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Tufts gets green

Office of Sustainability



<http://sustainability.tufts.edu>

Volume 2 Issue 24

April 2012

Dear Tufts Environmental,

April showers have definitely arrived and our thoughts turn to that most valuable resource: water. Don't let that rain outside fool you! Water is still in high demand and any efforts on our part to limit water waste make a world of difference. In fact, the Water, Systems and Society (WSSS) program is holding its 3rd annual symposium on April 27 and the theme is "[The Glass Half Full: Valuing Water in the 21st Century](#)", exploring the various complex and interlinking factors of valuing water throughout developed and developing nations.



Here at Tufts, the [Campus Sustainability Council's Water Working Group](#) has begun [reviewing current usage and existing initiatives related to water](#), such as the installation of rain barrels to capture roof run-off for landscape irrigation and low-flow shower heads and dual-flush toilets as part of bathroom upgrades in residence halls. The group is working towards preparing specific "SMART" goals for the university over the coming months. [Feel free to submit your suggestions](#) for any of the Council's working groups (the other two focus on Waste and Energy/Emissions) - the Office of Sustainability will collect and summarize the suggestions on behalf the Council.

On a related note, the 24oz light blue Nalgene with a water bottle-stomping elephant on it has become a familiar sight around the Tufts Medford campus. You may recall that beginning last fall, [the sale of single-serving beverages was eliminated from Hodgdon Good-to-Go](#), thanks to a campaign by student action group Tufts Against Plastic (TAP). Tufts Dining supported the initiative and even helped promote it by giving away the clear "Choose to Reuse" water bottle for free with the sale a fountain drink during the first two weeks of the semester. (Dining has since made the Nalgene bottles available for sale wherever plastic bottles of water are still sold and they offer a beverage discount for those who bring reusable bottles to Hodgdon Good-to-Go, Tower Café, Mugar Café, and The Commons.)

A full semester after the initial change took place, Patti Klos, Director of Dining and Business Services, estimated a **reduction of over 133,000 disposable bottles per semester!** That's **73% fewer bottles** from the previous school year when single-serving beverage bottles were still sold in Hodgdon. [Read more about this story on our blog.](#)

In the meantime, let's continue to work on keeping our personal water usage to a minimum - from shortening our showers to turning off the faucet when we brush our teeth. See our [Green Guide to Living and Working at Tufts](#) for more [tips on how to conserve water.](#)

- Anne Elise Stratton
Communications Intern, Office of Sustainability

Upcoming Events

"Defending Eden" Film Showing

When: Wednesday, April 4th at 7:00pm

Where: Tisch 304

Green Media

Want to know the story behind the bottle? Where does that plastic go after you recycle it, anyway?

Check out this short documentary video featuring activist Annie Leonard to answer those questions and more!



Defending Eden - Trailer

Join the producer of Prehensile Productions, as we screen the trailer and other clips from the in-production film, Defending Eden. She will talk about the linked issues of filmmaking, environmental impact and preservation of indigenous cultures. They welcome student feedback on the directions the film should take during its development. Sponsored by CMS, ENVS, and the Department of Anthropology.

- [Apr 2: Sustainability & Religion: New Directions in Research and Practice](#)
- [Apr 2-4: Campus, Community and Culture - the Northeast Campus Sustainability Consortium Conference](#)
- [Apr 3: The Global Food Crisis and the Future of Agriculture](#)
- [Apr 4: "The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Modern World"](#)
- [Apr 4: Spring Convocation of Students Working With Sustainability Coordinators](#)
- [Apr 12: Community Stormwater Conference](#)
- [Apr 13: EBC 8th Annual Environmental, Energy & Engineering Career Fair](#)
- [Apr 14: Vanishing of the Bees](#)
- [Apr 14: Communicating Science Symposium @ Wellesley College](#)
- [Apr 17: Have More Trees on Campus](#)
- [Apr 20-21: Sustainable Communities and Campuses Conference](#)
- [Apr 20-21: Tufts Energy Conference 2012](#)
- [Apr 27: Massachusetts College & University Recycling Council Meeting](#)
- [April 27: WSSS Interdisciplinary Water Symposium](#)

Upcoming Webinars

- [Apr 3: Climate Change Continuing Education Symposium for Faculty \("Climate Change and Wine"\)](#)
- [Apr 4: NCS conference call - Paul Comey, The Climate for Coffee](#)

Contests

- [Dow Sustainability Innovation Student Challenge](#) (Applications due April 16)



The Story of Bottled Water (2010)

Earth Week Events



Earth Week: April 16-22

Are you planning an event for April? Is it earth-related?
Tell us about it!

Submit your event(s) [here](#) if you would like it included in the events calendar/listing for Earth Week.

RecycleMania

Tufts University

Week 7 Results

#5/23

(UP from #7 last week!)

in Massachusetts

#10/320

in the "Per Capita Classic" category

Way to go, Jumbos!

RecycleMania **wrapped up on March 30**, as does the Dorm Recycling Competition.

How did your house/dormitory do?

Keep in touch



with **The Office of Sustainability**



Environmental Calendar

Don't forget that there's an easy way to keep track of what's going on in the Tufts sustainability community: the common Google calendar called **Tufts**



Environmental Events. Additional (including non-Tufts) events are posted regularly on the **TuftsGetsGreen blog**  and on our **Facebook**  page. Set up a **dedicated RSS feed** to get real-time updates!

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Jobs in Sustainability

- [Policy Internship, Environmental and Energy Study Institute \(Washington, DC\)](#)
- [Seasonal Land Management Intern, Town of Lexington \(Lexington, MA\)](#)
- [Campus Sustainability Program Development Intern, GreenerU \(Waltham, MA\)](#)
- [Sustainability Intern, Cambridge Public School Department \(Cambridge, MA\)](#)
- [Multiple positions, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission \(Springfield, MA\)](#)
- [Senior Associate, Clean Energy Program \(Washington, DC\)](#)
- [Part-time Project Manager, Parking & Transportation \(Somerville, MA\)](#)
- [Planner/Conservation Agent, Town of Tewksbury \(Tewksbury, MA\)](#)
- [Sustainability Coordinator, Virginia Tech \(Blacksburg, VA\)](#)
- [Box Turtle Surveyor, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program \(Westborough, MA\)](#)
- [Senior Associate: Energy Evaluation, EDR Group \(Boston, MA\)](#)
- [Program Manager, the 11th Hour Project \(Palo Alto, CA\)](#)
- [Environmental Sustainability Fellow \(Oberlin, OH\)](#)
- [Summer Planning internship, Town of Ipswich Department of Planning \(Ipswich, MA\)](#)

Job opportunities are posted regularly on the **TuftsGetsGreen blog** 

Set up a **dedicated RSS feed** for the "Career" category so you never miss another post! Additional internship and academic opportunities may be found at the **Environmental Studies Program blog** .

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