

Library Environmental Committee meeting notes, 11-26-13

Chair - Elida Marti Notes – Kriss Ostrom

1. Update on MSU Plastic Recycling – Kriss told us what she had heard from Lauren Olson (MSU Surplus/Recycling) at an Environmental Forum, that the market for plastics to be recycled has shrunk. It is more important than ever to avoid contamination by rinsing food residue from plastics before recycling. Purchasers of plastics (mostly in China) are sending back entire containers of plastics if they find any food contamination.
2. LEC environmental events for Spring 2014 – We have at least two Beal Garden tours, although dates have not yet been confirmed. Alex Brian will present on the Food Field Detroit Urban Farm in February and Michigan Food and Farming Systems will present in March. We are set with publicity to meet Holly's PR deadline. We will do the Earth Day Recycling game again on April 22.
3. LEC members will contact the "Task Force on Environmental Impact" for more collaboration.
4. Earth Day exhibit case (across from the New Book shelves), LEC display from April 2014-July 2014 – We brainstormed ideas and are optimistic that Eric might have the gem of a focus for this year. We will talk again in January.
5. Library bike – Kriss will touch base with Mike on details of the draft procedures
6. MSU "Green certification" for the MSU Libraries – MSUL have been certified for both Offices and Technology from the beginning of the program, but certification needs to be renewed every other year. The application deadline is April 4, 2014, so we will talk about this in January when Heidi is back. Heidi has been the point person for certification in previous years. (NOTE: The CyberCafe has also been green certified for food service. See their certificate to the left of the door to the back room the next time you visit.)
7. EcoGram – Aaron did an early EcoGram on "campus Sustainability week," so we decided not to do another one this month.