

Greener Living at Evergreen: RAD Sustainability

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+ Preparing for the School Year

- ★ Letter to students
- ★ What to bring list
- ★ Sustainability Kit
 - ★ Water bottle
 - ★ Composting
 - ★ Recycle Bag
- ★ Remodels
 - ★ Donating/recycling old materials
 - ★ Environmentally friendly new materials



+ Campus Commitment



“The Evergreen State College will be a laboratory for sustainability as demonstrated in our operations, curriculum, and quality of life for employees and students. We will nurture values and practical skills that motivate a lifetime commitment to a sustainable, intergenerationally just way of living on a healthy planet.”

- ★ Awards & Recognition
- ★ Institutional Commitment:
 - ★ Sustainability Council
 - ★ American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment
- ★ EBI Survey Results
 - ★ 90% think saving energy is somewhat or very important
 - ★ 81% think they understand recycling somewhat or very well
- ★ RAD Mission Statement is to work together to be a:
 - ★ **Purposeful** community where students, staff, and faculty share a passion for learning and collaborate to enhance student growth.
 - ★ **Just** community where the individual is honored, our interdependence is acknowledged, diversity is pursued, freedom of expression is protected and civility is affirmed.
 - ★ **Sustainable** community that values, cultivates and maintains its human, natural and physical resources.

+ Greener Living Program

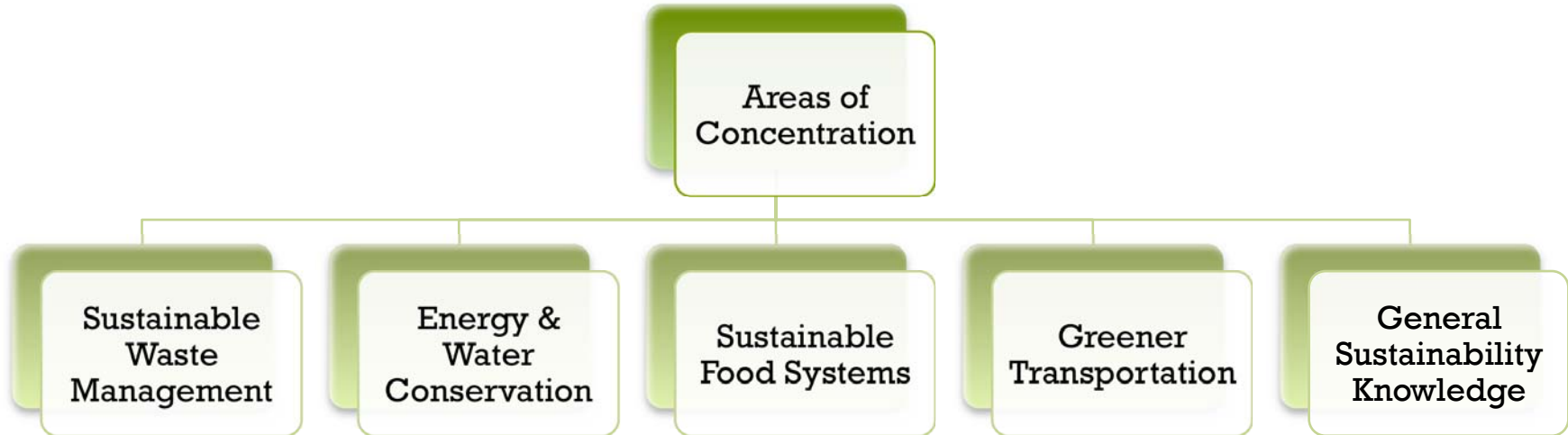
The vision of the Greener Living Program is to instill an ethic of sustainability throughout the Evergreen State College campus community. Situated principally within Residential and Dining Services, the Greener Living Program provides training and support for students to live sustainably, and assume student leadership positions.



Past and on-going projects

- ★ Ban the Bottle
- ★ Sustainability Pledge
- ★ Edible Forest Gardens
- ★ Kitchen Gardens
- ★ Composting
- ★ Recycling
- ★ Sustainable remodels in Housing
- ★ Flaming Eggplant

+ Sustainability Learning Objectives for Evergreen Residents 2009-10



+ Sustainable Waste Management

State three reasons why it is important to minimize landfill waste

Demonstrate a working knowledge of our compost systems

Define a “closed-loop system.”

Practice recycling on a regular basis (daily or weekly)

Describe why it is preferable, from a sustainability perspective, to choose to reduce new purchases and reuse items rather than buy brand-new products

Identify where to recycle batteries, cell phones, etc.

+ Reasons to minimize landfill waste

- ★ **Social Justice** – Many municipal landfills are located in low-income areas and contribute to the mounting environmental hazards contributing to health risks in those communities
- ★ **Environmental Degradation** – Contamination of air, water (surface and ground) & soil by heavy metals, methane, toxic chemicals and other pollutants by landfills, incinerators, manufacturing and transportation of products
- ★ **Limited Resources** – Resources used to make many products are finite resources, lack of sustainable harvesting of resources contributes to resource depletion
- ★ **Health Risks** – Harboring of disease vectors (rats, flies), physical harm to employees, contact with contaminated wastes, air, water & soil pollution in surrounding areas, noise pollution
- ★ **Reduction of Arable Land** – Land used for landfills will always be impacted by that landfill, this land could have other uses with less contaminating and long-term damaging effects



+ Creating a Closed Loop System, + Recycling as a “Last Resort”

- ★ *A closed-loop system is a paradigm in which outputs or excesses become cycled back in as inputs*
- ★ 5 “R’s” of recycling
 - ★ **Refuse:** Avoid unnecessary products, packaging, or materials whenever possible
 - ★ **Reduce:** Reduce waste material
 - ★ **Reuse:** Reuse waste material without processing
 - ★ **Reform:** Reuse materials in a different form
 - ★ **Recycle:** Reuse materials as resources



+ RAD's Waste programs:

- ★ ClearStream Recycling + Campus Recycling
- ★ Composting: Organic Farm + Commercial
- ★ E-Waste: Housing Office + Computer Center





What you can do as an RA to minimize trash

Help residents use their Recycle Bag

Create clearly signed recycle centers

Reuse posters, create ½-page flyers or handbills

Living and Learning Agreement can include a plan for waste management, reducing excess and product sharing

Encourage residents to bring less or even send stuff home

Offer residents media resources to learn about waste, recycling, and composting

Sustainable Waste Management



+ Energy & Water Conservation



State three reasons it is important to conserve energy and water

State five simple things they can do to conserve energy and water

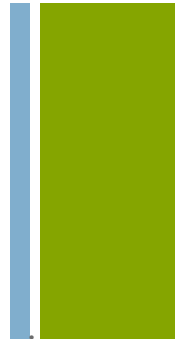
Commit to incorporating conservation habits into their lifestyle

Know what 'Phantom Energy Load' is + how to avoid it

Identify Evergreen's source of water

Identify where Evergreen's energy comes from, including the campus' green energy purchases

+ Energy and Water Conservation: Why Should I Care?



- ★ **Financial Incentives** - Evergreen is attempting to reduce energy expenditures by 10% this year to meet the budget reductions (*i.e. and not hike tuition even more or cut more programs!*)
- ★ **Climate Change** - most modes of energy production contribute to global warming in some form
- ★ **Non-Renewable** - energy used to power our homes and our lives takes much longer to regenerate than our current rate of use
- ★ **Pollution** - aside from carbon emissions, many forms of energy create other forms of air or water pollution
- ★ **Save Water** - Power plants represent the second largest consumer of water in the country
- ★ **Water Scarcity** – Many regions are seeing underground aquifers being depleted, global warming change river patterns, glaciers melting too rapidly, lakes drying up, and rivers not reaching the sea
- ★ **Water Contamination** – runoff contamination, endocrine disruptors, bacterial contamination
- ★ **Environmental Justice** – Many people don't have access to clean, fresh water
- ★ **Wildlife** - Recognizing that ecosystems need water as well to function well, it is important to conserve water in order to have sufficient water available for wildlife
- ★ **Money** - Unless you are on a well, you receive a bill for the amount of water used, and even so, heated water uses energy

+ Some simple things you can do...

Energy

- ★ Turn off your computer when you're not using it
- ★ Turn off your lights and unplug appliances when you are not using them
- ★ Use a refillable container for cold and hot drinks
- ★ Turn down your heat—wear sweaters and use blankets instead
- ★ Use your blinds to adjust the temperature in your room
- ★ Compost your food scraps and yard waste

Water

- ★ Purchase green cleaning supplies at the Corner Store
- ★ Report all dripping faucets to RAD Facilities by calling 867-6764
- ★ Take shorter showers and turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth and shaving

Indirect Connections

- ★ Print in economy mode
- ★ Preview all documents very carefully to eliminate misspellings, dangling sentences, and excess white space. Always print double-sided
- ★ Re-fill your ink cartridges instead of buying new ones
- ★ Avoid printing out documents as much as possible
- ★ Look for notebooks and other school supplies made from recycled materials - the Bookstore has a good variety.
- ★ Bring your own bags when you go shopping and reuse them often
- ★ Buy local whenever possible

+ Evergreen's water

Where does it come from?

- ★ 70% of Earth's surface is water
- ★ Only 1% of water is drinkable
- ★ Underground aquifers, or surface sources such as lakes, rivers, or reservoirs
- ★ McAllister Wellfield



Energy & Water Conservation

Where does it go?

- ★ LOTT Alliance
- ★ Budd Inlet Treatment Plant
- ★ Budd Bay



+ Evergreen's Energy

- ★ Provided by Puget Sound Energy:
 - ★ Source Breakdown: Hydro: 41%, Coal 36%, Natural Gas: 20%
Nuclear: 1%, "Other": 2%
- ★ Green Tag Purchases by student tax support renewable energy projects around the state
- ★ Solar Panels on Library & Bus Shelter





Phantom Energy

Phantom Energy refers to energy that is used by electronics that are not currently in use but still using energy.

Device	Mode	Watts (Av for 30 sec)
Macbook laptop	starting up	27
Macbook laptop	"energy save"	13
Macbook laptop	Macbook off	0
Toshiba laptop	starting up	50
Toshiba laptop	on/ not in use	57
Toshiba laptop	laptop off	32
Cingular Lg cell phone	off	0.5
Cingular Lg cell phone	on	0.5
Nokia cell phone	off	2
Nokia cell phone	on	2
Lamp (60 w incandescent bulb)	off	0
Lamp (60 w incandescent bulb)	on	59
Lamp (CFL bulb)	off	0
Lamp (CFL bulb)	on	19
Timex alarm/ CD player	just clock	3
Timex alarm/ CD player	CD playing	6
Straightening iron	off	0
Straightening iron	low (170)	105
Straightening iron	high (400)	135
Toaster	off	0
Toaster	"pop tarts"	844
Toaster	"dark"	827.5
Coffee grinder	"coarse"	133.5
Coffee grinder	"fine"	150
Coffee grinder	off	0
Coffee maker	off	0
Coffee maker	brewing	857
Christmas lights	on	10
Mini-fridge	on	80.5



RAD Programs

- ★ Green Cleaning
- ★ Pesticide/Herbicide Free lawncare
- ★ Think Outside the Bottle Campaign
- ★ Goal to reduce energy expenditures by 5%
- ★ Remodel Projects: windows, dual-flush toilets, CF lighting

+ What you can do as an RA



- ★ Turn off lights, close doors and windows in unoccupied rooms when you are on duty
- ★ Record & comment to residents and Facilities if common spaces or rooms are really hot.
- ★ Encourage residents to close windows & turn down heat in the winter
- ★ Help residents understand Phantom energy; rent a Kill-A-Watt for an event
- ★ Include energy and water plan in Living and Learning Agreement
- ★ Encourage residents to share appliances
- ★ Drips – report to Facilities
- ★ Host short shower contests

+ Sustainable Food Systems

Define the following terms:
“Local”, “Organic”,
“Genetically modified
organism (GMOs)”, “Fair
Trade”, “Locavore”,
“seasonality”, “food miles”

Know what sustainable food
options are available in food
services & on campus

Know what sustainable food
options are available in the
Olympia area





Define Me:

Deciphering the labeling craze of sustainable food



- ★ **Local** - Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon & Idaho), focused on 150 mile range from campus. This definition is provided by the Sustainable Food Systems Working Group, 2009
- ★ **Organic** – a 3-tiered system:
 - ★ “**100% Organic**” – Only organic ingredients.
 - ★ “**Organic**” – 95%+ organic ingredients.
 - ★ “**Made with Organic Ingredients**” – 70%+ organic ingredients.
- ★ **Fair Trade** – a trading partnership that seeks greater equity in international trade
 - ★ deliberately to work with marginalized producers and workers in order to help them move from a position of vulnerability to security and economic self-sufficiency
 - ★ to empower producers and workers as stakeholders in their own organizations
 - ★ to actively to play a wider role in the global arena to achieve greater equity in international trade



Define Me:

Deciphering the labeling craze of sustainable food

GMO – EPA Defines

- ★ A term that refers to plants that have had genes implanted to improve their performance by making them resistant to certain pesticides, diseases, or insects.



GMO – Eco-Ag Defines

- ★ An organism into which has been inserted—through genetic engineering—one or more genes from an outside source (either from the same species or from an entirely different species) that contains coding for desired characteristics, such as herbicide resistance or an antibacterial compound.



Define Me:

Deciphering the labeling craze of sustainable food



- ★ **Seasonality** – This refers especially to fresh fruits and vegetables, which are available from local farmers only at certain times of the year. For example, rhubarb, and asparagus are some of the first fresh foods available in the spring.
- ★ **Locavore** – a person who prefers to focus their diet on locally available foods; that definition of local can be regional, a certain mileage, or from their surrounding area and personal garden.
- ★ **Food Miles** – The distance a food travels from farm to table. Food miles are commonly used to promote local food purchases, increase awareness about the importance of local foods and calculate carbon emissions as related to food transportation.

+ Sustainable Food Options

On Campus

- ★ Greenery
- ★ The Market
- ★ The Flaming Eggplant
- ★ The Organic Farm Stand
- ★ Corner Store
- ★ Book Store



Off Campus

- ★ Farmer's Market
- ★ Co-op
- ★ Community Supported Agriculture
- ★ Grocery Outlet
- ★ Many Grocery Stores have a natural foods area or feature organic & local foods





+ RAD Programs

- ★ Kitchen Gardens
- ★ Edible Forest Gardens
- ★ MOD Shop edible landscaping



What you can do as an RA

Enroll in EcoToGo program if you take food out of The Greenery

Plan time to eat in The Greenery

Help residents use their meal plans

Collaborate to buy in bulk

Plan a program to visit the Olympia Farmer's Market

Encourage reusable bags for grocery store & refuse bags



+ Greener Transportation

Indicate how to use
transportation
alternatives in
Olympia proper

Identify where to get
information to take a
bus or train to
Seattle or Portland

Restate available
resources for biking,
carpooling,
ridesharing



+ Takin' the Bus

- ★ Bus Routes 41 & 48
- ★ Nightline
- ★ Pierce Transit to Seattle
- ★ CAP to Portland
- ★ Greyhound/Amtrak



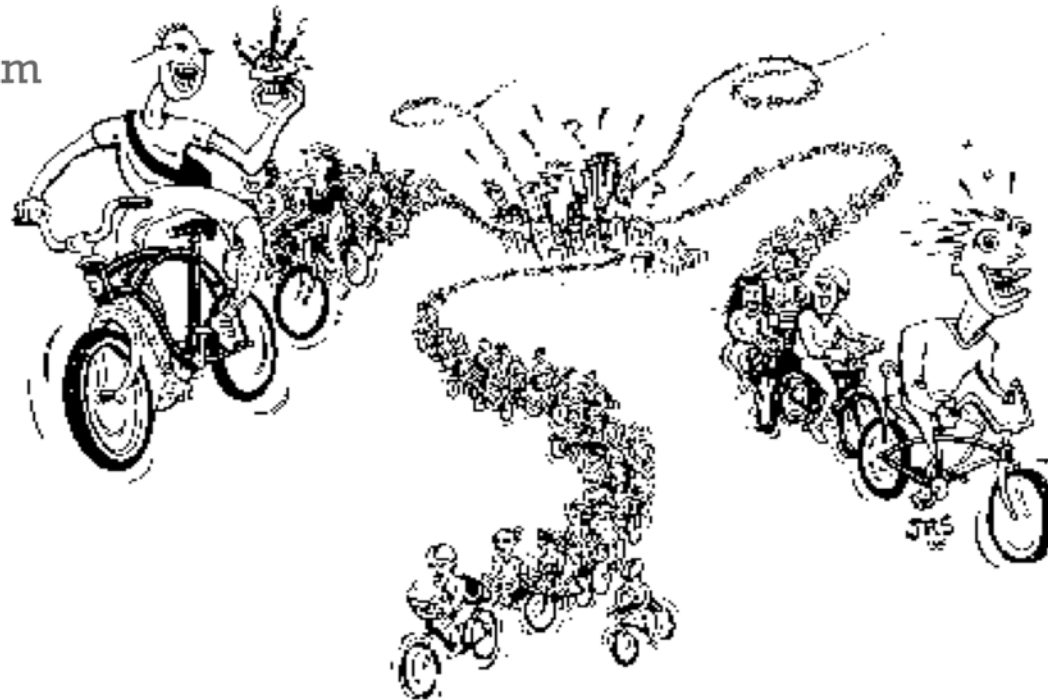
+ Ride a Bike or Sharing your Ride

Around Town

- ★ Bike Shop
- ★ Bike and Bike
- ★ Bike Share Program

Long Distance

- ★ Evergreen RideShare
- ★ Craig's List



+ What you can do as an RA

- ★ Encourage bus use
- ★ Leave your car at home & lead by example
- ★ Encourage carpooling between roommates
- ★ Encourage biking
- ★ Plan an event with time to bike or ride the bus



+ General Sustainability

Generate their own,
thoughtful, definition
of sustainability

Evaluate why one
would choose to
“buy local”

Define “Voting with
dollars”

Evaluate the
connections between
social justice and
sustainability

Describe how the
importance of
community in
sustainability

Evaluate how
individual actions
contribute to global
change

+ Sustainability: Defining the elusive term



- ★ "In a sustainable community, resource consumption is balanced by resources assimilated by the ecosystem. The sustainability of a community is largely determined by the web of resources providing its food, fiber, water, and energy needs and by the ability of natural systems to process its wastes. A community is unsustainable if it consumes resources faster than they can be renewed, produces more wastes than natural systems can process or relies upon distant sources for its basic needs." - *Sustainable South Sound*
- ★ "Leave the world better than you found it, take no more than you need, try not to harm life or the environment, make amends if you do." - *Paul Hawken, The Ecology of Commerce*
- ★ "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." - *Aldo Leopold, A Land Ethic, from Sand County Almanac*
- ★ "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." – *Bruntland Report*

+ Buy Local

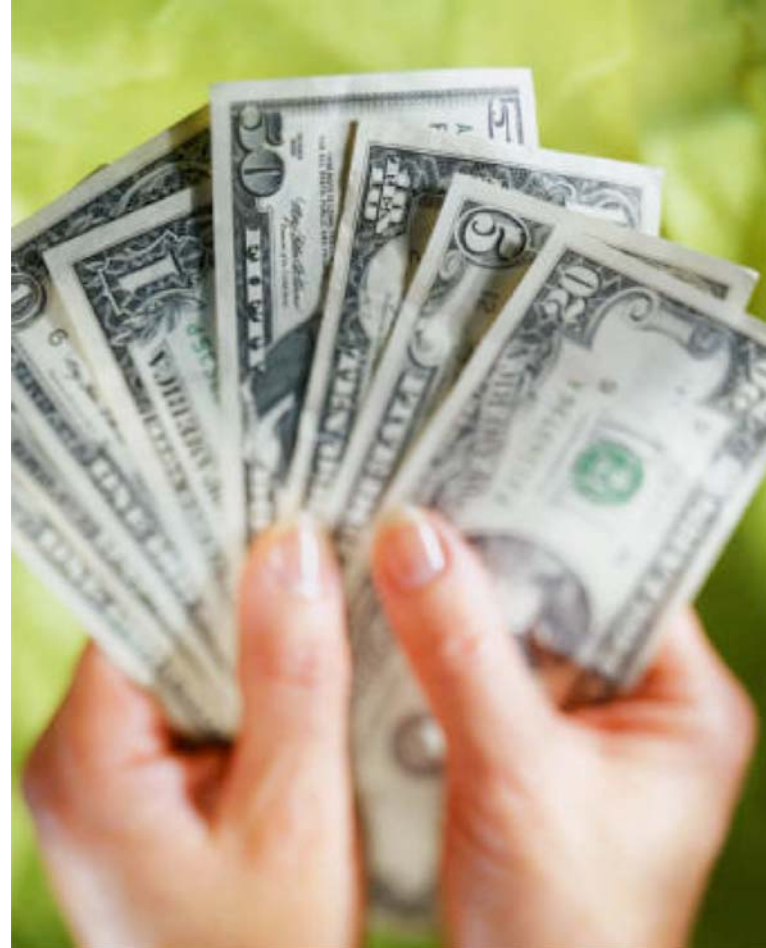


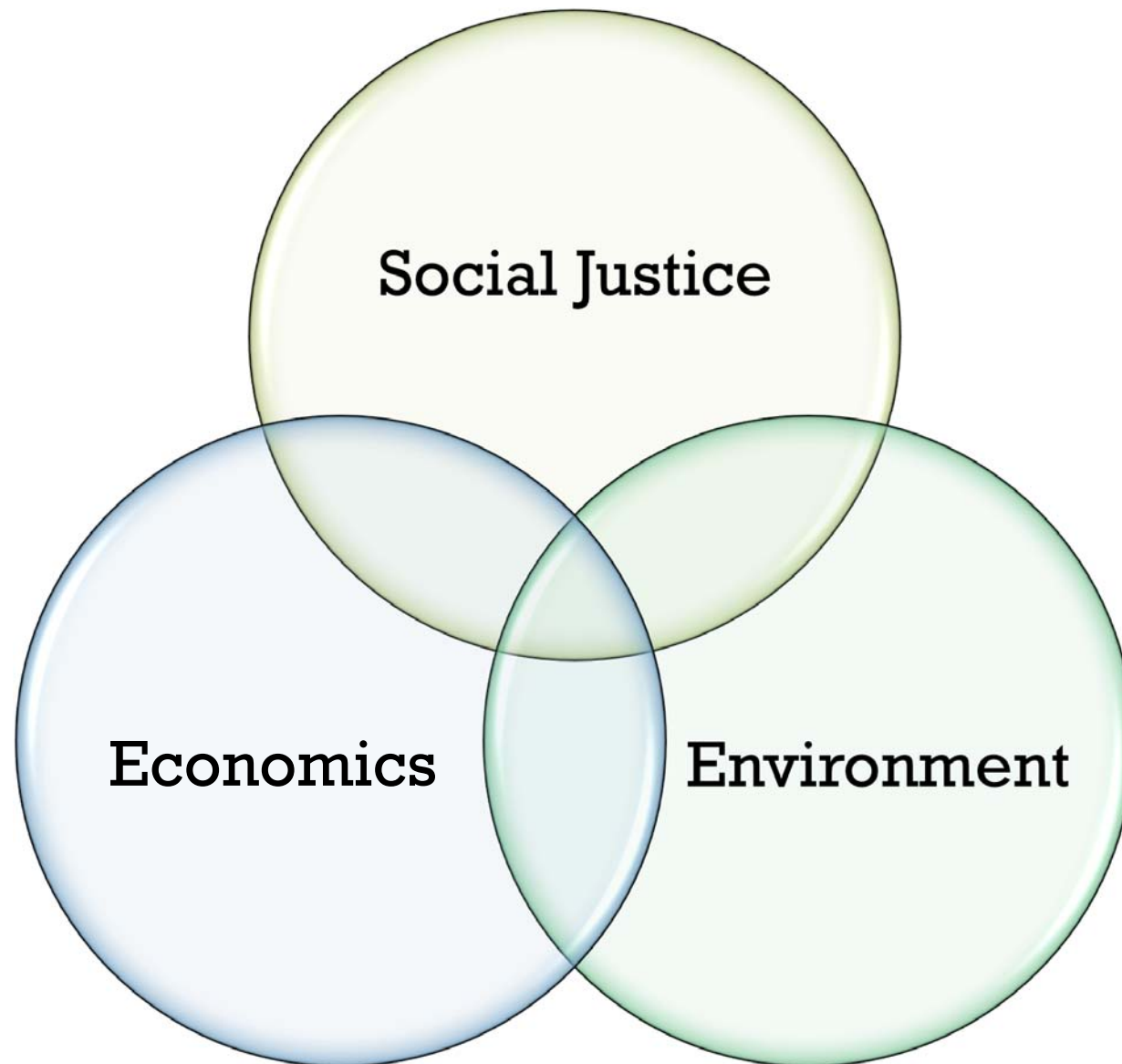
- ★ Buy Local -- Support yourself
- ★ Support community groups
- ★ Keep our community unique
- ★ Reduce environmental impact
- ★ Create more good jobs

- ★ Get better service
- ★ Invest in community
- ★ Put your taxes to good use
- ★ Buy what you want, not what someone wants you to buy
- ★ Encourage local prosperity

+ Voting with Dollars

Every dollar paid for a particular product may be considered a "dollar vote" for that product, such that the products with the largest number of dollar votes generate the most profit and will therefore continue to be produced. A boycott would be a vote against a product.







Individual Actions and Global Change: Becoming an Environmental Citizen

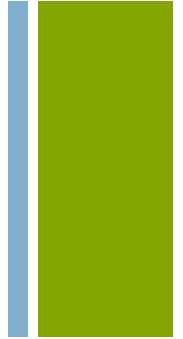
Environmental citizenship means looking beyond the satisfaction of our immediate interests to the well-being of the wider community/environment, while being mindful of the rights and needs of future generations. It means people acting responsibly and positively toward the environment while contributing to a just society. The concept of citizenship provides important ways of promoting both ecological sustainability and environmental justice.

+ What you can do as an RA?



- ★ Stay educated
- ★ Participate in the PODS project
- ★ Support the Free Store
- ★ Utilize the Greener Organization
- ★ Participate in Community events:
 - ★ ArtsWalks
 - ★ The Organic Farm Harvest Festival
 - ★ Clean Energy Festival
 - ★ Synergy

+ What we are doing during O-Week



- ★ Move-In tabling
- ★ All Campus Sustainability Orientation Tuesday 2-4pm
- ★ Downtown Olympia Walking Tour Tuesday 4-6pm
- ★ Organic Farm Tour Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 - 5pm
- ★ CCBLA Work Day Friday 9am-2pm
- ★ Teaching Gardens Tour Friday 4-5:30pm