radius from where you live. For more see, <http://100milediet.org>



Cheryl Nechamen from the 100 Mile Diet local chapter meets with students, faculty, and other members of the UAlbany community at the stage area next to Wendy's. In the photo: Cheryl Nechamen (left) and Mary Ellen Mallia (right).



UAlbany Students for Sustainability (U.S.S) Officers:

- **President:**  
Lynne Radle
- **Ambassador:**  
Glen Rosenthal
- **Treasurer:**  
Katie Devlin
- **Secretary:**  
Kristen Kielbasa

## New group: UAlbany Students for Sustainability

A new group has been formed for students who want to get involved in furthering the sustainability movement. The UAlbany Students for Sustainability (U.S.S) meets every Wednesday at 4:15, and new members are always welcome. The group is focused on serving the college and community by initiating, coordinating and maintaining student driven sustainability projects on a campus and local level. To check on the next meeting location or join the facebook group go to:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=11025146662&ref=mf>

Interested in helping out?

Visit:

<http://www.albany.edu/gogreen/student-volunteer-form.shtml>

If you are interested in more information about the U.S.S, please feel free to contact Dr. Mary Ellen Mallia.

### Reduce your impact:

Don't forget, when you drink your coffee, put it in a refillable thermal mug since it can earn you a discounted price on coffee in campus center locations while reducing waste.



## Oh say, can you recycle

This spring UAlbany is participating once again in Recyclemania, a program that is supported by both the United States EPA and the National Recycling Coalition. Our school is competing against over 400 colleges and universities throughout the nation in several categories. The competition started on January 27<sup>th</sup> and it ends on April 5<sup>th</sup>. As this writing, we are halfway through the competition and ahead of last year's pace (see box at right). Currently, UAlbany ranks #3 out of all of schools in New York State for most recyclables with over 128,000 pounds of recyclables.



For more information visit:

[www.albany.edu/gogreen/recyclemania.shtml](http://www.albany.edu/gogreen/recyclemania.shtml)

## RecycleMania 2008 Results:

Week	Pounds of Recyclables per person		Pounds of waste per person		Total pounds of recyclables per week	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
1	1.34	1.17	8.73	N/A	23,340.00	18,160.00
2	1.24	1.36	9.10	-	21,540.00	21,120.00
3	1.29	0.53	8.46	-	22,540.00	8,260.00
4	1.23	0.71	6.91	-	21,500.00	11,040.00
5	2.25	0.82	9.37	-	39,245.00	12,700.00

Comparison of this year's and last year's RecycleMania figures.

# April 2008

Mark your calendars.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Downtown Albany Cleanup
13	14	15	16 Visit by the NOLS bus	17	18	19
20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26
27 Fountain Day	28	29 Clean up Day	30	31		

## Upcoming Events:

April 12 – Downtown Albany Cleanup

April 16 – Visit by the NOLS bus run on recycled vegetable oil

April 22 – Earth Day

April 27 – Fountain Day

April 29 – Clean up Day

**Submit an event to us!**

Newsletter text:  
Jessica Wysocki

Newsletter graphics:  
Matt Ryan

## What to look for...

**April 12, 2008**



The Presidential Honor Society is sponsoring a clean up in the South End neighborhoods of Albany. To learn more visit their [facebook event](#).

**April 16, 2008**



The NOLS bus will be between the Science Library and Dutch Quad on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The bus runs on recycled vegetable oil and solar energy.  
More at: <http://www.nols.edu/bus>

**April 22, 2008**



There will be plenty of activities centering on Earth Day. Look for a special edition newsletter highlighting these events or visit us online!

**April 29, 2008**



Join the UAlbany community on campus clean up and help beautify our campus environment.

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