Ipswich and Gatton GO Awards

Congratulations to NRSM for the most improved Green Office from Gatton with a 28% increase in their overall rating. That is a huge improvement, so well done to Leesa Young. The Ipswich Library improved the most at Ipswich (4% increase). Congratulations to Jacqueline Wakeham for receiving this award.

Office Clean Ups

Please consider the environment when cleaning out your desk at the end of year. Before throwing things out, ask yourself ‘does someone else have a use for it?’ and ‘can it be recycled?’ Think about folders, computers, documents, stationery etc. Don’t forget to order extra paper recycling bins at recycle@pf.uq.edu.au. Make sure all electrical equipment is turned off at the wall to reduce stand-by power usage over the holidays.

Odds n’ Ends

There are new Green Products at the Central Store! Recycled envelopes with UQ logo (under Paper and Books), refillable pens, pencils made from recycled newspaper (in Writing and Correction) and thermal mugs (under Promotional Products) are now available. http://www.pf.uq.edu.au/StoresCatalog.html

Nanoantennas

A new technology that captures infrared energy, is made from plastic sheets and can be used at night, unlike solar cells. For more information go to http://tinyurl.com/69pgm8.

The Bokashi process is an ideal way to dispose of your food scraps at work or at home if you don’t have room for compost or a worm farm. All food scraps can go into this bin, which fits under the kitchen sink. It ferments and produces a liquid fertiliser. It is clean, efficient, produces no smell and attracts no insects. Available from many online stores. For more information visit http://www.bokashi.com.au/

Event of the Month

Coffee Cup Day will be held on the 19th November. The aim of this event is to encourage people to supply their own mugs when buying coffee instead of using disposable paper or polystyrene cups. We can easily reduce the large numbers of disposable cups thrown away every day, just by remembering to take our own. This minimises reliance on primary resources for manufacturing and decreases waste that goes to landfill.

The participating cafes will include Genies, Darwins, CafeNano, Merlo, Wordsmith Cafe, Rooftop Terrace and Mr Bean. These places will gladly accept durable mugs and some may offer a discount. Get your Green Office area involved by encouraging everyone to take their own mug when buying coffee. Then hopefully it can become a habit.

Upcoming Events

National Recycling Week
- 10-16th Nov
- http://recyclingweek.planetark.org/

Walk Against Warming
- 15th Nov – Queens Park 12:30pm
- http://www.walkagainstwarming.org/

St Lucia Information and Training Session
- 17th Nov 10:00am
- For all new and potential GO Reps

St Lucia Update Session
- Monday 17th Nov 10:30am
- Office Clean Out & Eco-friendly Christmas Gifts
- Everyone is welcome!

Coffee Cup Day
- Wednesday 19th Nov
- Get your coffee cup and take the plunge!

Green Office Visits
- 17-20th Nov
- Organise a time with the GO Coordinator to visit your area, bringing new ideas and incentives to boost enthusiasm.

Clean Energy Council Conference and Exhibition
- 24-26th Nov – Gold Coast Convention Centre

A few websites for those interested in green power for their homes and offsetting their carbon footprint.
- www.clickgreen.com.au

Have a happy and safe holiday, and be ready with enthusiasm for the GO Annual Assessments in 2009.

For further information, contact Environmental Services:
- Green Office Coordinator (p/t) Ext: 69959 Email: greenoffice@pf.uq.edu.au
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Website: www.pf.uq.edu.au/Ems/GmOffPrgrm.html