



## GO GREEN SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY FAIR

Mark your calendars for the **2012 Go Green Fair** to be held on Sunday April 1, in the Wartburg Waverly Wellness Center. From noon to 4pm you can visit with area businesses on ways to reduce energy costs, learn about waste reduction ideas, local foods, current happening, and enjoy some interactive tables. This is a

great opportunity for students about to graduate to learn how to save money or an afternoon activity to get the family out of the house. There will be activities available for youth and adults.

Vendors are still being sought for the fair. If you are part of a business or group with products or goals related to energy, waste, food or other sustainability focus areas please contact Anne Duncan at [anne.duncan@wartburg.edu](mailto:anne.duncan@wartburg.edu).

Volunteer opportunities are available during the event. Wartburg students interested in getting involved can contact Anne Duncan as well.

### Coordinator's Update

We are quickly approaching ONE year since the inception of the sustainability department on campus, and I think it is safe to say we have hit the ground running ... fast and forward I hope.

In our last edition we updated you on the many things that have been happening. If you missed it please check our website for the back issue.

Since that issue we have committed to competing in Recyclemania, chosen to resurrect the Go Green Fair, brought Terracycle to campus and completed phase one of our STARS pre-evaluation. Articles on these elements can be found in this issue of SEEDS.

As I recognize how much we have done and will do, I must also recognize our dedicated supporters. Please take a minute to check out our special thank you section.

As we start a second year I ask for your support. Where do you see room for growth? What ideas do you have? Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Our best thoughts come from others." What thoughts can you share to make Wartburg a more sustainable place to learn, work, live, and grow?

Until next time, Live Green!

*A. Duncan*  
Anne Duncan

### RecycleMania

The first of February marked the beginning of a 10-week competition among college and university recycling programs. Colleges and universities will compete for titles in recyclables per capita, highest recycling rate, and the least amount of trash per capita. The goals of the competition are not necessarily just to win, but to promote waste reduction across campuses.

Students, faculty and staff will be encouraged to recycle more and become more aware of the recycling opportunities on campus. Wartburg can support the community overall by minimizing the waste created at Wartburg.

In addition to participation in the nation-wide program, the Sustainability Office will host a competition between residence halls. The residence hall with the most recyclables per person has the opportunity to win a ski trip through Crawdaddy Outdoors.

For more information on RecycleMania email [sustainability@wartburg.edu](mailto:sustainability@wartburg.edu).



## WAY TO GO GREEN!!

Jill Eckenrod Takes Paperless to the Next Step!

We wanted to take a quick second to recognize the efforts of Jill Eckenrod, office coordinator in Sports and Wellness to decrease paper consumption in her office.

A while back Jill was getting to the capacity of her file drawers; she knew there was a better way than making copies and filing papers. Her desk was right next to the department copier so she began to scan documents and store them in her NASCAR file.

After a recent office rearrangement Jill was a distance from the copier and asked ITS to get her a desktop scanner. Now she simply lays a piece of paper on her desk, rolls the scanner along the page and plugs it into a USB cord connected to her computer for uploading.

Using specific file names the documents are quickly found and can be shared for others to view. Jill estimates the savings from

scanning instead of copying all The W applications alone offset the cost of the new scanner wand in less than 60 days.

Way to go!!



## TerraCycle Comes to Campus!

It has finally arrived! Terracycle has found a home on campus.

For some of you this might have seemed like a long time coming (shout out to Dr. Ewest's IS 101 class) but for many readers you are asking "What is Terracycle?"

Terracycle's purpose is to eliminate waste through a nationwide recycling system which converts the "waste" into a variety of reusable materials. Terracycle connects 20 million people collecting waste in over 20 countries, and has generated over \$3.6 million in donations. Visit [www.terracycle.net](http://www.terracycle.net) for the overall details.

Wartburg has partnered with the Go-Hawk Terracycle group in Waverly. They have chosen to collect items from 8 different categories and each item collected will generate 2 cents for the WSR schools.

Items Include chip bags, cereal bags, candy wrappers, cookie packages, soft shell taco bags, drink pouches, cheese bags, plastic wrap from TP and paper towels.

Make sure the Items are dry and cleaned out!

Let's all do our part to reduce waste and help WSR schools by taking advantage of Go-Hawk Terracycle! To keep up on all the happenings "like" Waverly Terracycle on Facebook. For questions email [ewestjoanna@msn.com](mailto:ewestjoanna@msn.com) or visit [www.wix.com/gohawksteracycle/waverly](http://www.wix.com/gohawksteracycle/waverly).



Interested in volunteering with the Wartburg Garden? Email [benjamin.harting@wartburg.edu](mailto:benjamin.harting@wartburg.edu) for more information!

## Earth Machine™ Compost Bins and SYSTEMN Rain Barrels

truckload sale

**Sat., April 14, 2012**

**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Waterloo Waste Water Treatment Plant**

3505 Easton Avenue  
Waterloo, Iowa

For more event information, please contact the Black Hawk Co. Solid Waste Mgmt. Commission at (319) 266-8722, [www.WasteTrac.org](http://www.WasteTrac.org)



**Like Sustainability at Wartburg College on Facebook**

Be Green Certification by the numbers



63 have started!  
18 are Bronze Certified!  
1 is Silver Certified!  
1 is Gold Certified!

To get started, visit [www.wartburg.edu/sustainability](http://www.wartburg.edu/sustainability)

## Becoming a Metropolis Commuter at Wartburg West

by: Brian Vachta



This past fall I spent a semester in Denver, CO with the Wartburg West program. I was there to participate in an engineering internship but thanks to the 10 mile commute I added more to my

understanding of how transportation affects the sustainability of a city.

When the program started, we all got to try our hand at the public transportation system. It was pretty simple, as long as you and the bus were on time. Originally, public transit appealed to me; I wouldn't have to drive in the city, and it takes one more vehicle off of the road. At \$2 each way and two more hours to my travel time I ruled that option out pretty quick.

The fastest option, driving, had its own disadvantages: traffic, collisions, road rules, and resulting road rage.

The intimidation of biking in a new, bigger, faster, territory had caused me to rule it out at the beginning of the semester. To my surprise, my experience of adapting to biking in an urban setting was much more welcoming than that of driving. My commute to my internship took 20 minutes longer than it did by car, but leaving the road rage and less parking fines. More than that, it struck up a lot of conversation at work, and I had indoor parking!

Enjoyment set aside, I realized that the overcrowding of vehicles caused the impatience and anger I had driving. As the Denver-Metro area expands, expecting to gain a million more people in the next 10 years, improvements to the transit system are a must. Putting thousands of extra cars on the road will paralyze the already congested traffic having adverse effects on the growth and stability of the metropolis. Investments are being made in public transport, car pool lanes, light rails and bike trails. The question is whether the congestion of roads and availability of other options will take vehicles off the road. As for this commuter, I choose to bike or walk. Would you?

## Special Thanks

Kimran Buckholz for serving as interim chair of EESI. Your leadership, passion and camaraderie are appreciated!

Michael Stevenson and Emily Rogers for serving tirelessly and patiently in the Sustainability Office.

Cassie Brooks and Ashley Dickinson for braving the cold, rain, sleet, dark, hot, snowy weather to collect recycling.

Matt Schoop and Derek Schwanz and their respective roommates for their work in the Residence service suite.

Members of the EESI group for your dedication and leadership.

## Student Employment

At the end of this year we will be sad to see Michael Stevenson leave the sustainability office but that could open the opportunity for you. We will be looking for one sustainability office position for the summer and next school year. If you are interested please e-mail [anne.duncan@wartburg.edu](mailto:anne.duncan@wartburg.edu) for details.

## Kira Stoller's Reflections on a Semester in the Sustainability Office

During the fall semester I had the opportunity to complete an internship with the Wartburg Sustainability Office. The experience taught me a lot about the common tasks and long term projects that can be involved in such a position.

One of the main things I noticed while working in the Sustainability Office was the amount communicating with a variety of individuals on campus. Although the term sustainability is most often considered environmental there are cultural and financial aspects as well. This means that it's often necessary to consult different members of the college's staff and administration before

implementing projects.

Completing this internship also gave me the chance to voice my opinion about different campus practices that I see as wasteful or unnecessary. After being told that a number of my concerns would be given further consideration, I realized that Wartburg actually does value the thoughts of its students.

Overall, I gained a lot of knowledge from the experience and it reaffirmed my desire to work in the sustainability field

in the future. I would definitely recommend that students with a strong interest in the environment or sustainability inquire about doing a similar internship if they have the chance.

