



The Green Sheet – January 30, 2009

Promoting a Just and Sustainable World – Resources for Education, Reflection, and Action

“We are convinced anew that education is our response to the cries of Creation, the concrete expression of our solidarity with all.”

- From the Directional Statement of the School Sisters of Notre Dame 22nd General Chapter

IN THE NEWS...



Billions Face Food Shortages, Study Warns Ian Sample, The Guardian UK:

"Half of the world's population could face severe food shortages by the end of the century as rising temperatures take their toll on farmers' crops, scientists have warned... The worst of the food shortages are expected to hit the poor, densely inhabited regions of the equatorial belt, where demand for food is already soaring because of a rapid growth in population." [Read more.](#)

Women Religious Go with the Wind - The 50 sisters of Mount Saint Mary's Abbey, the first monastery of Cistercian Nuns in the United States, plan to construct a wind turbine this winter amidst their livestock near Wrentham, Massachusetts. They expect the turbine will defray roughly 75 percent of the abbey's electricity costs, reducing substantially their carbon footprint and helping to mitigate climate change. [Read more.](#)

Bishops and Climate Change - More than 90 Catholic Bishops signed a Climate Justice Statement ahead of the UN climate conference in Poznan in December 2008, to show their support of the Climate Justice campaign launched by CIDSE and Caritas Internationalis. [Click here](#) to view the statement and signers.

China's Green Youth - Thousands of Chinese youth embarked on a 2,008-kilometer journey, carrying with them a message of environmental conservation and sustainable living. [See video report here.](#)

State of the World 2009 - Worldwatch has gathered responses from 47 leading experts to the following question: How do we keep climate change at manageable levels and how do we adapt to what is coming our way, no matter how successful we are in reducing future greenhouse gas emissions? All of the chapters in State of the World 2009 (minus endnotes) are available for free [here](#). For more information on this project, [click here](#).

RESOURCES...

Climate Change and Hunger – The Leadership Conference of Women Religious has just issued a new “Resolutions to Action” document, **Climate Change and Hunger** - prepared by our own International SSND Shalom Coordinator S. Roxanne Schares! [You can find it here](#)



Creative Interactive Presentation on Fair Trade Coffee – Developed by one of Dr. Michael Havice’s Communications classes at Marquette University as a service learning project last semester. Go to www.fairtrademilwaukee.org and click on coffee bean!

The Problem with Plastic Bags – [Click here](#) to view a most informative slideshow.

A Fair Trade Valentines Day - Chocolate is no treat for thousands of children who must work on cocoa farms instead of going to school. There is a solution: FAIR TRADE! Fair Trade Certification ensures that farmers are paid a fair price for their goods, those goods are not made using child labor, and environmental sustainability is maintained. [Resources for Teachers](#)

ACTION OPPORTUNITIES...



Nine Green Resolutions for 2009 – There is nothing that inspires us to start doing everything better like the prospect of starting the new year afresh. While February isn't exactly the beginning of the year, it's still as good a time as any to resolve to be more green. Check out these simple, [yet meaningful resolution ideas](#).

First Diversion Request under New Great Lakes Compact – What Questions Do You Have?
The City of Waukesha, Wisconsin shared their proposal to divert Great Lakes water to a community outside of the Great Lakes watershed with members of the Wisconsin environmental and conservation community and requested that they provide them with critical feedback and questions in order to improve their future, formal diversion application. As a stakeholder in the Great Lakes Region, you are invited to pose questions. [Click here to find out more](#)

Great Lakes Cargo Dumping Public Comment Period – The U.S. Coast Guard will be preparing a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for an interim rule, which allows commercial vessels to dump cargo into the Great Lakes, and is taking public comment until March 30th and hosting a public meeting on January 28th. [Click here to find out more](#)

Promoting Sustainable Food and Farming Policies – You can share your vision for an organic future by urging our new leaders to make healthy, energy-efficient, and carbon-sequestering organic food and farming a priority. President Obama has called on all of us to take responsibility and get involved. Let's take him up on it. [Take action today!](#)

CAMPAIGN UPDATE...



The new [Green Habit Campaign](#) is now on-line. The Green Habit Campaign is an initiative of the School Sisters of Notre Dame **Green Team** to recognize and promote sustainable living practices. The web pages provide background information, resources, tips, a video and the opportunity for you [to pledge](#) to pursue sustainable living practices. A special feature is the interactive [forum](#), where you can share your ideas for sustainable living and learn what others are doing to live sustainably.

The Green Sheet is an e-publication of the School Sisters of Notre Dame – Milwaukee Province [Office of Global Justice & Peace](#) and [SUNSEED Eco-Education Center](#). If you have any comments on this edition of **The Green Sheet**, or suggestions for future editions, please contact S. Suzanne Moynihan at smoynihan@ssnd-milw.org or Tim Dewane at justiceandpeace@ssnd-milw.org

Have a great weekend!