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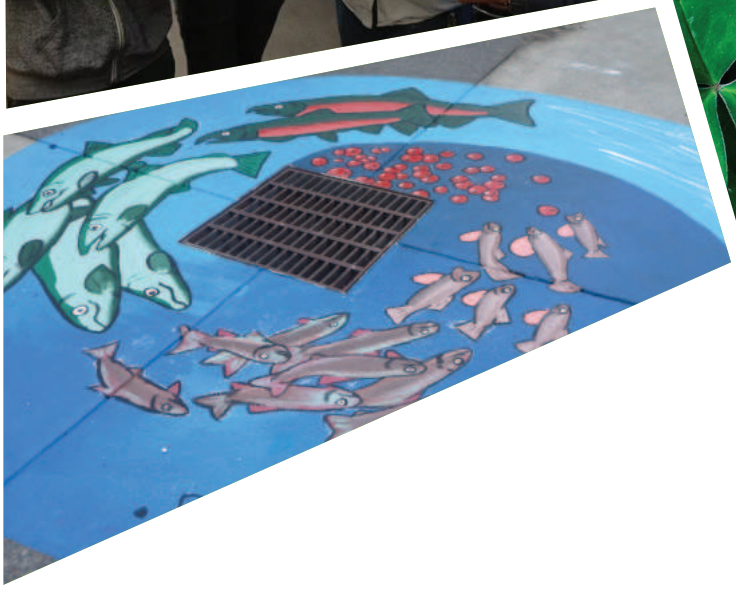
POWERSAVE CAMPUS
AN ALLIANCE TO SAVE ENERGY PROGRAM

THE GREEN INSIDER



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CAL POLY POMONA

CAMPUS CONSERVATION NATIONALS

BY ARPY KASPARIAN

We have just completed our second week of CCN!! What's CCN? CCN (Campus Conservation Nationals) is a national, three-week, energy and water savings competition that takes place in campus buildings every year. This year, our Residence Halls are competing for the title of CCN Champion. As our second week comes to a close, Montecito takes the lead in energy savings! It's still a tight race and it looks like defending champion, Encinitas, won't let first place go that easy! Who will be 2015's champion??

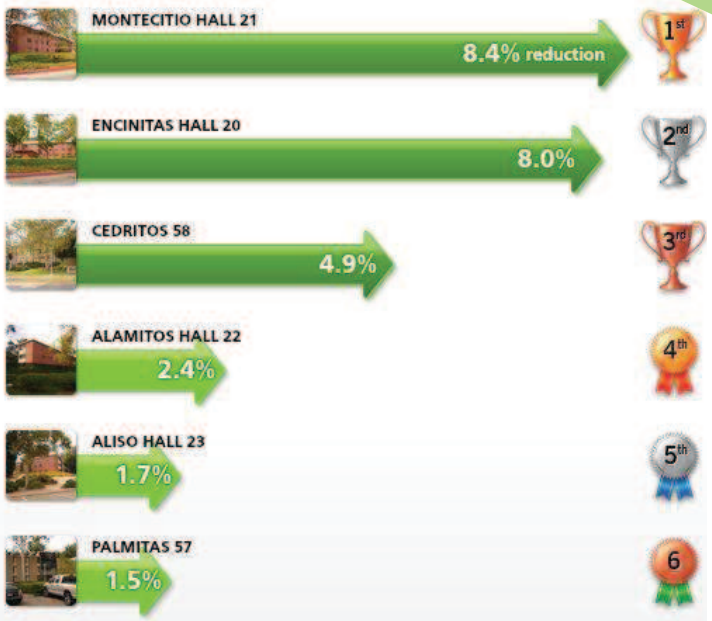
These savings would be impossible without the help of our Eco-Teams! Each building has formed a team to lead their building to victory. These relentless energy savers have come up with some creative ways to reduce electricity use.

Palmitas hosted a Glow-in-the-Dark Party where they turned off all their lights and enjoyed some awesome music and totally tubular colors! *(Photo on cover)*

Cedritos took their water-use out of the building. Over a dozen residents gathered up their laundry and headed out of their building to a Laundromat where they did over 30 loads of laundry and had a great time, too!

Wednesday nights are BLACKOUT nights! For two hours, all residents are encouraged to turn off all their lights. Some buildings take this opportunity to turn off all lobby and hallway lights, too!

All buildings combined have reduced energy use by 4.3%. That puts Cal Poly Pomona in 2nd place among all competing CSU campuses! The competition ends on March 8th...SAVE THAT WATER AND ENERGY!



METER READING TRAINING

BY BRANDON SAUER

PowerSave Campus interns are exposed to a large variety of skills across the energy conservation spectrum through their time in the program. One of the most crucial of these skills is utilized whenever actual savings are calculated for a project: reading energy meters. Though this may sound like a simple task at first, the analog meters can be quite tricky for even the experienced readers to interpret.

During the annual energy competitions organized by PowerSave Campus interns, the Cal Poly Pomona team is responsible for taking baseline and competition in the halls and suites on campus. This year, the team decided to open up these reading opportunities to students interested in the field in order to teach these valuable skills to students outside the program. The interns limited the reading training to only a few students to allow each person to get a hands-on experience with the meters. Students were taught how to read the meters, then asked to individually read each meter as the group traveled from building to building, comparing answers after everyone had gotten a chance to take a look. The result was just as the interns had expected! At first, each person in the group got different answers and most were incorrect, but by the end of the training, the whole group had the same, correct result! Between buildings, the interns also gave the students tidbits of information, such as different lighting techniques, pool heating tricks, and other energy efficiency tips. Last but not least, the students were able to watch in real time as the numbers read from the meters were input into a spreadsheet and instantly converted into consumptions and actual savings.

These trainings not only help to get students more involved in the competitions and energy consumption concepts, but also provide them with a resourceful and unique new skill to add to their repertoire in case they wish to pursue a career involving energy data.

Still think reading meters sounds easy? Take a stab at some of these readings, then email us at greencampus.cpp@gmail.com with your answers, and let us know if you are interested in joining us on a meter reading training in the future!

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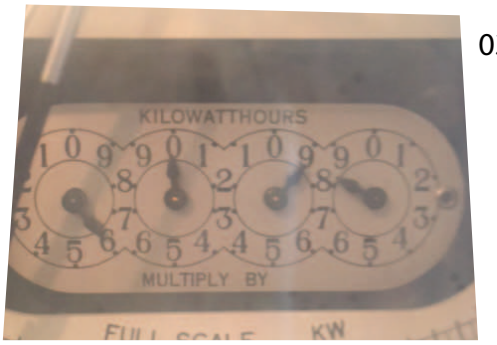

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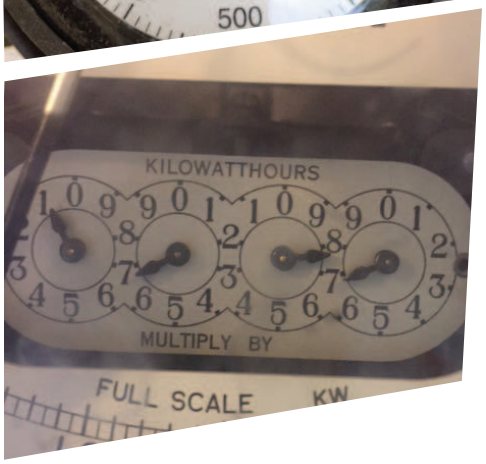

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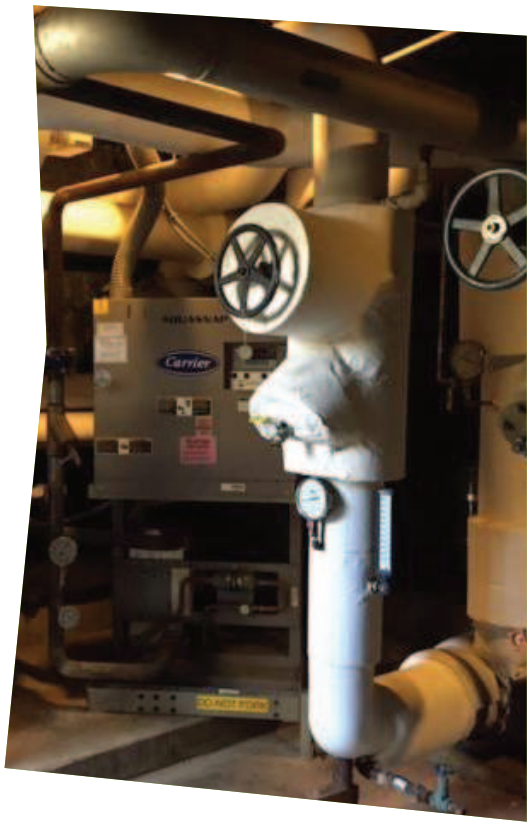


GREEN SPEED NETWORKING EVENT

BY LYNAE SALGADO

On February 25th, the team hosted the first ever, Green Speed Networking Event. In a structure similar to "speed dating," this event brought together students and professionals to talk about future careers in sustainability. The professionals that attended were: Ken Winters, Exective VP of reRubber; Ruby Rose Sanchez, Sustainability Consultant for Partner Energy; Anthony Bencomo, Executive Chef for Bon Appetit at Vanguard University; Chris Crompton, Manager for Water Management Compliance for Orange County; and Monika Kamboures, Sustainability Coordinator for Cal Poly Pomona.

All students were welcome to ask professionals about the expanding field, ways to improve their skills, and any other related questions. Some of the important advice shared was to first find your passion. Then find ways to expand your knowledge outside of the classroom; join clubs, attend workshops, get a certificate in the field, volunteer and most importantly NETWORK! Attend events that will help you get out there and meet both professionals in the field today and also potential professionals that you may be working with in the future. It is crucial to take action now in order to achieve your goals in the future. Establish your passion within your major, and if you haven't found it, try new things and meet new people! Network!

So you are interested in sustainability? Join Sustainability in Action, a club devoted to helping students get hands on experience in all areas of sustainability.

We are also searching for students to join our team! Find a detailed job description here, *http://powersavecampuscpp.weebly.com/we-are-hiring.html*

DO YOU KNOW WHERE RUNOFF GOES IN ORANGE COUNTY?

BY JOMEL BAUTISTA

Within any populated region you will be sure to see a storm drain system that was developed by the city. The primary purpose of the storm drains system to prevent flooding of inland areas by capturing the water and diverting it away from the populated area.

But where exactly does it go? Surprisingly, one of those places could be in your next cup of water. Because of this, it is important to be careful about what pollutants you let flow down those storm drains.

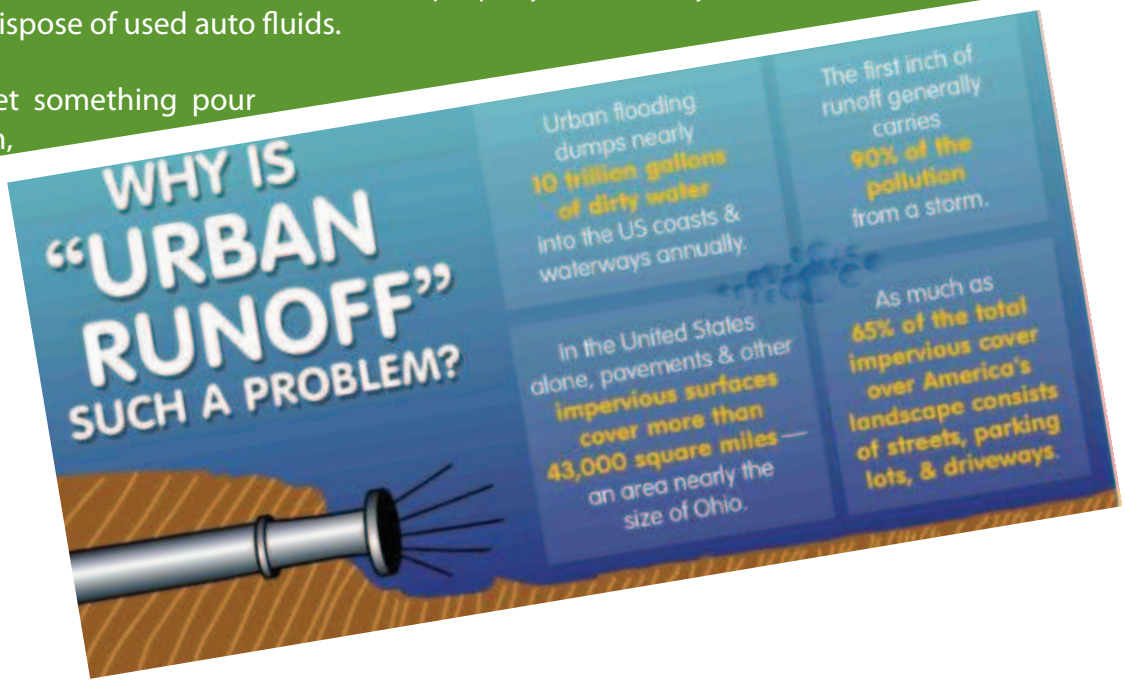
This type of water that goes down the storm drains is known as stormwater. Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over ground. Streets are designed with a degree of slope to prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the pavement. As the stormwater flows, it will pick up a collection of debris, chemicals, direct, and other pollutants that humans are directly responsible for. All of this stormwater is then directly treated and diverted back into waterbodies ranging from swimming pools to even the water we drink on a daily basis.

Due to this fact, residents need to be more cautious of what they dump into the streets.

Here are some common examples of solutions given by the United State Environmental Protection Agency:

- Residential: Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals. Do not pour them into the ground or drain.
- Lawn Care: Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens will wash off and pollute streams of stormwater. Do not overwater your lawn, consider alternative methods to the out of date sprinkler.
- Auto Care: Do not wash your car or degrease your auto parts at home. Do not dump automotive fluids into the storm drains. Use commercial car washes that properly treat or recycle their wastewater. Repair leaks and properly dispose of used auto fluids.

So, the next time you let something pour down a stormdrain,



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