

Service Quarterly

THE COUNCIL FOR SPIRITUAL AND ETHICAL EDUCATION

The Green Edition



Leaving Your Carbon Footprint

Are you going green? Team up with many local and national initiatives to Save Our Planet. As service educators, we are constantly tapping local resources to create meaningful and responsible programs for our students. What better way to serve our communities than to GO GREEN! Many schools are finding ways to conserve energy, to cut down on food and water waste. Adults need to lead by example. We can do our part to make a difference for the future generations.



How will your next service project help save our planet? Here are some ideas:

- Change lightbulbs: use EnergyStar bulbs
- Create a Sustainability Committee with members of the faculty, staff and students
- Put signs up in restrooms - conserve energy: turn off lights and water when not needed
- Encourage everyone to not waste food. Put your trash cans on scales and watch the pounds go. Make weekly announcements.
- Sponsor a litter pick up day at a park, in town or at a local river or beach
- Encourage your food service to shop locally
- Walk or bike instead of driving
- Go back to the *tap* - boycott those plastic water bottles
- Reuse, reuse, reuse when you can. Especially the other side of that good white paper!
- Recycle, recycle, recycle - paper, plastic, cardboard, news paper, high quality white paper, magazines, catalogs, ink jet cartridges, aluminum, old electronics, cell phones, etc.
- Make speeches, show movies, create posters

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CSEE's 2008 Community Service Conference

When Disaster Strikes: Your Call to Service

St. Martin's Episcopal School
New Orleans, LA
Friday and Saturday, April 4-5, 2008

Building meaningful programs to help our fellow human beings in difficult situations. This year looks at needs in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and roles students have played, and can play, in rebuilding the community. For registration or more information, visit the events page at <http://www.csee.org/>

Energy Saving Idea:



If every American home replaced just one light bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified bulb, we would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes for a year, more than \$600 million in annual energy costs, and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of more than 800,000 cars.

(www.energystar.gov)

CSEE Community Service Recognition Awards

Applications are due February 20, 2008. This year's award will recognize schools doing exemplary work connecting older students with younger ones, or connecting students with the elderly. A PDF application is available at www.csee.org.

THE YEAR OF BEING GREEN One school's chance at THE CUP

What are your schools' Inconvenient Truths? Have you only talked about being green but haven't done anything yet? Here at Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut, we are in our second year of healthy competition among other New England prep schools. It is known affectionately as THE GREEN CUP. "The Green Cup Challenge (GCC) is an interschool energy conservation challenge designed to measure a reduction in average campus electricity use. The goal of this challenge is to educate the community about the environmental and economic impact of one's actions, specifically in relation to global climate change, and to reduce campus emissions of greenhouse gasses. The competition is designed to be student-driven, but will also encourage the participation of the entire campus community." (Mission statement, 2007). We measure water usage in our dormitories and our athletic facilities. We are measuring the amount of food waste, both solid and liquid at all meals. These efforts and others created a frenzy within our community - who will own THE CUP? This rivalry mirrors the Yale-Harvard tradition, but it comes with many personal sacrifices. For instance, on most days one cannot see their own lunch tray for the lights in the dining hall are either dimmed or off - and students are smelling a little "gamier" realizing that 2 showers a day is excessive and is not good for this weeks cup standings. It feels like the latest AP polls! Last week we fell behind 2 spots! I guess no more showers for some of us. However, we have reduced the amount of wasted food at each meal and our electricity and water consumption is significantly lower. Somehow, even in the dead of New England winter with a ripe smell in the air, things seem greener! I for one am counting the days till spring, when I can open the windows and let the fresh air in!



The new Green Cup Challenge Logo was designed by Monica Zhou, Lawrenceville School, Class of 2008.

QUOTE OF THE QUARTER:

This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in.
-Theodore Roosevelt

Worthy Weblinks



www.forecastearth.com

Sponsored by The Weather Channel, this site features top news stories, blogs, videos, hot links, and sponsors a high school conference titled Forecast Earth Summit. Will your student become an ambassador? Look online for more information.

www.loveplanetfoundation.org

The Love Planet Foundation, established in 2001, is a non-profit organization dedicated to launching exciting new fund raising projects and multi-media events which educate and inspire social & environmental awareness.



www.thedifferenceofone.org

The Difference of One is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It is based on the idea that one person can and does make a difference in this world. The Difference of One currently has two projects:

1. Parkinson's Disease Campaign intends to raise one million dollars by collecting one dollar (\$1) from one million individual people and donating it to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.
2. Global Warming Challenge seeks to motivate kids to create and implement a campaign in their community to make a difference about global warming. The winning campaigns will be launched nationally in the Fall of 2008.

About Service Quarterly

CSEE's *Service Quarterly* is a free publication for educators working with young people in schools. Please pass it on.

If you are not on our email list (not shared, used only by CSEE) to receive future issues of SQ, email "subscribe SQ" to <staff@csee.org>

This issue of *Service Quarterly* was edited by CSEE Community Service Consultant Mary Pashley and the CSEE staff. Submissions regarding innovative programs, resources, and other ideas are both welcome and invited. Send to <staff@csee.org>

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