



The Worthington Inn

Worthington Residents Working together to:

- Develop a more walkable, bikeable, bus-friendly community
- Encourage year-round access to locally grown food
- Support a greener community
- Build a more vibrant community and local economy
- Develop regional sustainability practices

Winter 2008-2009

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Volume I, Issue I

SUSTAINABLE WORTHINGTON

Quarterly Newsletter



A SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAY

Tis' the season for giving and sharing, enjoying friends and family, decorations and lights! Did you know that there are options in how you choose to celebrate this holiday season? By utilizing some of the tips below you can enjoy this holiday season and be sustainable at the same time! You may even be able to give more while spending less.

Holiday Greetings:

If each of us sent just one fewer card, we'd save 50,000 cubic yards of paper.

- Send e-cards to associates instead of sending holiday cards.
- Save the holiday cards you receive and reuse the fronts as holiday postcards next year.
- Buy cards or postcards made of recycled paper, organic cotton-blend paper, hemp, or other biodegradable material.

Gift-Giving:

Give Local Gifts

Strengthen the local economy, save energy, and help foster community by giving gifts that utilize our local resources

- Gift certificates for local services, such as a massage, or for local classes, such as yoga, cooking, language, art, or music
 - Worthington Rec Center, Elli Nail Spa, Wacked Hair Salon, Art Classes at Jan Allmon Gallery

- Dinner on the town
 - Worthington Inn, La Chatelaine, Caffè Daniela, Old Bag of Nails, PK O'Ryans, Jason's
- Gift certificates for groceries or utilities
- A membership in a local non-profit organization
 - Simply Living, FLOW, Local Matters
- Tickets to a museum exhibition, play, local movie theater, concert, or a sports event
- Gifts from local shops
 - The Candle Lab, Wren House, Curio Cabinet, Fritz Jacobs

Giving the Gift of Time

- Coupons for your own services—babysitting, a foot rub, house cleaning, washing the dishes, weeding or planting—using skills you have and keeping in mind what the recipient would enjoy
- Create handmade gifts. It is wonderful to receive a handcrafted gift because of the investment of time, love and creative energy it represents. If you excel in the kitchen, try making preserves, cakes, pies or bread. If you like to work with wood, use your skills to craft CD racks or spice shelves.



Holiday Open House

In the Works

If you are interested in these initiatives supported by Sustainable Worthington we encourage you to get involved. Contact Sustainable Worthington at info@sustainableworthington.org. There are a variety of sub-groups including; local foods, commercial development, recycling and education.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BIKEABILITY OF WORTHINGTON

Several year ago ODOT recognized the intersections at the North end of I-270 were badly in need of redesigning due to high accident rates and congestion. While work has begun on several of these intersections, the intersection of particular interest to Sustainable Worthington, I-270 and U.S. 23, is still in the planning stages. ODOT and The City of Worthington are discussing how to provide bike access, current plans include pedestrian pathways and no bike pathways. Sustainable Worthington is concerned about bicycle access from the heart of Worthington to Crosswoods because Crosswoods is part of Central Ohio Transit Authority's (COTA) developing transportation strategy. COTA is planning on introducing a new express route, #32, from Crosswoods down S.R. 315 to Downtown Columbus. It is important that Worthington cyclist have access to this express route. Not only will cyclists be able to mount their bikes on the front mounted bike racks on the buses, but Crosswoods also has bicycle lockers to provide security to those riders who wish to leave their bikes behind. Sustainable Worthington will continue involvement in this issue as it works towards making Worthington a bicycle friendly town.



WORTHINGTON MIGHT FILL LONGTIME GROCERY STORE VOID

Ever since Worthington lost its local grocery store, Jubilee, there has been a real desire by residents to have that void once again filled. Sustainable Worthington has been instrumental in supporting the Worthington Farmers Market, which satisfies some of the need. It has been recognized, though, that a more consistent presence is still desired. While space is lacking for a traditional American grocer, there is the opportunity for Worthington to continue to grow its European model of smaller independent shops. Over the past several months Sustainable Worthington and The Greener Grocer have been exploring the possibility of opening a location in Worthington. The Greener Grocer is owned and operated by Local Matter and provides organic and largely local produce at their storefront in the North Market. More information about Local Matters and The Greener Grocer can be found at www.local-matters.org.

OFF-LEASH DOG PARK INITIATIVE

Worthington currently does not offer its residents an off-leash dog park. Sustainable Worthington is looking to develop a core volunteer group to further an off-leash specific area initiative in Worthington and to support the area or dog-related activities once the initiative is realized. Some of the advantages of off-leash dog parks are:

- High park visitation rates (note: Alum Creek dog park had 150,000 visits last year)
- Provides elderly and disabled owners with an accessible place to exercise their companions
- A nearby dog park raises property values
- Socializes and exercises dogs in a safe environment
- By their mere presence, groups of dog owners (and their dogs) help to deter crime, and frequently act as the eyes and ears for the police

Sustainable Worthington

Sustainable Worthington is a "grassroots" organization where individual interest and work determines what ideas and projects will move forward. There are no dues for membership at this point and we are not a 501(c)3 charity.

We currently have over 150 people on our email list. Anyone on the list is welcome to email the group at sustainable-worthington@googlegroups.com.

All are welcome so spread the word to anyone you think might be interested. Please come to our meetings or contact us with any questions or ideas.

E-mail: info@sustainableworthington.org

We're on the Web!

www.sustainableworthington.org