

An electronic newsletter produced by GA Tech's Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling (OSWM&R)

# Volume 11 — Issue 2 — October 2012



# Earth Day 2013

**Save the date!** Georgia Tech's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration will be held on Friday, April 19, 2013 from 9am – 3pm on Tech Walk.



**Booth registration opens on Monday, October 29**<sup>th</sup>. Georgia Tech's Earth Day Planning Committee is seeking exhibitors for the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Earth Day Celebration. If your company or organization is focused on the environment or sustainability and can help us communicate the 2013 theme, *TECH for a Greener Future*, we would like to invite you to host a booth. Hosting a booth is absolutely free. Informational and marketplace booths are available to both on- and off- campus groups on a first-come, first-served basis. Register at <u>www.eathday.gatech.edu/registration.html</u>.



*Students, faculty and staff are invited to join the Earth Day Planning Committee.* No experience necessary! You can help make sure that the 2013 Earth Day Celebration is the biggest and best one yet! Join us at our next meeting, on October 23 at 11:00 am in the Student Commons Crescent room. For more information about the Earth Day Celebration, visit <u>www.earthday.gatech.edu</u> or contact Cindy Jackson at (404) 894-2004 or <u>cindy.jackson@facilities.gatech.edu</u>.



*Earth Day Design Contest Now Open: <u>\$500 prize</u>! This is your chance to design the artwork for Georgia Tech's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration. The winning design will be featured on the 2013 Earth Day T-shirts and on marketing materials leading up to the event. The contest is open to the entire Georgia Tech community (students, faculty, staff, alumni, and retirees). Visit <u>http://www.earthday.gatech.edu/t-shirt.html</u> for more information. The deadline to submit an entry is November 12.* 

# Game Day Recycling Mid-Season Update

The blue bags have arrived! Football season is here and the GT Game Day Recycling Program is in full swing. At each home game, fans can recycle bottles and cans while they are tailgating and at Bobby Dodd Stadium. Food waste from the stadium's suites is composted as well. Recycling staff and volunteers were on hand at each of the four GT Football home games in September to make it

easy and convenient for fans to recycle. So far this season, Game Day Recycling has diverted <u>14.6 tons</u> of plastic bottles, aluminum, and food waste from the landfill! There are still three home games left, so that number should more than double. You can track our progress <u>online</u>.

This season, Georgia Tech is participating in the Gameday Challenge. This program is a national competition among colleges and universities to lower the amount of waste generated during football games. To win the challenge we need everyone's help! Please recycle your bottles and cans while you are on campus for the game.





Volunteers are still needed for the three remaining home games. You can help by distributing blue bags to tailgaters or greeting fans as they go into the stadium. The commitment is typically an hour or less, and all volunteers are finished by the start of the game. Volunteers receive free T-shirts, free food, and the opportunity to feel like Captain Planet for the day! If you would like to volunteer for Game Day Recycling, visit our <u>website</u> for more information.

The OSWM&R would like to thank all the student volunteers who have participated

in Game Day Recycling and a special thanks to the GT Women's Softball team for their participation as Green Greeters. We hope to see more volunteers throughout the rest of the season.

You can connect with Georgia Tech Game Day Recycling on Facebook.



#### ASK ENVIRO-MAN



**Question:** What is the Carbon Neutral Energy Solutions Laboratory that recently opened at Georgia Tech?

**Answer:** The Carbon Neutral Energy Solutions Laboratory is a Platinum LEED-certified, award-winning building located in the North Avenue Research Park

Complex. According to Georgia Tech's <u>GreenBuzz</u> website, "the 42,000-square-foot facility is intended to set a new standard for sustainable design for buildings by optimizing passive energy technologies, reducing electricity loads and maximizing the use of renewable energy. It will house a variety of energy research programs requiring large scale (high-bay) and intermediate scale (mid-bay) capabilities. The research focus of the facility will be sustianable energy solutions including high-efficiency combustion engines, biomass gasification kinetics, biochemical-enzymatic conversion of biomass materials and capture of carbon dioxide."

To ask Enviro-Man a question, <u>click here</u>.

## Meet the Team

"Meet the Team" is a monthly feature that gives you an opportunity to go behind the scenes to meet the staff of the OSWM&R and learn a little more about who we are and what we do.

#### Rahl Mody, Student Assistant

Rahul Mody is one of the OSWM&R's student assistants for the 2012-2013 school year. Rahul is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Industrial and Systems Engineering student with a Supply Chain concentration. He is also participating in the Chinese International Plan.



What interests you about working in the Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling?

I would like to gain a better understanding of the quantity of recycled goods we save each year that would otherwise be sitting in a landfill.

- What is one thing you hope to learn or accomplish while working in the Recycling Office?
  - I hope to learn more about how large organizations go about collecting as much recycled goods as they can, while reducing trash output.

What other organizations/activities are you involved with at Georgia Tech? Intramural Frisbee, Enterprise to Empower (En2Em), and Outdoor Recreation at Georgia Tech (ORGT)

- > What is your favorite thing to do on campus? My favorite thing to do on campus is playing late night pick up Frisbee on the SAC fields.
- What are your plans after graduating from Georgia Tech? After graduation I hope to get involved with a social enterprise that tackles today's social and environmental problems faced throughout the world. Eventually I would like to use my knowledge in social entrepreneurship, recycling, and supply chain to start my own social enterprise.
- What is one thing you do to live a "green" lifestyle? I try to use reusable products as much as possible, such as reusable water bottles and lunch containers. This also includes wearing pants at least two times before washing them.

# **Upcoming Events**

### Georgia Tech Game Day Recycling Volunteers Needed

Georgia Tech's Atlanta Campus

Saturday, October 20 and Saturday, October 27 (Times Vary)

Volunteer registration is now open for the 2012 football season and the Game Day Recycling program needs your help! Please join us prior to each home game to help give out blue recycling bags to tailgaters, or greet fans as they go into the Stadium. The volunteer commitment is just one hour and all volunteers will be finished in time for kickoff. Volunteers receive a free T-shirt as well as pizza or a concessions voucher. For more information and to sign up, please go to http://www.recycle.gatech.edu/programs/gdr/qdr\_volunteer\_info.php.

#### Georgia Tech Farmers Market

Tech Walk, between the Student Center and Skiles Classroom building

Thursdays, until November 15, 2012 (11:00 am – 2:00 pm)

The Georgia Tech Student Center and Georgia Tech Dining Services have partnered to bring local, sustainable food to the Georgia Tech community's fingertips. The weekly farmers market features a variety of local vendors who provide a plethora of fantastic produce and value added products.

This market not only allows students to stock up on sustainable and healthy food, it also provides them a chance to interact with local farmers and support Georgia's economy. Opportunities like this market help make Tech's community an active and educated part of the local food system.

#### Keep Atlanta Beautiful – Community Recycling Center 320 Irwin St. Atlanta, GA

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month Upcoming dates: November 10, 2012 *(10:00 am – 3:00 pm)* 

Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Creative Recycling Solutions host a monthly recycling drive for household electronic waste, polystyrene foam, latex paint, and paper. Free, secure paper shredding is now available courtesy of Iron Mountain. Personal computers, monitors, stereos, microwaves, vacuums, telephones, keyboards, mice, printers, and scanners are accepted free of charge. There is a \$10 fee for televisions, cash only. A complete list of accepted items is available at: http://www.keepatlantabeautiful.org/programs/Recycling.asp.

# **Comments and Suggestions**

If you have any questions or suggestions about our program, please feel free to contact us by simply replying to this <u>newsletter</u>. We are here to help, and together, we can work to benefit the environment.

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## Visit Our Website

As part of our effort to provide you with better services we continually update our website. Recycling guidelines and useful links can be found at <u>www.recycle.gatech.edu.</u>