

Sustainable
Concordia

HANDBOOK
2008-2009





This guide is for campus members who want to know what Concordia is doing to move towards a more sustainable future. We believe everyone can make a difference in the way that they work and study on campus. This guide was developed to help you find the resources and services to make this possible.

TABLE OF CONTENTS by Initiative

Sustianable Concordia	3
Concordia Campus Sustainability Assessment	4-5
allego	6-7
R4	9
Rethink	9
Reduce-Reuse	10-11
Recycle	12-13
R4 Compost	16-17
Concordia Greenhouse	18-19
Sustainable Ambassadors	20-21
Sustainability Action Fund	22-23
Sustainable Business Conference	24
Blueprints for Change Sustainability Festival	25
Events Calendar	26-27
Get Involved	28
Directory	Inside back cover

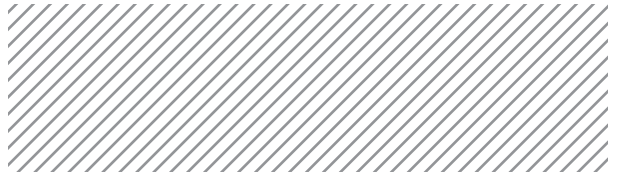
TABLE OF CONTENTS by Focus Group

Transportation, Space and Planning	5
Energy Management	8
Waste Management	11
Indoor Environement & Air Quality	15
Water	18
Community, Health & Well-Being	19
Purchasing & Materials	21
Governance	22
Economy - Income & investments	23
Research & Curriculum	24



TABLE OF CONTENTS by Service

Active Transportation	6
Alkaline batteries	13
Biking	6
Car Share	6
Carpooling	7
Cellular phones	13
CDs and DVDs	13
Communauto	6
Confidential Information	12
Dish Rental	10-11
Electronics	14
Event Planning	20
Event Space	18
Guaranteed Ride Home	7
Hazardous materials	14
Home Composting	16
Ink Cartridges	13
Lunchtime conversations	20
Office audits	20
Office furniture	14
One-Sided Paper	11
Orientation on sustainability	20
Paper Recycling	12
Plant Rentals and Sales	18
Plastic – Glass – Metal Recycling	13
Public Transit	6
Reusable Mugs	10
Rideshare	7
Special Projects Funding	22-23
Special Recycling	13
Used Office Supplies	10



Sustainable Concordia is an organization that strives to create a culture of sustainability at Concordia, and thereby improve our university community by making Concordia an ecologically aware, economically responsible, and socially equitable institution. Sustainable Concordia is an organization of staff, faculty, students, and administrators working together to help our campus more sustainable. By encouraging communication within the campus community, we act as a nexus to identify, assess, and address challenges of sustainable development as a community.

Objectives:

- Unite campus community members to engage in sustainable initiatives, and empower them with the knowledge and skills to make sustainable decisions in their lives
- Create a culture of sustainability at Concordia University
- Conduct a sustainability assessment every three years to identify and assess challenges to sustainability on campus
- Act as an educational and consultative resource for the community

Sustainable Concordia is based on the understanding that problem solving is most fruitful and effective when students, staff and faculty work together - what we call the multi-stakeholder approach.

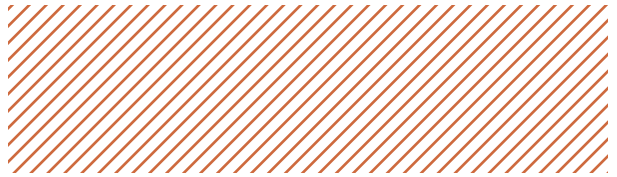
Our organizational structure engages students, staff, faculty and administrators to work together in non-hierarchical consensus based decision-making processes to address issues of sustainable development on campus. Working with multiple stakeholders, each with their respective knowledge and expertise ultimately allows an institution to achieve a higher level of social and environmental performance as its community learns how to communicate and work together for more viable, flexible and long-term strategies. This approach is fundamental because progress towards sustainability requires that we see the university as a system where solutions reach across all sectors and departments.

Sustainability is a shared value at Concordia and we want everyone that spends time on campus to find ways to incorporate sustainability into their roles at the University. Concordia continues to be a leader in the process towards sustainable development and there is a role for everyone to play.

Since 2002, Sustainable Concordia has come a long way. We have:

- Developed eight sustainability programs
- Created two full-time and several part-time paid staff
- Passed an environmental policy
- Won awards & recognition for our progress thus far.

Concordia Campus Sustainability Assessment



The campus sustainability assessment is at the core of Sustainable Concordia's work. These reports are conducted every three years, and have engaged hundreds of student researchers, guided by the knowledge and expertise of Concordia staff, faculty, and administrators. Over the years many innovative projects have been born from the research and relationships formed in conducting the assessment.

Through 10 focus areas, the assessment reviews aspects of the university's operations, research, education, and community, identifying obstacles and opportunities for sustainable development on campus.

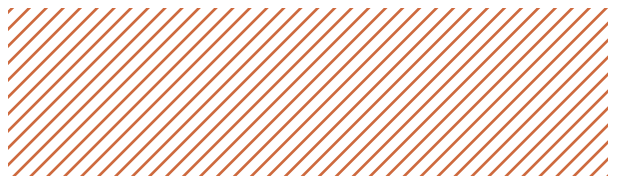
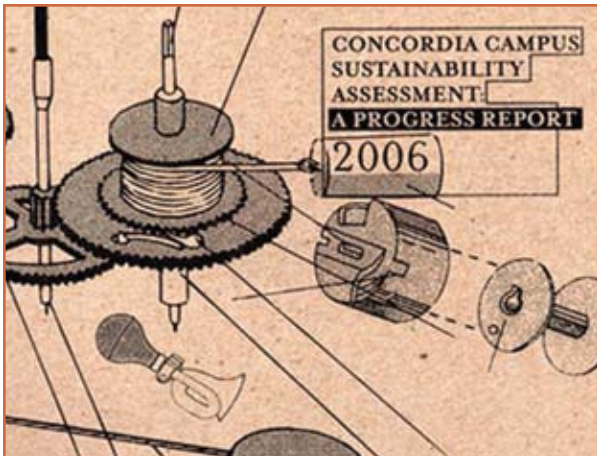
Each chapter of the assessment includes:

- Context
- Research
- Case Studies

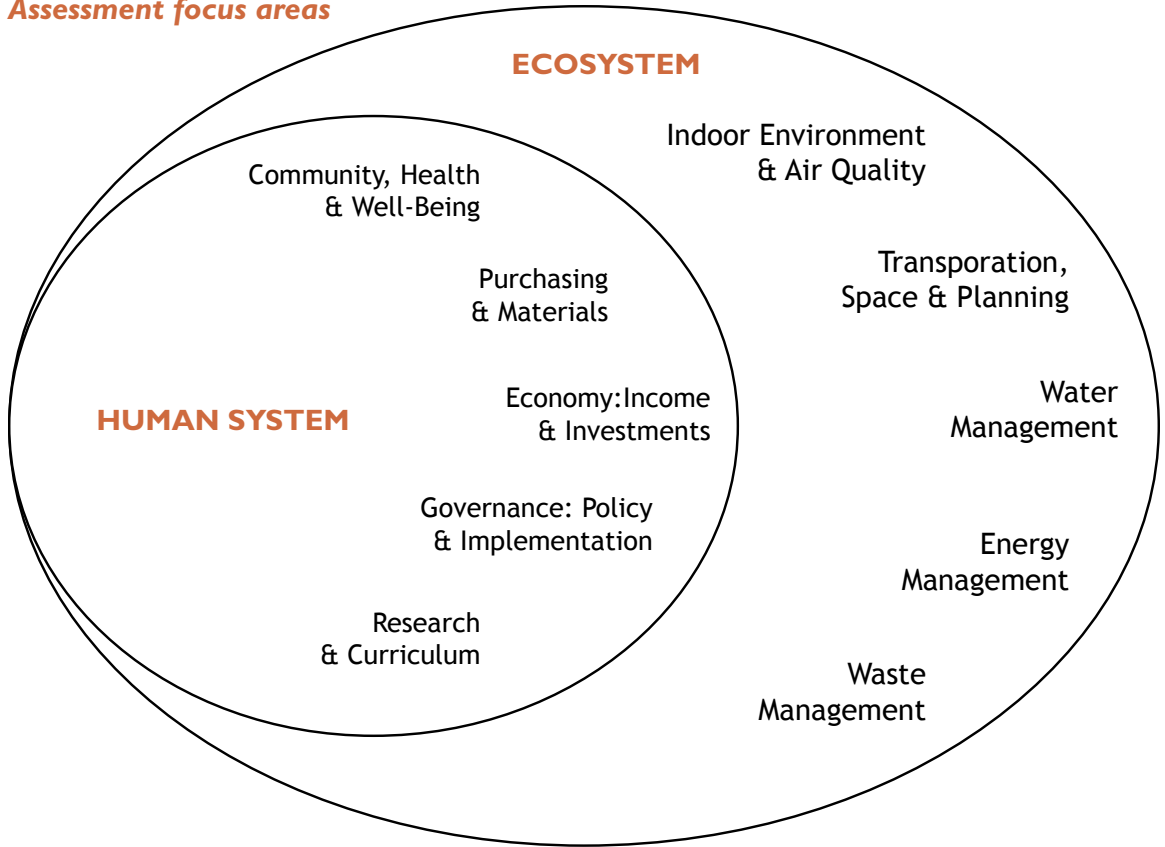
This document can be used as a map providing an understanding of how our university works, identifying which department is responsible for what, determining where information is housed, and providing case studies from other universities that have taken bold steps forward. Each of the focus areas assesses indicators and makes recommendations and directions for moving forward. The third Concordia Campus Sustainability Assessment will be launched in January of 2009!

The 2003 and 2006 assessments are available for download on our website at <http://assessment.concordia.ca>

Like virtually all universities and broader institutions in our society, Concordia is far from being sustainable. What we have found, however, there is a strong desire to improve, and that counts for a lot. We have many challenges that face us, and we need the expertise and innovation of our community to move forward. We invite you to join us in our efforts, be it through our multi-stakeholder advisory committee, through the sustainable ambassadors program, carpooling with allego, as faculty or staff guiding student research, or implementing recommendations from the sustainability assessment in your department. There are numerous ways to be involved.



Assessment focus areas



FOCUS AREA: TRANSPORTATION, SPACE & PLANNING

Concordia University resides in a highly urbanized space. On our campus it is not how much land we own but how we manage it that really counts.

Quartier Concordia is under construction! Improvements to our neighbourhood will reduce traffic flow through campus making it a more pedestrian and bike friendly space. It will also add more green space to our urban campus.

The recent conversion of our recreational fields from grass to Astroturf has extended the playing

season for our athletes and opened the fields of up to community leagues. This retrofit has eliminated the use of herbicides and pesticides and reduced the amount of maintenance, water, and paint for upkeep. The Astroturf was made in Quebec from recycled materials.

DO-IT-YOURSELF

- ✓ Grow native plant varieties and plant trees to reduce the urban heat island effect.
- ✓ Pull weeds in gardens rather than using chemicals.



allégo

Concordia



The allégo program aims to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicle trips to and from the university by giving commuters the information and opportunity to make more sustainable transportation choices. There are so many reasons to leave your car at home: to save money, save the environment, get more exercise and get to know your neighbourhood. This year, allégo continues to offer a free rideshare board, bicycle safety and maintenance workshops and the Guaranteed Ride Home program.

Active transportation:

Whether walking, bicycling, roller-blading, skateboarding (you may even be able to ski here some days), active transportation can be the best way to get to Concordia. With gas prices soaring, there are a number of reasons to consider non-motorized commuting. For those who live within six or seven kilometres of the university, it can even be quicker! This says nothing about what a daily walk or bike ride will do for your health. Giving it a try, it costs you nothing.

Hundreds of great biking resources and a network of city paths help make Montreal an ideal city for cycling. Any reservations you have about biking in the city can usually be overcome by familiarizing yourself with the bike paths in your area or learning about bike safety. The more experience you get, the more comfortable you will be. If you choose to bike to Concordia, there are a variety of resources that can help you to make it more enjoyable and convenient. allégo offers bicycle commuting workshops in the fall and is available to answer questions throughout the year. The Right to Move is a volunteer-run bike workshop located on behind the Hall building terrace. They offer a drop-in, do-it-yourself bicycle shop where members can fix their own bicycles with the help of volunteer mechanics.

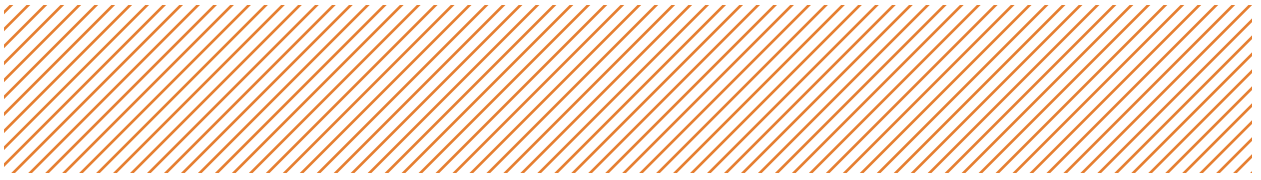
Public Transit

Montreal enjoys a vast network of public transit options; this 24-hour resource is safe and accessible, with many options for combining private and public travel - you can transport your bike at certain times of day, or park a bike or car, and ride at many locations.

Communauto (car share)

Communauto is a car share service that allows its members access to a car only when one is needed. There are several different membership packages to choose from, according to how often you need to use the car. Cars can be borrowed for a couple of hours, or several weeks. For more information on this alternative to owning your own vehicle, visit the Communauto website: www.communauto.com

DAILY METHOD OF TRAVEL	COST PER YEAR
Single Occupancy Vehicle travel	\$9,000 - \$13,000
Montreal Public Transit System	\$400 - \$2400
Self-propelled travel	\$0 - \$200



Carpooling at Concordia

For those whose schedules do not coincide with commuter trains or peak-hour buses, please consider our carpooling resources as a more flexible option. By becoming a member of a carpooling team, you are saving yourself money, time, and stress. You are also helping conserve our environment, improve the quality of air in the city, and keep streets safer. Community members that use the allégo carpool board get priority on the waiting lists for campus parking lots.

www.allego.amt.qc.ca

Rideshare

The rideshare board matches Concordia faculty, staff, and students who are traveling to further destinations, such as Toronto and Quebec City. You can subscribe to the rideshare board on the myConcordia portal. Ride sharing cuts the number of single-occupant-vehicles on our roads and reduces greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change.

Guaranteed Ride Home

Sometimes the unexpected occurs: There might be a family emergency, a bike theft or your carpool partner might get sick and go home early. In case of such an event, allégo Concordia offers a Guaranteed Ride Home, which will reimburse you the price of a taxi (minus tip) to your home. Don't forget the receipt!

Resources:

- www.voyagezfute.ca
Resource for alternative transportation
- www.rtm-lvl.org
Right to Move bike workshop
- www.velo.qc.ca
Bicycle resources and advocacy
- www.stm.info/azimuts/index.htm
Bus and Metro information and schedules
- www.amt.qc.ca
Commuter train info and transit schedules



FOCUS AREA: ENERGY MANAGEMENT

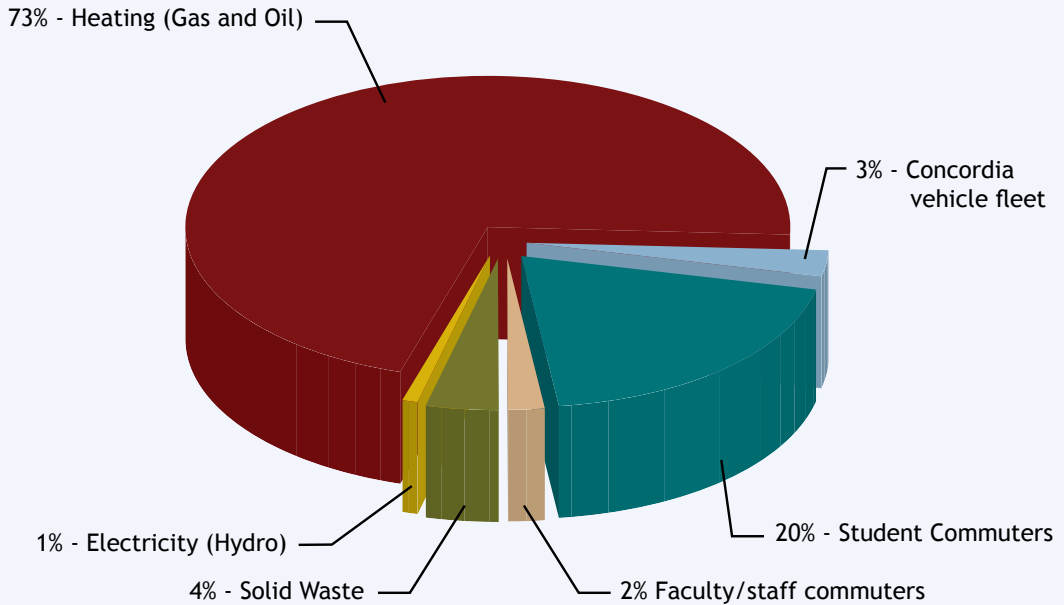
Concordia has been the most energy efficient university for 9 years running. Concordia has completed its first comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory. The inventory shows that Concordia produced a total of 13,500 metric tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the 2004-2005 academic year.

This breakdown from Concordia’s greenhouse gas inventory shows that 22% of GHGs come from commuting. Each day, 1.2 million cars are driven on, off, and around the island of Montreal,

contributing to the formation of smog, emitting greenhouse gases and air pollutants and consuming non-renewable resources. Unfortunately, the use and accommodation of increasing numbers of cars in Canada’s cities is leading to decreased livability (wider streets, less green space, less social integration, etc...).

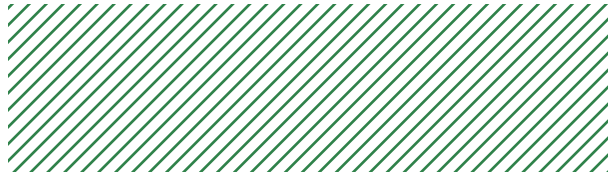
While car travel is sometimes unavoidable, alternative modes of travel to and from Concordia are available. Concordia’s shuttle buses run on 4% biodiesel made from waste oil.

Concordia greenhouse gas emissions breakdown for 2004-2005





RETHINK REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE



The mission of R⁴ is to promote the re-thinking of our daily waste output, as well as reducing, reusing and recycling as much waste as possible at Concordia. R⁴ concentrates its effort on waste management initiatives while integrating environmental, social and economic concerns in its decision making process.

RETHINK

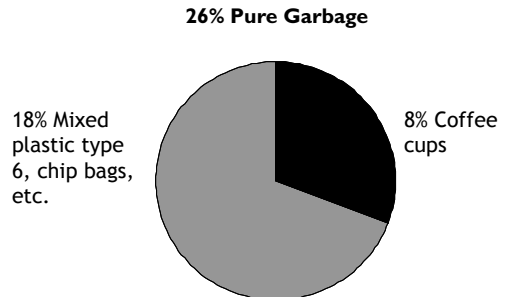
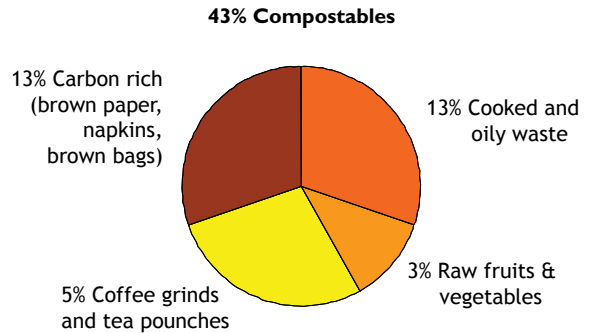
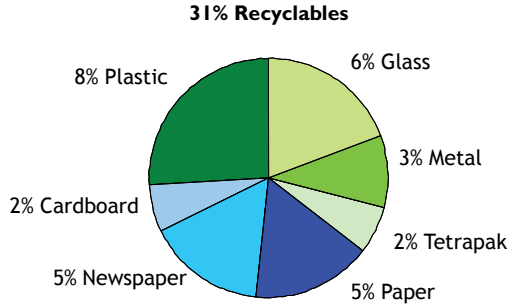


R⁴ Waste Audit

With the help of Custodial Services, Distribution and Transportation Services and many dedicated volunteers, R⁴ organizes annual waste and recycling audits in order to better understand Concordia's waste composition. The information collected helps R⁴ in the development of current and future campaigns and projects. To consult 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 reports visit the R⁴ website at <http://r4.concordia.ca>.



Waste Audit results for 2007



REDUCE – REUSE



Used Office Supplies

R⁴ Bookstore Collection: the R⁴ Bookstore Collection reduces the amount of waste sent to landfill by facilitating the second use of common office supplies. Affordable reused or environmentally friendly school supplies are offered to students in order to promote sustainable behaviours and actions.



The R⁴ Bookstore Collection is available at both the SGW (LB 018) and Loyola (CJ 1423) bookstores. You can also find our products at the Concordia Community Solidarity Co-op Bookstore on 2150 Bishop. Items on sale include R4 mugs locally made from 100% recycled materials, used binders in good shape, one sided paper notebooks, lab coats as well as other sustainable products. The collection also offers a variety of new “environmentally friendly” products.

Proceeds from the R⁴ Collection go towards promoting environmental stewardship on campus and contribute to the R⁴ Concordia program. The bookstores also offer used books and class materials see <http://web2.concordia.ca/Bookstore> and <http://www.co-opbookstore.ca> for more information.

If you have unwanted office and school supplies, donate them to R⁴; items can be delivered through Distribution and Transportation Services (H 120 and SP 130) or dropped off at BE 367.

Lug-a-Mug campaign

R⁴ encourages all campus members to bring reusable mugs to school to reduce the waste created by disposable paper cups on campus.

Concordia sends over **2.3 MILLION** paper cups to landfill every year!

12 000 cups are placed in recycling bins, even though they are not recyclable.



Bringing your own mug can also save you money! Food service outlets on campus offer a discount on all coffee or tea to mug users. Java U on the Hall mezzanine offers 10% discount, Chartwells and Tim Horton's outlets on campus offer you a medium coffee for the price of a small one. Choosing fair trade, organic and shade grown coffee is another choice you make that can have a positive effect on society and the environment.

R⁴ Free Dish Project

The R⁴ Free Dish Rental offers a service by providing anyone wishing to reduce the impact of their event with unbreakable melamine reusable plates (made locally in Quebec), unbreakable wine glasses and metal cutlery free of charge. This project is designed to eliminate the use of disposable plates.



To date, 25,000 plates, 5000 utensils, 4000 wine glasses, and 4000 mugs have avoided the landfill through this service. Available tableware includes 200 plates, plastic mugs, forks, knives and spoons as well as 300 unbreakable polycarbonate wine glasses and 20 serving platters.

This service is available to anyone wishing to use them. Groups are responsible for pick-up, drop-off, and cleaning of the dishes. R⁴ asks for a deposit of 5% of the value of the rental to cover any costs in the event of unreturned or dirty dishes. Reservations work on a first come first serve basis and should be made at least one week in advance by emailing recycle@alcor.concordia.ca or calling ext 5139.

One-Sided Paper Project

R⁴ collects non-confidential white or colour paper that has been printed only on one side. The paper is used to make beautiful notebooks available through the R⁴ Bookstore Collection.

Concordia's paper consumption has been drastically reduced, and went from 1426 sheets per Concordia community member in 2002-2003 to 248 sheets in 2005-2006.

Reusing one-sided paper reduces our overall paper consumption. One-sided paper can be brought to the Concordia Bookstores (LB 018 and CJ 1423), Concordia Student Union offices (H 711, SC 115) or sent through internal mail to the R⁴ office (BE 367).

FOCUS AREA: WASTE MANAGEMENT

Human consumption and disposal of materials is greater than ever before. Effective management of this waste is essential for preserving human health as well as the earth's fragile ecosystems.

Solid waste and recycling audits are conducted at Concordia on a regular basis to better manage the composition of our waste. The findings led to the creation of a solid waste reduction strategy that included the installation of new recycling bins and signage that has a result reduced the solid waste produced per campus member by nearly 7% over the previous year. Last year, over \$80,000 was saved through waste disposal transportation cost reductions, in-kind volunteer work, grants, & savings.

In June 2007, we were certified as *ICI ON RECYCLE*, as an acknowledgement that we have diverted 67% of our waste from being landfilled. The results of the waste audits also led to the creation of a 24-ton capacity worm composting system on the roof of the hall building; which received a Forces Avenir award in September 2007. The bursary from this award helped to launch the 100-tonne university-wide composting system.

DO IT YOURSELF

- ✓ Be more conscious of your consumption and disposal habits.
- ✓ Develop your own home composting system.
- ✓ Bring own mug when purchasing tea or coffee
- ✓ Reduce waste (paper, plastic, aluminium and food) as they take a great deal of energy to produce and dispose of.

RECYCLE



Campus-wide

Concordia University is a recognized leader in waste management practices. In June 2007, Concordia was the first university to be certified *ICI ON RECYCLE* by RECYC-QUÉBEC and the Government of Québec. The *ICI ON RECYCLE* program recognizes institutions that are diverting at least 65% of their waste from landfills; in 2005-06 Concordia diverted 67% of its waste from landfill. We want this certification to be renewed in 2009 so your participation makes a real difference! Please take the time to learn about the various types of waste that can be recycled at Concordia. Visit the R⁴ website or stop by the office if you have any questions.

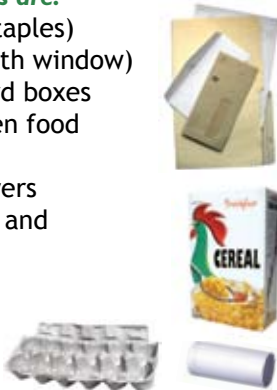


Paper – Cardboard

Unsoiled paper can be placed in blue bins with rectangular slots. Cardboard boxes should be flattened and placed next to a recycling bin.

Examples of recyclable waste that can go in these bins are:

- Paper (even with staples)
- Envelopes (even with window)
- Flattened cardboard boxes
- Cereal boxes, frozen food boxes, etc
- Newspapers and flyers
- Books, Directories, and Magazines
- Cardboard Rolls
- Paper bags



Confidential paper

Paper with any kind of personal and confidential material should not be thrown in the garbage, recycling bins, or placed in a One-Sided Paper collection box. If you are unsure of what is considered confidential please contact Archives at 514-848-2424 ext. 7775.

The Archiving department with the help of Distribution and Transportation, destroys and recycles paper containing confidential information. No need to shred, this free service ensures that the information is destroyed and that the paper is recycled!!

Simply follow these steps:

1. Go to: <http://archives3.concordia.ca/Destruction%20form.pdf>
2. Fill out the form - 1 form per box
3. Tape the form on the box(es) and seal the box
4. Drop off box(es) at Distribution and Transportation Services (H 120, SP 130) between the hours of 7:45am to 11:45am and 1pm to 3:45pm, or fax a pick-up request to 514-848-4000.



Plastic – Glass – Metal & Juice and Milk Containers

Plastic, glass, metal and juice and milk containers can be placed in blue and green bins with circle slots. Please empty and rinse these recyclables to avoid odours, leaks and fruit flies and to decrease the weight of recyclables transported.

Examples of recyclable waste that can go in these bins are:

- Glass bottles and containers (with or without labels)
- Plastic bottles and containers
- Metal/Aluminium cans, foil, and plates
- Milk and juice cartons, and all multilayer drink packaging (Tetrapacks)
- Plastic bags and packaging (except plastic type #6 or biodegradable bags)



Special recycling depots

R⁴ has developed recycling services for some common products that can't be recycled through municipal services, but can have harmful effects on the environment if sent to the landfill.

Special Recycling Depot Locations

(for CDs, batteries, ink cartridges and cell phones):

- Concordia Bookstore (LB 018 and CJ 1423)
- Concordia Computer store (H 224)
- CSU (H 711, SC 115)
- Dean of Students (H 637)
- R⁴ Office (BE 367)

CD and DVDs

Individuals wishing to recycle CD-ROMs and DVDs containing confidential information are responsible for destroying the information prior to recycling.



You can use a key or sharp object to scratch lines across the CD or DVD, or breaking the disk in pieces will work. CD and DVD recycling are available through the Special Recycling Depots.



Alkaline batteries

All alkaline batteries can be brought to any Special Recycling Depot. All other batteries (Lithium, Acid, Rechargeable, Lead, etc.) are considered hazardous waste and should be disposed of accordingly, see the Hazardous Material section.

Cellular phones

All cellular phones, with or without charger or battery, can be brought to any Special Recycling Depot.



Ink cartridges

All laser ink cartridges can be shipped to the Bookstore (LB 018) in their original box. Inkjet cartridges can be brought to any Special Recycling Depot. Empty Ricoh toner bottles can be replaced in their original boxes, and once the box is full, they can be returned directly to the company using the pre-paid packing slip found in the original box.



OTHER RECYCLABLES

E-waste

(computers/printers and electronic equipment)

Electronics of all kinds (computers/printers and electronic equipment) can be dropped off at Distribution and Transportation Services (H 120, SP 130) between the hours of 7:45am to 11:45am and 1pm to 3:45pm. A pick-up request can also be faxed at 514-848-4000.



Medication

Medication should never be placed in regular garbage or poured down the drain where it can lead to water or ground contamination. Please return your medication to the drug store nearest to your home. Near SGW campus, the Pharmaprix at 1500 St-Catherine West has a medication collection box.

Office supplies

If you have office supplies in good conditions, R⁴ will collect them and sell them at the bookstore to fund environmental initiatives. Items collected include binders, file folders, dividers, lab coats, safety goggles and others. Please contact recycle@alcor.concordia.ca for inquiries.

Office furniture

To have your old office furniture reused or to find used furniture at Concordia, contact Gaetan Lapierre (phone ext. 3723 or email gaetanl@alcor.concordia.ca). Gaetan maintains a database of furniture on campus that is available for pick-up.

Clothing and small goods

If you have old clothing or small household goods you no longer need, you can donate them to thrift stores. Near the SGW campus, at 880 Guy Street, you will find Salvation Army collection bins. Near the Loyola campus, West there is a Salvation Army store, at 5762 Sherbrooke St., and the Renaissance store, at 7205 St-Jacques St, that accept donations.

Hazardous materials

In order to safely dispose of your hazardous waste, please contact Eric Ambroise at 514-848-2424 ext. 4356 or email eric.ambroise@concordia.ca

Examples of Hazardous materials:

- Paint containers
- Spray / aerosol cans
- Halogen, tungsten, compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Acid batteries
- Used oil
- Chemical waste and other hazardous waste



GARBAGE

What goes into the garbage?

Please attempt to reuse or donate any item before putting in the garbage.

Examples of waste that is not yet recyclable are:

- Coffee cups
- Soiled and greasy cardboard/paper
- Jewel CD and DVD plastic cases
- Waxed paper
- Waxed paper soda disposable cups
- Photo paper
- Stickers
- Nails, screws and pipes
- Flat Glass (mirrors, windows, aquariums, etc.) and drinking glasses
- Toothpaste tubes (you can recycle the plastic cap!)
- All type no 6 plastic containers (Styrofoam, polystyrene) and disposable plastic cutlery
- Cereal and cracker bags (waxed)
- Potato chips bags and chocolate/candy plastic wrapping
- Rubber items (punctured garden hoses, worn out boots, etc)
- Pyrex, porcelain, ceramics and earth ware
- Broken objects made from many materials (toys, tools, etc)



Recyclables images credit: *Sara Badreddine*

FOCUS AREA: INDOOR ENVIRONMENT & AIR QUALITY

Respiratory illnesses such as asthma, heart & lung diseases, allergic reactions, headaches, and throat irritations are on the rise in Canada as a result of air pollution.

The number of indoor air quality (IAQ) complaints has dramatically decreased from 74 in 2003 to 19 in 2005. This is chiefly due to the new reporting system managed by EHS and Facilities Management increased the efficiency of response times and allows for better problem solving. The Hall building's main ventilation system was formerly a source of complaints but has been upgraded, improving IAQ and saving a considerable amount of energy. This new system will be used in all new building projects.

Also related to improved indoor IAQ, Concordia's contractor for cleaning services has recently switched to eco-logo cleaning products. This will significantly improve IAQ and reduces the amount of pollutants in our local water system.

DO-IT-YOURSELF

- ✓ Oxygenate your office with indoor plants. (Note: poorly kept plants can create IAQ problems.)



R⁴ COMPOST

R⁴ Worm Swap

The R⁴ Worm Swap provides red wiggler worms and vermicomposting kits at cost to encourage composting at home.

You can buy:

- 250g of worms for \$25
- 500g of worms for \$40.

Vermicompost kits come in two sizes:

- Standard (24" x 16" x 8.75") for \$15
- Large (24" x 16" x 12.5") for \$20

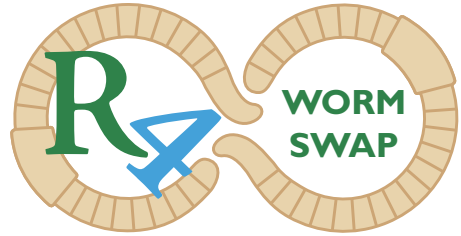
Orders can be placed online at <http://r4.concordia.ca> and will take 4 to 6 weeks to process.

As you "feed" your composter, the worm colony matures and grows in size. Those who return 250g of worms will receive \$10.

This project is made possible thanks to the support of RECYC- QUÉBEC.

R⁴ Compost Workshops

R⁴ offers free monthly indoor and outdoor composting workshops on both the Loyola and downtown campuses. To find out more information about workshop dates and locations please check out the calendar of 2008-2009 events or the R⁴ website. We can also offer workshops to various groups or associations at Concordia or in the greater Montreal region upon request. Reserve your place by contacting recycle@concordia.ca.



> Wormswap



> Compost workshop

Compost at Concordia University

Since 2005, R4 Compost has composted approximately 15 tons of organic waste in its two composting facilities at SGW and LOY. We currently collect fruits, vegetables, and coffee grounds from four locations across both campuses. Collection should expand greatly in 2008-2009 with the new Loyola composting facility.

R⁴ Compost runs a composting facility in on the rooftop greenhouse of the Hall building. The capacity of the SGW educational vermicomposting facility is evaluated at 5 tons/year. Volunteer help and input is essential for maintaining this educational facility.



> Compost harvesting

Since 2005, R⁴ Compost operated traditional outdoor composting units on the Loyola campus. This fall, R⁴ Compost will inaugurate a large-scale composting facility at Loyola. Organic waste will initially be collected from kitchens and will then expand to cafeterias on both campuses. We expect to compost 20 tons of organic waste initially and we will incrementally increase collection a capacity of 100 tons annually. This ambitious project is unique in Quebec universities and has received the support of Environmental, Health and Safety, Facilities Management, Éco-Action (Environment Canada), Forces Avenir, the Concordia Council on Student Life, and Concordia Students through the Sustainability Action Fund.



> New Loyola Composting Facility



GET INFORMED

Educational material

R⁴ has produced several reports, informational brochures and educational posters concerning double-sided printing, carrying your mug, waste reduction and management, recycling and composting at Concordia. These documents are available at r4.concordia.ca.

Workshops and class presentations

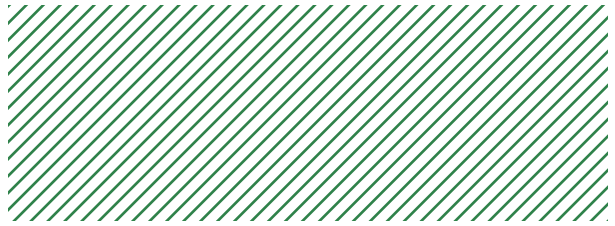
R⁴ also offers workshops and class presentations to introduce its different services and to promote environmental protection by Rethinking, Reducing, Reusing and Recycling. If you wish R⁴ to visit your class, association or department, please invite us by emailing recycle@alcor.concordia.ca.

RECYCLING AND GARBAGE PICK-UP PROBLEMS AND BIN REQUESTS

If a recycling bin is full or if you would like to obtain additional recycling bins please contact Facilities Management at 514-848-2424 ext. 2400.



Concordia greenhouse



The Hall building rooftop greenhouse is open and flourishing. This sunny, green space has been revitalized thanks to a partnership with the Geography, Planning, & Environment Department and Sustainable Concordia. The Greenhouse is a unique space on our urban campus that welcomes community collaboration on educational projects in urban ecology, scientific development, and social improvement.

Plant Rentals & Event Space

The Greenhouse also offers plants to rent as decorations at events on campus. Please inquire for pricing details or to make a reservation. The greenhouse is available to groups for events for \$50.

Open to the Public

The greenhouse is open to the public Monday through Thursday from 11am to 1pm. The space is available to anyone that would like to have a coffee and read a book, or learn more about the project. Plants are available for sale at this time.

FOCUS AREA: WATER

The city of Montreal is called the “Capital of Water Waste in North America” and loses up to 50% of treated water in pipeline leaks. Because water is provided for free, there is no financial incentive for businesses and institutions to track and regulate water use. At Concordia, new building construction and renovation project are outfitted with motion detector faucets and low-flow flushing toilets.

Project Space Available

Cubicles are also available to internal and external groups for sustainable research or educational projects. You can submit your project candidacy to the Greenhouse Committee if you are interested in using the available space.

Volunteer

The Concordia Greenhouse is always looking for volunteers. Every little task plays a huge part in making the facility run. Whether you want to learn more about plants or lend a hand with the expertise you already have, if you have an hour or two a week please contact us.



FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELL-BEING

What does Community, Health & Well-Being have to do with sustainable development? Well, in order to effectively execute sustainability initiatives, a strong and vibrant community is essential. For sustainable development initiatives to be successful, we must have a healthy, engaged community.

Community building on campus is important.

- Over 65 diverse student clubs and organizations which help to foster social capital on campus and in the broader Montreal community
- Initiatives like the Peace & Conflict Resolution Lecture Series and Uberculture's Cinema Politica promote dialogue and civic engagement.
- The Multi-faith Chaplaincy, whose usership has increased, is fostering inter-faith dialogue.

- Recreational use has increased by a remarkable 58% since 2003
- The People's Potato serves lunch to upwards of 500 people every day, Monday thru Friday from 12:30-2 (suggested donation of \$2) on the 7th floor of the Hall building
- Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, in addition to providing healthy, nutritious food is an important gathering and socializing space. Thursday evenings \$2 Annex Z.

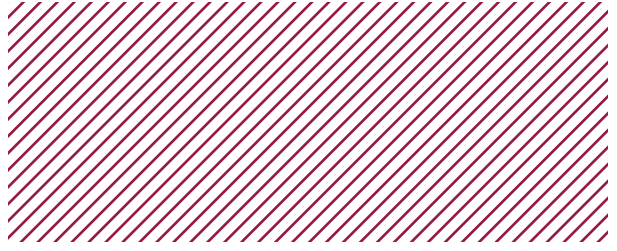
DO-IT-YOURSELF

- ✓ Get involved, attend local and campus events.
- ✓ Introduce yourself; get to know your community members.
- ✓ Promote equity, celebrate differences.
- ✓ Lobby the government for increased financial support for education





Sustainable Ambassadors



The Sustainable Ambassadors are a resource on sustainable initiatives and behaviour on campus. Ambassadors can audit individual offices or departments and recommend strategies and specific actions to help the department or individual reach their sustainability goals. Guides to switch to double sided printing, organizing sustainable events, or reducing energy consumption are provided for this purpose. The SA program also organizes workshops and luncheons where likeminded faculty and staff can connect with each other.

Office audits

We work with offices & departments who would like to improve their ecological impact. Someone from the Ambassador Program will come to your office and help you form a strategy to reduce energy consumption, paper use, and enhance common purchasing habits, among other things. Identifying goals and areas of improvement is the first step for implementing more sustainable measures in the workplace.

Lunchtime conversations

Public conversations are organized with members from the community working on improving sustainability in the workplace or their local community. This is a great chance to see what is being done outside of the Concordia community as well as networking with colleagues.

Orientation to sustainability services for new staff & faculty

In collaboration with Human Resources an orientation is offered for new staff and faculty. At this monthly event we present sustainability services on campus and how our efforts at Concordia improve the global commons.

Resources

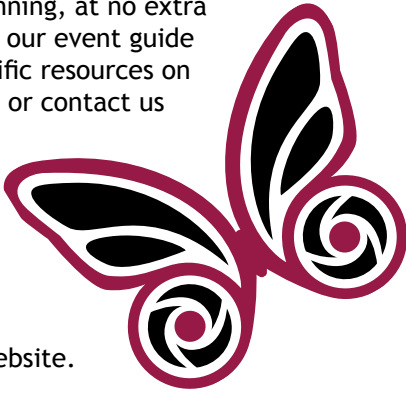
Ask us how you can set your photocopier to automatically do double-sided printing, run your computer on energy efficient settings, or where you can buy fair trade organic coffee at a good price! If you have a sustainability question we would be pleased to help, or we will find someone who can.



Photo credit: *Marie-Andrée Perron*

Making your events more sustainable!

An event can be more sustainable with just a little planning, at no extra cost. Check out our event guide of campus specific resources on the SC website, or contact us if you have any questions. A quick list of things to consider is offered on the Sustainable Ambassadors website.



<http://ambassadors.concordia.ca>



Photo Credit: *IITS Creative Media Services*

FOCUS AREA: PURCHASING & MATERIALS

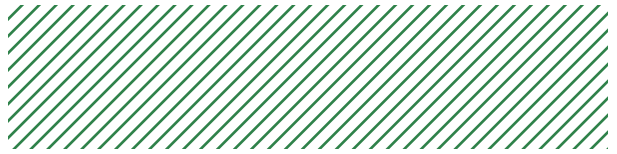
Purchasing choices affect every aspect of an organization, from the materials from which it is made to the type of paper and equipment used and the food options available on site. By representing the importance of responsible materials use and purchasing choices, Concordia, as a large institution, has the capacity to be an influential leader in the greater community. Though there is not yet a university-wide sustainable purchasing policy, many departments, and groups are taking it upon themselves to implement such practices.

Efforts to purchase responsibly on campus:

- Le Frigo Vert, Concordia's student funded natural food cooperative, has a responsible purchasing committee, this acts much like a policy.
- The Geography, Planning and Environment Department has drafted and unanimously passed the university's first sustainable purchasing policy. This policy includes mandatory double sided photocopying as well as the consideration of the social, economic and environmental implications of purchasing any product that the department will use.



SUSTAINABILITY ACTION FUND



As youth and global citizens, Concordia University undergraduate students are striving to ensure that our common future will be a prosperous one. The Sustainability Action Fund seeks to inspire necessary positive changes by funding sustainable initiatives on campus. We seek to better ecological and social systems by allocating resources to sustainable development at Concordia, with the recognition that our actions in Montreal resound globally.

The 1% Campaign was launched at the Less Talk More Action Conference held at the Palais des Congres in March 2007. At this event Dr. David Suzuki and Mr. Al Gore galvanized the crowd of over 2000 Concordia students to vote ‘yes’ on a referendum question for a 25-cent per-credit fee levy that would seek to transform Concordia as one of the most sustainable campuses in Canada. Students voted ‘yes’ and the Sustainability Action Fund was founded in September 2007.

The Sustainability Action Fund uses its funds to support sustainable infrastructure changes, offer seed money to student-driven projects, and drive campaigns that foster a culture of sustainability at Concordia.

Objectives:

- Advance sustainability initiatives on campus with the Special Projects Funding
- Empower campus members to engage in sustainable initiatives on campus and in their personal lives.
- Build a culture of sustainability on campus.

How the Special Projects Funding Works

All community members can apply to the Sustainability Action Fund. Projects that receive funding must directly benefit the Concordia campus community. Projects must be approved by the Sustainability Action Fund Board to receive funding; projects will be evaluated based on their probability of success, potential impact on the community, and support from students at public consultations.

FOCUS AREA: GOVERNANCE

The issue of governance at Concordia must include discussion of policies and organizational planning that affect more representative, accessible, and participatory governance structures. Part of sustainability in governance is the idea that environmental and socioeconomic sustainability issues rank near the top of a hierarchy of values in decision-making and policy formation.

An environmental policy was recently passed, and an Environmental Management System is being created to better manage occupational health & safety issues and our environmental impacts.

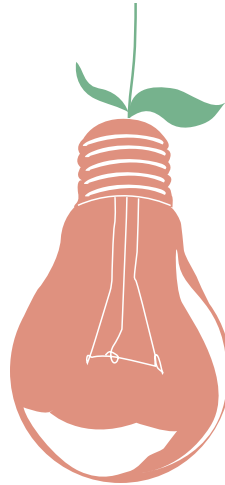
DO-IT-YOURSELF

- ✓ Involve yourself in decision-making processes.
- ✓ Get out and vote - then hold elected officials accountable.



Projects and initiatives sponsored last year:

- **Concordia Campus Sustainability Assessment**
The Sustainability Action Fund is a proud sponsor of Concordia's third campus sustainability assessment.
- **R4 Loyola Compost**
The fund will be supporting R4 Loyola Compost's goal to transform 100 tons of organic waste into 30 to 50 tons of rich fertilizer and soil conditioner to be used by the Grounds and Maintenance department for the grass and flowerbeds beautifying the university's campuses.
- **Right to Move**
Sustainability Action Fund's grant will be used towards hiring a coordinator to oversee the bike co-op and make it more accessible for the Concordia Community.
- **Sierra Youth Coalition of Quebec**
Proud sponsor and supporter of the Sustainable Campus Conference organized by Sierra Youth Coalition of Quebec.
- **People's Potato Garden Project**
Funds from the Sustainability Action Fund will help staff members implement the garden and a system of distribution of the vegetables produced which will be donated in part to the NDG food bank system and in part to students and community members who do not have access to good quality organic vegetables.
- **Concordia Greenhouse**
Sustainability Action Fund's grant will be used towards hiring a coordinator to oversee the Greenhouse and make it more accessible for the Concordia Community.



For a full list of projects sponsored by the fund please check out our website at <http://saf.concordia.ca>

SAF Graphics by: *Mariya Rayda, Melissa Reis & Valerie Bouvrette*

FOCUS AREA: ECONOMY - INCOME & INVESTMENTS

The ways a university generates revenue have dramatic effects. With the Canadian government not yet ready to take steps towards lowering the cost of a university education, Concordia must find adequate sources of income in order to cover operation expenses that do not decrease its accessibility to low-income students. Student fee-leivies support socially just and ecologically friendly organizations such as le Frigo Vert, the People's Potato and QPIRG. 343 students received emergency loans, and 349 students were hired through the work-study program.

DO-IT-YOURSELF

- ✓ Invest in socially responsible funds.
- ✓ Lobby the government for increased financial support for education.



Sustainable Business Conference

Conférence sur le Commerce Durable

The John Molson Sustainable Business Group organizes the Sustainable Business Conference [SBC]. This event is a unique initiative that brings together the school's community, other universities, and corporate leaders to discuss sustainable business practices. The SBC explores the strategies and practices that businesses are using to create a more sustainable future, as well as the obstacles that are preventing more businesses from adopting these models. The SBC exists to educate and inspire the business leaders of today and our students, the business leaders of tomorrow.

SBC contributes to the development of the skill sets of commerce students by familiarizing them with critical issues, and providing these students with the opportunity to network with business leaders effectively employing sustainable practices. SBC will take place on Friday, February 13, 2009.

<http://sbc.concordia.ca>

Photo Credit: [IITS Creative Media Services](#)

FOCUS AREA: RESEARCH & CURRICULUM

Universities have an important responsibility in society to develop the leadership, skills, and abilities necessary for people to make a positive difference in the world. In this direction, we hope to see more interdisciplinary, action-based research project's like Louise Henault Ethier's 24-tonne per year composting system in the Hall building's rooftop greenhouse - this project was part of her MA in Biology & Biochemistry. Louise introduced an interdisciplinary approach to her project involving engineering students as part of their capstone project.

The Summer Institute in Management and Community Development is an excellent example of a program that develops such leadership in community development and creating positive social change. The Summer Institute is one week in June that is devoted to workshops and lectures centered on capacity building. It could be of interest to anyone working or interested in community development.



E V E N T S



Blueprints for Change: Sustainability Festival Winter '09

The Blueprints for Change is an annual event to help educate the Concordia community and build a culture of sustainability on campus. This year Blueprints for Change will launch our third Concordia Campus Sustainability Assessment. The festival is a one-day event that brings groups and organizations from across Montreal, working in all realms of sustainability, to Concordia to engage the campus community. The day will consist of a community fair, workshops, and a variety of other events.

Blueprints for Change will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2009.

Check out the website to learn more or get involved in the planning process.

<http://bfc.concordia.ca>.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS** //////////////////////////////////////

SEPTEMBER			
Tuesday, September 9th, 2008	R4 Compost Loyola Facility Launch (by invitation only)	3:30pm	TBA
Tuesday, September 9th, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
Monday, September 15th, 2008	Composting Workshop	1pm to 1:30pm	LOY PS207
Friday, September 19th, 2008	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, September 19th, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, September 22nd, 2008	Car Free Day		
OCTOBER			
Thursday, October 9th, 2008	Compost Workshop	17:00-17:30	SGW BE367
Friday, October 10th, 2008	Sustainability Action Fund: Special Projects Due Date- All applications are due by 5pm to BE366		
Wednesday, October 15th, 2008	Sustainability Action Fund Special Projects: Public Consultations	TBA	
Friday, October 17th, 2008	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, October 17th, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
October 19th to 26th	Quebec Waste Reduction Week		
Thursday, October 22nd, 2008	Sustainable Concordia Eat & Greet	5 to 6pm	SGW BE364
Monday, October 19th, 2008	Visit of Loyola Outdoor Composting Facility (RSVP)	12 to 12:30pm	
NOVEMBER			
Wednesday, November 5, 2008	Sustainable Concordia Annual General Meeting	5:30 to 7:30pm	SGW BE364
Friday, November 7th, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	12 to 12:30pm	LOY PS207
Friday, November 14th, 2008	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, November 14th, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
DECEMBER			
Monday, December 1st, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	4 to 4:30pm	LOY PS207
Friday, December 12th, 2008	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, December 12th, 2008	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*



JANUARY			
Friday, January 9th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12 to 12:30pm	LOY PS207
Thursday, January 15, 2009	Sustainable Concordia Eat & Greet	5 to 6pm	SGW BE364
Friday, January 16th, 2009	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, January 16th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
Thursday, January 22nd, 2009	Blueprints for Change Sustainability Festival		
FEBRUARY			
Friday, February 6th, 2009	Sustainability Action Fund: Special Projects Due Date- All applications are due by 5pm to BE366		
Wednesday, February 11th, 2009	Sustainability Action Fund Special Projects: Public Consultations	TBA	
Friday, February 13th, 2009	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, February 13th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
Wednesday, February 18th, 2009	Sustainable Concordia Eat & Greet	5 to 6pm	SGW BE364
Thursday, February 19th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12 to 12:30pm	LOY PS207
MARCH			
Tuesday, March 10th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	1 to 1:30pm	LOY PS207
Friday, March 13th, 2009	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, March 13th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, March 20th, 2009	Sustainable Concordia Volunteer Appreciation Party	TBA	
APRIL			
Wednesday, April 8th, 2009	Composting Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	LOY PS207
Friday, April 10th, 2009	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, April 10th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
MAY			
Monday, May 4th, 2009	Compost Workshop	17:00-17:30	SGW BE367
Friday, May 8th, 2009	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, May 8th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*
JUNE			
Friday, June 12th, 2009	Worm Swap (order online at r4.concordia.ca 4-6 weeks in advance)	10am to 6pm	Greenhouse*
Friday, June 12th, 2009	Vermicompost Workshop	12pm to 12:30pm	Greenhouse*

* Go to the 12th floor of the Hall Building and follow the signs to the North West stairwell, then go up to the 13th floor.



GET INVOLVED

Think about what you do everyday and how it affects others and the world around you. Simple actions resound globally.

Educate yourself. Enroll in a course with sustainability content, take a workshop, and attend local events. There are many experts in our community to learn from.

Volunteer. Our projects rely on volunteer power to run. Fill out the volunteer form on the website and we will find a project to suit your interests.

Intern. Get hands on experience and get credit for it. Adapt your class assignment to develop a sustainability initiative on campus by coordinating with us.

Participate. Lend your expertise to our steering committee.





Printed on 100% post consumer fiber, Neutral pH, Chlorine Free paper using vegetable ink.
Please recycle!

Design: Chapeauvert Tel: 514.962.4716 www.chapeauvert.ca
Printed through: Touché Creative Studio Tel: 514.570.6424 www.touchestudio.com

