

Club Spotlight: BC Recycles

by Ben Goff
News Editor

Perhaps no other student club or organization does more for Brevard College than BC Recycles. Without BC recycles, there would be no recycling program on our campus.

Founded in 1994 and under the leadership of professor emeritus Robert Glessner, BC recycles was originally intended to promote the practice of recycling on campus. However, their actual role has grown and expanded ever since then, largely in response to the growing awareness that we have to be responsible stewards of the planet we live on.

In 1998, the club placed recycling bins throughout campus and began doing rounds to collect and sort the recyclables. In 2001, the club gained access to the area that is now referred to most often as "the compound" for temporary storage of recyclables.

While many feel that recycling should be an institutional priority funded and run by the school instead of a student club, the system has worked remarkably well.

Currently, the program promotes recycling on campus and runs the collection of recyclables, using student work study to provide the labor.

The club receives funding from SGA and some from the school, with the pay for student workers coming from federal money in the work-study program.

At the end of last year, the club constructed several new sheds to house recycling bins for the dorms. The large, blue sheds now provide a more



Photo by R. Frederick

aesthetically pleasing and functional place for students to deposit their recyclables.

The modern BC Recycles Club is one that promotes environmental stewardship in many ways. With the recent disbanding of the Brevard Environmental Educators Club and RIPPLE due to lack of involvement, BC Recycles stands as the only environmental club on campus.

While this situation may seem like a negative, the reality is that this is exactly what is needed. In years past, all three of BC's environmental clubs struggled to attract adequate membership and strong leadership. With the loss of BEE and RIPPLE, the recycling club has now decided to expand to encompass everything that was once a part of all three clubs and, in a synergy of collaboration, become more than the three clubs ever were by themselves.

As one united environmental club, BC Recycles will benefit from larger membership, more stable leadership, and the ability to undertake larger projects.

The club is now in the process of formally restructuring itself to

accomplish these goals. The objectives of BC Recycles are three-fold: promote and facilitate recycling efforts on campus, promote environmental education efforts on campus and beyond, and initiate projects to protect and preserve the environment (including environmental clean-up and the promotion of sustainable energy).

Specific projects under discussion in the club include: creating a fall-semester event, much like Earth Fest in the spring, finding ways to eliminate the wasteful practice of driving from one side of campus to the other, creating a student garden on campus, initiating a composting program and promoting eco-friendly landscaping.

The new BC Recycles promises to be a strong and active presence on campus, with the potential to accomplish a great deal for the mutual benefit of the college, its students, and the environment.

Check your email for info about ways to get involved with the greenest club on campus, or email Peter Thompson at thompsonp@brevard.edu.

Starting
Friday,
October 5th!
Student
Activities
is Pleased
to
Announce...
Free
Yoga
Fridays!
7:30 – 9:00
a.m. in the
Movement
Room
Friday,
October 5 –
Friday,
December 7
(no class on
October 19th or
November
23rd)
*Please provide
your own yoga
mat.