

Green Campus Newsletter

Humboldt State University

April 5, 2006

Issue 11

“I AM NOT A FOSSIL FOOL!”

HSU uses 38,000 kWh per day, this is the equivalent of 22 barrels of crude oil which would release 24,024 lbs of carbon into the air. In total, Humboldt's daily energy consumption costs the campus \$4,000. Green Campus used Fossil Fool's Day to bring attention to our campus's oil addiction. We tabled on campus and asked people to pledge to take energy-reducing steps everyday.

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People signed a cloth banner, vowing to make a greener campus and community through individual behavior changes



Krystal gearing the cycle as Jeff steers...Watch out!

RIDIN' THE ECO-CYCLE

With the help of Alec Cooley and the Campus Recycling Program, Green Campus was able to borrow the Eco-Cycle. With this we were able to transport the barrels from facilities to the quad without using fossil fuels. Check out the website for more information:

<http://www.humboldt.edu/~recycle/EcoCycle.html>

FOCUS GROUP FINDS THE CRACKS IN GREEN CUP

A Focus Group held last month illustrated areas where the Green Campus Program could improve and suggested other ways to reach on campus residents. In response to the Green Cup Energy Competition many residents felt defeated; feeling that they could do very little to actually help their building win the competition. There was also quite a bit of confusion regarding the winners on the competition.

However, most students were aware of the competition and learned a few new tricks to save energy. They also suggested that we target a college audience, with slogans such as "share a shower" and "do it in the dark." Most students thought the competition and the Program in general could be advertised more and suggested using the Royal Flush.

In conclusion students felt that their peers would not be encouraged to reduce their energy consumption unless they were held accountable for it.

ENERGY NINJAS: PATROLLING FOR PHANTOM LOADS

In an attempt to bring energy waste to people's attention, Green Campus is trying a bold new strategy. At night, after the most faculty and staff have gone home, the "Energy Patrol" (more affectionately known as the "energy ninjas") strolls through the halls looking for energy waste violations. Tickets in the shape of door hangers are left on the handles of offices of the perpetrators to let them know what they could do to save more energy.

In our first patrol, two offices were cited, one for lights, the other for computers and printers. Green Campus plans on recruiting help from volunteers to make this process more efficient in the future. We hope that bringing accountability to the people will inspire them to pay attention to their habits and work to create a more energy efficient campus.



Door hanger "tickets" left behind by Energy Patrol.

UPDATE: PUBLIC DISPLAY OF DATA

Green Campus has received positive feedback on the idea of publishing energy data for buildings on campus. We now have three sites to install our signs to track building energy use. They are Founders Hall, Harry Griffith Hall, and the Student and Business Administration Building. We are happy to have these locations as they are building frequented by both students and staff. We hope that our displays will encourage people to be more conscience about their energy use.

Andrea is currently working on putting together the graphics as well as coordinating with Facilities to install the bulletin boards for the display. If all goes well, the displays should be up in the coming weeks. Along with a graph tracking the building's energy use there we be a section updated monthly with energy facts and tips to save energy. Also on display will be an events calendar people can check for upcoming Green Campus events like movies and club meetings.

We also plan on including a section showcasing the many accomplishments of campus energy manager George Wright. George is retiring this summer and we would like to show our appreciation for what he has done on campus, especially regarding energy efficiency. George has been very supportive of Green Campus and we would like to thank him and wish him well in retirement.

WATCH FOR....**Coalition Meetings:**

April 7th & April 21st
 Fridays, 5pm @ Muddy
 Water's G St in Arcata
 (Meetings will be the 1st &
 3rd Friday of the month)

Energy Audits:

Of AS Office
 Friday, April 2nd @ 2pm

Films: (Free Popcorn)

"Ecological Design"
 Wednesday, April 5th
 7pm FH 118

"The Day After Tomorrow"

Tuesday, April 11th
 7pm FH 25

"Monumental"

Wednesday, April 26th
 7pm FH 118

Energy Patrol:

Wednesday, April 5
 After "Ecological Design"

SLAM FEST:

Saturday, April 22
 Noon-9pm
 Special Events Field

LUMBERJACK OFFICE CAN SAVE

On February 24th, Green campus did an audit on the Lumberjack Office. Now, after carefully analyzing the information we gathered, we found areas for improvement and applied those to create energy savings. The amount of energy used by the office was estimated to be about 757 kilowatt-hours over the course of a month. This means this office alone requires about 4 barrels of crude oil each year for its power (based on nine months of operation).

We identified the major areas for improvement focused around computers. In the office, none of the computers utilized energy-saving settings, or were turned off after operating hours. This resulted in most of the energy waste for the office. By having the computers automatically turn off from 11 PM to 8 AM, and utilize monitor power down instead of energy-wasteful screen savers, we determined we could save 300 kWh per month. Other areas for improvement would be upgrading the fluorescent lighting to more efficient models, which would not provide as significant of a change as the computer settings and would cost considerably more money. Considering the massive number of computers on campus, we feel that a next step would be to focus on implementing energy-saving measures on all computers campus wide, and would result in decreased cost and energy savings.

CLUBS THE OFFICE AUDITS

It's after hours, and no one should be in the office. But two figures stalk in, and immediately start rummaging around under the desks. Burglars? No! It's a Green Campus Energy audit team! For the second part of our energy audit series, we scrutinized the Clubs and Activities office at HSU. Since the Clubs office is much different than a newspaper printing room, the audit methods had to be adjusted.

Green Campus Audit Team leader Jeff Steuben explained the importance of this, "Each office we do, we'll encounter different situations. That's why the audit team needs to be prepared and hopefully well trained." The results of the audit are still be determined, but the initial look suggests that the Clubs office is already very energy conscious, and to realize greater energy savings, more efficient equipment will have to be installed.

Fossil Fool's, CONT.

This year marks the third annual Fossil Fools Day Campaign, a day of action initiated by Energy Action. On Saturday, April 1st, thousands of citizens with campuses and groups all over the country organized different demonstrations and events.

In collaboration with International Labor Week, (honoring the work of Caesar Chavez and fighting against sweat-shop labor) Green Campus celebrated Fossil Fool's Day on HSU's quad, Thursday, March 30th.

Students and Faculty alike showed their dedication to stop our oil addiction by signing a banner-sized pledge to do a specific action. (See our new website for some simple ways to save.) Pledgers were rewarded for their pledge and efforts with free CFLs, green ribbons, and cookies.

To help visualize HSU's daily energy consumption, Green Campus set up a demonstration of four 55-gallon barrels to represent the equivalent of the 22 barrels of crude oil that HSU would need to power its campus daily.

Pollution is not confined by political boundaries. Our everyday actions are negatively impacting the lives of others around the world. SO, "Don't be a Fossil Fool!" Do what you can to help our country recover from our addiction and move toward a brighter, cleaner, and secure future.



Demonstrational display of oil drums

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The Alliance to Save Energy's "Green Campus Program" is funded by the California ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Strategic Energy Innovations is a sub-contractor of the Green Campus Program.

WE'VE UPDATED THE GC WEBSITE!

Thanks to Ajay Tallam and Coordinator Jeffrey Steuben.

Same address, new look:
www.humboldt.edu/~green