

STEAM

The monthly newsletter of the Green Lake Area Sustainability Team

For August, 2012

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TOP STORIES / RECOMMENDED SITES

[WDNews Green - August 27, 2012 to September 4, 2012.](#) Coverage of local and national eco news for commercial, home, transportation, and community development. We search for environmental news that makes economic sense for Wisconsin.

[Earth's water resources.](#) USGS.

[Abundance on Trial: The Cultural Significance of "Sustainability."](#) By Joshua Yates. Hedgehog Review, Summer 2012.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Local Sustainability Matching Fund.](#) The Funders' Network provides matching investments from national foundations to build partnerships between sustainability directors and local place-based foundations. Funds are to be used to advance discrete sustainability initiatives that demonstrate broad-based community support and engagement. Awards will range from \$25,000 to \$75,000, with a 1:1 match required. Application Deadline—October 1, 2012.

[Calendar of 2012 EPA grant opportunities](#)

[EPA / Government Grants](#)

www.Grants.gov

Whole Kids foundation's next School Garden Grant window opens October 1, 2012 @ <http://wholekidsfoundation.org/gardengrants.php>

Let's Move Salad Bars to Schools Grant Announcement: Your district will be able to apply again starting Monday, September 9, 2012 @ <http://saladbars2schools.org/>

EDUCATION/ HOW TO / TRAINING

["Five UW campuses to collaborate on new master's degree in sustainable management,"](#) Blog, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Aug. 24.

[Sustainable Community Case Study Database.](#) This online resource provides access to research and reports on communities that are working with HUD, DOT, EPA, and other Federal agencies to invest in transportation, affordable housing, and environmental protection.

The Federal Government's Partnership for Sustainable Communities has published a guide, [Federal Resources for Rural Communities.](#)

BUSINESS and EMPLOYMENT

[Reliable power is part of Wisconsin's appeal to attracting, growing companies](#) The lights went out last Tuesday in India. From its eastern border with Myanmar to its western frontier with Pakistan, the electrical system failure spread across 2,000 miles and left 670 million people - nearly 10 percent of the world's population - without power.

[The top 3 myths about going sustainable.](#) By Kristen Joiner. If you read last month's post about why sustainability is smart business,...

BUILDING

["UW Oshkosh makes the Green Honor Roll,"](#) WLUK-TV, Aug. 21. The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh has made the honor roll, Princeton Review's "Green Honor Roll." UW Oshkosh is

one of 21 schools on the list. The University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point is only other college or university in the state to make the "Green Honor Roll"...

[New Energy-Efficient Community Near Tacoma.](#) A \$6.2 million, 30-unit sustainable community has broken ground in western Washington.

[Land Writes: Engineered Resilience.](#) Rives Taylor pens an editorial for Urban Land advocating for "engineered resilience", which he describes as "next-generation sustainability" that "adds adaptability and the protection of human life" to planning for the well-being of the planet.

ENERGY

[The secret to solar power.](#) New York Times Magazine.

[Solar Powering Your Community - October 11th, Madison, WI.](#)

[Wind Technologies Market Report.](#) A new DOE report shows wind energy contributed 32% of all new U.S. electric capacity additions last year, representing \$14 billion in new investment.

[SREC Solar Financing Options.](#)

["Univ. of Wisconsin is cranking up the power,"](#) EE Times, Aug. 24. Power engineering is hot. The engineering faculty at the University of Wisconsin knows it and is taking full advantage...

ENVIRONMENT

[International: Restoring Mangroves May Prove Cheap Way to Cool Climate,](#) Scientific American, 31 July 2012. Found along the edges of much of the world's tropical coastlines, mangroves are absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere at an impressive rate. Protecting them, a recent study says, could yield climate benefits, biodiversity conservation and protection for local economies for a nominal cost -- between \$4 and \$10 per ton of CO₂.

["Ice Age melt offers future climate clues,"](#) Voice of America, Aug. 29. In two new studies published this week in Nature Geoscience, researchers describe how ice sheets behaved in the past could help scientists better predict what might happen to them in a warmer world of our future.

[Arctic sea ice just hit a record low-here's why it matters.](#) Washington Post.

[Global warming: Diseased trees may be major methane source.](#)

[NASA Study Links Extreme Summer Heat to Climate Change.](#) PBS News Hour.

[Society Can No Longer Afford to Ignore Climate Change.](#) East Bay Express.

[Study Finds More of Earth Is Hotter and Says Global Warming Is at Work.](#) New York Times.

"[Michigan, Wisconsin get \\$2.6M for water quality](#)," Associated Press, Aug. 29. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says more than \$2.6 million in grants are being awarded to help improve water quality at Great Lakes beaches in Michigan and Wisconsin.

FOOD

[The 6 hottest ways to alleviate food vs fuel.](#) Biofuels Digest.

The Community-Building Power of Communal Gardens. A growing body of research shows that [urban farms reduce violence](#).

[Newark Turns to Urban Farms.](#) Newark, New Jersey, is turning to urban farming as a tool to reclaim vacant land and provide jobs, according to a recent article in The Wall Street Journal. Newark has allocated at least \$700,000 in federal grants to urban agriculture projects since 2010.

RECYCLING

[First-in-nation disposal mandate targets pharmaceutical companies.](#) Alameda County, Calif. is holding pharmaceutical companies responsible for disposing of their products to keep them out of waterways and the wrong hands.

"[New compost building constructed at Northland College](#)," Superior Telegram, Aug. 15. The facility will be a focal piece of the college's commitment to sustainable operations by reducing waste on campus and using compost to grow food consumed in the campus cafeteria...

SUSTAINABILITY

[Milwaukee's 'Green Team' looks for input.](#) WUM Public Radio.

[Houston Sustainability Activities in the Spotlight.](#) A recent article in The Economist described Houston's efforts to create a more sustainable city. Featured activities include Houston's overhauled energy codes for buildings, an expanding light rail system, a new bike-sharing program, and LED bulbs in most traffic lights.

TRANSPORTATION

[Walker saves Wisconsin's recreational trails program.](#) Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin.

[U.S. announces tough new 54.5-mpg CAFE standard for vehicle fuel economy.](#) Detroit Free Press.