

"Our problem is not primarily that there's a stuck valve in the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico. That's a terrible problem. But the bigger problem is that there's a stuck economy based on fossil fuels that the president hasn't really done anything major yet to fix.... The problem is that the whole system is dirty from beginning to end." -Bill McKibben

"Washington needs a response that is as large as this spill is, to deal with our dependence on oil." -Wesley Warren, NRDC

Events

Th May 13 5:30 pizza, 6:00 business Interfaith Coalition on Earth Care Organizational Meeting Universalist Unitarian Church, 2033 Nashville Rd, BGKY "Everyone is welcome. RSVP will help to know the no. of pizzas, but come anyway!"

F May 14 All day High Performance Buildings Seminar Frankfort, KY Fee \$65 (see details below)

Sat. May 15, 12-5:00pm. "Forever Green" E-Waste Recycling. Free. Hot Rods Stadium Parking Lot, 300 E. 8th St., BG Sponsored by Girl Scouts KY (See partial list below)

Sat. May 15, 9-11:00am Invasive Weed Pull at Lost River Cave, Bowling Green Sponsored by Christ Episcopal Church Bring gloves, your own water bottles. No tools needed. The cave is drying out, and waiting for our help.

Sat. May 15, 10 am-noon High Performance Homes Seminar, Lexington, KY FREE (see details below)

T May 18 5:30-6:30 pm Come join us at BGGreen's Meet and Greet! ALIVE Center, 1818 31W Bypass (see details below)

M-T June 28-29 2010 Green Housing Summit Monday and Tuesday, The Commons Complex, University of Kentucky Lexington, KY [Registration](#): Details to come. Visit <http://kyhfh.org> for updates.

News

Local

Coalition on Earth Care Organizational Meeting (more information – see above)

Agenda items for the meeting include pizza at 5:30p, followed by Introductions from attending groups, creating a Steering Committee, "Show, Tell, and Learn Earth Ideas", suggest programs for 2010-2011, and form a committee to write a mission and vision for the group. Please come!

Forever Green E-Waste Recycling (more information – see above)

Partial list of items that will be accepted: inkjet & laser toner cartridges; cell phones; computers, keyboards, FAX machines, hard drives; printers, copiers, monitors; radios, DVD & VCR players; TVs (round-glass fronts req. \$5)

BGGreen's Meet and Greet!

Want to know more about BGGreen? Have some 'green' topics you'd like to learn more about? Then be sure to join us! We'll discuss BGGreen's values and vision, talk about upcoming projects (be sure to bring your ideas with you!), and share tips, stories and light refreshments from Greener Groundz.

WKU to hold Faculty Development Retreat on Sustainability Across the Curriculum

On June 8-9 WKU will hold a faculty development retreat on Sustainability Across the Curriculum. Forty faculty from all Colleges and two extended campuses will participate in this retreat and learn from experts and each other about concepts, pedagogies, innovative programs, and resources to help them incorporate sustainability into classes across the curriculum. External speakers will include national, international, and state experts, including the Executive Director of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, Dr. Paul Rowland, and the Founder and Director of Kentucky Resources Council, Tom Fitzgerald a.k.a. "Fitz". Faculty who attend are asked to bring back what is learned to create new or revised courses that infuse sustainability concepts and methods. The event will be co-hosted by WKU's Center for Environmental Education and Sustainability and Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility. Additional sponsors include the Dean's offices, Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching, Political Engagement Project, Sodexo/Facilities Management, Green Fund, TVA, and BGMU. Much thanks is extended to our sponsors.

State

Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program Has Begun

Starting April 22, 2010 (Earth Day), Kentucky residents who replace an existing appliance with an ENERGY STAR rated appliance can receive a pre-paid Visa card rebate. Rebates vary per appliance. For more information about this rebate program visit: <http://www.energy.ky.gov/recovery/rebate/>, <http://kyappliancerebates.com/>

Appalachian Streams Victory and Challenge

On April 1, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed water quality standards that will prohibit most valley fills associated with mountaintop removal and surface coal mining. This is a major victory for clean waterways and healthy communities across Kentucky. However, even with EPA's new ruling, several permits for coal mining sites where issues by the state. Kentucky Waterways Alliance is gearing up to force the state to use the new EPA limits to protect Appalachian communities. For more information or to support KWA in this work, go to <http://www.kwalliance.org/>.

Deadline to Register for KY High Performance Buildings Workshop

This workshop will be offered on Friday, May 14, 2010 at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, 200 Metro St., Frankfort, KY. Fee is \$65. Registration deadline is May 10. For details go to: <http://usgbkentucky.squarespace.com/webinars>

Award Winning "High Performance Homes Seminar"

If you are planning to build, remodel or weatherize a home in the near future, then this is your lucky month! The "High Performance Homes 101" seminar (HPH 101) will be offered for FREE at the Bluegrass Community & Technical College (BCTC) Cooper Drive Campus on May 15, 2010 from 10:00 AM to noon, in conjunction with the BCTC Peace & Global Citizenship Fair. HPH 101 is the flagship seminar of the 2009 National Silver Switch Award-Winning "High Performance Homes" series. Creator Bob Geswein with Harrison County IN REMC (electric utility) will present the seminar. The seminar is a 2-hour crash course in green building science for a lay audience. It covers the 5 major systems of a home or building, addressing: 1) Foundations, basements and crawl spaces; 2) Walls and air sealing, 3) Insulation; 4) Windows & doors; and 5) HVAC systems. You will leave with a basic understanding of your home as a system and how the simple concept of "hot air rising" is the key to a super energy-efficient home. New homes incorporating the seminar's principles routinely cost \$20-40 per month to heat and cool, and existing homes can reduce their costs considerably while improving their indoor air quality and comfort. When the seminar ends at noon, the Peace & Global Citizenship Fair will just be getting started. You may grab a lunch of fresh-cooked local foods, browse dozens of commercial and educational exhibitors, and enjoy plus art and music from 12-5 PM. For more information or to register, contact Ben Perry at (859) 523-4773 or ben@bluegrassgreenworks.org

National

"NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that the Mayor of Seattle and the Seattle City Council affirm the Charter for Compassion, declare Seattle a participant in the Ten Year Campaign for Compassionate Cities, and for the next ten years will establish April and October as compassionate action months..."

On Sat. April 24, 2010 the Mayor and City Council of Seattle signed a document making Seattle the first city in the U.S. to join the Campaign for Compassionate Cities in support of the Charter for Compassion. Karen Armstrong, scholar, author, and 2008 TED (Technology, Entertainment, and Design) prize-winner, was keynote speaker. Ms. Armstrong was granted \$100,000 to make a wish come true. She wished for an international "Charter for Compassion," recognizing the key role that compassion plays throughout the world's major religions. [Compassion Comes First](#)

Articles & Resources

[Why Future Prosperity Depends on More Socializing](#) by Bill McKibben

[EDF Oil Spill Main Page](#)

[Want to Prevent Oil Spill Disasters? Stop Driving](#)

[The BP Everyone Should Know](#)

BGGreen Partnership for a Sustainable Community is a diverse network of citizens working together to build a sustainable community in BG and the region. We support environmental stewardship, economic prosperity, social equity, and citizen empowerment through community collaboration and education.



Buy Green and help raise money for *BGGreen*. All items are eco-friendly and designed to save resources and money. Just visit www.LetsGoGreen.biz on the web, choose your items. At checkout, select *BGGreen Partnership* as your partner group and 25% of proceeds will be donated to *BGGreen*.

Visit often, even monthly, and thanks for your support!

To subscribe/unsubscribe to the *bggreen* listserv go to <http://lists.wku.edu/mailman/listinfo/bggreen>; for the *bggreen*-discussion listserv go to bbgreen.discuss-subscribe@lists.wku.edu.

Before printing, think about the environment - Be Green, Read On Screen