



# AQ SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

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Brought to you by the interns at The Center for Sustainability:  
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## Students Striving for Sustainability

**(S3):**

### A Composting Competition

S3 is currently working on a composting education program for students living in the apartments and houses on campus. The club is planning to launch a composting competition, in which the winning apartment/house is awarded a pizza party. To further sweeten the deal, there will be a chance to win another prize just for attending the pizza party.

During a two-week period, the student group plans to collect and weigh the compost from each apartment and house.

As another part of S3's efforts to encourage composting, the group has been collecting used yogurt and cottage cheese containers from Wege to be used by students as collection containers. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, club members will distribute these containers to each apartment and house, asking students to collect compost in their kitchens and then dump it in the nearest main green compost cans.

For more information...contact the club president, Stephanie Krajnik ([sak001@aquinas.edu](mailto:sak001@aquinas.edu)).

[Click here](#) to check out S3 on Facebook...project ideas & comments are encouraged!!

### Club Officers:

- President: Stephanie Krajnik
- Vice President: John DeAngelis
- Treasurer: Barbara Groves
- Secretary: Kaitlyn Aholt
- Senate Rep: Betsy Davis

## Inside this Issue:

Students Striving for Sustainability (S3) Club	1
Did You Know?	1
Student Feature: John DeAngelis	2
Composting Tips	3
Rustle the Leaf Comic	3

## Did You Know?



- Every year, Americans receive close to **4 million tons** of junk mail.
- **100 million trees** are cut down every year to produce junk mail.
- The paper industry is the **4th largest** contributor to greenhouse gas emissions among U.S. manufacturing industries, and contributes **9%** of the manufacturing sector's carbon emissions.

You can do your part to ensure that less paper is produced and sent to the trash or the recycling bin! Simply **contact the companies who are sending you junk mail and ask them to STOP!**

<http://web.epa.ohio.gov/opp/consumer/junkmail.html>

<http://www.aquinas.edu/sustainability/pdf/printing.pdf>

## **Monthly Student Feature:**

**John DeAngelis**

***Sustainability at Steelcase***



Bridging the gap between the classroom and the business world is one of the most significant challenges of sustainable business. John DeAngelis, a junior in the Sustainable Business program, is learning about that challenge at Steelcase. This past summer, John began an internship with Steelcase and he has continued interning through this school year.

From day one, John was surprised and delighted at the amount of freedom and responsibility he has in his work at Steelcase. John works in the Supply Chain—Environment & Energy Department, where he works with many different people on a variety of projects dealing mainly with product certification and regulation. John has learned a lot about different sustainability certification standards, especially the BIFMA E3 sustainability certification (because this certification is specifically designed for office furniture). John commented that the Sustainable Business program prepared him for his work at Steelcase in a very important way: it gave him the ability to think critically.

At Steelcase, John was also pleasantly surprised by his work environment. Instead of sitting in a cubicle like he expected, John has no assigned work space and can choose from a variety of work areas. Some are designed for open discussion and interaction and others for quiet, individual work. He commented that this work environment could only be expected from a company that has the mission of designing innovative work spaces. John shared that this open atmosphere has really helped him to be able to effectively collaborate with people on projects, and he thinks it increases general productivity of the company.

Looking back, John has thoroughly enjoyed his experience at Steelcase thus far as it has both empowered and challenged him. He enjoys the amount of responsibility he has and the variety of projects he is assigned to, as well as the people he works with. This internship has taught John that he is good at organizing groups to reach a common goal, but has also opened his eyes to the challenge of pulling together a variety of opinions and backgrounds to find and reach a common goal. Although the workings of a big company like Steelcase are very different from the classroom, John is excited about the challenge to achieve new things in sustainability.

“What if humans designed products and systems that celebrate an abundance of human creativity, culture, and productivity? That are so intelligent and safe, our species leaves an ecological footprint to delight in, not lament?”-McDonough & Braungart, *Cradle to Cradle*, pg. 16

## Where to put that Empty Pizza Box?

Have you found yourself somewhere on campus, standing in front of a set of blue and green bins, unsure of what should be put where? Not to fear! Here are some key points to remember:

- Place recyclable items in the **BLUE BINS**.
- Recyclable: glass, paper, plastic, metal
- No **FOOD-SOILED ITEMS** in the recycling bin.
- Place compostable items in the **GREEN BINS**.
- Compostable: food waste & food-soiled paper (pizza boxes, paper plates, etc.)
- No **STYROFOAM** in either bin (this includes to-go containers from the Moose & the Corner).
- No **BATTERIES OR INK CARTRIDGES** in either bin.\*

*\*Batteries can be brought to the mailroom. Ink cartridges can be placed in collection containers located in all residence halls or they can be brought to ITS.*

[Click here](#) (on-campus only) to see what can & can't be recycled

[Click here](#) to see the do's and don'ts of composting



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*We're on the Web!*

Find all AQ sustainability information at:

[aquinas.edu/sustainability](http://aquinas.edu/sustainability)

### Campus Sustainability Groups

Faculty Sustainability Committee  
Staff Sustainability Committee  
Student Senate Sust. Committee  
Joint Sustainability Committee  
S3  
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 Alina Dhaseleer at [ahd001@aquinas.edu](mailto:ahd001@aquinas.edu)

## RUSTLE THE LEAF™

BY PONCE & WRIGHT



<http://kpa-acis.blogspot.com/2009/10/very-last-rustle-leaf-post.html>