

# ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY GREEN INITIATIVES NEWSLETTER

Going green doesn't just save the outside world; it also can save the hard-earned money in your bank account. This week, we dispense advice about one of the more self-interested aspects of being green: keeping your cash.

## **Tip: Save Leftovers**

Dining out can become an expensive proposition. To get your money's worth, and since portions come so large nowadays, eat only half of what you're served, then take the leftovers home in a reusable container that you had the foresight to bring along. Voila! A "free," restaurant-made meal for later. Wasted food comprises 12 percent of the U.S. waste stream (30 million tons per year!), 98 percent of which lands in landfills where it stinks up the atmosphere with methane, one of the most potent greenhouse gases.

## **SOUP CONTAINERS NEEDED!**

Your recycling efforts are solicited by the Sisters at St. Joseph's Villa, who will be selling homemade soup, along with delicious baked goods, at their annual Craft Fair on **November 18**. This is the first year that they are offering soup for sale, and so they are in need of clean, intact plastic pint and quart-size containers with lids (the kind you might get potato salad in at the deli). All faculty and staff and Alvernia friends are encouraged to begin saving these containers at home, and may bring them in to Debbie Greenawald (Nursing Resource Center, #103) for delivery or take them directly to the Villa. If you drop them at the Villa, please place them in a bag labeled "For Maggie Delp" and they will get to the right person. Let's strengthen the bridge between the main Alvernia campus and "our Sisters" at the Villa, who join us in recycling and other GREEN efforts, by stocking them with soup containers for their annual Holiday event! For further information or questions, contact Debbie at Ext. 8462.

## **THE ST. FRANCIS PLEDGE**

I/We Pledge to:

**PRAY** and reflect on the duty to care for God's Creation and protect the poor and vulnerable.

**LEARN** about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change.

**ASSESS** how we--as individuals and in our families, parishes and other affiliations--contribute to climate change by our own energy use, consumption, waste, etc.

**ACT** to change our choices and behaviors to reduce the ways we contribute to climate change.

**ADVOCATE** for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussions and decisions, especially as they impact those who are poor and vulnerable.

Go to <http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/the-st-francis-pledge/> to register your St. Francis Pledge.



**The impact of climate change falls heaviest on the world's poor. As Catholics, our faith demands prudent action.**

Our cars and power plants, more energy consumption and waste—we're leaving a bigger carbon footprint. Scientists tell us that means more climate change. Here and around the world, it is the poor who will be hit hardest. With more droughts, floods, hunger and joblessness.

As faithful Catholics, we have a moral obligation to care for both Creation and the poor. Pope Benedict XVI insists, "Before it is too late, it is necessary to make courageous decisions" to curb climate change.

Join Catholics taking action in our families, parishes, schools and communities to reduce our carbon footprint, care for "*the least of these*" (Mt 25) and raise our voice on behalf of Creation and the poor.



**ecofont**

Kristine Keener is president of the environmental club Alvernia and has reported that there is a new font at Alvernia in use in the Franco Library. they have a font called Spranq\_eco\_sans. This is a font that is not only better for the environment but saves toner and ink for printers. The font has tiny holes in each letter. This is great for printing out research or random information. Here is the link [http://www.ecofont.com/look\\_at\\_ecofont\\_en.html](http://www.ecofont.com/look_at_ecofont_en.html).



***INFORMATIONAL WEB SITES***

***Straight From The Garden***

<http://www.StraightFromTheGarden.com>

***Pennsylvania Buy Fresh Buy Local***

<http://www.buylocalpa.org/splash.html>

***Pennsylvania Environmental Council***

<http://www.pecpa.org/>

Do you have News or Suggestions?

Contact Judy Bohler at Ext. 5509

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REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE