

AQ SUSTAINABILITY NEWS



*Brought to you by the interns at The Center for Sustainability:
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Sustainability News on Campus

RecycleMania Kickoff Party

The RecycleMania kickoff party on February 24th was a huge success! Throughout the evening, 3 bags of compost were produced and the recycling bins were filled. Way to go AQ!

The Center for Sustainability would like to give a special thank you to everyone who made this event possible including Residence Life, S3, the band *Fire Away*, Stu Clapp, Adam Vernon, Shane Dougherty, Justine Westerman and Joe Kremer-Herman. Also, thank you to all of the businesses who donated prizes; Schnitz Deli, Marie Catrils, Grand River Music, Spirit Dreams, and Bing Goei at Eastern Floral.



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RecycleMania Standings

Aquinas is doing well in the RecycleMania competition compared to other Michigan colleges and universities. In the Grand Champion category Aquinas placed 2nd in the state, just after Kalamazoo College. This category is based on Aquinas' cumulative recycling rate.

In the Per Capita Classic Competition (based on the amount of recyclables per person), Aquinas placed 2nd in the state. Aquinas also placed 2nd in the state in the Waste Minimization category and 3rd in the state in Food Service Organics.

Kalamazoo College appears to be our biggest competition in the State of Michigan. Keep composting, recycling, and reusing to help AQ move into first places in the coming weeks of the competition.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Aquinas College's current standings in the competition.

Staff Sustainability Committee

Community Garden Revamp

Members of this committee are currently working with Veronica Beitner and the Grounds Crew to improve and expand the community garden that is currently located behind Brown Center. These improvements, including an expansion and possible relocation of the garden, will take place this spring. If you would like more information about this project, or would like to become involved, contact Jessica Eimer. (Jessica.Eimer@aquinas.edu)

Students Striving for Sustainability

Wake Up People:

Waste Minimization Success

Congratulations to everyone who attended Wake Up People on Friday, February 18th. Over 450 people showed up to the event, and approximately 1,300 wings, 100 wraps, 2,100 Yesterdogs, 50 large pizzas, and 100 cases of Pepsi products were consumed. With everyone's participation in composting and recycling, all of the trash produced at the event was able to fit into **ONE** large garbage bag! This is truly impressive for an event of this size! Remember to keep composting in the future! Check out [S3's Facebook group](#) for photos of students like you composting and of our single trash bag of waste. A special thanks goes out to Sean Fahey for all of his help in sorting disposables and informing students about how to properly compost and recycle during the event.

For more event information or to become a member of S3, contact Sean Fahey (smf001@aquinas.edu)

Excessive Idling Policy

The excessive idling policy is making its way through Aquinas' governing system. The policy was recently reviewed by The Joint Sustainability Committee where it received a value rating of 5 (out of 5). The policy moves onto the Student Senate to be voted on next, and possibly implemented.

Developing Composting Policy

The Center for Sustainability is working to develop a new policy that would require all on campus events to provide the opportunity to compost waste. This policy would reduce the amount of waste produced at events hosted on campus. Stay tuned for further updates concerning this developing policy.

Have a great idea about how to make Aquinas College more sustainable? [Click here](#) to submit your idea.



Did You Know?

Did you know that you can recycle your empty ink cartridges in the lounge of Regina and St. Joes? As the semester unfolds, students often find themselves printing more frequently.

Look for the large labeled bins in the lounges to properly dispose of your empty ink cartridges.

**Center for
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We're on the Web!

Find all AQ sustainability
information at:

aquinas.edu/sustainability

**Sustainability Groups
on Campus**

Faculty Sustainability Committee
Staff Sustainability Committee
Student Senate Sust. Committee
Joint Sustainability Committee
Students Striving for
Sustainability (S3)
The Center for Sustainability

Want to Submit News?

If your group or committee has
any news or upcoming events
that you would like to have
posted in next month's
newsletter, please contact
Lauren Rogers at
LMR001@aquinas.edu.

EPIC: Power Shift 2011

Power Shift is an annual conference developed by the Energy Action Coalition. This year the conference will take place in Washington D.C., April 15th-18th. The focus of this event is to promote a green energy economy, environmental justice, and youth leadership.

Aquinas students are planning to attend the conference and will be hosting a number of various fundraisers to help make the trip more affordable.

On Tuesday, March 15th, a fundraiser will be held at Mongolian Grill from 6-9 pm. Diana Dixon, Tim Ramsay, Sean Fahey, and Jessica Eimer are the guest grillers. Because Tuesday night is COLLEGE NIGHT, students that purchase a drink can get unlimited Mongolian BBQ for just \$9.99!

EPIC will also be having a pop can drive the first week of April.

Monthly Student Feature

Paige Shesterkin



Paige was initially attracted to a Sustainable Business degree because "It was unique among other majors. I knew I could apply it to many different fields."

When asked what she would like to do with the Sustainable Business degree in the future, Paige replies, "I change my mind quite frequently. I want to do something I love and am passionate about. I feel if you love what you do, you'll never have to "work" a day in your life."

Paige suspects that she may end up in Detroit- a city she loves- and feels that "Detroit is an empty canvas, an opportunity for my generation to re-design whatever we want."

[Click here](#) for the complete Student Feature.

