

SUSTAINABILITY WEEK 2007 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Virginia Tech was the recipient of the 2008 Governor's Environmental Excellence Award for its demonstrated commitment to the stewardship of Virginia's natural resources through the Sustainability Week 2007 Program. To promote sustainability awareness and education, and to support positive actions with practical results, Sustainability Week 2007 was a week-long series of 39 environmental sustainability focused events for the Blacksburg Community held during the period October 22-27, 2007. The Town of Blacksburg, Virginia Tech, and the local citizens group Sustainable Blacksburg formed a collaborative "green partnership" to plan and execute the program. The Sustainability Week 2007 partnership was presented the "Bronze Award" in the Environmental Program Government Category. On behalf of Governor Timothy M. Kaine, the Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia L. Preston Bryant, Jr., presented the award at the 19th Annual Environment Virginia 2008 Symposium held at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia, on April 2, 2008.

The scope of Sustainability Week 2007 was impressive and included a series of speakers, presentations, education sessions, tours, fairs, exhibitions, activities, and films. Featured speakers included L. Preston Bryant, Jr.; Rebecca Flora (President, Green Building Alliance, and Chair Elect, US Green Building Council); Robin Chase (Founder and CEO of GoLoco); Professor E. Scott Geller (Director, Center for Applied Behavior Systems, Virginia Tech); Professor John Randolph (Director, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech); and Mike Tidwell (Executive Director, Chesapeake Climate Action Network). A Campus Sustainability Fair was held on October 24th at the Squires Student Center which featured exhibitors and educational sessions on sustainability from firms currently engaged in providing new construction and renovation projects and maintenance support to existing facilities on campus. A Sustainability Home and Transportation Fair on October 27th featured sustainable exhibitors, alternate transportation, and education session geared to the Blacksburg Community. Activities during the week included tree plantings on the Virginia Tech drillfield, a campus alternate transportation program, and tours of the recycling center, a local organic farm, and Blacksburg water resources. Secretary Bryant, Jr., stated this partnership is unique to the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Receiving a Governor's Environmental Excellence Award April 2, 2008 at the 19th Annual Environment Virginia 2008 Symposium held at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA

PHOTO INFORMATION: (left to right) Pat Bixler, executive director, Sustainable Blacksburg; Susan Garrison, environmental manager, Town of Blacksburg; Kelly Mattingly, director of public works, Town of Blacksburg, and Denny Cochrane, energy and sustainability coordinator, Virginia Tech

Sustainability Week 2007

October 22-27

vt.edu/sustainability

Over 30 scheduled activities, events and tours!

Kick Off Ceremony

Campus Sustainability Fair

Sustainable Home and Transportation Fair

Campus Sustainability Webcast

Presentations by

L. Preston Bryant, Jr., Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia

Robin Chase, Founder and CEO, GoLoco

Rebecca Flora, President, Green Building Alliance, Chair Elect, US Green Building Council

E. Scott Geller, Ph.D., Director, Center for Applied Behavior Systems, Virginia Tech

John Randolph, Ph.D., Director, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech

Mike Tidwell, Executive Director, Chesapeake Climate Action Network

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Sustainability Week 2007

	Monday October 22	Tuesday October 23	Wednesday October 24	Thursday October 25	Friday October 26	Saturday October 27
7:00 am	DEO Green Lodging Program Tom Griffin			Recycling Fluorescent Lamps		
8:00 am		TOB Apartment Recycling Program	Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Michael Burton		Sustainable Land Development Workshop 8:00am to 3:00pm	Pumpkin Festival At the Farmer's Market 8 am to 2:00 pm
9:00 am		"Watersheds & Sustainability" Educational Session for 6th to 8th graders by DCR & MCPS 9:00 am to 10:30 am		Tree Planting	New River Valley Green Infrastructure Initiative 8:00am to 3:00pm	Sustainable Home & Transportation Fair At Kent Square, Municipal Bldg., and Doc Roberts 10 am to 2:30 pm
10:00 am	Annual Active Commute Celebration	Tree Planting				Blacksburg Watershed Group Open House At 5 Chimneys
11:00 am			Environmental Brown Bag Lunch, Blacksburg Library 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Green Sanctuaries Tom Cain	EarthCraft Communables	Fresh Water Heritage, a Tour of Local Water Resources
12:00 pm	Environmental Brown Bag Lunch, Blacksburg Library 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Environmental Brown Bag Lunch, Blacksburg Library 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Campus Sustainability Day V Webcast	Environmental Brown Bag Lunch, Blacksburg Library 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Sustainable Development: Belvedere Neighborhood Building Sustainable Homes: Single & Multi-Family	SEEDS
1:00 pm	Kick-off Ceremony w/Robin Chase	"Education for Sustainable Living"	Campus Sustainability Day Fair at Squires Student Center 10:00 am to 5:00 pm			
2:00 pm	"Thinking Globally: Energy for Sustainability and What it Means for Us" John Randolph	Rebecca Flora President, Green Building Alliance Chair Elect, US Green Building Council	"KEEN STAND Tour for Sustainability", Documentary Film & Presentation KEEN Footwear	"What a Way to Go: Life at the End of the Empire", Documentary Film and Presentation 1:00 to 4:00 pm		
3:00 pm	"Acting Locally: A Preliminary Energy Use and Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory for Blacksburg and Virginia Tech" Environmental Planning Studio Urban Affairs & Planning	The Science Behind Recycling MRSWA Recycling Facility Tour		"Sensuous Lifestyles of the Green & Obscure" 2:00 to 4:00 pm		
4:00 pm				"Keypoints" (Life Out of Balance) Film		
5:00 pm				"Reuse Craze Activ-ity with YMCA at VT 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm		
6:00 pm				"Come Prepared to Recycle!"		
7:00 pm	Mike Tidwell Executive Director, Chesapeake Climate Action Network	L. Preston Bryant, Jr. Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia	Scott Geller "Leading Environmental Sustainability: From Behavioral Research to Community Intervention"	Sustainability Week 2007 Appreciation Party for Organizers, Participants and Sponsors		
8:00 pm				Walkin' Jim "Forever Wild" show 8:00 pm @ Colonial Hall Squires Student Center		

Sustainability Week 2007 Post Action Summary (Cover Page)

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