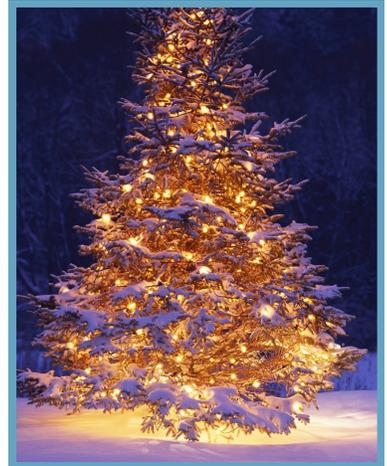


The Campus Green



Things for Thursday: America Recycles Day

The Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) held its Third Annual “America Recycles Day” event on November 14th. This year SEAC teamed up with SAIL’s weekly “Things for Thursday” program to make it bigger and better than last year. The event took place in Lower Slavin and over 100 students stopped by to decorate their own recycling bins, make their own trail mix, and design their own recycled magazine bead bracelets.

The goal of the

event was education, so when students grabbed a cup of trail mix or decorated their own bin, club members made sure to give them some information on what, where, and how to recycle on campus.

They even prepared a handout with recycling do’s and don’ts for students to take with them. The club decided to have decorating recycling bins as a part of the event because of feedback they received during their event last year.



clinging bin they could take to use in their dorm room.

Students were happy to see a club promoting recycling on campus, many saying they

Students explained that the hardest part about recycling was the lack of recycling bins on campus, especially in their own dorm room. SEAC tried to fill that need with the event this year, giving any student that wanted one a recy-

would recycle more if there were more educational events like it on campus. Overall, the club members think the event was a success and are looking forward to making the event even better next fall.



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Making a difference – one water bottle at a time!

According to The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA), in 2012, total U.S. bottled water consumption increased to 9.67 billion gallons, up from 9.1 billion gallons in 2011. In the United State alone, 17 million barrels of oil are used in the production of plastic water bottles per year.

Most of us don't think about the huge environmental impacts in the production of bottle water. Rarely do we consider the energy it takes to make the plastic bottles, filter the water, fill and ship them to thirsty consumers worldwide.

A year and a half ago the Office of Environmen-

tal Health and Safety started putting hydration stations on campus to encourage students to use reusable water bottles instead of purchasing bottled water.

Initially, it started off slowly with three simple stations in Harkins Hall. Then with the construction on campus, the office moved to a more advanced model, which is not only hands free, but also counts the number of disposable water bottles that are being saved by using reusable bottles.

Now there are 38 hydration stations in various buildings all over campus and the number is growing quickly. In every new building, like the Ruane Center, hydration stations are put into the construction plans. The office is also slowly working to put

them in existing buildings; for instance, McVinney Hall now has a hydration station on every floor.

To date over 205,000 disposable bottles were saved and most of the hydration stations have only been on campus for less than a year. Students are so excited about them that they are even starting petitions to get hydration stations in their dorms, like the students living in Raymond Hall. Friars Club members are also showing them to perspective students on tours.

The reaction of the student body and the concrete results of bottles saved suggest that the hydration station takeover has only just begun.

Give Back this Holiday Season

Donate warm clothes to shelters and charities. Many families need help staying warm during the holiday season

Volunteer at local soup kitchens. Shelters will be overwhelmed with people during cold winter months.

Take a tag off the tree! Many organizations, schools, or offices get involved with Giving Trees. Take an item and help someone have a Merry Christmas

Consider donating to a local food bank or pantry. There will be plenty of needy people this holiday season!



Contact us Call: (401)-865-1881 Email: recycle@providence.edu
Website: www.providence.edu/recycling



New Bio-Swale to be Unveiled behind Albertus Magnus

The new Ruane bio-swale complex behind the science complex is officially in working order. In the spring, the college will have an official opening ceremony for the new addition to our campus.

This is PC's third bio-swale, with one located along the Martin House parking lot to capture stormwater contaminants the parking lots and one on Slavin Lawn that collects stormwater from the Salvin Center solar panel roof and Slavin lawn. A fourth bio-swale, which will be completed in the spring, will be located be-

tween Ruane and Harkins. This bio-swale will collect the storm-water run-off from the campus green quad.

The purpose of the bio-swales is to create a natural environment to clean storm water, filtering out contaminants such as salt, oils, and fertilizer. This is known as "low-impact development strategy".

Taking water out of storm water drainage system and using it in a natural rain garden allows the water to infiltrate down through the soil and recharge the ground water. This process cleans the wa-

ter before it discharges to the storm water system that ends up in Narragansett bay, improving the bay's ecosystem. The Ruane bio-swale receives its stormwater from the roof of the new Ruane Center.

These environmental efforts have earned Providence College them state wide recognition, winning an award from the Save the Bay organization for storm water management.

The Ruane bio-swale also has an outdoor classroom and is the first in a series of bio-swales be used in the undergraduate curriculum. Professors Maia

Bailey and Patrick Ewanchuk of the biology department selected the various plant species for the Ruane bio-swale with the intent of utilizing them in classroom and laboratory discussions.

These bio-swales are an overall wonderful addition to our campus. They create habitat for animals, birds and nature for people to enjoy. And now, with the addition of the Ruane bio-swale, they include a hands-on living laboratory for academic teaching.

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety Wishes you and Yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!