NSERVATION BOARD TOWN OF YORKTOWN

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# February 2010 Conservation Board

# **Go Green Honor Roll**

#### September/October 2009

The San Francisco Public Library began testing compostable corn based library cards in May 2009 with the hope of one day replacing all its plastic cards.

The 31,600 square foot Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation synagogue in Evanston, Illinois was the first house of worship in the world to achieve LEED Platinum-the highest green certification-from the U.S. Green Council in June 2009.

An independently owned McDonald's restaurant in Cary, North Carolina, is the first U.S. location of the fast food chain to offer electric car recharging as of July 2009

#### November/December 2009

The 18-million square foot resort CityCenter in Las Vegas opened in December, will be one of the world's largest sustainable developments, using an on-site cogeneration plant, conserving 39% of water and recycling 95% of construction waste.

Tissue company Kimberly-Clark, long a campaign target of Greenpeace, has committed to purchasing 100% of its wood fiber from eco friendly sources by 2011.

Office supply chain Staples has signed an agreement with the Rainforest Alliance to move most of its paper products to Forest Council Certified sources by the end of 2010.

## January/February 2010

Kraft Foods announced it is launching a dark chocolate-Cote d'Or from sustainable cocoa farming, meeting Rainforest Alliance Certified standards.

Technology Company HP joined the World Wildlife Fund's Global Forest & Trade network, setting a target of 40% of its paper sales from Forest Stewardship Councilcertified sources by 2011.

Allied Tube & Conduit Corporation, a company owned by TYCO Inter-national, has opened the flagship's first LEED certified facility in Illinois—a 514,000square foot expansion that included 75% salvaged construction waste, 20% reduced water consumption and high efficiency heating and ventilation.

www.emagazine.com

# **A Green Valentines Day**

Valentines Day is a holiday celebrated on February 14 and while it has a very long history dating back hundreds of years, the scale of the occasion we have today is largely thanks (or no thanks) to marketers.

Some fast consumption related facts about Valentines Day:

Around a billion valentines are sent each year globally, making the day the second largest card sending holiday of the year behind Christmas.

25 percent of all seasonal cards annually are valentines.

Over 36 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate are sold each year.

Valentines Day is the top holiday for fresh flower purchases with red roses the most popular.

10% of engagements happen on Valentines Day.

These statistics courtesy of American Greetings Corporation

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# Here are some ways to show a bit of extra love for the planet

Let's start with the card. This should be easy since recycled paper is so in right now.. Instead of stopping by the closest grocery store at the last minute on the way to see your Valentine, try going to a local card boutique to find a card from recycled paper.

Or better yet, try making your own. Cut out letters and hearts from old magazines and paste them to some paper you have lying around. That way when your Valentine eventually tosses it, it will be easier to recycle.

If your Valentine enjoys flowers, don't buy flowers that are chopped off and stuck into a vase. You spend loads of money on a bouquet of flowers that will only die. How does that make any sense? Try finding a florist that sends potted flowers (or even plants). If you can't find one that does this in your area, consider delivering them yourself. Although your Valentine will have to maintain the plant, it's a great way to keep thinking about you at home or work.

For a cheesier option, make a bouquet of fake flowers. When you give the fake flowers to your Valentine, tell them you will stop loving them when the last one wilts.

And lastly, if it all seems too hard to do this late in the game. Cook up a romantic dinner for you and your Valentine, watch a cheesy romantic movie and share a bottle of organic wine.

www.practicalenvironmentalist.com

# In the Small Ways We Will Save This Planet

## The Ten Greenest Presidents

- 1. Theodore Roosevelt consistently lobbied Congress for wilderness protection.
- 2. Jimmy Carter created the Department of Energy in 1977.
- 3. Thomas Jefferson believed in respecting and working with nature and envisioned a society of small farmers living in harmony with the environment.
- 4. Bill Clinton used executive orders to create 17 new national monuments and expand four more, preserving more than 4.6 million acres more than any other administration.
- 5. Richard Nixon signed the bills that established the Environmental Protection Agency and the landmark Clean Air Act.
- 6. Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Part of his New Deal more than 2.5 million Americans planted millions of trees, opened summer camps, improved parks and trails, battled soil erosion and safeguarded the environment..
- 7. Abraham Lincoln established California's spectacular Yosemite Valley and its Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias as a public trust (laying the groundwork for the national parks system).
- 8. Lyndon B. Johnson policies supported urban renewal beautification and conservation. In 1964 he signed the Wilderness Act which protected 9 million acres of Federal land.
- 9. Woodrow Wilson oversaw creation of the National Park Service in 1916 which has long been considered one of the great treasures of the nation.
- 10. John F. Kennedy established a committee to investigate the impacts of pesticides on health and the environment. The investigation would help lay the groundwork for the establishment of the EPA. courtesy of the daily green.com

#### **Town Board**

Susan Siegel, Town Supervisor

Nick Bianco Jim Martorano Vishnu Patel Terrence Murphy

- A. Dwight D Eisenhower
- B. Ulysses S Grant
- C. James Buchanan
- D. Harry S. Truman
- E. Ronald Reagan
- F. William Taft
- G. Thomas Jefferson
- H. George Bush
- I. Gerald Ford
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt

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- 1. Which president threw up on the Japanese Prime Minister and blamed it on the Flu?
- 2. Which President was drafted by the Green Bay Packers?
- 3. Which president founded a spa which is still operational today?
- 4. This president famously loved jelly beans.
- 5. This man became president of the NRA after serving as the top man in the nation.
- 6. Which president was known to smoke 4 packs of cigarettes a day?
- 7. Who owned a haberdashery before becoming president?
- 8. Which president invented the swivel chair?
- 9. This president remained a bachelor for his entire life.
- 10. Who had a pet cow that was kept on the White House lawn?

# Don't Look until you are done!

# **Answers to Presidents Quiz:**

1-H,2-I,3-J,4-E,5-B,6-A,7-D,8-G,9-C,10-F

Courtesy of www.answers.com

#### **Conservation Board**

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FEBRUARY 2010 CONSERVATION BOARD