



In this Issue:

- Green Business Challenge Update
- Europe's New Wind Power Rivals New Gas
- A Call To Triple US Spending on Energy Research
- SC Public Railways Commended for Greening Efforts
- Green Tip of the Week

Education Subcommittee Meeting

June 30th @ 8:00am

Planning Library

3rd Floor

75 Calhoun St.

([CARTA Route 201](#) or [210](#))

Save the Date

Next Green Committee Meeting is July 13th

Charleston's Green Business Challenge Update

Sustainable Solutions for Your Business and Our Community



Local businesses share their 'Green' expertise. On Tuesday, June 8th, over 80 business representatives showed up for an information smorgasbord for the Green Business Challenge (GBC). The challenge kicks off on August 6th.

A panel of local organizations shared their expertise and motivations for going green and participating in the GBC:

-Christine Osborne of **Wonder Works** described how we are in "a new decade with new strategies." She also spoke of the importance of the GBC in helping to teach businesses to monitor their energy and waste.

-Haywood Robinson of **Holiday Inn Express Mt. Pleasant** talked about looking forward to developing a green team to work through the [GBC Scorecard](#) and developing even better incentives while encouraging volunteering.

-Meredith Kidd of **Charleston County Aviation Authority** said the airport has reduced its waste by 20 tons in its first 9 months by implementing recycling and has made a name for itself as a "green" airport.

-Nick Bergelt of **WOK** shared his goal of being a zero-impact restaurant. WOK already utilizes 70% less energy than the average restaurant and has diverted 15,000lbs of waste, translating into significant cost savings for the restaurant and a lighter carbon footprint. His practices have also helped meet the growing consumer demand in Charleston for 'greener' restaurant alternatives.

Interested businesses should contact Eric Bergman at 720 1980 or email planintern@ci.charleston.sc.us. The Scorecard can be found at: http://www.sustainabilityinstitutesc.org/downloadables/GBC_Scorecard.xls

Europe 's New Wind Power Rivals New Gas



According to a *New York Times* report, the amount of new wind power generated in the European Union this year will be about the same as the amount of energy from new gas plants. Christian Kjaer, CEO of the European Wind Energy Association, believes that new wind energy plant installations this year will trump all other types of plants for the third straight year. Even last year, there were 10 gigawatts of new wind capacity installed in the EU, compared with 7 gigawatts for new gas. Germany is expected to be the leader in installations of wind plants this year, followed by Great Britain.

With the increasing development and utilization of wind energy, Clemson's decision to build their wind turbine drive train testing facility in Charleston is perfectly timed. It should encourage increasing utilization of wind turbines in the country, creating more clean tech jobs and reducing our dependence on non-renewable resources. Click here to learn the full story: <http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/06/14/new-wind-power-is-neck-and-neck-with-gas/>

A Call to Triple U.S. Spending on Energy Research

A diverse group of the America's business leaders have formed a coalition with one mission: to urge our government to triple its investment in renewable energy research to \$16 billion a year. Their argument is simple—the United States is badly lagging in basic research on new forms of energy, which has caused a dependence on fuels and crippled our international competitiveness. Notable group members of the American Energy Innovation Council include Microsoft-founder



Bill Gates, Jefferey R. Immelt, CEO of General Electric, and John Doerr, a top venture capitalist. In an interview, Gates said that drastic changes were needed to secure the country's security and combat climate change, citing the US's pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% in 2050 as admirable, but not possible with today's technology or politics. To learn more about the group or read their comprehensive Business Plan for America's Energy Future, visit <http://www.americanenergyinnovation.org/>

SC Public Railways Commended for Greening Efforts

South Carolina Public Railways (SCPR), a divi-



sion of the Department of Commerce, was recognized on June 1 for its efforts to voluntarily reduce diesel emissions and improve air quality. Joined by DHEC and the SC State Ports Authority, SCPR has committed to replace current locomotive engine components with newer, cleaner, low-emitting diesel components. The upgrades will reduce the amount of Nitrous Oxide and particulate matter being dispersed in the form of exhaust gases. Awarded with a \$105,622 grant from DHEC, SCPR will provide a matching fund for the cost of the improvements.



Green Tip of the Week:

Fill up when it's cool. Cut down on gas emissions, which fill the air we breathe with ozone (smog) and contribute to global warming by avoiding buying gas during the heat of the day, since heat significantly increases evaporation. Fill up instead in early morning or late evening when the temperature is not as hot.



City of Charleston
South Carolina

PP&S **PLANNING,
PRESERVATION
AND
SUSTAINABILITY**

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