



Sustainability Today

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CDR Scott Gesele
 Chief, Facilities Engineering Division
 (860) 701-6727

Environmental & Safety Branch:

Mr. Mark Buck
 (860) 444-8224

Mr. Steve Tartaris
 (860) 701-6165

Ms. Ashley Cordi
 (860) 444-8233

Staff Contributors:

Dr. Ian Frommer
 Public Affairs Office

Cadet Contributors:

1/c Greg Bernstein
 3/c Justine Morrison
 3/c Cyrus Unvala

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Now You Know

USCGA RecycleMania Underway!

RecycleMania is an annual nation-wide college recycling competition that takes place over 8 weeks. Universities and colleges across the country compete to see who can recycle the most materials in a variety of categories. This year marks the Cadet Sustainability Club's fourth year participating in RecycleMania. Everyone can help—it's easy—all you need to do is recycle!

For the Academy, recycling is a year-round commitment that extends beyond products like cardboard, paper, bottles and cans. The Academy has a history of routinely donating or recycling a variety of products. Last fiscal year, the Academy's total waste output was about 3,220,234 pounds (excluding construction and demolition debris). Instead of land filling or incinerating this waste, the Academy diverted 1,157,954 pounds of waste to recycling or donation programs.

During FY10, the Academy donated or

recycled products ranging from "industrial" or "construction" in nature (oil, oily water, fuels, paints, concrete, asphalt, porcelain, all types of batteries and metal, rags), to "office" products (computers, e-waste, all light bulbs, ballasts, furniture, shelving) and items that are "miscellaneous" in origin (food scraps, musical instruments, scooters, sailboats, range debris). The Corps of Cadets alone donated over 1.5 tons of personal items to a local charity, in addition to nearly one ton of uniform items left in the Swap Shop.

Over the years, the Academy's recycling and sustainability program has expanded. It has only become stronger and viable because of you. Recycling and donating is one way the Academy demonstrates that we are "stewards of the environment". **Thank you for your continued commitment and support.**



Don't let Classic Man get away! We need your help to keep him in the Cadet Wardroom!



Sustainability: The Forum!

Dr. Ian Frommer (OR) and the Cadet Sustainability Club are pleased to welcome Ms. Majora Carter, an eco-entrepreneur renowned for her work in environmental justice, to be the Academy's guest speaker April 8, 2011 at 6:00pm in McAllister Hall Auditorium.

Ms. Carter will be speaking about how the future of green is local and entrepreneurial. "She will be relating the stories of three people who are saving their own communities while saving the planet (ted.com).

Ms. Carter is at the forefront of the sustainability movement. In 2001, she founded the non-profit, "Sustainable South Bronx", Pioneering one of the first urban green-collar job training and placement programs; in 2003,



FAST COMPANY MAGAZINE

MAJORA CARTER:
 100 MOST CREATIVE PEOPLE IN BUSINESS

MAJORA CARTER GROUP:
 10 MOST CREATIVE SMALL BUSINESSES



zine, and one of the 10 Best Small Businesses in the US.

Ms. Carter hosts "Eco-Heroes" on Sundance Channel, and is host of a Corporation for Public Broadcasting special series called "The Promised Land."

she coined the term "Green The Ghetto." Additionally, Ms. Carter spearheaded policy and legislation that bolstered demand for green-collar jobs.

For her work, Ms. Carter has earned numerous awards and honorary degrees, including a MacArthur "genius" Fellowship; an award from John Podesta's Center For American Progress; and a Liberty Medal from the New York Post. She was named one of the 100 Most Creative People in Business by Fast Company Maga-

Ms. Carter believes "sustainable development helps save ourselves." She launched a consulting group to spread her knowledge base across America. Some of her projects include Climate Adaptation, Urban Micro-Agribusiness, and Leadership Development.

The public is welcome to attend this event. Please contact the Public Affairs Office (860) 444-8270.

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Developing Leaders in Sustainability:

The Class!



Mr. Michael Sheafe and Dr. Ian Frommer. Mr. Sheafe repairs vintage toasters for reuse.

“The blunt truth about the politics of climate change is that no country will want to sacrifice its economy in order to meet this challenge, but all economies know that the only sensible long term way of developing is to do it on a sustainable basis.”

-Tony Blair



<http://www.realtown.com/specialied/blog/bowie-spotlight/single-stream-recycling-full-speed-ahead-with-65-gallon-carts>

Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Currently there are numerous sustainability challenges such as ensuring the long-term availability of adequate food and energy sources; protecting air quality and stability of climate; designing products with recycling/reuse in mind; and reducing dependence on foreign oil. The 2009 Executive Order on Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance (EO-13514, 2009) provides a frame-work for implementing sustainability improvement measures within the federal government. For instance, it sets specific goals for energy efficiency, greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction, renewable energy use, water reduction, fossil fuel reduction, and more.

For the Coast Guard to meet these challenges, it will need sustainability leaders, trained not only

in the complex issues of what it means to be sustainable, but also in how to lead the charge in having such changes implemented in the face of whatever obstacles they may encounter. Though sustainability may be pushed from the top, ultimately its success will rely on a grass-roots effort that will come from new Coast Guard officers and enlisted. By giving our cadets the tools and resources now, it will help them to be change agents when they get out into the 'real' Coast Guard.

To begin this training process, this semester, the Academy offered an intensive 3-credit interdisciplinary elective course entitled "Developing Leaders in Sustainability".

The first several weeks of the course combined lecture and discussion among cadets and faculty/staff to provide a broad overview of sustainability and sustainability leadership chal-

lenges. Cadets will be asked to investigate issues in depth and present their findings in class. At times, a debate format will be used. Successful leaders in sustainability in the Coast Guard and beyond will be profiled. The remainder of the course consists of guest lectures, site visits, and cadet projects. Guest lecturers and project sponsors will come from other CGA faculty (including management faculty with leadership expertise), staff (especially facilities and environmental branch), other Coast Guard units, and regional sustainability leaders. Projects will address sustainability challenges at the CGA and possibly the CGC EAGLE.

—Dr. Ian Frommer



Anthropocene and the S-Word

Geologically speaking, we are living in the dawn of new (informal) epoch: the *Anthropocene*. The Anthropocene is an age where human activities have made a significant global impact on the Earth's ecosystems. "Sustainability" is not just a buzz-word, but a critical concept of our time. While the word simply means the capacity to endure, it encompasses a variety of concepts, practices, and actions that affect the way we live, work, design, build as well as consume.

Some environmentalists think that we would be kidding ourselves if we thought we were "doing our part" and "everything will be fine" by just recycling or driving a hybrid vehicle. While these are positive steps, they say much more needs to be done.

Humans are not separated from nonhumans in nature. In order to reverse or recover from the negative human impacts, environmentalists have warned us that we must do more with less in order to make

change happen. Like nature, there is no endpoint in sustainability. Efforts must shift, adjust and evolve.

Recent efforts to "operationalize" sustainability focuses on developing human welfare and sustaining the biosphere. "greenOR", for example, is a concept described as intersection sustainability with operational research (OR) in areas such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste flow, green products and supply chains, etc. This site started because there was no centralized source of information for it. (<http://greenor.wordpress.com/>)

Sustainable consumption or sustainable consumerism means delivering consumers goods and services within ecological limits. This does not fit the current "cradle-to-grave" manufacturing model that is ineffective and inefficient with respect to sustainability. For example, in a discussion posted online on the greenOR, Mr. Michael Sheafe observed, "Repair is not a consideration in either design or manufacture. The

presumption is that when it quits it will be discarded."

Globalization is a current geopolitical trend. Environmentalists now warn that sustainability must be a local or regional effort because the diversity of ecosystems in the natural environment (locations) vary dramatically in their capacities to provide the energy, food, shelter, and medicines to support a population. Additionally, human social systems (government structure, religion, culture, etc.) compound influences on the sustainability potential of an area. Until environmental transparency, sharing, and justice is possible globally, sustainability efforts cannot be a global phenomenon.

For our species to survive and thrive in the Anthropocene, we must forge a viable path into the future by changing our habits, and the way we design and dispose of our consumables, and design our industries and cities.



Sustainability—The Forum

(Page 1 continued)

The Sustainability Club partnered with Mr. Art Costa, Co-Chair, New London Local First (<http://www.newlondonlocalfirst.org/>) and co-founder of Re-New London (<http://www.re-newlondoncouncil.org/>), a non-profit group organized around the principles of sustainable living economies, community building and social justice. This partnership allows the Forum to underscore the importance of Ms. Carter’s talk, and to highlight sustainable activities within the New London community.

New London may be a “small” city, but sustainable activities abound with the goal to make it a vibrant, viable city. Greater New London Farm to City, for example, was organized to strengthen the local sustainable food systems for Greater New London by connecting local food producers with local food consumers (<http://www.greaternewlondonfarmtocity.org/>), Food, Resources, Education, Security and Health, (FRESH) New London (<http://www.freshnewlondon.org/>) is an urban garden movement with local and regional partners. “New London Local First” raises the awareness

of consumers, businesses, and government agencies regarding the benefits of purchasing from locally owned, independent businesses.

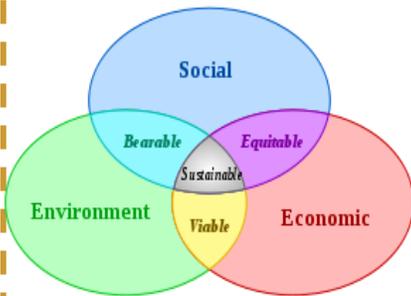
Join the Forum to learn more about how you can make a difference!

Sustainability Forum:
 Friday, April 8, 2011
 McAllister Hall Auditorium
 Doors open: 5:00 pm
 Forum: 6:00 pm.



The future belongs to those who understand that doing more with less is compassionate, prosperous and enduring, and thus more intelligent, even competitive.
 -Paul Hawkin

Mission: Sustainability



<http://en.wikipedia.org/>

While the mission of the Academy is to develop to educate, develop, train, and inspire future leaders of the Coast Guard, some people may not know that the Academy has another goal: develop the Coast Guard’s future officers to be stewards of the environment.

One action item in the Academy’s Strategic Plan is to “implement a culture of sustainability.” In order to develop this culture and to link different initiatives and activities that were occurring at the Academy, Admiral Burhoe promulgated the Academy’s Sustainability Policy

Statement. This document identifies and provides guidance for three general themes: Community, Operations, and Academics.

Community: To serve as environmental stewards and lead by example both locally and Coast Guard wide; to reduce, reuse, and recycle; and focus on the long-term benefits of initiatives even if they may have a higher initial investment.

Example: Single stream recycling, Computers for Learning donation program, waste minimization, Cadet Sustainability Club.

Operations : To reduce the Academy’s environmental footprint; operating in a responsible manner; and helping the Academy and others address environmental challenges; to develop indicators for sustainability to enable the monitoring, reporting and continuous improvement of the various campus programs.

Example: Energy Savings Performance Contract, switch to low to no VOC paint, sub-electric metering in various buildings, QRP metal recycling.

Academics To proactively supports the integration and infusion of sustainability issues as opportunities for faculty, staff, and student academic research. To identify appropriate ways for faculty and student research to be incorporated into on-campus sustainability initiatives.

Example: Dept of Engineering metal and concrete recycling, Dept Science reduction in hazardous material inventory, Cadet capstone projects.

The Academy’s Sustainability program is designed to serve as an intentional, positive influence at the Corps of Cadets, staff, and guests. The Academy’s sustainability policies and practices are directly linked to the Coast Guard’s Core Values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

(http://www.uscga.edu/uploadedFiles/Campus/Sustainability/Bulletin_Sustainability_Apr_10.pdf)



Eco-Speak 101: "Plastics By The Numbers"

#1: PET or PETE (polyethylene terephthalate): **Found In:** Soft drink, water and beer bottles; mouthwash bottles; peanut butter containers; salad dressing and vegetable oil containers; ovenable food trays. **Recycled Into:** Polar fleece, fiber, tote bags, furniture, carpet, paneling, straps, (occasionally) new containers

PET plastic is the most common for single-use bottled beverages. It is inexpensive, lightweight and easy to recycle. It poses low risk of leaching breakdown products. Recycling rates remain relatively low (around 20%), though the material is in high demand by remanufacturers.

#2 HDPE (high density polyethylene): **Found In:** Milk jugs, juice bottles; bleach, detergent and household cleaner bottles; shampoo bottles; some trash and shopping bags; motor oil bottles; butter and yogurt tubs; cereal

box liners **Recycled Into:** Laundry detergent bottles, oil bottles, pens, recycling containers, floor tile, drainage pipe, lumber, benches, doghouses, picnic tables, fencing

HDPE is a versatile plastic with many uses, especially for packaging. It carries low risk of leaching and is readily recyclable into many goods.

#3 V (Vinyl) or PVC: **Found In:** Window cleaner and detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, cooking oil bottles, clear food packaging, wire jacketing, medical equipment, siding, windows, piping. **Recycled Into:** Decks, paneling, mudflaps, roadway gutters, flooring, cables, speed bumps, mats.

PVC is tough and weathers well, so it is commonly used for piping, siding and similar applications. PVC contains chlorine, so its manufacture can release highly dangerous dioxins. If you must cook with PVC, don't let the plastic touch food. Never burn PVC, because it releases toxins.

#4 LDPE (low density polyethylene): **Found In:** Squeezable bottles; bread, frozen food, dry cleaning and shopping bags; tote bags; clothing; furniture; carpet. **Recycled Into:** Trash can liners and cans, compost bins, shipping envelopes, paneling, lumber, landscaping ties, floor tile

LDPE is a flexible plastic with many applications. Historically it has not been accepted through most American curbside recycling programs, but more and more communities are starting to accept it.

#5 PP (polypropylene): **Found In:** Some yogurt containers, syrup bottles, ketchup bottles, caps, straws, medicine bottles. **Recycled Into:** Signal lights, battery cables, brooms, brushes, auto battery cases, ice scrapers, landscape borders, bicycle racks, rakes, bins, pallets, trays

Polypropylene has a high melting point, and so is often chosen for containers that must accept hot liquid. It is gradually becoming more accepted by recyclers.

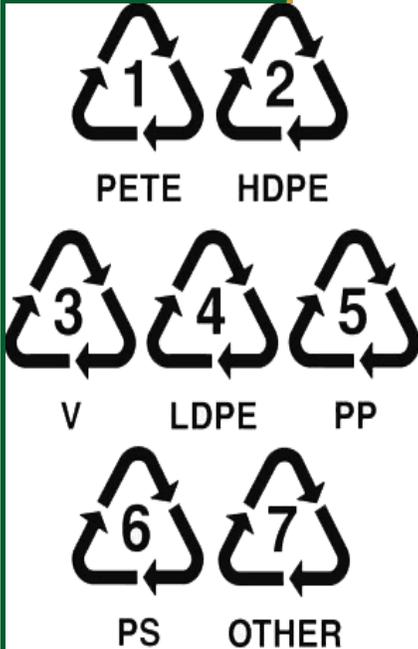
#6 PS (polystyrene): **Found In:** Disposable plates and cups, meat trays, egg cartons, carry-out containers, aspirin bottles, compact disc cases. **Recycled Into:** Insulation, light switch plates, egg cartons, vents, rulers, foam packaging, carry-out containers

Polystyrene can be made into rigid or foam products -- in the latter case it is popularly known as the trademark Styrofoam. Evidence suggests polystyrene can leach potential toxins into foods. The material was long on environmentalists' hit lists for dispersing widely across the landscape, and for being notoriously difficult to recycle. Most places still don't accept it, though it is gradually gaining traction.

#7 Other Miscellaneous: **Found In:** Three- and five-gallon water bottles, 'bullet-proof' materials, sunglasses, DVDs, iPod and computer cases, signs and displays, certain food containers, nylon **Recycled Into:** Plastic lumber, custom-made products

A wide variety of plastic resins that don't fit into the previous categories are lumped into #7. A few are even made from plants (polyactide) and are compostable. Polycarbonate is # 7, and is the hard plastic that has parents worried these days, after studies have shown it can leach potential hormone disruptors.

—<http://www.quantumbalancing.com/recycle.htm>



Why Don't We Recycle Plastic Bags of Any Kind?

The Academy does not recycle plastic garbage bags, grocery bags, and similar items because the recycling facility that receives our recycled material does not have the capability for it. Like trash facilities, single stream recycling locations do not have people designated to sort everything to come in. Material designated for recycling is dumped at the facility, then pushed onto a conveyer belt., where it's then

separated by a series of blowers, magnets, and other sorting devices. During the sorting process, plastic bags can get stuck in the machine causing it to malfunction.

The Environmental Branch strongly supports recycling, and suggests that the next time you go shopping, please bring your plastic grocery bags for recycling to your nearest grocery store. Most grocery and other

larger stores have containers conveniently located near entrances and exits for you to deposit your plastic bags to be recycled.

NOTE: The recycling facility does provide an exception for shredded paper. To keep shredded paper from blowing around, **ONLY shredded paper may be placed in a clear plastic bag and sent to the facility for recycling.**



RECYCLE THIS!



[http://www.altogetherrecycling.com/UserFiles/Image/AllMaterialsaug%20\(2\).JPG](http://www.altogetherrecycling.com/UserFiles/Image/AllMaterialsaug%20(2).JPG)

PLASTICS

- All PLASTIC CONTAINERS (#1 -#7)
- MILK JUGS
- SODA BOTTLES
- WATER BOTTLES
- JUICE BOTTLES
- COFFEE CUP LIDS
- PLASTIC DRINK CUPS
- PLASTIC PLATES
- PLASTIC SILVERWARE
- BLEACH & DETERGENT BOTTLES
- SHAMPOO BOTTLES
- YOGURT CONTAINERS
- PLASTIC BUCKETS & CRATES

GLASS

- BEER AND WINE BOTTLES
- JUICE BOTTLES
- UNBROKEN GLASS JARS AND BOTTLES OF ANY COLOR

CANS*

- ANY METAL CAN
- STEEL/TIN CANS
- METAL JAR LIDS
- NAILS
- SCREWS
- POTS & PANS
- ALUMIUM FOIL
- *POTENTIAL QRP

PAPER

- UNSORTED PAPER
- MIXED PAPER
- NEWSPAPER
- BOOKS
- JUNK MAIL
- TEXTBOOKS
- MAGAZINES
- CATALOGS
- CEREAL BOXES

PAPER BAGS

- MILK CARTONS
- JUICE CARTONS
- PIZZA BOXES (NOT CONTAMINATED WITH GREASE OR CHEESE)
- SHREDDED PAPER (NOTE: only shredded paper is allowed in a clear plastic bag).

PLEASE RETURN USED TONERS & INK CARTRIDGES TO THE MANUFACTURER

NO HEAVILY SOILED ITEMS. FOOD CONTAINERS MUST BE EMPTY AND HAD A QUICK RINSE (CT LAW)

NO HAZARDOUS OR BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL MUST BE LOOSE! PLASTIC BAGS, GROCERY BAGS, OR GARBAGE CAN LINERS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. ONLY EXCEPTION: SHREDDED PAPER MAY BE DISPOSED IN A CLEAR PLASTIC OR PAPER BAG ONLY!



For The Trash or Other...

PLASTICS

- NO PLASTIC BAGS
- NO GARBAGE LINERS
- NO PLASTIC WRAP
- NO SARAN WRAP
- NO GROCERY STORE BAGS
- NO LARGE PLASTIC ITEMS (EX. STORAGE CONTAINERS, CHILDREN'S TOYS, FURNITURE)
- NO STYROFOAM
- NO FOOD LINERS
- NO FOAM PACKAGING

GLASS & CANS

- NO LIGHT BULBS
- NO FLUORESCENT BULBS
- NO THERMOMETERS
- NO MERCURY CONTAINING ITEMS
- NO PYREX (GENERAL WASTE)
- NO CERAMICS (GENERAL OR CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS)
- NO DISHES

PAPER

- NO HEAVILY SOILED PAPER
- NO USED TISSUE OR TOILET PAPER
- NO WAX PAPER

MISCELLANEOUS

- ELECTRONIC OR ELECTRICAL DEVICES (Call i-Division or Properties Officer for disposal)
- BATTERIES OTHER REGULATED OR HAZARDOUS MATERIAL. (Call Environmental Branch for disposal)

If you don't know—don't throw ! Please call and ask the Solid Waste COTR:x6357





LAST MINUTE...

The Sustainability Club and the Saul Krasner Memorial Science Lecture Series will welcome the Beehive Design Collective to the Academy in Dimick Hall April 25.

While many activists use words, others use pictures to address their issues or campaigns. The Beehive Collective will be presenting a picture based lecture "The True Cost of Coal".

www.thebeehivecollective.org

This is our fourth issue! Help keep future issues fresh, fun, and interesting! Please email your articles, comments, photos, & suggestions to: Ashley.j.cordi@uscg.mil

Now You Know: Reuse Does Make A Difference!

Do you ever wonder what happens to your "old stuff" once it leaves your office? A lot of it gets a second life! The Academy reuses and recycles as much as possible. Recently, the Academy donated furniture to local school districts. More than 65 public schools across eastern Conn. and R.I. were solicited for the furniture that has an estimated used commercial value of \$30,500.

Each year, the Academy donates hundreds of used computers, monitors, and related equipment to area schools through the "Computers for Learning" program. Excess or "old" furniture and other items are redistributed at the Academy or other CG units, sent to DRMS or donated to eligible organizations.

The Academy continues to partner with local school districts to support education initiatives. Coast Guard Academy Cadets volunteered 4,300 hours in local schools during the 2010 Fall Semester, mentoring and tutoring in the classroom and volunteering in physical education classes.

Have extra stuff? Contact the Property Officer CWO2 Crabb (x8303). (USCGA PAO)



Staff members from Johnston Public Schools and North Providence Public Schools move file cabinets that were donated by the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Tuesday, March 15, 2011. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Timothy Tamargo

