

GREEN SUMMIT INITIATIVES FALL 2011

- 1. Composting Educational Program** (Leader: Sophie Dennis): *Compost club has recently secured a 2-acre site for Frank dining hall to begin composting. We hope that next semester composting will expand to the COOP and other dining halls, but until then we want to expand the knowledge of composting on campus. We need your help to create a plan of how we can let students and faculty know what composting is and its many benefits. Ultimately, you will help us create clever ways to achieve and implement an ongoing composting educational program. No previous knowledge required!*
- 2. Hydraulic Fracturing Awareness** (Leader: Jacky Baughmann): *Hydraulic fracturing or hydrofracking is not only a contentious contemporary issue for the United States at large, but it is also a major source of controversy in our very own community. Hamilton, and other towns in Central New York, will be directly affected by this method of drilling for natural gas. This Green Summit group is hoping to team up with people interested in politics and the environment to educate others about hydraulic fracturing including both social benefit and environmental concerns. Like any argument, there are two sides, and we hope to explore the pros and cons in this group. With brownbags, panel discussions, and lectures, among other events, this group will provide Colgate and its surrounding community with greater knowledge of fracking.*
- 3. Environmental Education** (Leader: Maddy Butts): *The Green Earth Gang is a COVE group that promotes environmental education by teaching 2nd grade students at Madison Central school about sustainability, conservation, and other "green" topics. Our goal for the Green Summit is to compile a curriculum to be used for this year and years to come. Each lesson is a very hands on approach, where we quickly discuss a theme, and then play a game, do an activity, or make a craft related to that theme. We love to have fun and expose the students to something that they would not normally learn in the classroom!*
- 4. Bagless in Hamilton** (Leader: Eric Spencer): *Around the world, cities have been reacting to the incredible amount of plastic bags that are wasted every year. Some stores impose a heavy tax on these "urban tumbleweeds", or the municipality outright bans them like parts of Los Angeles County did in 2010. The bags can be easily replaced with reusable options, have incredibly slow decomposition rates, and consume incredible amounts of resources in their production. The United States uses and tosses out 380 billion bags a year! This requires more than one and a half billion gallons of oil to produce! If cities like San Francisco and the entire country of Italy can ban this non-biodegradable waste from shops, why couldn't the village of Hamilton?*
- 5. Campus Recycling** (Leaders: Liz Flory and Mary McGee): *The Recycling Group would like to change Colgate's poor recycling performance. This initiative would specifically like to raise awareness about what can be recycled where, improve recycling bin locations and signage, and publicize RecycleMania. RecycleMania is an intercollegiate competition and benchmarking tool for campuses and communities. We marginally improved our recycling rates last year; help us make bigger steps this year!*
- 6. 13 Days of Green** (Leaders: Kate Hu and Vincci Cheng): *Help coordinate events for this thirteen-day campus wide program to help bring environmental awareness and sustainable living to the Colgate community. From speakers to film screenings, help create, plan, and organize eco-friendly and educational events for your peers, professors, and surrounding Hamilton community. This event will be celebrated in the spring, leading up to Earth Day!*

7. **Green Thumbs** (Leader: Jason Finder): *Green Thumbs plans to increase sourcing from local and/or sustainable farms within the Greek food system. They hope to establish a buying cooperative between houses to increase the quality and nutrition of food available for fraternities and sororities. This initiative will focus on supporting local, sustainable farms.*

8. **Shapna Coffee** (Leader: Gianni Pizzatola): *Our goal is to spread the word of Shapna through advertising around campus and particularly guiding people to the free Shapna in Frank. One of our methods of doing so is also to spread the word of social entrepreneurship particularly in regard to how Shapna fits that model and how we are using a for-profit business model to achieve that goal. Additionally our goal is to get Shapna served in every Broad Street house kitchen, starting with the Greek houses.*

9. **Eco-Olympics**: *The Eco-Olympics is a competition among residence halls to reduce water and energy use, increase recycling, and promote sustainable behavior! Attend events and win awesome prizes!*