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Tufts *Sustainability in Action!* gets green



In This Issue

[Tufts Bikes Open for the Summer](#)

[Tom Thumb's Blog](#)

[The Grab Bag](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Sustainability News](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

Tufts Office of Sustainability
June 3, 2011

Dear Tufts Environmental,

It's June! Freak tornado storms aside, it feels like summer has finally arrived. Now is your chance to do some gardening, take that bike out for a spin, or read that book you've been wanting to read all year. Luckily, this newsletter has a little bit of all of these things with Tufts Bikes reopening for the summer, Tom Thumb's Student Garden starting a blog, and some recommended reading.

As we look forward to more 80+ degree days ahead, [here are a few great tips](#) on how to stay cool in your home this summer without going overboard on the energy consumption. If you're looking for excuses to get out of the house, there are a ton of off campus events listed this week including a volunteer opportunity at the zero-waste Lowell Folk Festival and two different permaculture training opportunities.

Stay green!
Jason

Tufts Bikes Open for the Summer!

Tufts Bikes, the campus bike sharing program that began last semester, is now open for the summer!



The bike share will be running all summer at half capacity, with 16 bikes available to rent from the library. The bike share is open to students, faculty, and staff, and is available during library hours. Check out the [blog](#) for more information.

Tom Thumb's Student Garden Blog

Sustainability News

Federal government launches first electric vehicle pilot program

On May 24, President Obama issued a memorandum directing federal agencies to implement fuel-efficient and innovative fleet-management practices. On the same day, the General Services Administration (GSA) announced the launch of a pilot project to incorporate electric vehicles and technologies into

Tom Thumb's Student Garden, the garden club at Tufts, has started a blog to keep everyone updated on the garden over the summer. Expect to see some gardening tips and tricks, some fresh produce recipes, and just general updates on the sustainable food movement. You can read the blog [here](#).

The Grab Bag

In honor of the bike share reopening, I thought it'd be cool to highlight an insanely enormous and very successful bike sharing program in Hangzhou, China. The share has over 50,000 bikes and averages 240,000 daily trips. Check out this video with the run down:



The Biggest, Baddest
Bike-Share in the World:
Hangzhou China

Job Opportunities

[Community Organizing Intern](#),
[Marketing/Outreach Intern](#),
Fenway CDC, Boston MA

[Environmental Consulting Intern](#),
The Green Restaurant
Association, Boston MA

[Sustainable Communities Intern](#),
Philadelphia PA
[Sustainability Director](#), U Pacific

[Sustainability Engagement
Program Manager](#), Harvard U

the Federal fleet. Its initial purchase of 100 electric vehicles will be leased to 20 agencies, moving the government closer to meeting goals set by the president's 2009 executive order which required the federal government to purchase only alternative fuel vehicles by 2015 and cut petroleum use by 30% by 2020.



One of 100 electric cars purchased by the GSA
(photo by Michelle Farrell/GSA)

See the [DOE press release](#), the [presidential fleet memorandum](#) or visit the [GSA EV pilot program Web page](#) for more information.

In the News

Tufts helps local start-up poultry farm

The Friedman School's [New Entry Sustainable Farming Project](#) (NESFP) normally aids produce farmers with training in agricultural business techniques. Recently, it has branched out into the poultry industry, helping people like Drew Locke launch his small-scale poultry farm. Locke's family had quit the chicken business in the 70s and warned him of the difficulties involved in poultry farming, but with the help of the NESFP program, Locke has gotten Hillside Poultry Farm up and running, selling cage-free, grass-pastured birds.

One of the biggest challenges for a small farmer was finding a cost-effective way to process the birds and bring them to market. NESFP helped Locke gain access to a Mobile Poultry Processing Unit (MPPU), portable slaughterhouses that can travel from farm to farm and allow several farmers to share the equipment. NESFP and the New England Small Farm Institute (NESFI) joined forces to acquire Massachusetts's first MPPU, which has been in operation since 2008.

[Farm-to-School Coordinator](#),
Green Mountain Farm-to-School

[STARS Program Analyst](#), [Program Assistant](#), Denver CO

[More job listings from TIE](#)

[Career resources at the Office of Sustainability](#)

Interesting Links

Educational

- [The Office of Sustainability](#)
- [Tufts Institute for the Environment](#)
- [Environmental Studies Program](#)
- [The UEP School](#)

Blogs

- [Tufts Bikes](#)
- [Tom Thumb's Student Garden](#)
- [The Veg Table](#)
- [Girly Green Girl](#)

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To read more on Drew Locke and other Friedman School efforts in meat farming, [check out this article](#).



Mobile Poultry Processing Units, or MPPUs, portable slaughterhouses that can travel from farm to farm, allowing several farmers to share the equipment.

Recommended Reading

[The Journal of Sustainability Education](#) 2011 Edition

This online journal has interviews, features, media reviews and papers such as "Buildings, Climate Change, Education and Action: The role of the building sector systems in climate change mitigation" by Peter Papesch and his colleagues. The building sector is a major contributor of climate change, with inefficient buildings over-consuming energy on several different fronts and therefore producing a disproportionate amount of green house gases. The building sector's contributions to climate change especially come to mind in the summer months, when campuses like Tufts usually begin their major construction projects. Read [the whole article](#) to find out about the ways in which education and action can help revamp the building sector to mitigate its impacts.

Events

On-Campus

[Eco-Ambassadors Genzyme building tour](#)

June 15, 9:30-10:30 AM

Interested in taking a tour of one of the most environmentally responsible office buildings ever built in the United States? [RSVP](#) by **June 7th at noon** to join the Eco-Ambassadors on a tour of the LEED-Platinum certified Genzyme Headquarters building in Kendall Sq.

For more information about the Genzyme Center, visit: <http://www.genzymecenter.com/>

Off-Campus

Healthy Landscaping & Lawn Care Workshop

June 7, 7-8:30 PM (Leominster, MA)

Ann McGovern of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection will share simple, low cost techniques on making a beautiful lawn and landscape in your yard that's healthy for your family, pets and neighborhood. Sponsored by the Mass. Watershed Coalition and Leominster Public Library. For more information, visit www.commonwaters.org/events.

Introduction to Permaculture Training Call

June 8, 9:00 PM

You're invited to a free conference call next Saturday with renowned soil biologist and permaculture instructor [Larry Korn](#) and Vladislav Davidzon, founder of Common Circle. They will be giving a talk on the power of permaculture design and spending much time answering questions (so come prepared to ask them!)

If you're thinking about joining for one of Common Circle's upcoming trainings, this is a great opportunity to engage with the program co-facilitators and to learn the basics about permaculture and the trainings. Sign up [here](#).

NRRA Second Annual Northeast School Recycling Conference

June 7 (Manchester, NH)

NRRA is pleased to bring their 30 years of cutting-edge recycling and resource recovery expertise to the students, teachers, and school administrators involved in recycling in their communities. In the rural Northeast, schools are often the single largest generators of waste in communities, and yet they often work independently from local town waste managers. The **School Recycling Conference** endeavors to bridge that gap with connections between all stakeholders.

The special rate for teachers, administrators and students is \$60. Check out the [agenda](#) and register [online](#).

Volunteer at Lowell Folk Festival

July 29-31 (Lowell, MA)

The Lowell Folk festival was one of the first zero-waste events in the country. The Festival brings thousands of visitors to Lowell for three days music, food and fun. As the Festival has

grown, so has the zero-waste program. Ethnic food vendors use biodegradable products, volunteers haul and ensure materials are sorted into recycling and compostable categories. This is a great learning opportunity about how to organize your own zero-waste event. If you are interested in volunteering to help make the zero-waste event a success please contact Bill Stanwood at billstanwood@gmail.com.

Previously Mentioned:

[Emerald Necklace: Guided Walk through the Back Bay Fens](#)

June 11, 10:30 AM - 12PM (Boston, MA)

[Deep Energy Retrofit Open House](#)

June 11, 10:30 AM-1:30 PM (2 Bromfield Street, Quincy, MA)

[AEISS 2011 Conference: "Confronting Complexity"](#)

June 23-26 (Burlington, VT)

[Moving Planet: A Day to Move Beyond Fossil Fuels](#)

September 24 (Boston, MA)

[RECHARGE! A Retreat for Rising Clean Energy Leaders](#)

August 21-26, 2011 - Mt. Hood, Oregon

Educational Opportunities

Suburban Permaculture

Design & Leadership Certificate

July 9-24 (Eugene, OR)

Gain cutting-edge skills in nature-inspired sustainable design that's applicable virtually anywhere design is used -- from green businesses to your own back yard. Visit ecovillages, organic farms, the nation's first biofuel station (ever seen a gas station with solar panels and a green roof selling kombucha? ;), while spending two weeks with some of the most inspiring people around! [Sign up](#) before June 8th and bring a friend FREE.

Previously Mentioned:

[Permaculture Design Internship](#)

July 1-28, 2011 (Punta Mona Center, Costa Rica)

2011 Student Training for Environmental Protection

July 8th-15th (Prince William Forest, Washington, DC)

Metta Earth Leadership Training: Generation Now

July 11- August 7, 2011 (Metta Earth Institute, Lincoln, VT)

7th Annual Summer Institute for Social Marketing and Health Communications

Week of July 10, 2011 (Emerson College, Boston)

See you next week!

Tufts Office of Sustainability

<http://sustainability.tufts.edu/>

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