



Friday, June 19th, 2009

www.charlestonegreen.us

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The Green Connection

No meetings this week

Mayors and Climate Protection Best Practices

The United States Conference of Mayors has compiled a document which contains the climate action plans of several large and small cities across the nation. These cities have been ranked based on the strengths and efforts of their climate action plans, putting Denver, CO in first place for large cities, and Wilkes-Barre, PA in first place for small cities. We are proud to announce that Charleston has made the charts for "Best Practice Models: Large City". Here's what they had to say:

"Since Charleston's Mayor, Joseph R. Riley, Jr., became one of the first mayors to sign The U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, the City has moved aggressively toward achieving reduction goals, especially by implementing a comprehensive building energy and water efficiency plan. Perhaps the most significant part of their efforts involve engaging and training a diverse workforce to provide "green collar" jobs that will lead the City into a sustainable future"

Click on the link below to read about many city's highly acclaimed climate action plans.

<http://usmayors.org/pressreleases/uploads/ClimateBestPractices061209.pdf>



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

Atlantic Green Conference Today and Tomorrow

You don't want to miss out on this two-day jammed-packed conference on green building and sustainable development! Sixteen workshops presented by leading experts in the industry including green roof systems, neighborhood planning, solar energy, historic structures, LEED, Home Energy Rating Systems, financing and more! The conference also includes two green development tours, a green expo and notable keynote speakers, Michael Chandler and Bill Reed.

June 19th- 20th



and Bill Reed.

June 19th- 20th

The Navy Yard at Noisette, North Charleston

For more information and to purchase tickets

now, visit: www.sustainabilityinstitutesc.org/atlanticgreen.shtml



White House Release of Important Climate Study



Last Tuesday the United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) released several key findings on the impacts that climate change could have, and is having, on the United States. Their report “Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States”, can be viewed, along with videos and press releases, at the link below. Their key findings are backed by detailed reports based on sector (water, energy, agriculture, etc.), and regions of the U.S.

<http://globalchange.gov/publications/reports/scientific-assessments/us-impacts/newsroom>

San Francisco Passes a Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has passed an ordinance requiring all residents and business owners to sign up for recycling and composting services.

"San Francisco has the best recycling and composting programs in the nation, and we've already attained an impressive, and first in the nation, 72 percent recycling rate because of them. I am pleased with the leadership the Board of Supervisors has demonstrated on this important legislation. By collaborating with all of our stakeholders, businesses, colleagues, and citizens, we can build on our success and continue to lead the nation in recycling," said Mayor Gavin Newsom in a press release.



This strong initiative is encouraging to all of us, and hopefully San Francisco's leadership in setting the bar will be followed by Charleston and cities around the U.S. To read more on the subject, please click [here](#).

Piccolo Spoleto Finale Recycling Report



The Waste Management and Recycling subcommittee coordinated a volunteer recycling initiative at the recent Piccolo Spoleto Finale in Hampton Park on June 6. A team of 14 volunteers helped encourage finale attendees to recycle glass and plastic bottles and aluminum



Hampton Park on June 6. A team of 14 volunteers helped encourage finale attendees to recycle glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Nearly 200 pounds of recyclable materials were diverted from the waste stream as a result of this effort. The volunteers not only monitored the recycling bins (placed alongside trash cans) and hauled the recyclables to a nearby drop site, but they further diminished the waste stream by pulling recyclable materials out of the waste bins. Their efforts were supported by the City's Office of Cultural Affairs (which organizes the Finale) as well as Charleston County's Office

of Environmental Management and Recycling, which provided the bins, bags, gloves, grabbers and some advance publicity. This is the second year that the subcommittee has conducted this initiative at the finale. The organizers of this initiative hope that their efforts will not only increase awareness about the importance of recycling in the Charleston region, but also provide a blueprint for similar initiatives at other events conducted by the City of Charleston, and that this practice will eventually extend to all events in the area.

