









http://sustainability.tufts.edu

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### Volume 2 Issue 31



Eco-Ambassadors 2011-2012 with President Tony Monaco

### Dear Tufts Environmental,

Summer is breezing by but as it turns out, we have a lot going on! Our Eco-Ambassador Program, in particular, has several activities coming up that is open to all members of the Tufts community:



July 10 (Tue): Film showing of "YERT", Noon in Olin 011 (Read film review)

August 14 (Tue): Tour of Medford's Wind Turbine, Noon (RSVP here)

YERT Trailer

Current Eco-Ambassadors have until July 1st to apply for a grant! And If you know someone who might be Interested in

becoming an Eco-Ambassador, registration is open for our new, condensed program in Boston this August. Our regular year-long program with monthly sessions is also recruiting new members for FY2012-2013. Email us and we will notify you once registration begins.



Lastly, if you're looking for a good book to read, our pick

### In This Issue

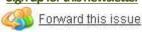
A different type of green **Eco-Ambassador Grants Computer Donation Program** dasHaus in Cambridge **Upcoming Events** <u>Jobs</u>

### Keep in touch

with The Office of Sustainability



Sign up for this newsletter



### Do you work on the Boston Campus? Want to become an **Eco-Ambassador?**



The next round of condensed sessions are coming up in August! There will be two sessions, each four hours in length and lunch will be provided. Register now to indicate your interest and availability.

The Eco-Ambassadors are a group of Tufts faculty and staff who work to improve sustainability in the workplace. If you're interested, check out

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for the summer book club is The Story of Stuff by Annie Leonard. We will meet at the Office of Sustainability to discuss the book over lunch on August 27. The book has also been named the common book for the Class of 2016, so author Annie Leonard is coming to Tufts in October.

Read it with us and prepare for a lively discussion!

We look forward to seeing you at one of the events this summer. Stay cool (and dry)!

- Fannie

Communications and Outreach Specialist, Office of Sustainability

# **Counting a Different Type of Green to Measure Income Disparity**

Environmental journalist Tim De Chant has made an interesting discovery: the more trees in a neighborhood, the greater the monetary wealth of that neighborhood. It seems that there is a correlation between the green in our pockets and the green outside our windows. In January 2011, De Chant began documenting the relationship between income and green scenery on his blog, Per Square Mile. Some of the differences will astound you.

Between Somerville (Median 2009 income: \$69,471) and West Cambridge (Median 2009 income: \$115,798) the contrast is impossible to ignore, with Somerville's aerial photo containing only a few green specks, while West Cambridge has so many trees, that the houses are hard to pick out.



An aerial view of Ball Square in Somerville.



An aerial view of West Cambridge

# the Eco-Ambassadors page

on the Office of Sustainability website!

Already an Eco-Ambassador? Apply for a grant!

### **Grant Eligibility:**

- If you have attended 8
   or more Eco
   Ambassador sessions in
   any year (and have not
   already received a
   grant), you are eligible
   to apply for a grant of
   up to \$200 to use to
   help make your office
   more sustainable.
- Short course (April 2012) participants who participated in both sessions are eligible for up to \$100

### Proposals should include:

- Your name
- Your department
- Project description that includes what you hope to do and how it will improve Tufts' sustainability
- Proposed budget and supporting material (e.g. item numbers, descriptions and vendor names)
- Brief note of support from your supervisor

# How will proposals be evaluated?

- How impactful they are (e.g. how much waste, water, and energy is saved)
- Number of individuals impacted
- · Potential to influence

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Clearly, De Chant is onto something. He looks at areas where there is a great contrast in monetary wealth. Areas of Chicago and San Francisco also make an appearance. Since starting his study, De Chant has begun accepting images from the public for his blog. He simply asks that they go on Google Earth and find areas close to one another, but with different median incomes. The difference, more often than not, is obvious. Read More>>

follow up behavior change

All Proposals are due JULY 1st.

For ideas on how to improve your office, check out what our Eco Ambassadors are up to.



### **Communities benefit** from Tufts Computer **Donation Program**

**Tufts Community Relations** (TCR) has been working with **University Information** 

Technology (UIT) for several years to donate computers to community agencies and schools.

The <u>Tufts Computer Donation Program</u> collects, cleans up and donates Tufts-owned computers that are less than five years old to the Grafton, Boston, and Medford/Somerville communities. Older computers are recycled via Tufts' long-standing recycling program. Before donation, all computer hard drives are wiped and their operating systems reinstalled. UIT then provides a list of available computers to TCR to identify organizations that would benefit from a donation.

Medford/Somerville faculty and staff with old computers to donate should go to Facilities' website and ask to schedule a time for them to pick-up your old computer. If you work in Boston or Grafton, email computers4community@tufts.edu. For more details, visit UIT's website.

### One week only: dasHaus in Cambridge

From June 18-27, dasHaus - a traveling pavilion showcasing the latest energy technologies - will be at the MIT campus in Cambridge. The sustainable building makes use of triple pane glass, solar panels, and passive



A group from Tufts visiting dasHaus

house standards to create an energy efficient abode, and unique wall construction systems to keep the house cool in the summer or warm in the winter.

On June 20, a group of Tufts' students, faculty and staff visited dasHaus. The tour is a fun outing and relatively quick, so feel free to go if you are merely curious or if you need some tips on retrofitting or renovations, as the staff are happy to provide hints and tips. Register for a tour or simply head over to 219 Vassar Street in Cambridge while it's still there!

Out of the Boston area? dasHaus' next stops are Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, San Francisco, Phoenix, Houston, and Atlanta. See it while you still can!

# **Upcoming Events**



June 29 (and every last Friday of the month until Sep 28):

### Green Streets Walk/Ride Day Corporate Challenge

Every last Friday of the month is the Green Streets Initiative's Walk/Ride Day. Go car-free, check in your commute, and help Tufts win the inaugural Walk/Ride Corporate Challenge! Biking, walking, public transit, telecommuting and carpooling all count. All participants will also be entered into a raffle to win cool prizes. Green your commute now and help create safer, healthier streets!

### **More Events:**

• Jun 26: NESEA Visitor Event at dasHAUS Cambridge

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- Jun 26: Walking Tour of Blueback Herring River Route
- Jun 28: Free Urban Cycling Workshops
- Jul 10: Cultivating Food Justice with Julian Agyeman
- Jul 18: Webinar on Career Advice for the Environmental Industry
- Aug 03: Tour of Drumlin Farm

#### **Contests:**

Jul 01: 2012 UCS Science and Democracy Editorial Cartoon Contest

Visit the <u>Tufts Environmental Calendar</u> or subscribe to <u>our Events RSS feed</u> for more frequent updates.

## **Jobs in Sustainability**

- Campus Sustainability Council Administrative Intern (Medford, MA)
- Online Community Manager (Boston, MA)
- Government Affairs Internship (Boston, MA)
- Sustainability@BU Outreach Coordinator (Boston, MA)
- Summer Intern Food to Fork (Boston, MA)
- Program Officer, MA Green Retrofit Initiative (Boston, MA)
- GIS Lab Assistant, Tufts UIT (Medford, MA)

Job and internship opportunities are posted regularly on the <u>TuftsGetsGreen blog</u> 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 <u>Environmental Studies Program blog</u>.

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