



The Green Connection



Thursday February 9th, 2012

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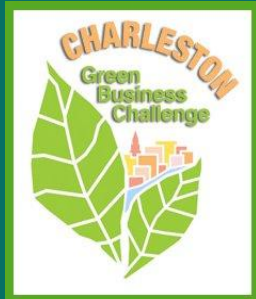
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Green Business Challenge Update:



Want to save money, go green and publicize your business? Click [here](#) to learn more about the GBC.

Only 21 days left to submit your baseline. Join the GBC by Leap Day-February 29th- by submitting your baseline.

Just sign up to get your

Green Committee Meeting

Developing the Green Plan's Progress and Priority Report

Help us count the ways the plan has been implemented.

Cast your vote for next year's priorities.

February 14th, 8 - 10 am

John Wesley United Methodist Church
Gymnasium

626 Savannah Highway (CARTA Route 30)

March 13th, 8 am

Charleston WISE : Hear the latest

James Island Recreation Complex
1088 Quail Drive

Share a ride to the
Charleston Green Committee Meetings.

scorecard. Click [here](#) to sign up.

Scorecard help is only a phone call away. Call Carolee at 724-3776 to set up a time that works for you.

Join these businesses in learning how to go green and saving money. As of press time, the following are in the GBC for Year Two, having submitted their baseline scorecard.

1. Auto Sound Specialist / Alternative Energy Systems
2. Sustainability Institute - 113 Calhoun
3. Hawthorn Suites
4. Sustainability Institute - GreenHouse
5. Southern Atlantic Solar
6. Meadors
7. Morris Financial Concepts Inc.
8. McKellar & Associates, Architects
9. DwellSmart
10. Charleston Water System
11. Blackbaud, Inc
12. A.C. Corcoran Elementary
13. Daniel Island Academy
14. Charles Ramberg Furnituremaker
15. City of Charleston 75 Calhoun
16. SCDHEC - EQC Region 7
17. Money with a Mission
18. Kiawah Island Community Association
19. Sustainable Energy Solutions
20. Natural Designs Woodturning, LLC
21. Duvall
22. Whitesides Elementary



The Charleston Green Committee Meetings are now in the Tridentrideshare.com events calendar.



Energy Conservation Code Adoption Progress

Remember the Energy Conservation Code Adoption ([S.1110/H.4639](#)) discussed in an earlier issue of the Green Connection? It would only increase the average home downpayment by \$102 and would pay for itself within seven months. Also, it could lead to an average of over \$800 in energy savings over five years.

The new bill passed out of their respective committees and are on their way to be reviewed by the Senate and House. Many support this bill due to its environmental stewardship and the economical benefits it would bring to South Carolina.



Environmental Public Health Tracking

Interested in learning more about how healthy your air quality is? Do you want to see the amount of birth



**TRACK IT.
MAP IT.
USE IT.**
SC Environmental
Public Health
Tracking

defects, carbon monoxide, or quality of drinking water where you live? There is now an easy source to see all your environmental and health data at once! Click [here](#) to check out the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's EPHT site.

- School
- 23. Chastain Construction
- 24. Holiday Inn Express and Suites
- 25. Charleston Charter School of Math and Science
- 26. Circular Congregational Church
- 27. DHEC OCRM
- 28. Burke Services Inc.
- 29. Stantec
- 30. Waste Services LLC
- 31. Stubbs Muldrow Herin architects

Does your business provide a service that the Green Business Challenge would be interested in?

[Email](#) us to add your business to the resource list.

Green Tips: Valentine's Day Edition!

[Green card ideas anyone?](#)

Get Crafty: Make the card out of old magazine, newspaper, or calendar pages!

Go Digital: Toss the paper and try some e-cards!

Green Those Thumbs: Plant your card made out of plantable seed paper after giving it. You can watch your loving card blossom into wild flowers... How's that for some creative romance?



New Bill Could Be Bad News for Bicyclists and Pedestrians

Most people are aware of how important it is to encourage biking and walking due to the numerous health benefits those alternative forms of transportation can bring to the health of the commuter, the environment, and the community. There have been decades of effort

invested in making our country more bike and walker-friendly and evidence of such progression can be seen in local communities like ours that



offer bike racks, bike lanes, and adequate sidewalks for walkers. A bill has been released that many are concerned could hurt these efforts. The American Energy and Infrastructure Act was released from the House on January 31st showed minimal incentive to uphold alternative transportation such as walking and biking as a priority. This Act would allow bridges to be built without bike lanes, repeals the Safe Routes to School Program and makes Transportation Enhancement programs optional rather than mandatory. On February 2nd Tom Petri and his colleagues fought to defend an amendment that would restore attention to bicyclists, but it was defeated by two votes. Click [here](#) to read more.

Around Charleston Events

New Reptile Program

February 11th, 2012

10-11 a.m.

Tiedemann Park Nature Center

Consider giving a **potted plant** rather than a bouquet. It'll be more sustainable, last longer and more optimistically reflect your commitment to one another!

Things tend to get broken, lost and sometimes just forgotten... So why not make a **memory** as a gift instead? Head to the park or an event to ensure a good time!

Try some yummy ethical treats this Valentine's Day. The cocoa market demands the 2nd highest amount of pesticides so is a worthy investment of time and effort to find some USDA Organic chocolate to indulge in for yourself or as a gift!

Source: Sierra Club

Highlights of Last Week's Events:

The Food Truck Festival in Marion Square last Saturday was the perfect event to swing by for lunch or to spend the whole afternoon.

Everyone from toddlers, college students, adults and their pets came out to take advantage of the amazing

38 Elizabeth Street
Want to hold a turtle and learn more about local wildlife?



Then make your way to Tiedemann Park this Saturday! The City of Charleston's Education Division will be presenting an exciting new reptile program that will be educating and hands-on!! Bring out your family to an event that will help you learn how to recognize venomous snakes and other helpful tips about reptiles in the Lowcountry. This event is ideal for ages 4-12 and all are welcome. To reserve your spot for this FREE event, call Matthew Olson at **(843) 965-4002**.

Lunz-Sierra Club Day Hike

February 11th, 2012

Call: (843) 881-8902

Or [Email](#) Starr Hazard

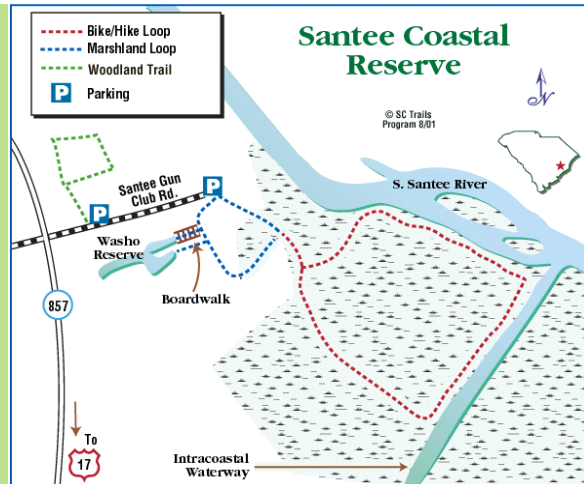
The club will be hiking the Santee Coastal Reserve Trails through a marsh loop and rice dikes. This day hike will be over 9-10 miles so pack and dress accordingly! Click [here](#) if you would like to see a map of the route.

weather and the lively event. There was a talented live band from the College of Charleston and a whole row of locally owned and tasty food truck restaurants to choose from!

I hope you made it to the Best in Green and Local Expo because I know I'm glad I could attend! The Expo featured a wide variety of local businesses pursuing environmental goals and initiatives. There were many informative and inspiring speakers about saving energy, cleaning green, and advice for gathering support for environmental goals in your company. The Expo had a wide variety of topics covered and attendees also learned about using social media, advertising, and motivating leadership for their businesses. Needless to say, this is an event you don't want to pass up next year. Make sure to check our [Facebook](#) for pictures from the event!

Stay In Touch!

The Green Connection is always eager to hear your feedback and advise. Please [Email](#) us and let us know what you think!



Backyard Chickens Classes

February 11th, 2012

9 a.m.- 12 p.m.

46 Windermere Boulevard

Interested in learning how to raise chickens in your own backyard? Come out and learn about one of the most sustainable ways for you and your family to enjoy farm fresh eggs! Register [here!](#)

Home Energy Efficiency Workshop

February 11th, 2012

6 p.m.- 7 p.m.

St. Julian Devine Community Center

1 Cooper Street

AND

March 8th, 2012

6 p.m.- 7p.m.

Historic Charleston Foundation

40 East Bay Street

The Sustainability Institute is offering FREE classes to help the public learn how to save money and reduce energy use. They will discuss various [rebates and incentives](#) you could qualify for once you complete your energy efficiency improvements. Also, if you reserve your spot you could win a free energy kit! Register [here!](#)

Charleston Audubon Lecture

Like what you see and want to keep up to-date with the green community events in Charleston?

Subscribe!

Also, don't forget to check us out on Facebook:



February 16th, 2012

6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

Charleston County Library, 2nd Floor Auditorium
68 Calhoun Street

Dr. Patrick

Jodice,

Associate

Professor in the

Department of

Forestry and

Natural

Resources at

Clemson

University will be

speaking

about his research of seabird ecology in

South Carolina and discuss movement

patterns and habitat use of Bahamian

seabirds. Learn More about

the event [here](#).



Partership for Prosperity Open House:

See the Masterplan for the Neck Area

March 1st, 2012

5:30- 8 p.m.

Military Magnet Academy Cafeteria

2950 Carner Ave, North Charleston

Are you concerned with the condition of the neck area and interested in seeing

what plans are going to be set forth to try and improve the area? If so, this meeting

is the perfect outlet for you to voice your

input and concerns, along with

feedback on the proposed plans for the

area. They want to hear what you think!

SC Walk to School Day

March 7th, 2012

Join with the rest of South Carolina and

walk or roll to school on March 7th! Click

[here](#) to register your event and learn

more.

Renewable Energy Community Exchange Seminar

March 27th, 2012
7000 Rivers Ave

The American
Council on
Renewable Energy
will be partnering
with the German
Embassy and the
Royal Danish
Embassy to host a



seminar about clean energy sources at Trident Technical Community College's main campus on March 27th. The event will be a forum for discussion regarding progress toward clean energy and self-sufficiency. Government representatives from Germany and Denmark will contribute their success implementing cleaner energy, their goals for the future, and advice to other nations trying to rely less on fossil fuels and more on sustainable energy. Keep checking here for more information.

Charleston County Earth Day

April 14th, 2012
11 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Riverfront Park

If you would like to participate as an exhibitor, please contact Christina Moskos. Here phone number is (843) 720-7311 or you can click [here](#) to email her.





City of Charleston
South Carolina **PP&S** **PLANNING,
PRESERVATION
AND
SUSTAINABILITY**