



Campus Sustainability Committee. Report to Faculty Assembly, March 13, 2009

Campus garden. Committee is working with the SEAS Committee to site and develop a campus garden. Students from a number of different colleges are involved in this project which will include composting assistance from Sodexo.

Boulder Sustainability Conference. Presentation by three UCCS students on the STARS measuring system for campus sustainability was very favorably received. UCCS is one of 65 campuses testing this method of measuring sustainability on campus (operations and curriculum are included.)

Additions to Sustainability Calendar Statewide sustainability events calendar
<http://www.casba.info/calendar/events/index.php>

March 17, UCCS, Celebration of LEED Gold for the Recreation Building

March 17-19 CORE (Connected Organizations for a Responsible Economy) Colorado, Sustainable Opportunities Summit, Denver, <http://sosummit.org/home/>

March 18 Electronics recycling, UCCS, Lot 1, 10-2

April 25th Community Earth Day Fair, Cornerstone Arts Building, Colorado College

May 2-3 Denver Green Festival™, a joint project of [Global Exchange](#) and [Green America](#).
<http://www.greenfestivals.org/denver/>

May 17-19, Summit for Recycling, Vail, Colorado www.cafr.org/summit/

Committee members are compiling a list of **opportunities for community involvement/service** on sustainability issues

Other communities and campuses are using **LID (Low Impact Development)** as a way to site and construct buildings in a way that reduces storm water runoff and allows for the retention of rainwater on site. Suggestion was passed to Facilities to investigate this option for our campus.

Committee welcomed Rob Dougherty, **new Facilities Director**.

Report from Sustainability Office

- LEED ceremony for Recreation Center on March 17th from 3:30-4:30 is the major focus of the office right now. We are also planning educational activities centered on LEED and green buildings from 12-5 that day in the Rec. Center. Please stop by during the day and bring an associate from your office. Green tours will be available and there will be signs up all over the building to point out LEED features.
- One of the big projects that we have been working on for the Recreation Center is the design and installation of a green touch screen program for the lobby area. It will be up for the celebration, but may not be fully programmed by Tuesday. We hope to display real time data on the solar thermal system, as well as building energy and water use.

There will also be information on the LEED points we achieved, green building, and solar information from faculty member Ramon Tirado.

- We just received the final shipment of outside recycling containers for the upper plaza and the softball fields. They are trash/recycling stations and are well signed. We received half from the National Recycling Coalition and the other half from MSS Media, so no university funds were spent on these particular cans.
- We will be setting up a committee in the near future to select future solar projects to be funded by the student \$5 fee. We do have a demonstration project that will be a thin film laminate project for the Science Engineering building that will be completed no later than June 30, but probably earlier. We would like to invite a faculty member and a SEAS member to join this committee. We already have one representative from SGA. Please let me know if you are interested.
- We completed the STARS project and Kevin, Rachel, and Joe presented their process and results at the Sustainability Summit. The leaders of AASHE were very impressed by the systems that our students designed and other schools have asked to use those same systems. We are now in the process of summarizing the results and would like to work with both Sustainability Council and Sustainability Committee to determine next steps.
- The solar thermal system is finally operational on the Rec. Center. It is expected to provide for about 66% of the energy needed to heat pool. At least one of the afternoons this week, the system provided all of the heat necessary and the boiler was completely shut off.
- Presentations on sustainability: Sally von Breton – Business, Sherry Morreale – Communications, Staff Council, New Faculty Orientation, New staff orientation, Student and Alumni gathering, A Sense of Wonder – Rachel Carson event held by the Matrix and Colorado Diversity Forum,
- Mandatory Utility Containment Committee started – chaired by Gary Reynolds. (name chosen by leadership). There are some positive actions coming out of this committee regarding energy and water conservation. We finally have a dedicated group of people within facilities across the campus who are focused on getting projects done (budget crunches help). We are now pursuing lighting projects, and comprehensive water retrofit projects that will lessen our ghg emissions and utility bills. Part of this project includes a building proctor program. There is one or more proctor for every building on campus. Proctors have been tasked with putting up educational signage, providing ideas for saving resources, and serving as informational sources for building occupants regarding energy and water use. An email went out last week with the list of proctors. Please get to know your proctors and support them as much as possible. All of the proctors are currently staff member, but it would be nice to have some faculty partners as well.
- There will be a sustainability poster campaign that should start next week and will use the kiosks and bus shelters. We are able to use these spots for free until advertising is sold. Let us know if you like them.
- We are recycling more through single stream recycling. One of the issues we are having with RecycleMania is that we use an EPA conversion from volume to weight. When we separated our recycling, we were able to allocate a much higher weight, especially for paper and cardboard, than we are able to do with single stream. So it looks like we are doing worse than last year, when our actual recycling volume as compared to trash has increased. I will need to work with the national organization to see if anything can be changed for next year.
- Sustainability office staff: Rachel moved to Denver and is no longer with the office. Kevin is being promoted to sustainability office coordinator and will be working in an almost full time capacity. Joe and Alhanna will both be moving on as of May. So, please be thinking of stellar students with a passion for sustainability that you know who may be interested in a position later in this semester.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility Opens Second Saturday Of Each Month

New Schedule Makes It Easier For Residents To Protect The Environment

Colorado Springs, March 10, 2009 - Starting this Saturday, March 14th, the El Paso County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is adding to its normal operations schedule to accept drop offs the **second Saturday of each month** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The facility's regular weekday schedule is **Monday - Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Last year set new records year with more than 10,000 residents using the County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. They recycled more than 214,000 pounds of electronics waste and 68,000 gallons of paint. They dropped off 7900 gallons of motor oil, 6700 pounds of household batteries, 2800 mercury vapor lights and 1600 gallons of antifreeze. The Facility also diverted 569 drums of toxic materials from the landfill sending the contents to an EPA certified incinerator for proper disposal.

Every resident in El Paso County can protect the environment by bringing household hazardous waste to the collection facility at 3255 Akers Drive. Akers Drive runs north from Constitution just west of Marksheffel Road. Use of the collection facility is free but donation of a non-perishable food item for Care and share is encouraged.

The Facility accepts household paint and paint-related products: latex, oil-based, aerosol, and hobby paints; stains strippers, solvents, thinners, lacquers, varnishes, etc. Lawn & garden chemicals: lawn and houseplant fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, pesticides, rodent poisons, wood preservatives, etc. Household items: cleaners (carpet, drain, oven, toilet bowl), aerosols, ammonia, batteries (alkaline & rechargeable), bleach, cooking & lamp oils, fire extinguishers, furniture polish/wax, fluorescent lights, medications, mercury thermometers (can be exchanged for one new digital thermometer per household), propane tanks, etc. Automotive products (no tires): antifreeze, batteries, brake & transmission fluids, cleaners (bug/tar, chrome, engine, vinyl), contaminated oil, flares, fuels, wax, etc. Ammunition, fireworks, flares, etc. Electronics: including CPU's, monitors, keyboards, printers, television sets (up to 19" diagonal), stereo and video components, cell phones, digital cameras, and personal electronic devices.

For more information call 520-7878 or logon to:

http://adm.elpasoco.com/Environmental_Services