Nearly at 100 Green Office Reps & Areas!

Hello Green Office Reps and welcome to the first edition of the new look newsletter!

For those of you I haven’t been in contact with yet, my name is Camille Percival and I am the new Green Office Coordinator. Just some background …

I have been working for the past 7 months as the Green Office Assistant. I am also in my third year of a Bachelor of Environmental Management majoring in Sustainable Development. I look very forward to meeting you!

It has been a busy month with many new areas coming on board and several baseline assessments being completed. We currently have 97 representatives and 94 areas!

If you know of anyone who may be interested in being involved in the program it would be wonderful if you would email their details to us greenoffice@pf.uq.edu.au

Breaking Down Barriers

In the July 2010 Planet Ark GreenWorks Newsletter, there was an interesting article titled ‘Give Barriers the Boot’. The article discussed how people are often told to change the way they do things for the sake of their health, the environment or their bank balance. However, the ‘barriers’ to people changing behaviours, such as time, cost or convenience are often ignored.

As a Green Office Representative it is important to identify these barriers in your workplace that could be stopping staff from adopting more sustainable practices.

The article gave an example of printer settings. Many people simply forget or do not know how to print using the double-sided and copy to two pages setting on printers and photocopiers. By changing the default settings for your printer and photocopier these barriers are overcome. This strategy may also help people to think about how much they are printing, rather than just clicking a button and printing items unnecessarily.

This is just one simple strategy your section can use to reduce paper waste.

To subscribe to the Planet Ark Green Works Newsletter visit: http://recyclingweek.planetark.org/greenworks/
To Ipad or not to Ipad that is the question…Do all these new gadgets actually help reduce resource use or are they actually worse than a good old-fashioned book?

There are some interesting publications which are available on the internet about this topic. Apple has produced an environmental report for the IPAD which goes through the carbon dioxide emissions from producing the IPAD to its packaging: http://images.apple.com/environment/reports/docs/IPad_Environmental_Report.pdf

The article ‘How Green is my Ipad?’ in the New York Times is worth a look as it provides a very good analysis that undertakes a lifecycle assessment of the Ipad:


The article states that: With respect to fossil fuels, water use and mineral consumption the impact of one e-reader (such as an IPAD or Kindle) payback equals roughly 40-50 books. When it comes to global warming and greenhouse gas emissions its roughly equals 100 books (Golemann & Norris, April 4, 2010).

So in terms of e-books versus printed books, printed books are generally more environmentally friendly if you read up to 100 books per year.

For more information visit: http://www.ecolibris.net/ebooks.asp

Frequently asked questions

**How can I order more recycling bins or boxes?** This is very easy, simply email: recycle@pf.uq.edu.au and request more!

**Can you recycle glossy or waxed cardboard?** Unfortunately, you cannot recycle glossy or waxed cardboard, this includes disposable coffee cups.

**How can I get books recycled on campus?** Small amounts of books can be placed into the cardboard recycle bins that are located throughout the University.

**Can I order recycled or remanufactured printer and toner cartridges in small quantities?** Yes, this is possible for some printer and toner cartridges to be ordered in smaller quantities from the UQ Store. Email recycle@pf.uq.edu.au and let them know what brand and type of cartridge you need and they will let you know if they are able to order them in for your school or section.

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**World Car Free Day: 22nd September**
For more information visit http://www.worldcarfree.net/wcfd/

**Walk to Work Day: 1st of October**
For more information visit http://www.walk.com.au/wtw/page.asp

**World Habitat Day: 5th of October**
For more information visit http://www.unhabitat.org/

**New Green Office Representatives Information and Training Session**
Monday 18th October from 3pm to 4pm
Duhig Library Conference Room, Building 2, Level 1, St Lucia Campus
RSVP: Thursday 14th October 2010

**St Lucia Green Office Update Session**
Wednesday 24th November from 12.30pm to 1.30pm
Duhig Library Conference Room, Building 2, Level 1, St Lucia Campus
RSVP: Thursday 18th November 2010

For further information contact the Sustainability Office, Property and Facilities Division:

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Website: www.uq.edu.au/sustainability