

# SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

## Concordia Attends AASHE Conference in San Antonio

Created in 2005, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's goal is to create comprehensive sustainability reform and awareness within higher education. One of the ways they work to accomplish this goal is through their annual AASHE conference. In San Antonio, Texas, this year's theme was Stronger in Solidarity. The speakers, workshops, and events mainly focused on how campuses can continue to make progress towards creating a more progressive and inclusive future. SGA Sustainability advocate Lacy Kirkvold-Tooker was one of five Concordia students present at this conference. She comments "I learned how much power students have to create positive change on college campuses. Sustainability is a topic that affects everybody and getting people excited about it is what makes change happen."



## Green Office Program

Updates have been made to the Green Office Program! Starting in Fall 2016, the program has engaged over 200 employees on campus.

Want to get your office started in the program? [Visit the website and sign-up.](#) ***If you had signed-up before, you'll need to re-register for the updated program.***

Become a Green Office in **5 easy steps**:

1. Appoint a Green Office GO Rep from your area - this is your point person who will help everyone stay on track.
2. Fill out the Green Office Representative Registration form.
3. Start with the Bronze Level Application.
4. Hold a team meeting to complete an office audit.
5. Become certified!

***Certified offices will receive a plaque and the ability to request sustainability supplies for their office such as coffee mugs, water bottles, cleaning supplies, recycling bins, and more.***

## High Tunnel Garden Season Recap

"The high tunnel garden season started in mid-February and was harvested throughout the summer and fall. At the end of October, we took out all but the root plants and covered the beds with compost, leaves and frost blankets... Combined with the outside garden, we had about 1,000 pounds of produce... and were able to donate approximately 400 pounds to the Dorothy Day Food Pantry over the entire season." -Ellie DeVos (garden intern)

"Alyssa Armstrong and I were the summer garden interns at the Concordia Garden and High Tunnel. Our job mainly consisted of planting, weeding, watering, and the most exciting part-harvesting! We typically donated our produce to the local food banks about every two weeks. It was such a great feeling to be growing food that was produced sustainably and then go to people in our own community." -Sarah Curran



## Last Month in Sustainability. . .

- **Tree Planting Event:** on October 14, over 60 students, faculty, staff, and community members planted 52 trees west of the soccer field to replace trees that had been removed due to disease. Student Environmental Alliance co-president Haylee Worm helped organize the event with the help of Facilities Management Grounds staff.
- **EEKKO Halloween:** leading up to Halloween, Student Environmental Alliance and the Eco-Reps tabled in the Atrium to give out gently used clothing and accessories for Halloween costumes.
- **Climate Change, Tribalism, and the Future:** on October 2, Dr. Eban Goodstein, Director of Education in Sustainability at Bard College, was on Concordia's campus and spoke on sustainability and how it has quickly become a partisan issue.
- **RepublicEn:** on November 1, former U.S. Rep Bob Inglis (R-SC) delivered a keynote address in Barry Auditorium about conservative climate change efforts.

## Sustainability Student Leader of the Month:

Julia Brucklacher is a senior studying Global Studies with a concentration in Environmental Studies and has minors in Religion and Interfaith Studies. She is involved on campus with Better Together, Student Environmental Alliance, and she is one of Concordia's Interfaith Scholars. Julia loves music, yoga, reading, hammocking, and spending time outdoors. She is passionate about sustainable living because of her respect for the earth and coexisting both with human and non-human beings.



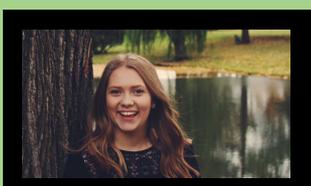
## Upcoming Events:

- **Nov 15: America Recycles Day.** Hosted by Student Environmental Alliance and the EcoHouse. Check out the table in the Atrium for information on recycling!
- **Nov 19: [Friendsgiving at the EcoHouse.](#)** Join the EcoHouse residents for a vegetarian and local foods spinoff of a traditional Thanksgiving meal. **EcoHouse, 5:00pm-7:00pm.**
- **Dec 1: [Deadline to Apply for SGA Sustainability Fund money.](#)** Have an idea for a sustainability initiative on campus? Apply for funding! Funding can be used toward projects or events, research, or even sustainability related internships.

**Eco Challenge for the Month --> NO STRAW NOVEMBER** - Say no to straws! 500 million plastic straws are wasted every day in the US(Eco-Cycle). Do your part to help keep this earth clean. Go without a straw when you order a beverage next, or invest in reusable straws that you can carry with you.

Have an idea for a future newsletter feature? Want to update the campus on your sustainability efforts?

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