

Eco-Friendly Furnishings for Your Home or Office

Continuing on the green design theme of our October issue, the following is a small sampling of unique accessories made from materials that would otherwise be discarded.

Sitting on Extra Plastic Bags



For many people, extra plastic bags tend to make their way into a storage cabinet or into the trash. Ryan Frank has a better idea. Inspired by traditional African craft techniques, he created this chair out of colorful plastic shopping bags and a recycled aluminum base.

For More Information:

<http://inhabitat.com/blog/2006/09/20/ryan-frank-plastic-bag-chair/> - Article from

Inhabitat about the Ryan Frank chair

Feature of the Month



**Too Much Junk Mail?
Check out GreenDimes**

www.greendimes.com

If your family, like the typical American household, receives about 70 pounds of junk mail each year, GreenDimes may be for you!

GreenDimes offers a junk mail removal service to take and *keep* your information off unwanted mailing lists. They regularly monitor junk mailing lists, and maintain an updated database of these companies and their ever-changing contact information.

For a dime a day, individual households can become a member of GreenDimes - through monthly, annual or lifetime membership levels. In addition to saving trees by reducing unwanted mail, GreenDimes plants a tree for each member every month!

For more info: www.greendimes.com

Recycled Traffic Lights

As traffic lights across North America are upgraded to more efficient technology, old lights are commonly landfilled. Several companies have found ways to rework the lights into stylish new products.



Greenlight Concepts, based out of San Francisco, offers retro hanging lamps made from former traffic lights from across the US. Choose from red, green or amber hues.



Vases from Recycled Newspaper



Shaped vases like the 'gourd' shown here are made from bound recycled newspaper with a recycled aluminum insert.

For More Information:

www.3rliving.com - This and other recycled paper vases are available at 3R Living in Brooklyn

Vancouver-based Industrial Artifacts Inc. has a whole line of "intersection" products, made from former traffic lights and Walk/Don't Walk signs. Lights, bowls, and vases are some of the recycled products available.

For More Information:

www.greenlightconcepts.com
www.industrialartifacts.com

Upcoming Events

Autumn Clutter Harvest FreeMeet, Nov. 4, 12-4:30pm, Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South, Room 802, Free – Harvest the clutter from your living space or office, and sow the seeds of a more sustainable NYC. Bring your unwanted reusable goods to the FreeMeet. For More Information: www.recyclethisnyc.org

Green Brooklyn 2006: The Sustainable City, Nov. 9, 11:30am-5:30pm, Borough Hall, Brooklyn, Free – The Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment presents this conference to explore ways to transform Brooklyn and all of New York into a more sustainable city. For More Information: www.bcue.org/greenbrooklyn

Walking tours with "Wildman" Steve Brill, See dates/locations below, \$12 suggested donation - These foraging tours encourage participants to enjoy our renewable resources and reaffirm their commitment to preserving and rebuilding our ecological riches. For more info see <http://wildmanstevebrill.com> and call (914) 835-2153 to register.

- **Prospect Park, Nov. 11, 11:45am**
- **Central Park, Nov. 12, 11:45am**
- **Alley Pond Park, Nov. 18, 11:45am**
- **Inwood Hill Park, Nov. 24, 11:45am**
- **Alley Pond Park, Nov. 25, 11:45am**
- **Marine Park, Nov. 26, 11:45am**

The Business of Green Products, Nov. 11, 9am - 1pm, NY Designs/LaGuardia Community College, 45-50 30th Street, Long Island City, \$60 – This workshop explores insights and strategies that can help green products compete in the global marketplace and appeal to a wider consumer base. For More Information: <http://dev.lagcc.cuny.edu/lqincubator/courses.html#gp>

GreenHomeNYC Monthly Green Building Forum, Nov. 15, 6:30-8:00pm, NY Society for Ethical Culture, 2 West 64th Street at Central Park West, Free – November's monthly green building forum topic: "It's Cool to be Green." For More Information: www.greenhomenyc.org

In nature there are neither rewards nor punishments - there are consequences.
~Robert Green Ingersoll

News From Around the Planet



Ecological Debt Day 2006

This year, Ecological Debt Day or Overshoot Day fell on October 9th, earlier than in preceding years. This day signifies the point at which the world stops relying on existing ecological wealth and starts using resources beyond the earth's means to replenish them for the year.

The New Economics Foundation (NEF) annually reports on Overshoot days for each country as well as for the world as a whole. The fact that world Overshoot days are falling earlier in the year is an indication that we are living well beyond our environmental means, which leads to resource depletion.

For More Information: www.neweconomics.org/gen/ecologicaldebt091006.aspx

EU Paper Recycling Goal of 66%

The Confederation of European Paper Industries recently announced a goal of recycling 66% of their used paper by the year 2010, more than 10 percentage points higher than the current 55.4% recycling rate in Europe.

"Paper and board already boast the highest recovery and recycling rates of materials in Europe. Even so, we are striving to do better," said Kevin Bradley, president of the European Recovered Paper Council.

For More Information: www.wastenews.com/headlines2.html?id=1159471504

NJ Supports Recycling Efforts

Municipalities in New Jersey recently received grants totaling \$4.5 million to support local recycling programs. The grants, awarded by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, were based on 2004 recycling performance.

"With New Jersey generating more than 20 million tons of solid waste every year, we need to do all we can to boost recycling rates," said DEP Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson. "This funding will support local recycling programs and help reduce the amount of waste going to landfills and other facilities."

For More Information: www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2006/06_0053.htm

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