



The Campus Green

Issue 2

December 2014

Rider University's second ever sustainable newsletter!

Green tips

As the cold weather starts to sneak in, check out these quick tips to have a sustainable winter:

- **Lower water heater temperature**
- **Stop the air leaks/insulate windows and doors**
- **Turn heat down when you are not home**
- **Wear layers**
- **Eat warm soups, and drink hot tea!**



In this second issue, we will offer you tips and tricks for being more green this holiday season. Incorporating sustainability into your festivities by reusing and recycling is an easy way to personalize decorations and gifts.

Mark Your Calendar!

- **Green Film: Switch**
December 9 & 10
Both showings 7 p.m. SWG 115
- **Winter Solstice**— December 21



Feature Business:

The Whole Earth Center is a community-based natural foods store. Founded by a group of local environmental activists, the store was started with two goals: to provide a place where Princeton-area residents can buy environmentally friendly foods and household products and to generate money to fund environmental projects and organizations. Thanks to the support of our community, that is exactly what Whole Earth has been doing since 1970.

Whole Earth creates a friendly environment with knowledgeable employees who will help you with any questions you have about food and sustainability, among other things. Support this local business! On a side note, you get a discount if you bike there!



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Spotlight



Dr. Barry Truchil

Dr. Barry Truchil teaches in the departments of Sociology and American Studies. He was involved with the initial sustainability committee on campus, prior to the creation of the Office of Sustainability. This group was responsible in part for Rider University signing the President's Climate Commitment. A recipient of the Rider Distinguished Teaching Award, he is currently writing a book on how local government works.

Q: How have you been involved with sustainability initiatives?

A: I have been involved in lots of ways. In the community, I served in Langhorne, PA in elected office as the Council President. The township receives municipal energy from 100% renewable sources. It was one of the first towns to accomplish this, and even won an award. Since then, Langhorne also began collecting yard waste to be composted and has developed a more aggressive recycling system, which is now single stream.

Q: From your perspective, how has the concept of sustainability changed in recent years?

A: There has been a positive change in the sustainability movement, and it has become more pervasive in our daily lives. It is no longer seen as just our individual habits, now businesses and universities are engaging in practices of sustainability. Even with companies from the Yankees, composting at their stadium, to the Eagles, with wind turbines and solar to power the scoreboard. The movement has become more inclusive, to involve whole communities trying to find sound environmental practices.

Q: Who do you think is an influential leader at the forefront of the sustainability movement?

A: I wouldn't pick one, as the real leaders are everyday community members. One of the virtues of sustainability is its decentralization – what's great is that regular citizens are working on initiatives. We have students involved at Rider, people in the community asking elected officials to make changes, even the businesses and the people that are pressuring them.

Q: You are teaching a class on the environmental movement this semester, can you tell me a little about that?

A: It combines both a history and an analysis of the movement in the U.S. Sustainability is one, but not the only approach, as others did not work. We are seeing how it has evolved from concepts of preservation and conservation, to protests against problems and threats to the ecosystem, to coming up with new ways to create win-win situations for the planet.

Go green this holiday season

- Send tree-free cards by using E-card websites
- Save money and trees by avoiding traditional wrapping paper — wrap with newspaper, old sheet music, scraps of clothing, etc.
- If you hate wrapping, forget it! Get creative and give gifts in containers — mason jars and mugs come in all sizes and work wonderfully
- Send unwanted clothing, shoes, toys, and items to charity (it's always good to give and not just to get)

Contact info

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