



Our mission: Sustainability, efficiency, and conservation: Planting seeds for a greener tomorrow.



The DIRT

Leaving green footprints for tomorrow's generation

Fall Edition

September/October 2017

A publication for the Airport Community of Orlando International & Orlando Executive Airports

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Mark Your Calendar

2017

International Year of Sustainable Tourism and Development

September National Preparedness Month

- Sep 4 Labor Day
- Sep 4 National Wildlife Day
- Sep 17 Sustainable House Day
- Sep 21 Zero Emissions Day
- Sep 24 World Rivers Day
- Sep 26 World Environmental Health Day
- Sep 28 Green Consumer Day
- Sep 29 Green Team Lunch 'n Learn

October Energy Management is a Family Affair Month

- Oct 2 World Habitat Day
- Oct 4 World Animal Day
- Oct 25 World Sustainability Day
- Oct 24 World Day of Climate Action
- Oct 30 World Oceans Day
- Oct 31 Halloween

Think Before You Shred

Did you know that shredded paper that is placed in blue bags for collection cannot be recycled by conventional methods? Shredded paper is too small to be captured by the automated sorting equipment at recycling facilities, and it ends up in the landfill.

When Green Team member Alice Young learned this, she leapt into action! GOAA uses an accredited agency to shred sensitive documents on site at the GOAA Annex and delivers it to a paper recycling facility. But Alice was troubled by the logistical challenges that prevented GOAA from recycling other documents that are shredded in the terminal.

Not one to give up, Alice worked directly with the vendor until she found a solution – locking canisters with a narrow opening to receive paper. Once documents are deposited into the canister they cannot be retrieved. The canisters are picked up on a regular schedule by the vendor, who will shred and recycle the documents for us.

Kudos to Alice for making us “greener!”

Remember: if it isn't doesn't contain sensitive information, place waste paper in a recycling bin. Think before you shred.

Would you like to start a similar program in your office? Contact greentalks@goaa.org



Five Ways to Reduce Waste This School Year

It's that time of the year when parents are getting back into the habit of making lunches, escorting kids to the bus, helping with homework, and just trying to get kids to bed on time.

Parents can help guide and educate their kids in waste minimization and diversion. By “living by example” at home, parents can impact their future choices. Carpooling with friends or neighbors can have an impact on the environment as well to save time and money. Below are five easy steps to set the example and help create less waste.

1. **Make a plan** of what you need for school supplies, lunches, and after school activities. Avoid impulse buys or unnecessary materials. Determine whether your kids “need” or “want” it.
2. **Reuse.** See what can be used from last year. Supplies like old notebooks, backpacks, and pencil pouches can have a new life when cleaned with vinegar and a Magic Eraser. Place stickers or draw over the labels of folders or notebooks and reuse working pens, erasers, and pencils from last year. Organize a “New to You” school supply/uniform swap with friends and neighbors.
3. **Buy smart.** Shopping can be fun and exciting during the annual back-to-school sales, but see what you can recycle from last year. Need to buy? National brands have embraced sustainability and availability of recycled content items is expanding. Stretch your dollar and buy durable items to last more than one year.
4. **Use reusable containers.** Using paper bags and plastic baggies are convenient, but costs can add up. Use a lunch kit or create your own for sandwiches, snacks, and drinks
5. **Participate.** Get involved with your child's school programs such as recycling, gardening, green team or STEM to encourage sustainable lifestyle habits.

At the end of the school year when children come home with a bag full of supplies from their desk or locker, sort through everything to see what can be used for next year, what can be donated, and what should be tossed (because supplies are just beyond gross when mixed with melted fruit chews or old pb&j sandwiches!)

BEGINS OCTOBER 1



Green Team Challenge

plastic ring carriers



NEW GOAA GREEN TEAM COLLECTION CHALLENGE!

Plastic Ring Carriers

Beginning October 1, the GOAA Green Team is partnering with the Hi-Cone Ring Leader Recycling Program and will be collecting plastic ring carriers to recycle.

If you work **in** the terminal, take your container to Mary Favata at Disney's Magical Express Customer Service Desk (Level 1, Side B). If you work **outside** the terminal, call Nilsa Reyes at 407-825.2634 or email nilsa.reyes@goaa.org to arrange for deliver/pickup.



Plastic Ring Carrier Challenge Rules

1. Each month turn in your collection of plastic ring carriers. Do not cut up ring carriers.
2. The collection **must be counted** and in a container of your choice. Contact Customer Service for labels or clearly **identify company name, contact name, email address, and number of plastic ring carriers.**
3. The organization with the highest count gets bragging rights and Al E. Gator to display.
4. Turn in rings to either Mary Favata (in terminal) or Nilsa Reyes (outside of terminal).
5. Start collecting for next month!

International Coastal Clean-up

September 16 from 9-11 AM

Contact: Jody.buyas@cityoforlando.net



Upcoming Events



Join us for our Sustainability Speaker Series!

September 29, 12pm-1pm

GOAA Annex Conference Room Gemini

RSVP to GreenTalks@goaa.org by 9/20

Special Guest Speaker

Michael W. Hewett

Director of Environmental and Sustainability



Please bring your own cup to help minimize waste.

Volunteer Opportunity

Thursday, September 28

5:30-7:30 PM

2544 E Landstreet Road SUITE 600



Clean the World

Have comments, ideas, suggestions? Email

GreenTalks@goaa.org



Becoming a Ringleader

Reducing the Impact of Plastic in our Environment

by Sheila DiPace—Southwest Airlines

SWA President's Council, SWA Regional Green Ambassador, MCO Green Team Steering Committee Member, President Sanford Community Garden

Trash is like a diamond. It is forever. This is why I am such a fan of recycling, especially plastic, as it is so pervasive and lasts for what feels like forever. I've carried this childhood passion into my work for Southwest since 1993 and into Orlando International Airport (MCO) when I moved here in late 1997.

On a canoe trip with Eco-Action In 2009, I experienced firsthand the negative impact plastic poses upon wildlife in both Orange and Seminole Counties. My research for solutions led me to Angela Sun, the creator of the documentary Plastic Paradise, who traveled to The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, one of five (maybe more) floating islands of plastic collecting in our ocean's gyres. I was determined to find creative ways to reduce and repurpose the amount of plastic we use.

When Southwest Airlines rolled out its Green Ambassador Program, ambassadors were challenged to find something unique to recycle in their station. I noticed how many six-pack plastic ring carriers we disposed of during the provisioning of our aircraft. A light bulb went off! Based on 3,800 flights a day and tossing about 10 plastic six-pack ring carriers per flight, I calculated that at least 1,390,000 of these rings were ending up either in the landfill or our oceans each year. And this was just from Southwest. I realized then what the airline industry's impact on our environment could be, just from six-pack rings.

After a couple of weeks of research, I learned that Hi-Cone, the makers of the six-pack ring carriers used by Southwest for provisioning drinks, already had a successful recycle program in place. Through their Ringleader Program, children and adults across the globe have been recycling their rings for years, yet no other airlines had contacted them. This collaboration was the opportunity to strengthen the corporate citizenship between Southwest and Hi-Cone. The plan was simple: collect rings, attach Hi-Cone's free postage labels and drop them off at the post office. After Hi-Cone receives the rings, they are processed through their recycle program to either make more rings or other products (i.e.: Angleboard in South Carolina). This closed loop recycling and creative repurposing minimizes the impact on the environment.

I set up collection bins in many of our Southwest Orlando offices. Within the first month, we collected 10,000 rings. In fact, we collected so many rings that Hi-Cone approved a quarterly ring pick-up service. Now eight years later, with our collaborative volunteer efforts and steadfast support both locally and from our corporate green team leaders in Dallas, Southwest MCO has diverted 800,000 rings from the landfill. Southwest Green Ambassadors across the country have been inspired by this pilot project and have created recycle programs at their own stations. Southwest has now adopted this six-pack ring recycling as an

official system-wide green initiative, led by each station's green ambassador. It will be exciting to see the collective impact we will have over this next year.

Hi-Cone makes recycling six-pack rings simple. Taking a few minutes to recycle makes a huge impact on the environment, which is critical in the fast-paced environment of the airline world. I am proud to say the GOAA Green Team has joined Southwest's efforts to recycle rings in their own break rooms, and is sponsoring its own plastic ring carrier recycling competition. See page 2 for more information!

If you want to learn more, visit these links.

<https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/garbagepatch.html>

www.plasticparadisemovie.com



www.hicone.com

Visit www.ringleader.com or

Contact Julie at 630*438-5208

jhoganson@hi-cone.com or visit www.ringleader.com



Miguel Diaz, Sheila Di Pace, Carlos Rivera

Living Sustainably

It's not always about recycling



Jennifer Seyfried
Walking in the Atrium

by Jennifer Seyfried, GOAA—Planning, Engineering and Construction

Thinking sustainability is not only taking care of your environment but it also means taking care of you. For me, walking is a way of sustaining my health so I can do all the things I need to do to help contribute to the environment, both at home and at work. Instead of driving my personal vehicle, I take the employee bus to walk the terminal most days around noon.

I hop off the employee bus, go up to Level 3, and start in the Atrium. I do one full loop of Level 3, then up to the Hyatt for a lap on Level 4 to enjoy the views - FYI sometimes there are lunches being served and it smells really good, so prepare to work up your appetite! I walk down B side, and then cross over and down to finish up with a lap of Level 1 A side so I can keep an eye out for the bus back to the office. Some days it's a challenge to dodge the crowds, so it's important to stay alert and not run into any passengers. And sometimes you can direct a lost passenger on their way. I usually walk for about 30 minutes and a total of 1.5 miles, and the time usually flies by while I listen to my tunes, people watch, and catch Pokemon. (Yes, I'm still playing Pokemon Go.) One year later, and it has paid off. I recently got my "1,000 km Walked" badge, and a lot of those km were logged right here at MCO. It's a great way to get up from your desk and have a little "me" time to stretch your legs and clear your head, without having to worry about how hot it is or whether it's raining. Tai Chi is also great for all those things, plus you get a full-body, low-impact activity that works your balance and core. I'm really glad GOAA added this activity to the fitness class schedule, and I think more people should take advantage of the opportunity to check it out. I hope it comes back for another round; just because it's slow doesn't mean it's not effective!

I'm participating in kickboxing and yoga classes now, another way to sustain my health and well-being. Join us! The hour goes by fast and always leaves you feeling better.



Nilesh Joshi
Likes walking, too!

Greening Your House

7 Steps to Improving the Health of Your House

By Jessica Wright—EcoPreserve

Every household is different. We each have our own routines and circumstances so these steps are just some helpful hints on how to improve the air quality, reduce the amount of waste, and eat healthier. Make small changes and talk to your family about why you are making the changes. After you make the changes, make sure you talk with your family to see how they liked the changes.

1. Give up Bottled Water

- Buy a reusable water bottle
- Taste your tap and see if you need a home filtration system
- Save money: restaurants and gas stations won't charge for ice and water

2. Buy reusable cloth shopping bags

- Make it a game: buy a cookie for the kid who remembers to bring the reusable bags
- If you forget your bags when you shop, make yourself buy another bag. Call it the "Forgetful Fee," LOL!

3. Plants in the House

- Cleaner Air
- Use leftover water from water bottles
- Reduce Stress: [Plant Research](#)

4. Make a menu for the week

- Plan your menu before you go to the store so you have a focused list
- Less food waste from "extras" you don't use
- What fruits and vegetables are in season

5. Buy local

- Look for fruits and vegetables from local farms
- Less chemicals & transportation
- Fresher

6. Green the Clean

- Reduce the amount of chemicals used in your home
- Reduce harmful odors
- Make your own cleaners: [Natural Cleaners](#)

7. Conserve energy

- Find ways to cool down without lowering air conditioning
 - * Sprinkler in the yard
 - * Homemade popsicles
 - * Fans
- Switch to LED
- Research more ways to save energy: [Energy Saving Tips](#)

Getting Involved

Community and Volunteer Gallery

Want to Make a Difference? Volunteer!



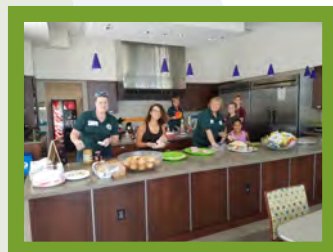
Clean the World —July 13, 2017

Members of the GOAA Green Team showed their community spirit in June, July and August by supporting Clean the World and Ronald McDonald House (Lake Nona). Family members of all ages were in tow at all three events. Volunteers at Clean the World sorted through discarded

soap, shampoo and other hygiene products donated from local hospitality partners including our own Airport Hyatt Hotel. Soaps are sterilized, ground up and pressed into new bars, while other items are assembled for distribution to local shelters and other places in need.



Clean the World—July 27, 2017



**Ronald McDonald House
August 13, 2017**

Ronald McDonald House volunteers put their culinary skills to use, preparing lunch for families whose children are being treated at Nemours Children's Hospital. Thank you to these volunteers who devoted their time to sort soap, bake some brownies, and make new friends, all the while supporting our commitment to corporate social responsibility.



Highlighting GOAA's Green Team and other volunteers supporting our community through sustainability and protecting the environment.

See more photos in albums posted on MCOcares.org. Have you volunteered for community or environmental events? Send your articles and photos to GreenTalks.org.

Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Hosts

"Sustain Orlando: A Community Response" Exhibit

The Greater Orlando Aviation Authority was proud to host "Sustain Orlando: A Community Response" from May to August at the MCO North Terminal. Commissioned by the City of Orlando, the four-panel mural was painted by local artists and showcases the importance of engaging culture and the arts in sustainability initiatives. MCO was the first stop on what will be a travelling exhibit created to spark and guide conversation about what sustainability is, what our community is doing to create a sustainable future, and what our role is as individuals in promoting social, economic and environmental justice.

"Sustain Orlando: A Community Response" was painted by local artists Halsi Halsi, Charles Mighty, LeAnn Siefferman, Gladiola Sotomayor, and Thomas "Thor" Thorspecken.



Art exists for the human species. I think that all of the people who love art, those who teach art,

In the painting before you, a large tree in the foreground meets an Orlando skyline in the distance. Leading us from the tree of life is a road, connecting our natural environment with the built environment. Sustainability means reducing or halting the amount of pollution entering our environment.

As we enter the city, familiar Orlando spaces take shape. Urban gardening has an active role to play in establishing a sustainable community, and is a growing trend in Orlando. Sustainability means equal access to clean, fresh, local foods.

Downtown, Lake Eola, frequently teeming with joggers, dog walkers and festival events, rests peaceful. The scene is surrounded by development. Business growth in our region presents opportunity for inclusive growth. Sustainability means an economy that provides jobs, creates affordable housing, nurtures safe, vibrant communities and celebrates cultural diversity.

Sustainability means we have to make decisions today that do not negatively impact tomorrow. Better yet, how can we make decisions today that improve tomorrow?

"Sustain Orlando: A Community Response" was painted by local artists Halsi Halsi, Charles Mighty, LeAnn Siefferman, Gladiola Sotomayor, and Thomas "Thor" Thorspecken.

GOAA Bottle Cap Challenge Ends



Final Results

The new Green Team challenge collected caps for Caps of Love. Caps of Love provides wheelchairs to physically-challenged youth using donations of these plastic caps. Below are the results of your hard work. Congratulations to all and thank you for your participation!

We look forward to our next collection challenge: six-pack rings! Be sure to check out Sheila's six-pack ring article on page 3.

Monthly Winners

Disney's Magical Express (DME)	Oct 2016, Mar 2017, Apr 2017
FlagShip	Dec 2016, Feb 2017
Jesus Alicea (BAGS, Inc.)	Jan 2017
jetBlue—MCO Inflight	Nov 2016

Company Name	Total Pounds Collected
Adacel Systems Inc.	1.10
Delta	3.65
Disney's Magical Express (DME)	265.00
EcoPreserve	7.00
FlagShip	148.90
GOAA Airfield Ops	2.00
GOAA AOC (security/COMM Center)	4.65
GOAA Operations (landside)	21.40
GOAA Commercial Properties	12.15
GOAA Customer Service/Airport Info	46.30
GOAA Customer Service / Information Center/Juana Jimenez	2.75
GOAA Engineering/Construction	5.85
GOAA Executive Offices	1.90
GOAA Finance/Risk Management	78.40
GOAA IT	15.20
GOAA Maintenance	19.90
GOAA Permit Dept	7.70
GOAA Purchasing	30.55
Jesus Alicea (BAGS, Inc.)	220.00
Jet Blue -Ground Ops	31.05
Jet Blue -MCO Inflight	33.30
Orlando Executive Airport (ORL-OEA)	2.80
Silver	9.90
SouthWest	10.35
Swissport	69.85
TSA	23.65
USO	5.80
Total pounds of recycled caps	1,081.10

Join Us!

Would you like to part of the Green Team? The Airport Green Team is an all-volunteer committee of airport employees who meet periodically. Please contact Judith-Ann Jarrette at Judith-ann.jarrette@goaa.org or Anita Lemmon alemmon@goaa.org for details.

The Dirt is published by the GOAA Green Team

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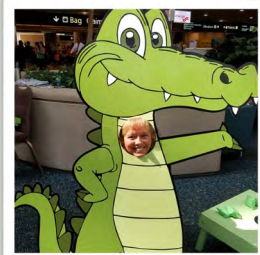
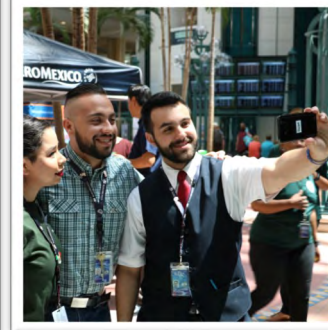
Sheila Di Pace, Southwest Airlines

Debrah Spence, Airline Division (GOAA)

Jessica Wright (EcoPreserve)

Jennifer Seyfried, PEC (GOAA)

MCO's Celebrates Another Earth Day on April 21, 2017



Which we couldn't do without the support of our Earth Day vendors!

15 Lightyears
AECOM
Ambius
Bio-Tech Consulting
Clean the World Foundation
Curtis Earth Trivia
Designers West
Disney's Magical Express
DoubleTree at Orlando Sea World
EcoPreserve
EvoScape
Flagship
Florida 511

Gatorland
GOAA—ARFF
GOAA Green Team
GOAA Wildlife Control
HMS Host
Hyatt Regency OIA
Kangen Wellness With Water
MSE Group
Keep Orlando Beautiful
Orange County Solid Waste
OUC-The Reliable One
PSI USA

Republic Services
reThink
SchenkelShultz
Southwest
Terracon
The Mustard Seed
TSA
UF IFAS Orange County
Extension
VHB
Westfield
Wings Financial

More pictures found in the Earth Day 2017 album on MCOcares.com