



Sustainable Delaware

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2012

ABOUT SUSTAINABLE DELAWARE:

- Monthly meetings are at 9:30am the second Saturday of each month in the Delaware County Library Main Branch's Community Room.
- Visit us on the web at www.sustainabledelawareohio.org
- Find us on Facebook at Sustainable Delaware Ohio.

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A New Terminal Hub for DATA

The Delaware Area Transit Authority (DATA) is reinventing itself to become a modern metropolitan mass-transit system. DATA started in August with new fixed routes which traverse the major destinations in Delaware and even connect with COTA, the Columbus bus system. Residents no longer need to call for a demand-response trip (although still available), as most points of interest, including shopping, parks and schools, are now connected by the fixed routes.

To allow all five routes to converge at a single location and to permit passengers to transfer, a new terminal hub will be built on Park Avenue between South Washington and South Liberty, alongside Bicentennial Park. At its September 10th meeting, City Council approved the construction of a shelter unit that is 40 feet long and 12.5 feet wide. The hub is ideally located near Ohio Wesleyan's 1,800 undergraduate students (many of whom don't own cars) and nearby residential areas.



Location of the new DATA terminal hub on Park Ave.

Mass transit is not without controversy, but environmentally speaking, it is a good choice. It alleviates traffic congestion and leads to cleaner air. Now more Delaware residents than ever can take a bus to school or work, the hospital or a supermarket. You can read more about the routes and times on the DATA website at: <http://ridedata.com/>.

Delaware CARES

As hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") is inching closer to Delaware County, several members of SDO formed an affiliated group called Citizen Advocates for Responsible Energy Supplies, or Delaware CARES, to study the issue in greater detail and depth. At the inaugural meeting in summer of 2012, it was decided that sharing knowledge and raising public awareness would be a good first step. To that end, members launched a letter-to-the-editor campaign targeting both the "Delaware Gazette" and the "Columbus Dispatch." Lynette Carpenter wrote about the negative impact of fracking on property values, Gordon Aubrecht addressed concerns about water contamina-

tion, Sheila Fox pointed out the dangers of heavy truck traffic and the transportation of hazardous materials on narrow country roads, and Tom Wolber targeted the impact of fracking on the health of humans and the environment. More letters are in the works. Eventually, they will be collected and made available in the form of a brochure. The next step in the project will be conversations with city and county officials to ensure that fracking causes no harm to the residents of Delaware County. Delaware CARES also believes that sensitive natural areas such as Ohio's state parks should be completely exempt from oil-and-gas exploration.

DGHD Working on a Healthy-Built Environment



Example of the complete street concept.

The Delaware General Health District (DGHD) has been fighting obesity for some time, and recently launched an ambitious new obesity-prevention program. The plan includes making healthier food choices available at work and school and increasing opportunities for exercise and physical fitness, including expanded walking trails and making roads more bike-friendly. Studies have shown that daily physical activity lowers obesity rates, improves long-term health, and lessens the incidence of common chronic diseases such as arthritis, cancer, heart disease, and stroke.

On September 25, the DGHD conducted a local workshop entitled "A Healthy-Built Environment", focusing on building our physical environment with special attention paid to health. In fact, "health in all policies" is the new motto in urban planning. The workshop's focus was on cost-effective changes that can increase opportunities for physical activity. The forum provided a chance to share ideas and resources, articulate priorities, explore grant options, and begin the development of a city- and county-wide infrastructure that will lead to healthier and happier lives. Representatives from

MORPC, Preservation Parks, the Ohio Department of Health, and ODOT were in attendance to talk about traffic safety, pedestrian and bicycle programs, "green maps," and related issues. MORPC promoted its concept of "the complete street," which is constructed not just with motorists in mind; pedestrians, wheelchair users, and bicyclists should also be factored in. It is clear that both the city and the county have a long way to go before all streets and roads are "complete streets." In addition to physical activity, there was also an emphasis on community gardens and access to fresh, unprocessed food, especially in disenfranchised neighborhoods.

Since SDO also promotes environmental awareness and efforts to create more sustainable communities, the two groups have many mutual interests. SDO has worked with DGHD on a number of projects in the past (such as clean-ups of local parks and waterways) and is currently exploring ways to elevate the partnership to an even higher level. Stay tuned for updates!

REUSE:

PLEASE PASS
ALONG THIS
NEWSLETTER
TO SOMEONE
WHO MIGHT
ENJOY IT.

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Bikeway Plan 2010 Update

In 2010 the City of Delaware examined, created and adopted a new Bikeway Plan for the City (the plan can be found here: http://www.delawareohio.net/Departments/Planning/Other_Plans.aspx). The plan calls for the connection of many currently disconnected trail sections, expansion of the trail system already in place, and maintenance of the trails and way-finding signage. However, the plan is still only a plan and needs funding to become a reality.

City Council is currently in the process of approving a new Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the next five years. The CIP is what is used to direct assets and improvements in the city. When asked how the Bikeway Plan is progressing, Tom Homan,

City Manager, said they are nowhere near where they would like to be. Further discussion at the city council meeting brought to light the fact that there is no dedicated funding in the CIP for the Bikeway Plan. What funding they do get for Bikeway improvements is in the form of grants, and they are currently seeking grants to complete the Houk Road connection between US36 and US37.

Anyone interested in the bicycle trails in Delaware is urged to contact City Council representatives and discuss it with them. There will be a third reading and adoption of the CIP at the October 8th City Council meeting, beginning at 6:30pm in City Council Chambers at City Hall, 1 S. Sandusky St.

Bite! Examining the Mutually Transformative Relationship Between People and Food



Bite! OWU faculty panel discussion.

Continuing this month is the Sagan National Colloquium at Ohio Wesleyan University. This lecture series includes local, national and international guest-speakers discussing how food transforms people and their environment. These exciting lectures guide us to thinking about our relationship with food.

Unless otherwise noted, all colloquium presentations will be held in the Benes Rooms of Ohio Wesleyan's Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, 40 Rowland Ave., Delaware. All are free and open to the public. The presentations also are scheduled to be streamed online at <http://stream.owu.edu>. Read more about the 2012 "Bite!" Sagan National Colloquium at <http://snc.owu.edu>.

- Oct. 1, 7 p.m.** – "Constitution of Childhood and Youth in Fast Food Eating Out Culture: Global-Local Dynamics in India" by **Anjali Bhatia**, Ph.D. She will discuss how the fast-food culture among youth requires people to think about a reconfiguration of the family and ensuing tensions in global-local contexts.
- Oct. 4, 7 p.m.** – "Folks, This Ain't Normal" by **Joel Salatin**, third-generation alternative farmer in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, author of "Folks, This Ain't Normal: A Farmer's Advice for Happier Hens, Healthier People, and a Better World".
- Oct. 8, 7 p.m.** – "Farming and the Impact of Corporate Agriculture" by **Kelly Klein**, production research scientist for Monsanto Co. Klein's research focuses on improving seed production and seed quality, and his main research interests involve agronomic practices such as row spacing and seed handling and drying.
- Oct. 10, 7 p.m.** – "Making Local Work in Ohio: Production, Promotion, and Entrepreneurship in the Local Food System," a panel discussion featuring **Jeni Britton Bauer**, owner and founder of Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams; **Warren Taylor**, owner and founder of Snowville Creamery; **Michael Jones**, executive director and co-founder of Local Matters; and others.
- Oct. 30, 4 p.m.** – Art and food discussion by **Abram Kaplan**, Ph.D. Kaplan's research spans a variety of areas connected by the question, "How can we best relate to our environment?" He has created an art installation titled "Fine Grain: Visual Immersion in the American Food System," which will be displayed on campus during his visit.

Green Tip: Composting Coffee Grounds

If you are looking for a way to boost your compost or adjust the pH balance, then coffee grounds have a lot to offer. Here is what "The Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening," Rodale Press 1978, pg. 220, says:

"Coffee grounds can be a fine addition to the fertilizer resources of the average family. They sour easily because they preserve moisture well and seem to encourage acid-forming bacteria. Being acid, they are good for blueberries, evergreens and all acid-loving plants. Mixed with lime, they can be fed to earthworm cultures or used as a mulch for plants that prefer a more basic environment.

Chemical analyses show that coffee grounds contain up to 2% nitrogen, .0033 % phosphoric acid, and varying amounts of potash, minerals, trace elements, carbohydrates, sugars, vitamins, and caffeine. Drip coffee grounds are generally richer than grounds that have been boiled."

Want to add coffee grounds to your compost of biodegradable table scraps, grass clippings and deciduous leaves? You can get plenty of coffee grounds from the rear of the Beehive Bookstore! Used grounds are stashed in large clay flower pots. Drive up to the rear of the store with your pail or 5

gallon container, plus a trowel to spoon the grounds from their pots to your pails. They are free to take and available 24/7.





Sustainable Delaware

Our Mission: Sustainable Delaware is a group of citizens focused on promoting environmental, social and economic sustainability for the Delaware community through awareness, advocacy and action.

Rain Barrels for Sale

Sustainable Delaware is the **EXCLUSIVE** place to purchase Rain Brothers Rain Barrels in Delaware County. Proceeds fund community awareness programs. Free delivery in Delaware County.

Purchase at:

<http://www.sustainabledelawareohio.org/Sale.html>

Farmer's Markets in Delaware County

Main Street Delaware's Farmer's Market - Downtown Delaware, Wednesdays 3 to 6 pm and Saturdays 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, through Oct. 28.

Original Farmer's Market - Delaware County Fairgrounds, Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm, through Oct. 20.

Farmer's Market - Delaware Oakland Nursery, Sundays 1 to 4 pm, through Nov. 11.

Sunbury Farmer's Market on the Square - Sunbury Town Square, Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm, through Oct. 20.

Greater Powell Area Chamber of Commerce Farmer's Market - Local Roots parking lot, Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm, through Oct. 27.

October Events

9/30-10/5/12	4th International EcoSummit 2012: Columbus Convention Center ^K
10/1-7/12	Green Energy Ohio Tour Week: Across Ohio ^A
10/1/12 7pm	SNC: Bite!, HWCC (Benes): Dr. Anjali Bhatia, Department of Sociology, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Dehli ^B
10/3/12	Summit on Sustainability and the Environment: MORPC, Greater Columbus Convention Center ^C
10/4/12 7pm	SNC: Bite!, HWCC (Benes): Joel Salatin, Farmer, Author, Film Appearances in Food, Inc. and FRESH the movie ^B
10/5/12 6pm	First Friday: Downtown Delaware ^D
10/5/12	6th Annual Stinner Summit: Athens, OH ^I
10/6/12 2pm	All About Corn: Preservation Parks - Gallant Farm Preserve, Ages 7+ ^H
10/8/12 7pm	SNC: Bite!, HWCC (Benes): Kelly Klein, Researcher, Monsanto Company ^B
10/9/12 1pm -3pm	Herbal Study Group: Stratford Ecological Center ^E
10/10/12 7pm	SNC: Bite!, HWCC (Benes): Panel Discussion – Making Local Work in Ohio, panel discussion ^B
10/12/12 8:30pm	Second Friday Film: Check with Beehive Books or Global Village
10/13/12 9:30am	Sustainable Delaware Meeting: Delaware Library, Main Branch
10/16/12 10am -11:30am	Small Farmers: Preschool Series: Stratford Ecological Center ^E
10/18/12 6:30pm-8:30pm	Community Garden Program Series: Fall Cleanup and more: YMCA Community Room 1121 S. Houk Rd, Delaware ^F
10/20/12 9am -1pm	Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off: Delaware County Fairgrounds ^G
10/20/12 9am -12pm	Farming with the Seasons: Stratford Ecological Center ^E
10/26/12 6pm	Cash Mob: Meet at the Main Street Delaware office ^J
10/27/12 1pm -3pm	Herbal Study Group: Stratford Ecological Center ^E
10/30/12 4pm	SNC: Bite!, HWCC (Benes): Dr. Abram Kaplan, Artist & Associate Professor Environmental Studies, Denison University ^B

A. <http://www.greenenergyohio.org/ost/page.cfm?pagelid=3294>

B. <http://blog.owu.edu/bite/schedule-of-events/>

C. http://www.morpc.org/energy/green_region/Summit.asp

D. <http://www.mainstreetdelaware.com/october-first-friday.html>

E. http://www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org/programs_events/calendar_details.html

F. <http://delaware.osu.edu/topics/horticulture/internal-hort-files/published-files/CG%20flyer2.pdf>

G. <http://www.delawarecountyfair.com/generalinformation/calendar-events>

H. <http://www.preservationparks.com/events-calendar/>

I. <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/amp/pageview.asp?id=1592>

J. <http://www.mainstreetdelaware.com/cash-mob.html>

K. <http://www.ecosummit2012.org/index.htm>