



# Ohio Student Environmental Coalition

Update from Mattie 8.25.08

School is starting! I'm running around to schools again and getting back into the grind. The Energy Action Mega Camp in Minnesota was great, and the two new OSEC interns are neat.

*"Social ecologists believe that things like racism, sexism, and third world exploitation are a product of the same mechanisms that cause rainforest devastation" -[Murray Bookchin](#)*

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## -- OSEC UPDATES --

### THE 2ND ANNUAL OHIO AREA STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT (OASES2)

Young people from around Ohio and neighboring states will gather in Columbus September 12-14 for the second annual [Ohio Area Student Environmental Summit](#) (OASES2).

At OASES2, we will build the knowledge, connections, and power we need to create a clean, safe, and just future for all. The agenda includes skills like recruitment and media, networking, a sweet [Good Green Jobs](#) rally downtown, and campaign planning (including the popular [Power Vote](#) campaign). If you want to jumpstart meaningful and sustainable change on your campus and in your community, OASES2 is for you.

It's free, it's student-led, and it's gonna be great. Find out more and [Register Today!](#) (registration = free t-shirt!)

### 2 OSEC INTERNS HIRED!

**Glenn Collins** is a Junior at OSU from Puerto Rico, is President of Free the Planet! at OSU, and will be helping out with OASES2 and **convening a student OSEC Steering Committee** this fall. You can reach Glenn at collins (dot) 756 (at) gmail (dot) com or by phone at 787.207.7717.

**Janina Klimas** is a Sophomore at OU from Cleveland, is the National Coordinator for the OU Sierra Student Coalition, and will be focusing on **mobilizing groups in collaborative actions** like the Green Jobs Now Day of Action. You can reach Janina at ahh\_theskyisfalling (at) hotmail (dot) com or by phone at 216.315.0102.

**Kristen Arnold** is also volunteering full-time this fall to run the [Power Vote](#) campaign at OSU.

## -- ACTION --



[Green Jobs Now](#) is a National Day of Action that will empower everyday people to stage hundreds of grassroots events throughout the country. We will have a special focus on low-income communities, communities of color and indigenous people. This will send a message to our leaders that, when it comes to creating green jobs for a more sustainable economy, PEOPLE ARE READY!

## UNITING RELIGHTING EMPLOYING OHIO: A RALLY FOR GREEN JOBS, SEPT. 13

*September 13, 2008 --- 1:00-2:30 PM --- Columbus Statehouse*

Join Workers and Environmentalists as we unite to demand [Good Green Jobs](#) that help to reverse Climate Change, provide Ohioans with affordable clean energy, and trade policies that protect workers and the environment. OASES2 attendees will have the opportunity to attend and participate in this historic event.

### 8 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO STOP MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL

Learn more, community action, political action. Visit Ohio Citizen Action's new [Stop Mountaintop Removal campaign](#) page today for more info.

### TAKE A STAND AGAINST RAINFOREST DESTRUCTION

*From the Rainforest Action Network-* More than 2,000 RAN supporters across 46 U.S. states and five Canadian provinces went to their local supermarkets and stuck tens of thousands of "Warning! Product May Contain Rainforest Destruction" stickers on products that contain palm oil.



Now I need your help make sure that the companies that use palm oil in food and household products get the message. [Together, we can send more than 1 million letters to these companies today!](#)

## -- POLITICS --

### CONGRESS FUNDS THE SUSTAINABILITY MOVEMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Congress passed all provisions of the Higher Education Sustainability Act (HESA) as part of the new Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HR 4137). HR 4137, expected to be signed into law shortly by President Bush, creates a pioneering "University Sustainability Grants Program" at the Department of Education. It will offer competitive grants to institutions and associations of higher education to develop, implement and evaluate sustainability curricula, practices, and academic programs. *For more info, visit <http://www.FundEE.org>*

## -- NEWS --

### "CLEAN COAL" GRANTS FOR FOUR OHIO UNIVERSITIES

The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA), at its July meeting, approved \$1,900,473 in Ohio Coal Development Office (OCDO) funding for 10 clean-coal research projects at four Ohio universities. Each two-year grant was funded for the 2008-2009 academic years. The total approved this year includes \$301,363 for Ohio University to administer the program over the two years. The four universities include The Ohio State University, University of Akron, Case Western Reserve University, and University of Cincinnati.

*Continue reading [Clean Coal Grants for Universities](#)*

### FIRST SOLAR 'OUTSOURCES' NEW FACILITY TO TOLEDO

First Solar issued a press release on Monday announcing a major expansion of its manufacturing facility in Toledo, Ohio. At a time when we are used to hearing about companies shuttering their US manufacturing in favor of low cost overseas factories, First Solar is doing the opposite.

Ohio's Governor, Ted Strickland, was quoted in the press release as saying, "The state of Ohio is proud to support industry leaders like First Solar who are using renewable energy to power the future." US Senators Voinovich and Brown echoed similar sentiments, saying "Solar energy reduces greenhouse gas emissions and strengthens our national and energy security. *Continue reading [First Solar](#)*

### GREEN, GREENER, GREENEST: Princeton Review Adds Rating Category on Sustainability

Green is good for the planet, but also for a college's image. In a Princeton Review survey this year of 10,300 college applicants, 63% said a college's commitment to the environment could affect their decision to go there.

"I don't think we've seen activism this strong since apartheid," says Cheryl Miller, vice president of Sightlines, a data company that helps campuses compare their operations, including environmental practices.

*Continue reading [Green, Greener, Greenest](#)*

## **BAARD COAL-TO-OIL PLANT CLEARS PERMIT HURDLE**

WELLSVILLE - Beard Energy is one step closer to obtaining final approval from regulators to begin construction of a \$5 billion proposed coal-to-liquid fuel conversion plant.

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency on Friday announced it had issued a wastewater discharge permit for Beard's Ohio River Clean Fuels project, the second of the three major state permits the company needs to obtain. Last month, the OEPA issued the water quality/wetlands permit for the project, leaving only the air emissions permit remaining, and the required public hearing on the air permit is scheduled for Sept. 10 at Wellsville High School. *Continue reading [Coal-to-Oil Plant](#)*

## **OHIO: HOW MANY LIGHT BULBS DOES IT TAKE?**

**Diocese aims to reduce 'carbon footprint' by replacing incandescent bulbs with CFLs**

Sixty of 95 congregations have exchanged their incandescent light bulbs for compact fluorescents (CFLs) so far this summer in the [Diocese of Ohio](#)'s "How Many Light Bulbs Does it Take to Change an Episcopalian?" campaign to reduce its carbon footprint.

"That's 5,431 bulbs," reports intern Andy Barnett. He estimates that when the bulb exchange is completed it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 3,640,000 pounds and mercury emissions by more than 41,000 milligrams over the next nine years. It will also bring savings of more than \$298,700. *Continue reading [Light Bulbs](#)*

## **- - OPPORTUNITIES - -**



**THE TREK TO RE-ENERGIZE AMERICA**

**What?**  
A bike trip to Washington D.C. to demand **real action on climate change**. Riders will depart for D.C. from all across the country, leaving from their home states and sweeping up media attention and grassroots support as they go.

<b>When?</b> Summer 2009. The convergence on D.C. will take place in late July/early August.	<b>Why?</b> We're running out of time. We need strong, immediate action from the new administration.	<b>How?</b> With your help. We need lots of riders from as many states as we can get.
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**visit [www.trektorenergize.org](http://www.trektorenergize.org) to find out more and start getting connected!**

## **6 ENERGY ACTION COALITION INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE**

LOCATION: San Francisco, CA or Washington, DC

DURATION: 3 months, with the opportunity to extend

COMPENSATION: Stipend available for those demonstrating need, efforts will also be made for students to receive college credit for their assistance.

**[1\) Green Jobs, 2\) Media, 3\) Power Shift 09, 4\) Power Vote, 5\) Diverse Materials, 6\) Anti-Oppression](#)**

Energy Action Coalition is looking for undergraduate and graduate students to play a pivotal roles in supporting the largest largest grassroots movement to stop global warming! The Fellowship Program brings together shining stars in the youth climate movement to gain hands-on practical experience in their field of interest while advancing EAC's effort tocreate change for a clean, efficient, just and renewable energy future.

**-- RESOURCES --**



[Follow the Coal Money](#) is an interactive tool that tracks the flow and influence of coal money in US politics, throughout all political parties. Click on one of the search tools on the right to find out which companies are heaping their dirty coal money into politics, and which lawmakers are receiving it. As Congress debates how to address two of coal's biggest problems – mountaintop removal and global warming -- you can find out how polluters are influencing lawmakers with their dirty coal money.

**CAMPUS CLIMATE ACTION PLANS**

This resource is a list of [existing climate action plans for campuses](#). The list is organized into two sections: first, climate action plans; second, publications useful to preparing a climate action plan.

**ClimateEdu : NEWS FOR THE GREEN CAMPUS**

From the National Wildlife Federation, [a newsletter](#) providing news, in-depth case studies, research updates, reviews, reports, tools, and announcements for on-campus environmental efforts. The goal is to support colleges and universities in their work of protecting wildlife (and our own human habitat) from the effects of environmental degradation and climate change.

**FUTURE 5000: CONNECTING THE YOUTH MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE**

Future 5000 reflects the best of youth organizing and movement building. With an active directory of over 600 youth organizations, Future 5000 creates a unique and dynamic webspace for organizers to share resources, build campaigns, and develop partnerships. [Log on. Build power.](#)

**FARM TO COLLEGE MATERIALS**

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Title	Description
<a href="#">Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is</a>	You care about where your clothing comes from — what about your food? A fact sheet on economic justice.
<a href="#">Community Consumption</a>	Is what you eat eating away at your community? Fact sheet on sprawl and community issues.
<a href="#">Food for Thought</a>	What if your university could decrease environmental degradation just by giving you fresher, better-tasting cafeteria food?
<a href="#">Hungry for Justice?</a>	Aleviating world hunger and poverty begins in your school's dining hall. A fact sheet on the food system and social justice.
<a href="#">Mystery Meat</a>	Why should you have to worry about what's in your food? A fact sheet on consumer health and local foods.