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### News » Education



University of California, San Diego student Anthony Fu compares samples of biodiesel fuel reclaimed from the school's dining hall. In addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, students are learning a new "3 Rs": reduce, reuse, recycle.

By Michael Poche for USA TODAY

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Enlarge By Michael Poche for USA TODAY

Fran Avendana, 21, a student at University of California, San Diego, sorts compost as part of the school's recycling program.

## Going green registers with colleges

By Erica R. Hendry, USA TODAY

Students arriving on campus this month are seeing green — and not just from the money they're spending on tuition.

For example, students coming to George Washington University in Washington, D.C., will start their school year with the university's first "Green Move-In."

### COLLEGE BLOG: Green gifts, graduation ceremonies and campuses join trend

Rose Dunnegan, the university's property manager, says the program follows the success of last semester's "Green Move-Out." Student and staff volunteers recycled thousands of pounds of clothing, household items, food and "e-cycling" materials, including cellphones, batteries and computer parts, Dunnegan says.

### GOING GREEN: Find your eco-score and see the latest environmental news

The Green Move-In includes:

• An online check-in system is an alternative to the paper forms usually distributed to students who move into the dorm rooms.

### ECO-PSYCHOLOGY: People get the concept but aren't sure how to act

• Laminated posters with maps and campus information will be posted in residence halls instead of being distributed on paper.

• The university's bookstore will sell reusable grocery bags and clothing made from recycled and organic materials.

• Students are encouraged to pack items in reusable containers.

• There will be designated recycling areas for moving boxes.

### Change in San Diego

Freshmen at the University of California-San Diego's Sixth College will move into renovated dorms that are equipped with solar thermal heating, and new carpet and furniture made from recycled material, says Mark Cunningham, the school's executive director of housing, dining and hospitality.

The student residences also will have low-flow shower heads and energy-efficient lighting.

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### GREEN SHOPPING LIST FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

- Notebooks made from recycled paper.
- Computer and printer with the Energy Star rating.
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Eco-friendly cleaning products.
- Organic towels and bedding.
- Reusable coffee mug and water bottle.
- Inexpensive plates instead of disposable products. Or bring a set of dishes from home.
- Backpacks made of natural or recycled materials, rather than nylon or vinyl.

Source: George Washington University; USA TODAY research

### GREEN COLLEGES

Princeton Review named 11 schools to its "2009 Green Rating Honor Roll":

- Arizona State University - Tempe
- Bates College in Lewiston, Maine

- State University of New York - Binghamton
- College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine
- Emory University in Atlanta
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard College
- University of New Hampshire
- University of Oregon
- University of Washington
- Yale University

The university will give each on-campus apartment a bucket of eco-friendly cleaning supplies. If that project is successful, Cunningham says, the university will consider giving a year's supply of the products to all apartments.

Cunningham says the efforts supplement existing university programs such as the student-run composting pile and the lab for processing dining-hall oil. Students also built weather-monitoring stations to help the university be more energy-efficient and to use irrigation water more effectively.

"We're trying to teach habits and encourage lifestyles that will allow these students to become the next sustainable consumers of the world," Cunningham says.

Says Casey Pierzchala, a GWU graduate who now works on campus as an environmental sustainability project assistant: "It's definitely a trend right now. ... People are becoming more sure of how they impact the environment. The changes that are predicted are in our lifetimes, not our parents', so it's become a little bit more real for us."

**A GreenGW townhouse**

Thirty George Washington students will pilot the university's green townhouse. Last year, four students from GreenGW, a student organization devoted to environmental sustainability, lived in a smaller townhouse dedicated to green living. The experiment was so successful that the university moved it to a brick, three-story walk-up this year.

The townhouse is one of the university's living and learning programs, which convert traditional residence halls into themed-based houses that meet specific student academic and lifestyle interests. Residents will have open houses for students who are interested.

Ivey Wohlfeld, a senior and president of GreenGW, says some of the house's features — posted reminders to turn off lights, water monitors and solar panels — could function anywhere, but what makes this project effective is the residents' commitment to holding one another responsible for how they live.

**GOING GREEN**

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**Poll:** Actions don't match attitudes

What polls, activists reveal

"There's a need and a want for this kind of lifestyle in the community ... but there are also many people who aren't quite sure what to do about it," she says. "We're still in that stage, but this is a step in the right direction. It's making 'green' more important in other people's lives."

Jim Schrote, George Washington's director of facilities management, says, "It's really about creating a culture — and that's a return on the investment worth more than any time or money."

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tubes420 (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/15/2008 2:31:12

\_rise\_up\_ wrote: 22h 7m ago  
Paper recycling and conservation is naive.

Paper comes from trees. The companies that produce paper grow trees. If they sell less paper, they grow fewer trees. FYI, growing more trees is good for the environment, even if they are to be eventually cut down for use as paper. Paper recycling requires just as many chemicals and consumes more energy than producing new paper.

Paper recycling is not good for the environment. If anything, it is bad for the environment.

And these kids trying to "go green" are still consuming the latest electronics made from petroleum derivatives and processed with toxic chemicals, and still using massive quantities of electricity for

their electronics.  
 =====

I'm so sick of all this "going green" trend. The only way you can go "green" is to legalize the "green". If we were to Hemp for paper instead of trees. They could leave the trees be & grow Hemp instead.

1 tree = 1 acre of hemp  
 1 tree = 30 years avg growth  
 1 acre of hemp = 3 months avg growth

Then you could use hemp for many other things to not just paper.

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**daveNaustin** (3 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/14/2008 4:24:27

What Rapier said.

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**Pennywigeon** (13 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/14/2008 3:14:06

I think the Green movement is a test in Gullibility. They see if you are gullible then target you for social engineering, identity theft, or just plain old fraud.

Let us look at what those who have gone green have in common.

- (1) They think by sending money to someone it will make a difference but the money they send is not being used directly for solutions but rather to fund companies that "green investors" have backed as upstarts.
- (2) They truly think that the email that told them they won the lottery is legit.
- (3) That Area 51 holds Aliens.
- (4) That Big Foot is just really shy.
- (5) That the earth began 650,000 years ago.
- (6) That the ice at the poles and glaciers have NOT been melting for the past 8,000 years.
- (7) That by spending more money things will somehow improve even though they do not know what will improve.
- (8) That plants don't breathe CO2 but rather something else.
- (9) That climate is static.
- (10) That Al Gore, although he is worth over 500% more than when he first left office, is not making any money of "Global Warming" and is actually doing all this work out of the goodness of his heart, just like the hard work he put into creating the internet.

Very sad. But I tell you it is making some people very very rich!

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**siete** (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/14/2008 2:28:57

Now if they can just get the frat boys to recycle all their beer cans...

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**Pennywigeon** (13 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/14/2008 12:25:53

Green used to stand for Greed and Envy.

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**\_rise\_up\_** (6 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/14/2008 12:00:46

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**daryl** (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 8/14/2008 10:13:22 AM



lol. GOING GREEN. They steal enough money through their tuition, I would say that is "going green".

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rmale (0 friends, send message) wrote: 8/14/2008 10:00:44 AM  
i cant understand why all these books are not electronic now.  
somebody is protecting somebody's job while all students are paying \$150 on a book  
that the school will buy it back for \$15.  
and, i dont need an explanation from a pynchologist to realize what's wrong with the picture.

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