

Our vision is to build a city and region in which the growth of today fosters the economic, social, and environmental prosperity of tomorrow.

News

"We were impressed by the bamboo trusses (in the University of Illinois entry). For who knows how many years, we've used whatever wood worked well for studs; now we see there's a wood that's been around all the time that's strong, doesn't expand or shrink, and regrows quickly, so it's more sustainable."

—From Solar Decathlon

A new National Research Council report on the **Hidden Cost of Energy: Unpriced Consequences of Energy Production and Use**, states a \$62 billion annual U.S. externalized cost of coal-generated electricity. That works out to roughly \$200.00 per person in the US; however, coal produces only 48% of electricity, so it might actually be better viewed as \$400.00 per person per year. The cost is per person not per household. The pdf book can be downloaded from National Academies Press at <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/12794.html>.

T. Boone Pickens: The [September oil import numbers have been released](#) and the news is not good. According to the Energy Information Administration of the U.S. Department of Energy, we imported 357 million barrels of oil in September at a cost of \$25 billion. We imported 63 percent of the oil we used in September which is up three percentage points from August. Energy efficiency is one solution to reducing our foreign oil dependency. [October is Energy Awareness Month](#). We just launched a new tool on the Pickens Plan website where we can all share ideas for being more energy efficient - [click here to to share your story](#).

There are a number of excellent sustainability events happening around the state this weekend and soon so try to attend one or more if possible. Also, sustainability appears more and more regularly in the news, so be sure to look at the articles inserted below as well.

Events

F Oct. 23 Dr. Len Peters, Secretary of the KY Energy and Environment Cabinet, speaks on "Climate Change and Economic Development" (see below)

Sa Oct. 24 International Day of Climate Change. See [350.org](#) for more info. Louisville event begins @ 2:30p (see below)

Sa-Su Oct 24-25 Bluegrass GreenExpo, Heritage Hall at Lexington Center Workshops, Sustainability Street, renewable energy exhibits, kids' expo, art, music food (see below)

F-Sa Nov 6-7 Healthy Foods, Local Farms Conference www.healthyfoodsllocalfarmsconference.org/

Th Nov 12 Grand Opening Service One Credit Union LEED Building, details to come

Kentucky Division of the United Nations Assembly Celebrates U.N. Day

This year's celebration of U.N. Day will be a noon luncheon on October 23rd at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Frankfort. The keynote address, "Climate Change and Economic Development," will be given by Dr. Len Peters, Secretary of the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet. The cost is \$25 and an RSVP to 502-267-6883 is required. Contact Teena Halbig at the number given or teenahal@aol.com for more information.

Louisville 350 Coalition at Waterfront Park

The Louisville 350 Coalition is an affiliation of local environmental, peace, and social justice groups. They will hold a 350 event on the Great Lawn on Saturday, October 24 at 2:30 p.m. as part of a worldwide effort to bring public awareness to the consequences of global climate change (see www.350.org for worldwide event info; see louisville.sierraclub.org/350 for local info.) 350 parts per million is a safe level of carbon in the Earth's atmosphere. The current level is 387. At this rate of increase climate change may soon become irreversible. There will be music, speakers, exhibits, puppets, and an aerial flyover of people spelling out '350' to take a photo for the worldwide 350 event. Everyone is welcome!

6th Annual Bluegrass Green Expo

The 6th Annual Bluegrass GreenExpo will be held October 24-25, 2009 in Heritage Hall at Lexington Center. Hours are Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 12-6. It is FREE & Open to the Public. Explore over 40,000 square feet of attractions including a Trade Show, Workshops, Green Building Tours and The Kids Expo, plus Local Art, Entertainment and Food Sampling. New for 2009 are cooking demos by Great Local Chefs using Fresh Local Foods and Local Artists making and selling their work. Improved for 2009 is an expanded Sustainability Street

exhibition on West Main Street, and several new workshops including *Green Burials*, *Wind Energy* and more. Visit www.bluegrassgreenworks.org for more information.

Employment opportunity: The Leadership Louisville Center is seeking applications for **2010 Bingham Fellows**. The focus for this year's Fellows is "Positioning Louisville as a Green Leader." Fellows have the opportunity to effect social change through the exploration of quality of life from the perspective of greening and sustainability. To learn more click [here](#). The application deadline is November 30, 2009.

Articles

[Urban Growth Versus Global Warming](#) (October 22, 2009) -- Houses on stilts, small scale energy generation and recycling our dishwater are just some of the measures that are being proposed to prepare our cities for the effects of global warming. A new study outlines how major cities must respond if they are to continue to grow in the face of climate change. ... > [full story](#)

[Experts Worry as Population and Hunger Grow](#) By Neil MacFarquhar, *NY Times*, 10/22/09

The number of hungry people in the world rose to 1.02 billion this year, according to the United Nations, despite a 12-year concentrated effort to cut the number.

[Carbon Emissions Must Peak by 2015: UN Climate Scientist](#)

[Nudging Recycling From Less Waste to None](#) By Leslie Kaufman, *NY Times*, 10/20/09

An antigarbage strategy known as "zero waste" is moving from the fringes to the mainstream, taking hold in school cafeterias, national parks, restaurants and corporations.

[San Jose Green Vision Named Best Sustainable Development Program in US for a ...](#) SYS-CON Media ... to embrace clean tech innovation and sustainability." Competing in the category of Sustainable and Green Development by organizations serving areas with ...

[Sustainable Cities for Freedom and Environment \(2\)](#) Watching the Watchers.org (blog)

In August 1991, 130 cities have signed the Toronto Declaration on World Cities and Environment committed to develop **sustainable development** plans ...

[E.P.A. Vows Better Effort on Water](#) By Charles Duhigg *NY Times*, 9/16/09

The E.P.A. administrator said the agency was "falling short of this administration's expectations" for the effectiveness of clean water enforcement.

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 bggreen.discuss-subscribe@lists.wku.edu.

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