BC Green

The official newsletter of the Boston College Office of Sustainability

BClean
Move-out Reclamation

At the end of May, during move out, the BC Clean program, comprised of members of ResLife, Facilities, and the student body, partnered with three non-profit companies to repurpose unwanted items from student rooms. Household Goods Recycling Management of Massachusetts collected 29.4 tons of items that included 5,875 items from sofas, chairs, tables, lamps, dishes, etc. St. Vincent de Paul collected 6.36 tons of clothing and food items, 16,213 lbs. and 3,000 lbs, respectively. More Than Words collected more than 6,000 books. Overall, this was an extremely successful event and the groups benefitting from the donations expressed sincere thanks to all of the students for their contributions. These organizations provided hundreds of volunteer hours for this to be a successful effort.
Waste Management

During the summer, several other initiatives for the upcoming year were planned. Dining Services, Housekeeping, The Office of Sustainability, and Grounds planned a renewed single Stream campaign across campus. The effort involved the design of new signage to help clarify what recycling materials go into the single stream recycling bins. Providing consistent messaging across the entire campus was the primary goal of this effort. Additional blue recycling bins and blue recycling bags reinforce the recycling effort.

In addition to recycling, the group decided to provide more extensive compost opportunities to students in the dining halls. Dining Services has been composting in the kitchen for many years and in Lover Campus Dining Gall behind the waste conveyer belt used by students. Yellow compost bins and signage that is complementary to the current Recycling and Trash systems were added to Stuart, Macelroy, and Addie’s. Help from Ecoplegde and UGBC student volunteers will be provided at key

Last Year’s Recycling Results

Last year, BC achieved a recycling rate of 45%, that is a 4% increase over 2013. This translates into a total of 5078 tons of collected waste and recycling materials, 2302 tons of which were recycled. Converted to pounds, the total amount of materials collected is equivalent to 10 million pounds – that breaks down into an average of 600 lbs per person at BC (faculty, students, staff). Included in the recycling number is 305 tons of compost, primarily from BC Dining Services.
Greening Eagles
Gameday Ambassadors

If you have attended any of the home football games in September, you may have noticed one of our newest initiatives, the Greening Eagles Game Day Ambassadors. The student and faculty volunteers, wearing their distinctive green shirts, helped to answer questions on gameday activities and on recycling.

This is an effort partnered by Athletics, Facilities Services and the Sustainability Office. The idea was to have the Gameday Ambassadors acts as hosts prior to the start of the games and to also highlight new recycling goals for gamedays. They will be at every home game of the year in order to reach our goal of 50% recycling, a 25% increase from last year.

TOP TEN TIPS FOR STAYING GREEN:

1) **Switch it off!** Turn off the lights when natural light is sufficient and when you leave the room.
2) **Take the stairs,** not the elevator. It’s finally nice out – enjoy the sunshine for a little longer!
3) **Hydrate!** Make use of those water filling stations all around campus
4) **Loaded Laundry:** Only do full loads of laundry – it’s cheaper and easier on the environment!
5) **Recycle!** Bottles, paper, cardboard, plastic – the list is endless. Think twice before you trash it.
6) **Even better, reuse!** Old cell phones and chargers, furniture, and clothing can all be donated.
7) **Healthy, fresh, local:** Choose local food whenever you can! The Loft @ Addie’s is a great option.
8) **Take the T!** With the sun out, the extra walk really isn’t so bad.
9) **Shorter Showers** make a huge difference. Hygiene is a must but wastefulness isn’t!
10) **Get Involved!** There are tons of sustainability student groups on campus – check them out!
Through a combination of various efforts around campus, including HVAC and lighting upgrades, the office of Energy Management created a total savings of 1.5 million kWh! That’s the equivalent of 142 households’ energy use for an entire year! It has also saved the burning of nearly 12,000 cubic feet of natural gas.

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<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>kWh Savings</th>
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<td>Lighting</td>
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<td>Lighting</td>
<td>Beacon St. Garage</td>
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<td>HVAC</td>
<td>Law Library &amp; East Wing</td>
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Student Organizations

BC's largest sustainability organization, EcoPledge, will be holding their annual HarvestFest in O’Neill Plaza on Wednesday, October 15th. The event, which is meant to highlight sustainability issues surrounding food and agriculture, will be put on along with Real Food, Bike BC, and The Environmental Studies Department. It will feature local/imported apple taste tests, pumpkin painting, a thrift/clothing exchange stand, and much more!

Get connected to The BC Office of Sustainability:

Like us on Facebook @ The Boston College Office of Sustainability

Read our e-Newsletter and stay up to date with all things BC Green by visiting our website at [www.bc.edu/sustainability](http://www.bc.edu/sustainability)

Boston College Office of Sustainability Mission Statement:

Boston College recognized that there are limits to the world’s resources. To ensure the quality of life for future generations, Boston College seeks to demonstrate the leadership in environmental stewardship and sustainability, living the motto ‘ever to excel’. The university is committed to conserving resources and reducing the impact that its services and activities place on the environment.