

# ORU EcoSense

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall 2012

*“And God took the man, and caused him to rest in the garden of Eden,  
to **serve** it, and to **keep** it.”*

Genesis 2:15 (Young’s Literal Translation, updated)

*EcoSense is a newly established ORU newsletter reporting on the various environmental and sustainability activities on campus among staff, students, faculty, and administration. It is birthed out of the Biblical command in Genesis 2:15 (cited above) and the desire of the ORU Green Committee to communicate and connect with the larger ORU community. This committee was initiated by our former Environmental Science professor, Dr. Steve Herr, and is now directed by Mr. Tracy Jackson, Environmental Services Manager, Sodexo, at ORU.*

*All interested faculty, staff, students, and administrators are invited to attend the monthly meetings and participate in environmental activities on campus.*

## *A Visit from Dr. Fred Van Dyke...*



The author of the book *Between Heaven and Earth*, Dr. Fred Van Dyke, visited the ORU campus giving several lectures on Biblical environmental stewardship in biology and community development classes. Dr. Fred Van Dyke, former Chair of Biology at Wheaton University, is now director of the Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies (<http://ausable.org>). This Christian-based institute offers college courses for students from the CCCU colleges and universities across North America. Upon his visit, Van Dyke challenged the ORU community during his evening lecture for the local chapter of the American Scientific Affiliation on “The Trial: Making the Case of Human Responsibility and Mission in the Care of Creation.”

Students interested in taking Au Sable courses in ecology, environment studies, and sustainability should contact Dr. Hal Reed (x6945) or Dr. John Korstad (x6942) (Professors of Biology).

Dr. Hal Reed also attended the Au Sable Institute’s Academic Council meeting on September 30- October 1, 2012, held at the Institute’s headquarters in northern Michigan. Faculty from 15 CCCU colleges, were inspired by the presentations, shared information from their home colleges and discussed curriculum, recruiting, and budgets. The council decided to offer a new summer course on Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

## *Help save the planet ... ORU style!*

### **Where to Recycle**

---

#### **Batteries**

Take all types of batteries to Electronic Maintenance (LRC 137B) or to any battery container situated throughout the campus. Specific additional containers will soon be available. (Batteries can also be recycled at the center behind Wal-Mart.)

#### **Cardboard**

Cardboard intended for recycling can be left (flattened) beside any trash barrel in the LRC / GC for disposal. Large numbers (more than 4) should be removed to the GC tunnel in the appropriate canvas cart.



#### **Plastic Bottles and Cans**

ORU has joined with Greenopolis to collect PET plastic containers and aluminum cans. You may obtain an ID card from the Kiosk locations at the west side of 3 GC, AC, Fishbowl, or CRH east porch. Start collecting recycling points for rewards as a fundraiser individually or for your organization! More information is available at <http://greenopolis.com/> There are additional containers available on campus to leave your plastic bottles in, situated near vending machines throughout campus.

#### **Paper (non-confidential)**

**LRC/GC:** Housekeeping collects and removes all office paper from central hall containers to the GC tunnel. Paper from high use departments such as CPO or Business Center has theirs collected as well.

Call x6986 if you have a large volume and need containers brought to you.

**Dorms:** Abitibi has a large green bin outside by Lake Evelyn for non-confidential and newspapers. Visit <http://www.paperretriever.com/> to see contest competition information.

#### **Paper (confidential)**

For records or other forms of a confidential nature where any personal information has been disclosed, please refer disposal to secured bins on GC 1st floor near the East stairwell outside classroom 1-07 Ecology lab. If these bins are full, do not overstuff them as the information will not be secure. Instead call Jeanine in Purchasing (x7577), to arrange Shipping & Receiving to remove. Visit <http://www.shredit.com/Home.aspx> for preparation clarification.

#### **Toner cartridges**

Most printer ink cartridges can be recycled and brought to CPO or Electronic Maintenance (LRC 137B). Copier toner cartridges can be sent to Shipping and Receiving to be picked up by a participating vendor. (Cartridges can also be recycled at Office Depot.)

#### **Did you know...**

*Products recycled from campus include: cooking oil, motor oil, newspapers, copier and printer cartridges, batteries, cardboard, plastics, aluminum and other metals, wood pallets, fluorescent lights, electronics, appliances, abandoned clothing, used mattresses and other furniture, leftover paint and solvents.*

## *Where to Recycle (cont'd)*

### **The MET (Metropolitan Environmental Trust)**

All MET recycling centers accept various types of *glass, batteries, used motor oil, and antifreeze*. The closest one to Campus is across from the Mabee Center in the Wal-Mart Supercenter parking lot near the automotive entrance. The MET expects items to be separated into categories.

---

*The Green Campus Committee, though meeting informally for years, was chartered in the fall of 2008 to coordinate efforts to advance and encourage environmental sustainability on the Oral Roberts University campus. The current committee is comprised of representatives from administration, staff, faculty and students.*

ORU's Environmental Sustainability program is now housed in the Biology and Chemistry Department. Drs. Hal Reed, John Korstad, and Ken Weed will be leading this program and teaching the courses due to the retirement of Dr. Steve Herr, the former director of this major.

The spring course offerings will be Environmental Science lecture and lab (EVR 350), and Global Development and Sustainability (EVR 201H), being team taught by Dr. Korstad (Biology) and Dr. Jeff Lamp (Theology). Interested persons should contact these faculty members.

**Green Campus  
Committee  
meetings are  
normally held the  
third Thursday of  
the month.**

***Anyone is invited to  
attend.***

### ***ORU Environmental Stewardship Club (ESC)***

Formed in 1998, the ORU ESC has been active in campus and community events. The focus of this club is twofold: education and service. Two to three times a semester, local speakers are brought in to inform club members about sustainable activities going on in the community. On-campus and community service projects have been undertaken on a regular basis.

Every year the club has picked up litter around the banks of Lake Evelyn. For several years, club members participated in the Tulsa community creek cleanup event and in 2000, the event to cleanup Fred Creek was held on the ORU campus. For three years, club members made handmade paper from recycled exams and junk mail. This paper was sold as greeting cards and envelopes before Christmas and Valentine's Day. The proceeds were contributed to an environmental restoration project in Sri Lanka, and subsequent proceeds are being saved to contribute to a microinvestment project and to purchase trees to be planted on campus.

***If you are interested in writing an article or submitting information to be used in ORU EcoSense, contact Hal Reed (hreed@oru.edu) or John Korstad (jkorstad@oru.edu)***

***Check out our website at [recycle.oru.edu](http://recycle.oru.edu)***