



CRANBROOK EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

SUSTAINABILITY AT CRANBROOK

Welcome to **Sustainability at Cranbrook!** Our inaugural e-Newsletter shares with you the latest sustainability events happening at Cranbrook. Articles will feature the projects and accomplishments of our amazing faculty, staff and student body in the area of sustainability. Be sure to check out our challenges and ideas on how you can engage in the process of helping to build a sustainable Community now and in the future! **Enjoy!**

Brookside Achieves Emerald School Status

Last month, more than a dozen private and public schools in the Bloomfield area were among 173 across Oakland County recognized for a strong commitment to environmental education. We are proud to say that **Brookside School** is one of the schools recognized as an official Michigan Green School! Michigan Green Schools is a non-profit 501(c)3 agency dedicated to assisting all Michigan schools – public and private – achieve environmental goals which include protecting the air, land, water and animals of our state along with world outreach through good ecological practices and the teaching of educational stewardship of students pre-kindergarten through senior high school.



Pictured: Advisors Trisha Hourigan and Julie Schulze, Brookside School Environmental Club.

A school is eligible to receive a Green School, Emerald School, or Evergreen School Environmental Stewardship Designation if the school or students perform the required number of activities, with a minimum of two activities from each of the four categories. The activity requirements for each level of environmental stewardship designation are as follows: **Green School** – 10 total activities with at least two activities from each of the four categories; **Emerald School** – 15 total activities at least two activities from each of the four categories; and **Evergreen School** – 20 total activities at least two activities from each of the four categories. The four categories of activities for official green school qualification are: Reduce/Reuse/Recycle; Energy; Environmental Protection; and Miscellaneous.

Congratulations to Brookside School for achieving the Emerald School Status!!!

Cranbrook names Sustainability Director, Green Team

With a strategic commitment toward a campus-wide program of sustainability under the direction of Cranbrook Chief Operating Officer Rod Spearin, Norma Evans was appointed to serve as the director for the newly created Office of Sustainability. Norma will serve as an instrumental player in helping to position Cranbrook as an international model and leader in institutional sustainability through implementation, education, outreach, research, and partnership. In pursuit of this charge, the team will support the strategic plan's five initial areas of focus: *Energy Use; Things we use (what we consume); Water and our physical landscape; Our people and administrative processes; and Telling others about our efforts.* Norma's office is located at 24 Valley Way and she may be reached at extension 3288.

Members of the dynamic Green Team represent each Cranbrook division and include Lisa Appel, Norma Evans, Trisha Hourigan, Judy Lindstrom, Cindy McGee; Kevin Mill, Marjorie Olt Mertz, Cindy Raleigh, Rod Spearin, Nancy Swords, Suzanne Tennet, Debra Watson, Dan Williams, Sarah Turner, Allison Mitchell and Chef Mark Kelly of Chartwells. The Vision: To be a diverse, sustainable community where education is prized, the human spirit is nurtured, and boundaries to innovation and creativity are few. Cranbrook is an institution that challenges the mind and changes lives for the better. **We are all committed to a Program of Sustainability!**

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A Focus On Program Activities Related To Sustainability



Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School (CKGMS) Eco-Action Club Support Detroit Zoo Polar Bear Education

Co-Sponsored by Marnie Olt Metz and Ashlie Smith, **Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School (CKGMS) Eco-Action Club** organized the “Climate Awareness Week,” linking loss of polar bear habitat with climate change. The 6th grade club members created posters educating students about polar bears while 7th graders researched information on polar bear habitat and climate change and made public service morning announcements every day about their progress.

In addition, CKGMS 8th graders created an “edu-creation” video with similar information that was displayed on flat screen monitors in the lobby and shown/discussed at class meetings. They also had a jeans/logo day fundraiser at the end of week. Their fundraising efforts resulted in a donation to the Detroit Zoo to support polar bear education, purchase of an “Every Day is Earth Day” banner and signs that were placed along the school driveway saying “What have you done for Earth Lately?” **By the way, “what have you done for Earth lately?”**

Cranbrook Academy of Art:- Making a Difference- Inside& Out!

Cranbrook Academy of Art (CAA) Students closed out the academic year and kicked off sustainability efforts by establishing their first-ever **Materials Exchange Program**. Aimed at helping Academy students and departments dispose of material no longer needed, CAA Artists in Residence and students first participated in an exchange. The items that remained were offered as donations to other non-profit organizations able to use them. Not only did their sustainability effort help to reduce the amount of reusable or recyclable materials ending up in waste streams, students were also able to give surplus materials to help other organizations. While we acknowledge the environmental benefits, kudos to the Academy of Art for making a difference, inside and out!

Non-profit organizations benefiting from their efforts included Children’s Hospital Detroit Arts program, 555, Art Corp Detroit and Bloomfield Arts Center, along with a Pontiac based Arts program. This first year efforts proved successful with the Academy diverting 75 cans of spray paint, 50 cans of paint (pints and gallons), 25 units of varnish and chemicals from going to the dumpster. In addition, five televisions went to electronics recycling, students exchanged furniture as well as enough material to turn over the Forum Gallery three times! Students donated seven bags of concrete to non profits and four truck loads of wood and other materials were also delivered courtesy of the Wood Shop.

All of the metal was exchanged or taken for scrap - resulting in a significant reduction in the amount of materials that went to the dump!

The Academy is looking forward to continuing to build on the new relationships and always making a difference – **Inside & Out!!**

Have You Seen the LITE?

Cranbrook Upper School Leaders in the Environment (LITE)

Cranbrook COO Rod Spearin and Sustainability Director Norma Evans had the privilege of meeting with the Cranbrook Upper School Leaders in the Environment (LITE) Club. Led by faculty Advisor Suzanne Tennett and tri-presidents Clair Erwin, Kunal Kedar, and Ryan Polk, it was great meeting with a group of such passionate and dedicated students. Spearin and Evans found that what was most impressive is that the LITE Club has been diligently focused on sustainability related issues since the Club’s inception in 2008.

After meeting the 2012-13 members of the LITE Club and listening to their many ac-

complishments, goals and objectives, it was obvious that Cranbrook Kingswood schools has a group of passionate and dedicated sustainability student leaders in their midst.

Looking around the room to see a group of Student LITE’s (next generation) committed and devoted to helping their school, community and the world be more sustainable was amazing! Just a few of their present and past accomplishments include:

- ◆ Awarded the 2008/2009 Michigan Green School Certification;
- ◆ Recycling paper, plastic bottles, batteries and cellphones;
- ◆ CK Library saves magazines and newspapers for teachers and/or students; Library subscribes to ecological print materials including Real Green and Green Pages

- ◆ Through Detroit Tigers, sponsored a Sariska Tiger
- ◆ C/K Upper School World Affairs Seminar was devoted to building a sustainable world
- ◆ Rouge River clean-up in collaboration with CIS and Dads’ Club Collected print cartridges and sent to a company for recycling
- ◆ Earth Day activities included walking between campuses and an ice cream sale

I saw the LITE— have you seen the LITE? **CK Students**, for more information on how you can get involved, please contact Suzanne Tennett at extension 3606.

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Chartwells

LOVE FOOD –NOT WASTE AWARENESS DAY

Allison Mitchell, Resident District Manager for Chartwells Food Service and her team held the first-ever Plate Scrape at the Cranbrook Kingswood Girls' Middle School and Boys' Middle School locations on April 3, 2013. The purpose of the Plate Scrape events was to raise faculty, staff and student "awareness". The Love Food Not Waste campaign was developed to bring awareness and address client concerns about waste and its cost impact to the operation.

The national campaign launched by The Compass Group, parent company of Chartwells, is composed of four key areas of waste related to foodservices: food waste, water, energy and packaging. Each area addresses ways in which associates and guests can reduce waste by encouraging changes in behaviors.



Allison Mitchell & Norma Evans
a.k.a. The Plate Scrapers

The *Sustainability at Cranbrook* newsletter is published quarterly for Cranbrook Educational Community.

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2013 Brookside School Henry Booth Clean Up Day



Did you Know....

There is currently approximately 105 tons of recycling and 450 tons of waste removed from campus each year.

COMING EVENTS

Rouge River Water Festival Sept. 10—13, 2013

The Rouge River Water Festival is a water education event held at the Cranbrook Institute of Science (CIS) during the third week of September since 2003. Fourth and fifth grade students from the Oakland County portion of the Rouge River watershed attend the festival each year for FREE! This spectacular event brings watershed education to 2,000 students yearly!

If you are interested, please contact water@cranbrook.edu to request a Teacher Registration form. The registration deadline is June 12, 2013. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information on volunteer registration, please contact Lisa Appel, Water Festival Coordinator, by email at lap-pel@cranbrook.edu or call 248.645.3223.

Detroit River Water Festival A Success!



Cranbrook Institute of Science, in coordination with 18 other organizations, presented the Detroit River Water Festival on May 10, 2013 along the Detroit riverfront. Over 800 Detroit Public Schools sixth grade students experienced a fun day of learning about water protection and science.

For more information about the event, visit: www.detroitriverwaterfestival.com or check out the Facebook page. A grant from the DTE Energy Foundation made the event possible by awarding funds to CIS to increase access to water education in communities across Michigan.

COO Voice and Vision: Defining Sustainability at Cranbrook

One of the 2 most frequently asked questions in the past couple of months has been what is sustainability? How does Cranbrook define sustainability? There are so many definitions for sustainability. The United Nation uses Brundtland's definition of sustainability: Meeting the social, economic, and environmental needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

At Cranbrook, we view sustainability as practices and services (including education) that are: Non-Polluting; Conserving of energy and natural resources, particularly water; Economically efficient; Healthy for workers, communities and consumers; and conducive to a spirit of community, locally, regionally and globally.

Director's Blog: Sustainable YOU

When we think about sustainability, oftentimes we are very familiar with Earth Day themes: *reduce, reuse, recycle*. Every trip to the grocery store, publications and billboard continues to remind us of the importance of why and how we can help reduce, reuse and recycle. **When the store clerk says, "paper or plastic", we have a choice — either choose plastic or paper.**

Over the past several months, the Cranbrook Human Resources Office has been offering an array of programs, publications and services focused on wellness and what I consider to be "sustainable you" initiatives. Zumba, Yoga, the annual Health Fair and Healthy Cooking Demonstrations (to name a few) have helped us focus on

the importance of taking care of ourselves beyond the workplace. Most recently, I personally attended the Retire Wise Financial Planning session. In the past, my response has been, "I don't have time". I was too busy or just did not think the programs were for me.

As I have been afforded the opportunity to understand what sustainability encompasses -*people, profit and planet*—I realize I can no longer defer certain activities. In order for my physical body to be sustainable, I have to take care of it. In order for me to "retire wise" and/or be a good steward over my finances, I have to take time to learn and apply the principles being shared during these valuable sessions.

With the same fervor and passion that we take care of our planet, (paper versus plastic), we have to choose to have the same fervor and passion when making choices regarding our health, education, wellness and finances. The next generation is depending on you and me to be sustainable stewards. I am excited to be a part of an organization that is not only interested in sustainable buildings, but is also interested in sustainable "you".

For additional information regarding the available programs and services, check out the Human Resources Intranet page at hr.cranbrook.edu and/or Contact Alana Dillard at extension 7736.



You Can Help Make A Difference

The success of Sustainability at Cranbrook will depend on the active involvement of students, faculty, staff, volunteers and other key stakeholders. Cranbrook is committed to establishing the organizational and communication mechanisms to accomplish this, but we need you! Your participation and input is valuable and important to us.

Please share your comments and ideas with us. Contact **Norma Evans** at 248-645-3288 or sustainability@cranbrook.edu with any questions, ideas, or information.



Take the Quarterly Sustainability Challenge

Quarterly Sustainability Challenges are geared towards small actions or changes to help us all engage in various ways of becoming more sustainable. Participate in the challenge or create one yourself. Invite your friends or become more sustainable. Start a challenge among your co-workers. Check out this quarter's **Weekly Challenge**, [clip this article for home/office use](#) and let us know how you did!

Monday: Bring your own coffee mug and reusable Tupperware supplies to work today.

Tuesday: Spring cleaning - instead of throwing away unneeded items, consider giving them to someone in need, recycling or donating them.

Wednesday: Start thinking of ways you can reduce paper usage: (email, copy double sided, etc.).

Thursday: Choose paper instead of plastic at the grocery store or take your own bag.

Friday: Check your office, dorm or home. Is there a bin for waste and/or recycling? If so, start taking the time to use both bins and make sure you separate bins at home.