Sustainability “Best Practices”

Introduction to Ethics
Service Learning Project
What is Sustainability?

• Sustainability is the long-term maintenance of well-being environmentally, economically, and socially.

• Living sustainably means interacting with the earth and its resources in a way that does not deplete the ability of future generations to do so as well.
What can I do to help out?

- Recycle
- Turn off lights and computers
- Help Clean NWACC Campus
  - Help keep bathrooms clean
  - Limit the use of paper towels
  - Don’t drag your feet (Scuff marks)
  - Throw away your gum wrapped in paper
    - In trash can, not recycle bin
- Turn off faucets
- Take advantage of alternative transportation
- Protect YOURSELF
Recycling

• NWACC is charged per ton for solid waste

• By recycling, NWACC lowers its solid waste bill

• Over the last 9 months NWACC recycled 1,200 cubic yards
  – 100 cubic yards = one tractor trailer
  – 12 trailers in 9 months!!
Recycling Cont’d.

• Materials to be recycled need to be cleaned thoroughly

• Don’t “contaminate” by crossing recyclables with trash

• Put materials into proper receptacles

• Currently, NWACC is a benchmark according to RecycleMania (www.recyclemania.org)
  – Meaning that our recycle program is insufficient

• What are you going to do about it??

*RecycleMania is a national competition that measures each college and university's program to promote waste reduction activities on campus.
• A proposed recycling facility on campus for students

• Students can bring new/used unwanted items for reuse by other students
  – Ex: Coffee pot, bicycle, DVD player

• Completely free
  – Donate unwanted items
  – Someone else can take free of charge
Turn off Lights

• Walk by an empty class with the lights on
  – Turn them off

• Last one out of the class
  – Turn them off

• Wanting to take a nap?
  – Turn ‘em off!!
Light Bulb Replacement

• Replacing traditional incandescent bulbs with CFLs can cut lighting costs by up to 75%. The University of Tennessee purchased 1,760 CFLs to exchange for bulbs from students’ desk lamps, saving $4,190 and 60 tons of CO$_2$ in a single semester.

• The University of Florida has replaced 3,700 incandescent light bulbs in university-owned light fixtures with compact fluorescent bulbs in the 208 apartments, which they anticipate will save residents more than $15,000, and will eliminate 200 tons of CO$_2$ annually.
May We Suggest...

...a simple sticker placed on light switches to remind everyone to conserve energy by turning off lights?
NWACC should establish computer energy savings practices for both student and faculty/staff.

The University of Ohio uses Computer Management Software that shuts down computers when they are not in use. It has saved the university 15,150,000 kilowatt hours and 15,000 tons of CO$_2$, which makes up 45% of their total computer energy use. *

Carnegie Mellon University (PA) participates in EPA’s Energy Star Computer Monitor Power Management Program: “Sleep is Good!,” which sets their computers to sleep/standby mode.

Mount Holyoke (MA) has enabled power management features on 2,800 computers, saving 574,000 kWh and 411 tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

Help Keep NWACC Clean
Be Cleaner in Bathrooms

• It seems obvious, just be more aware
• Wipe the water around the sink
• Pick up after yourself
• Make sure paper towels land in trash can
Gum...Gum Gum Gum Gum GUMMMMM!!!

• Save your wrapper
  – After chewing, wrap gum up, then throw in TRASH
• Underside of tables are NOT trash cans
• Gum stains concrete and is hard to clean

Enough Said!!
Water Faucets

• Convert to automatic water faucet
• Report Leaks. *A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year!*

*http://www.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/fixleak.html*
Transportation
Did You Know?

• More than one quarter of US car trips are one mile or less, and 13.7 percent are a half-mile of less.* For most of us, these are walkable distances. Your good health is a gift – if you can, walk!

* http://sustainable.ufl.edu/get-involved/green-teams/
The commutes that each of us make to, and from, campus contributes to NWACC’s carbon footprint. There are many affordable alternative transportation options for the entire NWACC community.

Public Transportation

- Ozark Regional Transit is the provider of mass transportation in the cities of Northwest Arkansas, including Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, and Bentonville. IT’S FREE with student I.D.!!! Students should be aware of this great opportunity.
  - http://www.ozark.org/
Carpooling

• We suggest implementing a “Green Ride” program. Green Ride would allow potential carpoolers to find ride-sharing partners by searching for other NWACC students/employees who live close by or on the commute route, and who have similar school/work schedules.

• Green Ride would supply an online map of the general area showing potential carpoolers near you and on your route to campus. Contacting potential carpoolers would be anonymous until you decide to make your contacts formal.
Not a car IN a pool!!!
That’s the Idea!!!
Utilize Biking/Walking Paths

• You’d be amazed at the progress being made on the biking/walking paths in the area!
• NWA has many trails that are going to connect from Bella Vista to Fayetteville!!

10 Advantages of Riding Bikes

1. It is an environmentally friendly mode of transport.
2. You save money on fuel (Gas, Petrol, Diesel) by riding a bicycle.
3. A bicycle requires comparably less maintenance.
4. Riding a bicycle is good for your health. You develop a strong heart and muscular limbs.
5. You can weave in and out of traffic.
6. Riding a bicycle is a quicker way of getting around the city. I have found that inside city, while driving automobiles, you can hardly go above 35 Km/hr, that’s 22 mph!! And many times you are forced to move at a crawl.

7. There are no parking problems. And you do not have to pay a toll for parking in special spots.

8. Riding a bicycle to work everyday, you do not have to set aside time for exercise as this in itself is an exercise. Thus the time saved can be used for other tasks.

9. The slow pace of travel helps you be receptive of the sights around you, which you might in all probably have missed while riding an automobile. And finally ...

10. At the end of the day, you feel much better – Physically and Mentally.

Safety Counts

• Hand Sanitizing

• Flu Shots

Check local listings for shot locations
Did you know that because of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding, many schools now have the opportunity to receive grants to accomplish their green goals. These grants vary from state to state because the federal government allots different states with a different amounts for distribution through various grants. Many of the grants focus on environmental sustainability and a facility's energy efficiency. For example, the North Carolina Energy Office is offering a grant to schools that will give up to $200,000 in funding to integrate energy and water-saving methods and technologies into the campus. Some of these technologies include solar panels, solar thermal water heaters and energy efficient lighting retrofits.

*www.alternate-energy-sources.com/solar-energy-grants.html*
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