

THE Eco MOSQUITO

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS AND EVENTS AT HSPH AND BEYOND

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Do you feel that special something in air? No, we're not talking about the bitter wind blowing in your face. It's love, people! Forget about all the romantic pressure and make the Earth your sweetheart this Valentine's Day!

DID YOU KNOW?

Attention all of you hardworking lab people! Did you know that you can recycle tip boxes and media bottles? Simply dedicate a recycling bin in your lab to these items and you'll be on your way to a greener lab! Media bottles should always be triple rinsed and tip boxes should be rinsed as necessary.

Harvard Labs Focus on Sustainability in 2013



Lab folks at HSPH have decided that they've had it up to their fume hoods with unsustainable practices in their labs. They seem to be on a roll with recycling—first Styrofoam and now tip boxes and media bottles. And now they're getting on the reuse bandwagon. On January 22, the Harvard Office for Sustainability launched the University-wide Lab Reuse List to facilitate the trade, reuse, and sharing of working laboratory equipment and supplies on our campus. This will cut down on orders that we have to make for items that might be sitting a few labs over collecting dust and taking up space. Find the list online at green.harvard.edu/labs-reuse-list.

Here's a sampling of what's on offer in Longwood:

- Double-Stacked Heraeus BBD6220 CO2 Incubators
 - Cryostore Polycarbonate Storage Boxes: Series 581
 - 50ul VWR calibrated glass pipettes
 - Glass Pasteur pipette stainless steel autoclave boxes
- ...And there's much more! Make your Lab Manager or PI happy by clearing space and posting some of your own unwanted items to the list.

GREEN TIPSTER

Labs have been doing a great job recycling white Styrofoam containers along with their cardboard boxes. But Adam from Save That Stuff, the company that hauls away and recycles our waste, reminds us that we have to remove any tape. Apparently, it's messing with their machinery. Whoops. For the sake of the extruder, no more sticky stuff.



Putting the buzz in your ear since 2012

Roses Are Red, But Maybe They Should Be Greener

Let's say you're looking to surprise or seduce your honey with flowers this Valentine's Day. Eh, kinda predictable, right? But what if he or she is an old fashioned romantic...or a nature lover? You may wonder what could be a "greener" gift than a bouquet of nature's beautiful bounty. Here in the US, 90% of the cut flowers



you'll find in stores come from the warm, fertile lands of Latin America. Shipping such delicate and perishable cargo thousands of miles takes a great deal of energy input. What's more, flowers aren't a food product, so governments don't have to impose restrictions on pesticide use in production. Unfortunately, this means that those gorgeous Gerberas might have a sordid history laced with chemicals and carbon emissions. What a romance killer. But all is not lost! Sustainably grown

flowers are increasingly available in stores all over the US. Look for flowers that have labels from independent flower certification programs like Fair Trade Flowers, VeriFlora, and the Rainforest Alliance. Better yet, get your sweetie a potted plant that has the potential to last as long as your relationship, if you take good care of it. Now that's romantic.



DON'T MISS THIS!

Calling all artsy people looking for a way to get outside this winter! The **Pics in the Park Winter Photography Challenge** offers participants techniques for taking impressive photographs of Boston's scenic parks. Meet at the Jamaica Pond Boathouse at 11 AM on Sunday, **February 17** or at the Kelleher Rose Garden in the Back Bay Fens at 11 AM on Sunday, **February 24** for some creative outdoor fun.

Come be convinced to move away from an old-fashioned lawn and towards meadowscaping, a beautiful and economical option. The Cambridge Public Library (449 Broadway) presents **Meadowscaping in Urban & Suburban Spaces** at 7 PM on Wednesday, **March 6**.

The **Green Team** is still trying to entice you with promises of more snacks and green ideas in 2013. We'll be meeting on Thursday, **February 21** from 11-12 in Kresge 204. Come enjoy a good old-fashioned brainstorming session with the friendly Green Team.

Yoo-hoo, just a friendly reminder that the annual Take the Stairs event is coming up again in March. You may want to start working those thighs and glutes now, because there are some truly hard core stair climbers among us!

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