

Greenwoods

HKUSU

Newsletter

Volume 2

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Green News

Building Energy Efficiency Funding Scheme

In recent years, the Hong Kong government has set up a lot of schemes in a bid to reduce the negative impact of climatic change on Hong Kong's economy and environment. The "Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes" is worth concerning. The burning of fossil fuels has led to the emission of greenhouse gases and in turn brought about greenhouse effect, global warming as well as climatic change. Reducing greenhouse gas emission is therefore the most effective way to alleviate the problem of climatic change. One of the methods to reduce greenhouse gas emission is to improve the energy efficiency of buildings.

In Hong Kong, buildings account for 90%[1] of the electricity consumption and 60%[1] of the greenhouse gas emission. As a result, the Hong Kong government planned to reduce the greenhouse gas emission through improving the energy efficiency of the buildings. The government introduced the "Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes" to encourage

owners of the buildings to conduct Energy Audit and Carbon Audit, with a view to systematically reviewing the use of energy and quantifying the greenhouse gas emission.

[2]



Energy Audit:

“Energy audit is a review of the usage of energy in a building to enhance the effectiveness of energy usage” [3]. In other words, Energy audit is to look for ways to reduce energy consumption. For example, turn off unnecessary heat-releasing electrical appliances when the air-conditioners are on so as to reduce air-conditioning load. [4]

Carbon Audit:

“A Carbon Audit, sometimes referred to as a ‘carbon footprint’, is a means of measuring and recording the greenhouse gas emission of a building within a defined system boundary.” [3] Carbon Audit is a major step for owners and managers of the buildings to find out the amount of greenhouse gases released, prompting them to take appropriate actions to reduce such emission.

For the sake of Hong Kong’s future and the living environment of the next generation, please support reducing energy consumption and the emission of greenhouse gases!



參考資料

1. http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/tc_chi/climate_change/files/Climate_Change_Booklet_C.pdf
2. http://www.building-energy-funds.gov.hk/tc/about/ECA_nop.html
3. <http://www.energyland.emsd.gov.hk/en/audit/index.html>
4. http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/e_download/pee/Energy_Saving_Tips_for_Home.pdf

Past Event

Registration Day

Greenwoods, HKUSU, held a booth on the Registration Day on 2nd August and 3rd August this year. Apart from introducing the green concepts and the aims of our society, we also promoted a series of activities to be held in the coming semester. Within two days, over 180 students became our members. It was particularly encouraging as it proved the hard work of our executive committee members and more importantly, showed that many students are supportive to and aware of environmental conservation and ecological reservation.

During the two days' time, a lot of freshmen took their initiative to visit our booth and got to know about the aims of our society, including green concepts, promoting environmental protection and sustainable development, as well as delivering the harmonious relationship between human beings, and human beings and nature.

While recruiting the members, we mainly introduced the "Green Snorkeling Camp" held in late September, "Green Stall" opened in late October, as well as the "Singaporean Green Trip" held during the break between semesters. For the "Green Snorkeling Camp", we will lead students to have a direct contact with the natural life, enhancing their awareness towards ecological preservation. "Green Stall" will provide students with a chance to purchase high-quality environmentally-friendly products at reasonably low prices. It encourages them to have a green start of the new academic year. For

"Singaporean Green Trip", we will bring students abroad to Singapore to take a look of preservation policies and natural species there. We hope that we can put our aims and green concepts into relaxing and interesting activities. We, Greenwoods, HKUSU, will continue to walk with our members, students who support green lifestyles, and all the HKU students side by side, attaining Green Campus together.

Registration Day is just an occasion letting students briefly know about us. There is still a long way to go on the path to continue with our green mission. We have to take immediate action now. Greenwoods, HKUSU will definitely endeavour to promote green messages to every corner of HKU, further deepening students' understanding of green concepts. We hope that you can all continue to support the activities organized by our society in the coming days. We will then grow, learn and enjoy our green life together.

Past Event

Green Snorkeling Camp

Green Camp is to provide a chance for people from different curriculums but with a “green heart” to come together and truly experience what it means to be green. But this year it became a bit blue as we took 25 participants to snorkel in the sea in Hoi Ha Wan, the “backyard garden” of Hong Kong on 24 and 25 September.

Saying goodbye to the thick blocking glass, jumping into the real aquarium, all our participants could enjoy being so close to the marine organisms and having fish swimming around after a brief training session. Though the weather was unstable, we managed to provide them with a memorable snorkeling experience and better understanding of the natural environment of Hoi Ha Wan.

At night, our participants had to be “Survivors”. Given a scenario that a nuclear disaster had happened in Daya Bay Nuclear Plant, the electricity supply had been cut off. So they had to cook their deserts after dinner, using the fallen twigs and leaves they picked up on the roadside. Cooking roasted sweet potatoes out of nothing made this a special campfire.

On the next day, our IV Angel taught the participants to make beautiful leaf-like decorations from newspaper and tissue paper. The outcome is more than a handmade environmentally-friendly product since they also learnt the concept of reusing used materials.

After the 2-day-1-night camp, the participants left with exhausted bodies but happy moods because they could get the most from the nature without causing any harm.



Upcoming

Green Stall

Green Stall has been one of the major events of Greenwoods, HKUSU every year. It aims to increase staff and students' understanding towards environmentally-friendly and fairly traded products as well as arouse their awareness of environmental protection.

This year, Green Stall will be held in the two weeks after the reading week. The opening time will be 11:30am-6:00pm. Green Stall sells a large variety of stocks which are not only environmentally-friendly, but also useful and cheap. Its operation is just like that of traditional small stalls and this illustrates why we named the stall as 'Green Stall'. In the Green Stall, environmentally-friendly products and fairly traded products will be on sale. For example, organic snacks, environmentally-friendly souvenirs, green stationery, pot plants, fairly traded coffee and tea. We hope that no matter staff, students or visitors in HKU can be provided with this opportunity to understand more about green products and also green lifestyle, thereby fulfilling our green concepts.



To sum up, the main purpose of Green Stall is to let more students grasp a better understanding of the aims of our society, and they can in turn introduce our green concepts and promote green lifestyles to the outsiders. Besides, Green Stall serves as the only profit-making event of our society and the profit will be utilized as a funding to other events, including Registration Day, Green Forum and Green Trip. We sincerely hope that each of you can support Green Stall.