

caymaneco



Welcome to the 3rd edition of Cayman Eco!

The Cayman Eco is a non-profit publication whose mission is to educate and motivate people of all ages to become more environmentally conscious. Please help save our beautiful islands!

Advocate Healthy Oceans



Protect Cayman's Marine Life Earth Day 2008

happy earth day 2008!

The Cayman Islands National Trust congratulates the winner of their Earth Day Logo Competition. This creative logo was submitted by Breann Carle, a Year 10 student at Triple C School.

The Red Cross emblem is a special symbol of neutral protection. Its use is restricted under international and national laws. For further information, please contact the Cayman Islands Red Cross at ciredx@candw.ky

Recycling Q&A What's Happening on Grand Cayman?

Q: Why don't we recycle newspapers, magazines, glass and plastic on the island?

A: Certain items are not recycled here because it is **not cost-effective** due to the high cost of shipping the materials and the low resale value of the recycled products.

Q: What happens to the aluminium cans that are currently being recycled?

A: Aluminium cans are stored at the landfill until sufficient quantities are collected for shipping. **Then they are sold to a recycling facility in the United States.**

Q: What happens when car batteries are brought into the landfill?

A: The batteries are stored at the landfill and then shipped off island to a **recycling facility in the United States.**

Q: Can we recycle dry cell batteries (AA, AAA, etc.)?

A: Yes, if you collect a large amount, you can bring them down to the landfill (or call them for pick-up) and they can **put them with the metals to be shipped off the island.**

Q: Is there any way that glass could be collected for recycling? If not, is there a plan by the DEH to begin such a program?

A: Glass is not being recycled at the moment, but DEH is looking to introduce a **deposit program**. **Glass crushers** can be purchased (the **National Trust** has one the community can use for free). They solve the "mass" problem but there is no post-consumer market for the glass yet.

Q: Is organic waste (leaves, branches, grass, etc.) kept separately and is it being burned or mulched?

A: Organic material is kept separate, and it is mulched to be **used as part of the fill** used to cover the garbage on top of the landfill.










Q: What is "waste-to-energy" and is it coming soon?

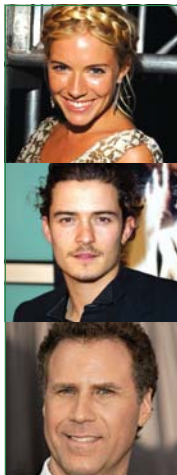
A: Waste-to-energy is technology whereby landfill waste is incinerated at high temperature, causing very little air pollution while **generating electricity**. Countries like **Denmark, Sweden** and **Luxembourg** (where land is a scarce resource) have been using this technology successfully for years. There are now 89 such plants in the USA and one is being planned for the Cayman Islands - slated to be **operational in 2011**.

If you have more questions about the landfill or any other waste management issues on the island, you can contact Tania Johnson at the DEH at: tania.johnson@gov.ky.

The Divine 9

Saving the Earth may seem like a job for a saint, but even saints were once ordinary people. Practice these habits to feel good about yourself and the environment:

What?	Why?	How?
1 Conserve Energy 	Electricity in the Cayman Islands is run by diesel turbines. Diesel is one of the worst greenhouse gas-producing fuels that causes global warming.	Remember heating and cooling takes the most energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • keep A/C at 78F or warmer • turn off your hot water heater overnight • limit your use of irons and clothes dryers
2 Save Water 	Clean water is in such short supply we need to borrow most of ours from the sea and desalinate it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take showers, not baths • turn off the tap when brushing your teeth • wash only full loads of laundry/dishes
3 Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Respect 	Less waste in the first place means less material to throw away.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • say NO to plastic bags • buy reusable containers for food • recycle aluminium cans
4 Save Trees & Plant New Ones 	Trees provide shade and act as carbon "sinks" to balance CO2 in the atmosphere. Every ton of recycled paper saves 300 gallons of oil and 17 trees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copy and print on both sides of paper • plant trees to shade your house • use cloth towels instead of paper towels
5 Learn How to Compost 	Over 40% of an average western world household's waste is food or garden waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add your kitchen scraps (e.g. egg shells, coffee grounds, fruit and vegetable peels) and grass clippings to the compost pile • log on to www.hgtv.com, and search "compost" for more info
6 Use Your Appliances Wisely 	Putting your TV, computer etc on standby is equivalent to using 100 watts bulb continuously. Batteries are harmful to the environment .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turn off lights and computers when not in use • use fluorescent lights • use rechargeable batteries
7 Drive Less 	In the U.S., PRIVATELY OWNED or PRIVATE cars are responsible for about 20% of ALL global greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • car pool, bike or walk • if you must drive, ensure your tyres are properly inflated and use A/C sparingly to save fuel
8 Buy Locally 	You are what you eat. Importing food is costly and the food is often full of chemicals to keep it fresh longer. You can help prevent heart disease, stroke, diabetes and cancer and save on future medical costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cut back on meat consumption • support local growers to have better food and help the local economy
9 Take Pride In Our Islands 	Tourism is one of the most important industries here and our pristine natural environment is our greatest asset . The Cayman Islands are like no other place on Earth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about your native flora and fauna • stop litter louts from fouling the towns and beaches • participate in clean up and beautifying projects



Eco Celeb Corner

These celebrities aren't just in it for the fame – they're using their star power to get the word out about the environment, and doing a fine job setting an example:

SIENNA MILLER along with Heather Graham and Isabella Ramchandani, founded an organization called **Global Cool** to fight climate change by showing people how to Be Cool by **reducing your carbon footprint**.

ORLANDO BLOOM, also a promoter of Global Cool, **drives a hybrid car** and is in the midst of building an **eco-friendly home** in London.

WILL FARRELL of Saturday Night Live fame just picked up the new **BMW 7 Hybrid sports car**. Already an environmentalist, he is an **active supporter** of the National Resource Defense Council (<http://www.nrdc.org/>).

Check www.ecorazzi.com for the latest on all your Hollywood eco-celebs!

Dressing with a Conscience?

Want to be eco-friendly but don't want look like a tree-hugging hippie while you do it? Check out these great clothing lines that will have you saving the Earth in style!

People Tree – The designers at People Tree create gorgeous garments and accessories by forming sustainable partnerships with Fair Trade and organic producers in developing countries. www.peopletree.co.uk

Loomstate – Launched in New York City in 2004 by designers Rogan Gregory and Scott Hahn, Loomstate was founded as a casual brand dedicated to creating demand for **certified organic cotton** using socially and environmentally responsible methods of production. www.loomstate.org

Edun – Edun is a **socially conscious** clothing company launched in Spring 2005 by Ali Hewson and Bono (of U2 fame). The company's mission is to create beautiful clothing while fostering **sustainable employment** in **developing areas** of the world, particularly Africa. www.edunonline.com

Patagonia – Patagonia, Inc. is a Ventura, California based clothing company, focusing mainly on outdoor clothing. The company is a member of several environmental movements and is considered a **socially-responsible** company. www.patagonia.com

Think Globally, Act Locally

Should we have Dolphins in Captivity in the Cayman Islands?

THE SCOOP:

- **2 dolphin facilities** are being **developed on Grand Cayman** (one beside Boatwains Beach/Turtle Farm and the other in Morgan's Harbour – both in West Bay).
- The Cayman Islands are **commended internationally** as an **eco-tourism** destination. Tourists pay thousands of dollars to enjoy our **crystal clear, clean waters** and **abundant sea life** because it is increasingly difficult to find such a place anywhere else on the planet.
- "**Natural enclosure**" **dolphin facilities** such as those being planned here are **failing** elsewhere in the world, where the feces of the dolphins kept in such an abnormally small area cause surrounding coral reefs and fish to die.
- **Dolphins in captivity** may **damage our reputation** and bring different tourists – ones who don't understand or appreciate our fragile environment. While **Radisson Seven Seas Cruises®** announced it will no longer offer dolphin encounter programs in any of its ports of call, no other cruise lines have followed suit.
- **Keeping animals in captivity is unnecessary**, especially if they are captured **solely for the entertainment of humans**. Dolphins are seldom rescued but are instead **captured** and taken from their pods as part of what is widely regarded as an **inhumane dolphin trade**. To see video of a dolphin capture, log onto: www.youtube.com and search "**dolphin captivity**".

Check out www.dolphinfreecayman.org to find out more about the impacts of keeping dolphins in captivity in the Cayman Islands and all around the world.



National Trust Calendar of Events



April 19-26

- **Lobster Pot Dive Center "Week for the Trust"**
For more information please call 946-8685 or email lpdc@candw.ky
- **Key Club Tin Shake at Local Supermarkets!**
Watch for Key Club members collecting donations for National Trust projects during Earth Week

April 19

- **7:00am Chamber of Commerce Annual Roadside & Beach Clean-up.**
Register your team by phoning 949-8090 ext. 123 or email joanne.berry@caymanchamber.ky
- **8:30-10:30am National Gallery's Annual (Kids) Eco Party**
For more information call Letitia at 945-8111.
- **9am National Trust Guided Mastic Trail Hike**
- **4pm National Trust Mangrove Boat Tour**

April 20

- **The Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park**
Entrance will be free to residents in celebration of Earth Day

April 21-25

- **DEH School Clean-up Campaign for Earth Week**

April 22

- **2:30-4:30pm Earth Day - What is there to Sea in the Grass?**

April 23

- **3-4:30pm National Trust *Recycle!***

April 24

- **3-5:00pm The National Trust's Coral Reef Exploration**

April 26

- **Cayman Islands Tourism Assn and Department of Environment Reef Watch Survey.**
Contact Kim Pisano at kimpisano@cita.ky or 949-8522 to obtain a list of participating dive operators.
- **10am-noon Cayman Wildlife Rescue's *Playtime for Parrots.***
Please contact Project Manager: Alison Corbett at caymanwildliferescue@gmail.com for further details.
- **1-4pm Underwater & Beach/Iron shore Cleanup at Divetech at Cobalt Coast Resort.** Call 946-5658 for any information needed.
- **6:30pm National Trust *Bodden Town Bats***

April 27

- **7:30am PriceWaterhouseCoopers Earth Day 5K Fun-Run/Walk.**

May 11

- **9am, 1 pm, 5pm and 7:30pm (Moonlight Tour) Cayman Kayak Fundraiser "Day for the Trust",**
Call 926.4467 or email reservations@caymankayaks.com

Where contact details not listed, please contact the National Trust at 949-0121.

quotablequote

I left Earth three times. I found no place else to go. Please take care of Spaceship Earth.

- Wally Schirra, flew around Earth on Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions in the 1960s.

CONTRIBUTORS

Tammy Kelderman, Founder & Researcher
Ida Rodger, Researcher

Editors: Alice Mae Coe
The National Trust of the Cayman Islands

Designed by: mc2
Eco the Turtle designed by Caroline Doherty

This Newsletter was made possible by



WALKERS

FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTION BOX

Comments?
Questions?

Ideas on how we can improve this newsletter?

Rather get our newsletter online?
Email: caymaneco@yahoo.com
and let us know how we can help

SOURCES:

www.ecorazzi.com

www.wikipedia.com

www.news.com

www.treehugger.com



Printed on recycled paper using vegetable-based ink