

Environmental Wellness Matters



UNB's Student Union prides itself on offering a wide variety of events and activities for its students. Over the past few years they have employed a student to focus solely on the environmental initiatives for our growing campus. In the academic year 2011-2012, we have already implemented several new events and challenges throughout our own community.

- Kicking off the fall semester we promoted a nationwide campus "Recycle My Cell" program that provided a drop off box on campus for old, out of use cell phones, accessories and batteries. By recycling these objects we send less waste to our landfills.
- The SU has also partnered with the Fredericton Food Bank and their new facility on the Northside of Fredericton (former Green Village property). Volunteer days were held during the fall and spring where students came and worked alongside staff to clean up the property, greenhouses and buildings. The Fredericton Food Bank will be using their new location to set up community gardens and offer classes in canning, food preparation and gardening for their clients.
- Focusing on recycling around campus, we have achieved our goal by placing paper recycling boxes in each computer lab and have been approved to place more garbage bins outside and several blue sorting bins in high-traffic areas around campus.
- We recently completed the "Campus Climate Challenge" against several Atlantic universities in efforts to reduce energy consumption in residence on campus. The houses reduced their energy between 1.2% and 11.4%.
- SU also has high hopes for our "bike share" program at the LB gym. We purchased 10 bicycles and all are available for use, anytime.
- Our great computer give away happens each year with help from Financial Aid and IT services to refurbish and recycle old computers and give them to students in need.
- A variety of events take place each year and we will continue to promote them to achieve a higher success rate. These events include Sweater Day (February 9), Earth Hour (March 31), Earth Day (April 22), and Waste Reduction Week (Oct 15-21). You can find our environmental event updates in E-newsletters, SU website and Facebook and the Brunswickan. We will also be updating the "Campus Sustainability" website.
- The SU efforts for our environment will continue to expand and explore the opportunities to provide a healthier and happier way of life for our students, faculty and staff.

To receive more information on our environmental initiatives, please contact SU Environment Coordinator - Shannon Adams at envcom@unb.ca