



greenlands

NEIGHBORS FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN NEWLANDS

Spring, 2011

Welcome to Greenlands!

Greenlands is a group of Newlands Neighbors (roughly defined as Alpine to Iris, Broadway to Third Street) who are working toward a sustainable community through green social and educational gatherings and information sharing.

We invite you to visit our Website www.newlandsgreenlands.com to stay informed about neighborhood events and green living.

Greenlands is a **free and volunteer driven effort**. We do accrue operating costs and appreciate any donations. If you enjoy reading our newsletter and Website and would like to make a donation, please visit our Website and click on the **"Donate"** button.

Our steering committee meets every other month to plan fun and educational neighborhood gatherings. We welcome your suggestions.

Join with your
Newlands neighbors!

- Community news and events
- Advertise your business
- Announcements and classifieds
- Green living tips and ideas
- Create community

www.newlandsgreenlands.com
Check it out and register today!!

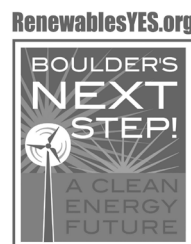
Our Energy Future: *Getting the Best for Boulder*

**Cookies & Tea!
Give Aways! Fun!**

WHEN: TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011 @ 6:30pm*
WHERE: BOULDER BIBLE CHAPEL, 7TH/EVERGREEN
***COOKIES AND A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING @ 6:30**
PRESENTATION BEGINS AT 7:00

SUMMARY: *Energy is incredibly important to our economic, social and environmental health. Come learn from local experts about the possible services and options Boulder is considering for our future energy supply.*

- **Kristen Hartel**, Residential Sustainability Specialist for the City of Boulder, will present on Boulder County's new EnergySmart services. Energy conservation is the easiest and cheapest solution to lowering our carbon footprint. Your home could be losing valuable energy in many ways that you can't see. An expert advisor can help you identify your biggest energy wastes, choose the best fixes and contractors, and get every rebate and incentive you deserve. **EnergySmartYES.com**
- **Ken Regelson**, sustainable energy systems analyst for FiveStar Consultants and a volunteer with RenewablesYes, will talk about Rates, Reliability, and Renewable Energy: Getting the Best for Boulder. We will learn how far and how fast Boulder can move toward a truly renewable energy economy while protecting rates and reliability. **RenewablesYES.org**



Upcoming Events

MAY 14
COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY
8:30-11:30am @ your location.
See reverse for more information

MAY 17
OUR ENERGY FUTURE:
Getting the Best for Boulder
7pm @ Boulder Bible Chapel

JUNE 4-5
JUNKENGRUVEN
Post a 'Free' sign and put unwanted items on your lawn for neighbors to take. Items need to be removed by 5pm Sunday. Call Mariella, 303-447-8774, for more information.

JULY/AUGUST
NEWLANDS GARDEN WALK
Our annual garden walk features Newlands gardens, with something to appeal to every gardener's (and wishful gardener's) tastes. We are currently in the planning phase and looking for submissions of neighborhood gardens. Go to newlandsgreenlands.com for date, details and to submit a garden location!

MOVIE SYNOPSIS

Try going a day without plastic. Plastic is everywhere and infiltrates our lives in unimaginable and frightening ways. In this touching and often flat-out-funny film, we follow "everyman" Jeb Berrier, who is admittedly not a tree hugger, as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world. What starts as a film about plastic bags evolves into a wholesale investigation into plastic and its affect on our waterways, oceans, and even our own bodies. We see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up to us and what we can do about it.

The next time you are in the mood for a documentary, rent "Bag It". It presents a good case against the use of the plastic bag and presents it in such an upbeat tone that after you have seen it you feel more energized than depressed.

The plastic bag is quite possibly the most ubiquitous man-made object on earth, numbering in the trillions. Every year, Americans throw away some 100 billion of them. Their convenience is outweighed by many factors:

- The bag you use for one-half hour can exist in the landfill for centuries.
- Many bags end up in our oceans. More than a million birds and 100,000 marine mammals and sea turtles die every year from eating or getting entangled in plastic. Conservation groups, such as Nature Watch, estimate that 50 percent of all marine litter is some form of plastic.
- Five huge "gyres", whirlpools made up of small bits of plastic, exist not just on the ocean surface, but extend far under the sea making them very difficult to remove. One of these gyres is estimated to be twice the size of Texas! Fish eat the bits; we eat the fish.
- Plastic bags are made from petroleum, at great environmental costs.

We can help solve this problem:

- Take cloth bags with you every time you shop.
- Keep a small foldable bag in your purse or backpack.
- Buy mesh bags or reuse plastic produce bags many times over for produce.
- Shop at Vitamin Cottage; they have completely done away with bags. Bring your own, or use one of the cardboard boxes that they have stacked at the entrance. Let them know that you appreciate their environmental efforts. Be sure to ask other stores why they don't do the same.

Many cities and even entire countries either ban the bag or charge extra if you use one of the plastic bags that they provide. **Can we encourage our city to do the same?**

Contributed by Diane Merker

Boulder Community Clean Up Day:

Presented by the BCIA 2, the City of Boulder and the Daily Camera.

WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2011 @ 8:30-11:30AM

WHERE: YOU PICK THE LOCATION. SUPPLIES ARE PROVIDED.

Help clean up Boulder by removing trash and recyclables, planting trees, and pulling weeds from parks and greenways.

You pick the location and on-site project leaders will provide direction and supplies.

- **Free Ice Cream Social** at Scott Carpenter Park 11:30 - 12:30 PM
- **Free one-day pass** to Boulder Reservoir for all participants.
- **Register Online** at BoulderParks-Rec.org by May 11th
- Sign up the **day of the event** from 8:00 - 8:30 AM at Scott Carpenter Park

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 303-413-7245



We promise, we've done these ourselves and lived to tell the tale. Take a crack at some or all of these, and see how you feel.

STOP IDLING

Idling for more than 10 seconds wastes more gas than is needed for startup. Overall, Americans idle away 2.9 billion gallons of gas a year, worth around \$78.2 billion.

TURN OFF YOUR COMPUTER

Save energy and wear & tear on your hardware by shutting down your computer at night. You'll save an average of \$90 of electricity a year.

TURN DOWN THE THERMOSTAT

For every degree you lower the thermostat, you'll save between 1 and 3% of your heating bill. Do the same thing in reverse with air conditioning.

WASH YOUR LAUNDRY IN COLD WATER & HANG IT

90% of the energy used by washing machines goes into heating. The higher the water temperature, the higher the cost to you and the planet. To save even more, hang your laundry out in the sun or inside on a rack.

PAY BILLS ONLINE

Paperless billing not only saves trees, it also eliminates the fossil fuel needed to get all those billing envelopes from them to you and back again.

PRINT ON TWO SIDES

Consider this: the U.S. alone uses 4 million tons of copy paper annually, about 27 pounds per person. Save dough and your local landfill. Print on two sides.