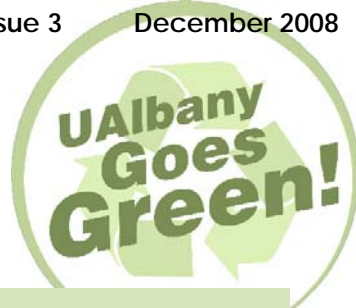


Sustainability Bulletin



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Interession Energy Savings Initiative

The Interession Energy Savings Initiative is a new program designed to save energy and money during the holiday break. This will occur in two phases. December 20th until January 4th is termed the limited operations period. There will be areas as cold as 55 degrees, and lighting will be reduced in stairways, lobbies, and hallways. Lighting will be off in classrooms, tower penthouses and break rooms. No dining services will be open, and both the pool and SEFCU workout area will be closed. The second phase, dubbed the energy conservation period, runs from January 5th until the 15th. Heat will be raised to 65 degrees Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5pm and will be lowered to 55 degrees in the evening. Dining services will be limited during this time, with only Outtakes in the Campus Center and the Draper Café open and with limited hours. The SEFCU work-out area will open, but the pool will remain closed. Building access during the interession will require the use of a SUNY card, so it is important that you check if your card allows you access to your building prior to December 20th.

All throughout the interession, the only library that will be open is the University Library and with limited hours. The temperature will be a balmy 68 degrees, and the lighting will be set at the regular operating level.

It is estimated that we will be able to save \$250,000 and 3.75 million tons of CO2 emissions through the successful implementation of this plan.

Extensive information is available at:
<http://www.albany.edu/facilities/interessionenergy/>

A link to this site is also available off of the UAlbany homepage under featured sites.



This holiday season, instead of throwing out old clothes, appliances and toys, donate them! It helps out both the community and the environment.

Fall Energy Campaign Completed

Another energy campaign is in the books. This is the third time the resident halls have participated in reducing their energy use, specifically their electricity consumption. We are happy to report that all areas achieved a decrease! Many activities went on to realize these reductions including; Colonial Quad held a game of musical chairs in the dark, the apartment residents received "turn off" reminder stickers to be placed next to light switches and thermostats, compact fluorescent light bulbs were distributed, RA's conducted energy audits of rooms and held informational meetings. Two of our students, Jovan Starks and Cleon Grey created a video about the importance of making people aware of their energy consumption, which earned them an honorable mention in a national video contest. The video is linked off of the go green home page so go to www.albany.edu/gogreen to check it out.



To compute the electricity savings, a baseline was generated from the average kilowatt hours used in the fall of 2006 and 2007. Adjustments were then made due to changes in population and the final reductions were calculated. Congratulations on Empire Commons for having the largest kilowatt hour reduction and Freedom Apartments for the biggest percent decrease in electricity use! In total, over 100,000 kilowatt hours were saved from our reduced consumption which equates to a reduction of 83.7 tons of CO2 or the equivalent of taking 14.6 cars off the road for a year. Great job everyone!

Make your choice, be **Green**



Nintendo Wii
18 watts

OR



Playstation 3
180 watts

Energy Campaign Results Fall 2008

Residential Building	Electricity Savings (kWh)	Percent reduction
Alumni Quad	11,789	6.39%
Colonial Quad	19,462	4.22%
Dutch Quad	25,763	5.68%
Indian Quad	7,585	1.66%
State Quad	7,919	1.67%
Empire Commons	39,039	6.06%
Freedom Apartments	13,780	13.17%

Searching the Internet Just Got Greener

How many times have you "googled" something? The Google search engine is so popular that it has its own verb; we all know what it means "to google" something. Blackle is a site that searches using a Google search engine, but where the Google site is mostly white, Blackle is, you guessed it, black. The reason behind the color change is because a black screen uses less energy than a white screen. As of December 4th 2008, the use of Blackle has saved 961,429,354 megawatt hours. A goal of the creators was to make the site a constant reminder of the need to live more sustainably.

When you set Blackle as your home page, every time you load your Internet browser you will save a little bit of energy. Remember every bit counts! You will also be reminded about the need to save energy each time you see the Blackle page load. Just utilizing Blackle instead of Google for your internet searches is one small action you can take that will reduce energy.

Help spread the word about Blackle by telling your friends and family to set it as their home page. Or put the following text in your email signature: "Blackle.com - Saving energy one search at a time".

Visit www.blackle.com for more info.
@2006 Heap Media

Greening the Holiday Season

From Thanksgiving until New Years our nation's waste increases by 25%. A good amount of that comes from the packaging and wrapping paper associated with the millions of gifts exchanged in this time. On top of this additional garbage, travel increases drastically during the holidays. With more people travelling by car, bus, plane and train along with the need for more police patrols and possible snow plows, the overall effect on the environment is quite big. Fortunately, there are many simple ways to make the Holiday Season more sustainable and offset some of these effects.

Spread Holiday Cheer: Buy Local and Fair Trade!

One of the best, and tastiest, ways to support your local community is to buy local foods. When food is produced locally, that means less travelling was done to get to the consumer which results in less demand for gas, less environmental impact and more profit that goes to the local farmer.

Another option when it comes to purchasing food is buying fair trade items. Many common items such as tea, sugar, cocoa, coffee, honey, bananas, cotton and wine are the biggest fair trade commodities. When a product is labeled as fair trade, it means that it came from a developing country and was produced in a sustainable manner. The people who took part in the product's production were paid fairly, with no child labor or any other form of exploitation. The Fair Trade movement gives people in developing countries a sense of security. Not all fair trade products are food; fair trade handicrafts are available in local stores as well and make great gifts!

*Information obtained from *ecolocal*, a free guide toward sustainable living for the Upper Hudson Valley.



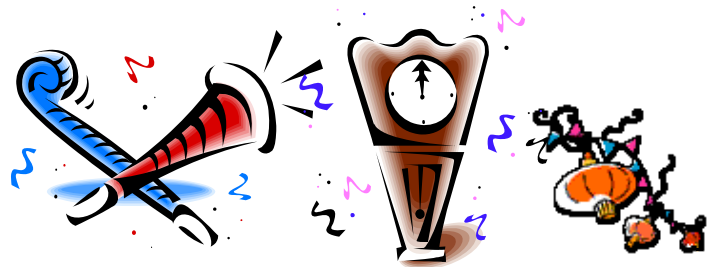
Simple Steps that Add Up



Here are some easy things you can do to make your holiday season green:

- Buy a live tree and plant it into your backyard after the holidays.
- Buy only durable products that you know will last you a long time.
- Donate toys that the kids no longer play with to less fortunate kids, same goes for the clothes that are now outgrown.
- Remove your name from the mailing lists of any catalogues you no longer wish to receive.
- Look for gifts that use less packaging.
- Give gifts that are more about experience such as season tickets to sporting events or the theater, memberships to museums, a trip somewhere special.
- Purchase holiday cards and wrapping paper that are recycled.
- While holiday shopping, use reusable bags, usually they hold more!
- Send holiday cards through e-mail, or post cards since they use less paper.
- Use reusable bags when transporting gifts

*steps from the ECOS newsletter, an environmental education clearinghouse located in Niskayuna, NY



Make A Green Resolution This New Year.

Making New Year's Resolutions is a tradition that goes back centuries ago. This year, modernize your resolution, make it a green resolution! It can be as simple as driving less, which can be done by utilizing the bus services provided for free by the University, or you can pick up a new hobby, such as gardening. Even something simple such as turning off the water when you are brushing your teeth, or making sure that the lights are turned off if nobody is in the room ends up making a big difference. Another perk, many green resolutions also end up saving you money!

Tell us your green resolution by sending an email to mmallia@uamail.albany.edu.

Upcoming Events in the Spring:

RecycleMania

UAlbany will once again participate in RecycleMania. This year's contest runs from January 18 to March 28. We will focus on the waste minimization category. Our overall waste will be added to our recyclables total and divided by our population. This will result in our waste generated per person. We will also track our recyclables per person. Last year, we recycled 13 pounds per person over the length of the contest which was a 30% increase from the previous year.

Rumor has it that local schools such as Siena, St. Rose, RPI and Union are going to participate and attempt to beat our totals show let's show them some UAlbany Go Green spirit!



Faculty No Paper Pledge

As part of our commitment to reduce our carbon footprint, we are asking faculty to make course material available solely online. It is estimated that posting syllabi on line could save 180,000 sheets of paper which equates to 22 trees and \$14,000 in copying costs. If we were to post additional course material online instead of providing hard copies, our savings would be much greater. Faculty members can pledge to make their course syllabus or other material available exclusively online for the Spring 2008 semester by going to www.albany.edu/gogreen and clicking on the Faculty No Paper link. A list of pledging professors will be up on our website this spring.

What else to look for in the spring...

Earth Day Festivities



Join the university on April 22nd to celebrate Earth Day. This year's festivities will center on increasing awareness of our carbon footprint and ways we can reduce our ecological impact. A day of panels, speakers and exhibits is planned.

Dump and Run



Last year was the inaugural year of the Dump and Run. We collected several usable items that students were going to throw away. These items were then donated to a local homeless shelter. This year we hope to expand our program to all the quads and the apartments but we need volunteers!

National Teach In

This February, UAlbany will be taking part in a national event focused on policy changes towards reducing global warming. Our activities will include a panel discussion on actions that could be taken by the new President's administration during their first 100 days and beyond.



The teach in will feature a webcast with commentary from many environmental notables.

Watch for more information as the spring semester starts and plan on joining us to learn more about global warming solutions and what we are doing here at UAlbany.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not."

*— Dr. Seuss,
from The Lorax*

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