



The Campus Green

DECEMBER 2011



Top 3 Reasons You Should Buy a Real Christmas Tree:

1. There are about 350,000 acres in production for growing Christmas trees. Each acre provides the daily oxygen requirements of 18 people.
2. An artificial tree would have to be reused for more than 20 years to be greener than buying a fresh-cut tree annually.
3. Real Christmas trees can be recycled for chipping, beachfront erosion prevention, and lake and river shoreline stabilization.

Contact Us!

Recycling Hotline
X 1881

Recycle@providence.edu

Providence College
Office of
Environmental
Health and Safety

PC Goes Beyond Traditional Recycling ... reducing landfill waste and assisting communities in need.



This past summer, Harkins Hall and Davis Apartments underwent major renovations. The positive outcomes of such renovations went beyond the immediately visible aesthetic changes, as the process also allowed for old materials to be recycled, unwanted furniture to be reused and energy conservation changes to be implemented.

Both projects allowed for extensive amounts of recycling. **The Harkins renovation brought about the recycling of 144,000 lbs of iron and scrap metal, 9,400 lbs of copper, and 15,800 lbs of aluminum. While both the Harkins and Davis renovations allowed for a combined 6 tons of cardboard to be recycled.**

Whether one is looking at Harkins Hall from the outside, or from within, the changes made to the building can't possibly go unnoticed. 300 windows were replaced with new high efficiency thermo pane windows with a solar ban film. This film cuts down on solar loading for cooling in the summer and retains heat in the winter. Additionally, all metal from the window frames were recycled.

Harkins Hall also underwent many energy-efficient renovations within the building. New air handling units were installed, all of which are equipped with an air side economizer that uses outdoor air to cool the interior spaces during spring and fall months. This saves on energy use and cost. Additionally, newly installed hot and chilled water pumps utilize Variable Speed Drives (VFDs) which save energy by operating the pump at varying speeds by matching the energy demand at a given time.

Other environmentally-friendly changes include replacing toilets and faucets for those which use less water. **All existing 3.5 gallon per flush (gpf) toilets were replaced with 1.6 gpf water conserving fixtures. And all faucets with 1.5 gallon per minute (gpm) aerators were replaced with .5 gpm aerators.** The building also received new energy efficient lighting fixtures. Many rooms have also been equipped with occupancy sensors that turn off when not occupied.

The **Davis Apartments** also underwent renovations this summer, as all furniture was removed and replaced. Any

furniture in excellent condition remained on campus and was utilized in the Mal Brown Apartments. Cabinets, tables, dressers, chairs, couches, and beds that were not used in Mal Brown were then donated to the IRN Recycling Network's Surplus Reuse Program. **A total of 2,621 pieces of furniture was diverted from the landfill and reused by communities in need.** The majority of this furniture was shipped to the Disabled Veterans National Foundation, to go to a veterans' home in Massachusetts, some furniture was also reuse in a rehabilitation facility in Mississippi.

Locally, 65 beds were sent to the Rhode Island Donation Exchange Program's Furniture Bank. The Furniture Bank provides furniture at little to no cost to those in need in Rhode Island. This includes those moving from shelters to their first homes, those whose houses have burned, battered women rebuilding their lives, or anyone at risk moving into a space of their own.

Going forward PC hopes to continue its efforts to reduce landfill waste, conserve energy and assist communities in need.

Providence College Students Celebrate America Recycles Day

Since 1997, communities across the country have come together on November 15 to celebrate America Recycles Day. More than a celebration, America Recycles Day is the only nationally recognized day to educate, motivate, and promote recycling in the United States.

This year, Providence College sophomore Kiernan Dunlop decided it was about time for the college to become involved in the nationwide celebration of recycling. Dunlop, along with her friends and several members of SEAC, held an America Recycles Day event in McPhail's.

The event consisted of a variety of tables and activi-

ties, all of which aimed to educate students about recycling and environmental efforts on campus. Dunlop personally ran the "Recycling" game (a take on the Price is Right's "Plinko"), which allowed students to earn prizes upon answering recycling questions correctly. Other tables included a tap water vs. bottled water taste test to promote the use of refillable water bottles, a table that taught students how to compost, and a table that provided information on recycling in specific dorms on campus.

Additionally, a representative from RI Resource Recovery was present to answer questions about the Central Landfill in Johnston. Stu-

dents were also able to participate in a craft involving the use of old magazines to create beads.

The event also featured several student bands and provided information about the recycling that occurred during the Harkins and Davis summer renovation projects.

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety would like to thank Kiernan and all those who volunteered and participated in the America Recycles Day event. We hope that those who attended walked away with a deeper understanding of recycling and its importance. We also hope that this will be the first of many "America Recycles" events here on campus.



Merry Christmas!
From the Office of Environmental
Health & Safety