

# Environmental CONNECTIONS

“I hope to generally raise awareness of environmental issues on campus, and to get people thinking about how they can make Connecticut College, and their lives, more eco-friendly.”

-- Matt Turcotte '02,  
Environmental Coordinator  
Intern  
See story, page 6

## Inside This Issue:

- Environmental Achievement Award **1**
- Letter From the Executive Director **2**
- Guest Lecture Series **4-5**
- Student & Faculty Research **5**
- New Environmental Coordinator **6**
- Internships **7-8**
- Recent Publications **9**

## Chief of NYC Natural Resource Group Receives 2003 Goodwin-Niering Center Alumni Environmental Achievement Award



Alexander Brash '81 receives his award from Robert Askins, Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center

ALEXANDER BRASH '81, Chief of the Natural Resource Group (NRG) of the city of New York, was the recipient of this year's Goodwin-Niering Center Alumni Environmental Achievement Award. Brash, a guest speaker during the College's Fall Weekend, was honored at the October 17<sup>th</sup> event held in the John C. Evans hall, where he spoke on "Re-greening the Big Apple: Environmental Preservation, Restoration and Education in NYC." A reception and dinner with Center faculty, students and the Board of Trustees followed the lecture.

As head of the NRG, Brash is responsible for all environmental plans, policies, land acquisitions and landscape restoration projects within the City's 27,000 acres of parkland; he joined the NRG in 2002 after serving for more than 10 years as chief of New York City's Urban Park Service.

After graciously accepting his award, Brash gave a brief overview of his own history, recalling his early days at Connecticut College and his instant appreciation for the Arboretum. He discussed the history of urbanization in New York City (NYC), from the early settlers of the 18<sup>th</sup> century to present day, and he explained the ecological reasons why New York became America's greatest city-- not because of Wall Street, as many people think, but because it lay at the "intersection of the greatest collection of natural resources in the New World." He expounded on these natural resources, primarily the harbor and the Hudson River, and the roles that they played in the growth of the city. He then defined the four primary uses of parkland: as sacred places, such as memorials and cemeteries; preserved recreation areas, such as national parks; community property that once served as the town commons; and athletic fields. These uses, he noted, are all "a place where people go to *do* something." To these definitions he added his own, what he refers to as "parks as the ecological pillar for the human infrastructure," in other words, a place that does something in return for humans. The NRG focused on this more esoteric purpose by actively restoring terrestrial and wetland habitats in the city.

Brash detailed the extensive restoration of the Four Sparrow Salt Marsh in Brooklyn. Over time the marsh has been usurped by urban sprawl and utilized as dumping grounds for all manner of waste, from building scrap to potentially toxic materials. The project has thus far restored 3.4 acres of salt marsh by "peeling back" the shoreline with heavy construction equipment and exposing the delicate marshland that falls below the high-tide line.



**Goodwin-Niering Center  
for Conservation Biology  
& Environmental Studies**

Connecticut College  
Box 5293  
270 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320-4196  
Phone: 860.439.5417  
Fax: 860.439.2418  
E-mail: [ccbcs@conncoll.edu](mailto:ccbcs@conncoll.edu)  
Web site: <http://ccbcs.conncoll.edu>

Robert Askins, *Director*  
Glenn Dreyer, *Executive Director*  
Gerald Visgilio, *Associate Director*  
Diana Whitelaw, *Associate Director*  
Patti Handy, *Editor & Center Assistant*

**Steering Committee**

Thomas Ammirati, *Physics*  
Phillip Barnes, *Biology*  
Catherine Benoit, *Anthropology*  
Beverly Chomiak, *Physics*  
Jane Dawson, *Government*  
Paul Fell, *Biology*  
William Frasure, *Government*  
Manuel Lizarralde, *Botany & Anthropology*  
Stephen Loomis, *Biology*  
Arlan Mantz, *Physics*  
Peter Siver, *Botany*  
Christine Small, *Botany*  
Douglas Thompson, *Physics*  
Derek Turner, *Philosophy*  
Scott Warren, *Botany*  
Marc Zimmer, *Chemistry*

**Board of Advisors**

Wendy Blake-Coleman '75  
*Office of Environmental Information,  
U.S. EPA*  
John Cook  
*The Nature Conservancy*  
David Foster '77  
*Harvard Forest, Harvard University*  
Richard Goodwin  
*Professor Emeritus, Connecticut College*  
Ralph Lewis  
*Connecticut State Geologist, Retired*  
Helen Mathieson '52  
*Connecticut College Board of Trustees*  
Edward Monahan  
*Connecticut Sea Grant Program*  
Norman Richards  
*Mohegan Tribe Environmental Protection Department*

Established in 1993, the Goodwin-Niering Center for Conservation Biology & Environmental Studies is an interdisciplinary program that draws on the expertise and interests of faculty and students in the liberal arts to address contemporary ecological challenges. The Center strives to integrate all areas of learning to deal with the issues of sustainability and the natural environment. Building on a scientific understanding of the natural world, the Center invites the social sciences, the humanities and the arts to help understand and solve difficult environmental issues.

**From the Executive Director**

Every five years Connecticut College engages in a campus-wide strategic planning exercise that begins with a frank evaluation of our strengths and weaknesses and ends with a vision for the future. Starting with benchmarking research that compares recent efforts to our own past record and to that of peer schools, specific goals and objectives for the coming years are eventually generated. When the process functions best it is highly participatory, with all constituencies – students, staff, faculty, alumni and trustees – actively involved. Another sign of success is the emergence of a shared vision for the college that involves both a clarification of that which makes the institution distinct and excellent, and a clear direction for the future. We are currently involved in this kind of planning, and with a slightly longer time line – the college's centennial in 2011-- being an attractive focal point.

For the first time the "environment" is starting to percolate through the institutional planning process as one of several important themes. Thanks to our long history with the Arboretum, the human ecology-environmental studies major, and community efforts like recycling, energy conservation and green energy initiatives, many people are beginning to see these topics as a significant part of the college's identity, one of the things which differentiates us from other small liberal arts colleges. I would also argue that environmental stewardship has become one of the college's "core values," along with things like our commitments to excellence in education, to diversity, integrity, service, and shared governance. While it is not the single most important program or aspect of Connecticut College, caring about environmental sustainability has certainly become one of our traditions.

There are many ways that the increased attention afforded by strategic planning could help make our environmental efforts even more effective. As just one example the college, like nearly all other organizations, has yet to build a single structure on campus in which environmental impacts were comprehensively considered during the building design process. New buildings are currently being planned, and the Environmental Model Committee has developed a "green building" policy. Exactly how much attention will actually be paid to sustainability in the engineering and architecture of future campus buildings is still an open question; the extent to which environmental education and stewardship is manifest in the next plan will greatly influence this outcome.

The desire for a safe and healthy environment for current and future generations is a shared value that has great potential to energize the college's vision of its own future. Stay tuned during the next year to this and other college publications for information on the results of strategic planning.

*Glenn Dreyer*

**PLEASE HELP US CONSERVE!**

In order to reduce our paper usage and general costs we would like to recommend that you read our newsletter on our web site at <http://ccbcs.conncoll.edu>. Please contact us at 860.439.5417 or [ccbcs@conncoll.edu](mailto:ccbcs@conncoll.edu) to be removed from our mailing list. Thank you.



*Printed on recycled  
paper*

## Award...

*Continued from page 1*

The project goals include enhancing biodiversity in aquatic, salt marsh, and upland ecosystems, in addition to reducing non-point source pollution, controlling invasion by non-native plant species, and reducing erosion. To date, more than 8,000 cubic yards of fill have been excavated, and accumulated wrack and debris have been removed. The NRG has also removed non-native plant species and introduced native, nursery grown, woody and herbaceous plant species.

Brash gave an enlightening narrative of the advances towards environmental recovery in the heart of New York City. He explained that today, 20 years after the Natural Resource Group was founded, there are more than 30

biologists, engineers and landscape architects who are designing, over-seeing, and monitoring nearly \$92 million worth of projects on or adjacent to NYC parkland. His account of the NRG's progress was interspersed with humor, as he described to the audience of faculty, staff, students and parents the effort involved in restoring native species of plants, mammals, insects and birds to the parks and wetlands scattered

throughout the asphalt jungle of New York City. He spoke of the efforts to restore the Bald Eagle and the Screech Owl, and of his hopes for the eventual return of spring peepers. Slowly but surely, the idea of wildlife in NYC is taking on a whole new meaning. Brash recounted a story of the call he received one night from a baffled NYC police officer. The officer called to report that a "huge bird" was up in a tree in Central Park, and making people in the area nervous. When Brash and his crew went to investigate, they found a large wild turkey perched in the tree, apparently unaware of the oddity of its appearance in this urban location. The officer asked Brash what they should do about it, and Brash replied that they should just leave it alone, since the bird was not apt to attack any unsuspecting passer-by and most likely it would just fly away on its own, which it eventually did.



*Alexander Brash '81, Chief of the Natural Resource Group in New York City.*

The NRG has been nationally recognized for wetland restoration, species recovery plans, and species re-introductions. Brash has been honored with the Nature Conservancy's Oak Leaf Award and the Times Mirror Magazine's North American Conservation Prize in addition to regional awards from the Environmental Protection Agency and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information visit the NRG's Web site at: [http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub\\_about/parks\\_divisions/nrg/nrg\\_home.html](http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_about/parks_divisions/nrg/nrg_home.html)

Previous recipients of the Goodwin-Niering Center Alumni Environmental Achievement Award include: David R. Foster '77, who has served as the director of Harvard Forest since 1990, and filmmaker

Judith J. Irving '68, whose films and documentaries have brought her two Emmys and a Grand Prize for nonfiction at the Sundance Film Festival. In 1999 Dr. Linda Lear '62, received the first award for her contributions in the field of environmental history. She has dedicated much of her work to preserving the legacy of Rachael Carson and bringing the wonderful writings of the Silent Spring author to a new generation.

Lear donated her biographical papers on the life of Rachael Carson to Connecticut College's archives.

### REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

To nominate a Connecticut College graduate for the Center's Environmental Achievement Award, please contact Glenn Dreyer at 860.439.2144 or [gddre@conncoll.edu](mailto:gddre@conncoll.edu)

## Certificate Program Guest Lecture Series

---

DURING FALL 2003 the Goodwin-Niering Center was pleased to have two Connecticut College professors speak to students as part of the Certificate Seminar course. On September 25, Robert Askins, Professor of Biology, delivered a lecture entitled: "Conservation Across Landscapes: The Importance of Large Nature Preserves." And on November 6 Derek Turner, Professor of Philosophy, spoke to students and faculty on "Thinking Metaphorically About the Environment." Discussions followed the lecture.

### **Conservation Across Landscapes: The Importance of Large Nature Preserves By Robert Askins**

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD human activities are converting large expanses of natural habitat into farmland or city. Frequently only small relict patches of natural habitat remain in the form of parks and nature reserves. These are effectively islands of natural woodland or grassland surrounded by a "sea" of farms or residential areas. These nature reserves are valued because they sustain a variety of plant and animal species that have disappeared elsewhere, but unfortunately these species tend to disappear from the nature preserves as well after they become isolated from similar habitat. Many species are not able to sustain stable populations on habitat islands, so they decline in regions where continuous habitat has been fragmented into relict patches.

Some of the best evidence for the negative effects of habitat fragmentation on biological diversity was derived from studies of forest birds in the northeastern United States. In this region suburban development often converts continuous forest into an open landscape with small, remnant patches of woodland. Although these remnants are often protected as nature preserves or parks, they are not suitable habitat for many species of forest birds. Forest birds disappear or decline in these sites because abundant predators from surrounding open habitats prey upon their eggs and nestlings. Small nature preserves are therefore not very effective at sustaining populations of forest birds, and habitat fragmentation is now recognized as one of the major threats to their survival in eastern North America.

Habitat fragmentation also has a negative effect on birds in a variety of other ecosystems, including deciduous forests in Japan, grasslands in eastern North America, and tidal marshes in New England.



*Robert Askins, Professor of Biology and  
Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center*

Consequently, protecting and restoring large blocks of continuous habitat should be one of our major conservation goals in a variety of different types of landscapes.

There are a few habitats in which fragmentation does not appear to have a negative impact on the diversity of birds, as long as the relict patches of habitat are large enough to encompass their breeding territories. This is generally true of scrubby, early successional habitats such as old fields and clearcuts. Bird species that are specialized for low woody vegetation (such as Blue-winged Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Prairie Warbler) are equally frequent in survey plots in clearcuts of different size, even in small clearcuts of one or two acres, indicating that they do not require large expanses of their preferred habitat. Before European settlement these species depended on small patches of early successional habitat caused by windstorms, wild fires or beaver activity, so they are probably adapted to nest successfully in small, ephemeral patches of habitat.

Many species depend on large areas of habitat, however, so it is important to try to protect large nature reserves and to try to coordinate conservation activities across landscapes to protect corridors of natural habitat. In most parts of North America, this goal can only be achieved by working closely with private landowners, lumber companies, and state and federal agencies. Biological diversity is threatened more by suburban sprawl and consequent habitat fragmentation than it is by sustainable timber harvesting.

*Continued on page 5*

## Thinking Metaphorically About the Environment By Derek Turner

MANY of the arguments of environmentalists and environmental philosophers involve analogy and metaphor: Proponents of eco-sabotage argue that since humans are waging war on natural environments, someone must rush to the defense of those environments. Biological species are frequently compared to rivets in an airplane, or to artistic masterpieces, or to pages in a book that has never been read. Ecofeminists believe that our relationship to non-human nature is analogous to oppressive social relationships.

At least one environmental philosopher has argued that the purpose of restoration ecology is not to restore environments to their pristine or natural states, but rather to restore our relationship to an environment, in much the same way that we might try to restore a relationship to a person with whom we have fallen out of touch. Misanthropic environmentalists frequently compare human beings to parasites who are killing their host (the containing ecosystem, or the planet). Human population growth is often compared to an explosion, and the human



*Derek Turner, Assistant Professor of Philosophy*

species to a bomb. Finally, there is a long tradition in ecology and in the environmental movement more broadly of comparing ecosystems to organisms. Like organisms, ecosystems can get sick, and perhaps even die. Ecology, moreover, is thought to be a normative science like medicine. Just as the physician has the expertise to provide a diagnosis and prescribe a remedy that will restore a patient's health, so the ecologist is thought to be the person with the expertise needed to restore the health of a damaged or disturbed environment.

These observations generated some interesting questions: Why do those who want to think

philosophically about environmental problems so often rely on analogy and metaphor? How can we evaluate these analogies in order to tell the good ones from the bad? Why do so many of the above metaphors have to do with social relations and artifacts? What role *should* analogy and metaphor play in environmental philosophy? Is it even possible to do environmental philosophy without thinking metaphorically? I approached these questions by thinking about the roles that analogy and metaphor play in scientific reasoning.

### Student and Faculty Research Collaborations During Summer `03

EACH SUMMER select students have the opportunity to collaborate with CC faculty in a variety of research projects. The following are those with an environmental theme:

#### **The characterization of channel morphology and hydraulics for stream-restoration design:**

Catherine Campbell `04 and Daisy Small `03; Douglas Thompson, *Associate Professor of Geophysics*

*Two students worked on the following three projects:*

- 1) Historical and environmental influences on the distribution of invasive non-native plant species in the Pawcatuck Borderlands of southern New England.**
- 2) The use of prescribed burning in the restoration and maintenance of a regionally rare pitch pine sand plain ecosystem, Hopeville Pond Natural Area Preserve, Griswold, CT.**
- 3) Impacts of intensive white-tail deer herbivory on vegetation regeneration in the Burnham Brook Preserve, East Haddam, CT.**

Alice Kelly `04 and Emily Mygat `05; Christine Small, *Assistant Professor of Botany*

#### **The ecology of early successional birds nesting on powerline corridors:**

Matthew Frackelton `04, Daisy Small `03 and Margaret Gentz `04; Robert Askins, *Professor of Biology*

#### **Tidal marsh restoration on the lower Connecticut River:**

Kelly Washburn `05, Katherine Dugas `05 and Kelton McMann, Bates College. Rachel Chase `05 also worked on this project, in addition to tidal marsh ecology work at Plum Island, on the New Hampshire coast;

Scott Warren, *Professor of Botany*

#### **Marine Biology Lab Internship, Millstone Power Plant, Dominion Resources, Inc.:**

Gabriel Ziskin `04; Peter Siver, *Charles and Sarah P. Becker `27 Professor of Botany*

#### **Computation methods to examine the substrate selectivity of nitrile hydratase, an industrially used enzyme for the "green" production of acrylamide:**

Lopa Desai `03; Marc Zimmer, *Professor of Chemistry*

## The Goodwin-Niering Center Welcomes a New Environmental Coordinator Intern



*Matt Turcotte '02, Environmental Coordinator Intern*

DURING THE SUMMER the Center hired Matthew Turcotte '02 as Campus Environmental Coordinator Intern. A government major with a philosophy minor, Matt worked with the administration on environmental issues through the SGA and the Renewable Energy Club during his years at Connecticut College. He was also the Center's Summer Sustainability Intern in 2002, during which time he researched and compiled the information for "Green Living at Connecticut College," an environmental sustainability handbook for students.

Following his summer internship, Matt went to work for the California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG), a citizen-lobbying group. He worked as a campus organizer at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he helped students organize a campaign to pass the California Wild Heritage Act, plan an Earth Day celebration, and run a Water Watch program. In the spring of 2003 he returned to the East Coast where he was hired as the assistant director of the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group (NJPIRG) in the Princeton canvassing office. There he was involved in a campaign to get New Jersey to pass the same Clean Car Standards as California, as well as a campaign to raise money for Save the Children.

Matt left his position in New Jersey and came back to New London when he heard about the opening for the Environmental Coordinator at Connecticut College. "I thought that it would be a great opportunity to continue on with some of the work that I had started during my previous years at the College," says Matt, and he has already set his sights high with his plans and goals for this year and beyond.

### **Environmental Coordinator Plans for the Future**

Matt Turcotte has made considerable progress since becoming the College Environmental Coordinator Intern. Perhaps most notably, he has already helped to increase the amount of clean, renewable energy used by the school. The College has recently purchased \$40,000 of "green credits" from 100% Green-e certified wind sources. This will provide approximately 45% of the energy consumed by the College, and is an increase from the 22% of green energy credits purchased last year. Matt has also been working with Holly Camerota, Web Content Editor, to update the C-Green web site. C-Green is undergoing a change and is soon to become the Green Living site, ([greenliving.conncoll.edu](http://greenliving.conncoll.edu)) but it can still be found at <http://cgreen.conncoll.edu/>.

Matt has been working diligently with the College community to reinvigorate the recycling program and to decrease the amount of waste that the College produces. During the two-year lapse between Environmental Coordinators, the recycling program faltered. In addition to the campus recycling activities, Matt has also helped to start a new recycling program at The Williams School, a coeducational, college preparatory day school for grades 7-12 located on the Connecticut College campus.

Matt's future plans include trying to decrease the amount of energy used at the college, both by increasing energy efficiency and by promoting energy conservation. He also plans to work with the administration to incorporate the most advanced environmental techniques available in the construction of new campus buildings. Matt will work with student groups as well, to help develop their leadership and activist skills and teach them how to run successful environmental campaigns. In addition to his on-campus plans, Matt is also looking forward to working with the residents of New London in planning for Earth Day 2004, and collaborating with other educational institutions in an exchange of ideas on how to make campuses more sustainable in the future. Matt is also staff for the Environmental Model Committee (EMC).

Matt sums up his ambitious plans by saying that he hopes to "generally raise awareness of environmental issues on campus, and to get people thinking about how they can make Connecticut College, and their lives, more eco-friendly." Matt can be reached at the Center at 439-5218, or at [mjtur@conncoll.edu](mailto:mjtur@conncoll.edu)

## Environmental Internships, Class of 2004

THE CERTIFICATE STUDENTS OF 2004 have returned from their summer internships and have shared their experiences with Center faculty, staff and fellow students. The following is based on excerpts from the students' internship reflection papers.

**Adam Weinberg** completed his summer internship with the New Mexico Water Resources Division (NMWRD) of the United States Geological Survey (USGS), which is responsible for monitoring and studying the water resources of the state of New Mexico. Adam, an environmental studies major, worked on two projects over the summer, one with the military, and another with Molycorp Mining.



*Adam Weinberg '04 acidifying a Red River water sample in Red River, New Mexico*

Adam helped analyze historical water quality data in a number of springs and pools that are home to an endangered species of pupfish on the White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico. Adam became familiar with GIS software and learned to overlay geographical information with environmental resources and property lines in order to identify

which of the pools and springs that the pupfish inhabit were located within the Missile Range.

The project with Molycorp Mining involved the creation of a mine closure plan. Molycorp needed to meet a number of environmental requirements, including the quality of water flowing out of the mine property. The NMWRD and a number of independent contractors had been hired to assess what the likely water quality was prior to the mining. For this project Adam assisted in testing a number of wells at the test site in Red River, New Mexico.

Adam reflected on his experience: *“One of my primary objectives was to find out whether hydrology is a field that I would consider for future graduate studies. In this respect my internship was successful, as groundwater resources research is a field that I now expect to become increasingly exciting as I gain a better technical understanding of the science.”*



*Tailings from the Molycorp mine, Red River, New Mexico*

Anthropology major **Theodora Stites** completed her summer internship with the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA), a lobbying association based in the District of Columbia that represents the interests of large water utilities. As an intern with AMWA, Theo was given a comprehensive legislative project to work on throughout the summer, investigating the status of the State Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) laws, post September 11, 2001, in relation to water system security. A stipulation of the Bio-Terrorism Bill, which was signed by President Bush following the attacks on September 11, is the completion of vulnerability assessments by water system utilities. Theo was given the challenge of locating and documenting the freedom of information act language of each state, which can differ from the federal FOIA, and compiling a comparative document.

Theo wrote: *“Through my internship at AMWA I was able to learn about the creation and implementation of legislation in the environmental sector, one of my original internship goals... I was also able to observe the interrelationship of lobbyists, congressmen, and federal agencies in the regulation development process.”*

*Continued on page 8*

## Internships...

*continued from page 7*

**Michelle Gorham** completed her summer internship as a field assistant at the Clark Lab at Duke University in Durham, NC. The goal was to determine disturbance and climate effects on the dynamics of 20th century forests in the southern Appalachians and the Carolina Piedmont. Clark Lab has developed experiments and monitored man-made forest gap sites, seed dispersal sites and sapling plots.

Michelle, an environmental studies major, worked on the research projects of five ecology graduate students, but primarily on a doctoral thesis that was based on wind disturbance, gap dynamics and forest simulation modeling. She also worked on other projects involving plant population dynamics and eco-physiological response to climate change; soil ecology; plant-fungal interactions; the variability in the fecundity of common tree species due to disturbance and climate change; and 3D canopy structure and adult tree growth.

Michelle wrote: *“Throughout the internship, my research skills improved in accuracy and my personal devotion to the research projects increased. When one is personally vested in a job, full dedication is an increasing reality.”*

Environmental studies major **Guthrie Jones** completed his summer internship with The Chewonki Foundation in Wiscasset, Maine. The Chewonki Foundation is a non-profit organization that specializes in teaching students how to live in harmony with the natural world, and with each other.



*Summer camp students at The Chewonki Foundation in Wiscasset, Maine learned about the potential power of the sun.*

The campus is a functioning model of a sustainable community. Chewonki hosts many schools and other community groups on their campus throughout the year to teach people about outdoor living, environmental issues, teamwork and the natural world.

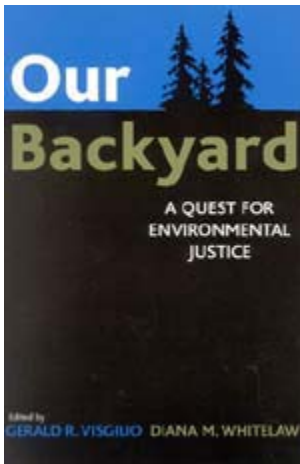
Guthrie's main assignment was to integrate the renewable energy program that runs year-round with the seasonal summer camp, and he helped the young campers build their own solar powered battery chargers. *“It was really amazing to see these kids actually get mad about our country's current addiction to petroleum,”* Guthrie wrote about his experience, *“and then to see them get genuinely excited about the idea of capturing the power of the sun, and getting real electricity from such a common phenomenon.”* He also participated in the advancement of the small-scale bio-diesel manufacturing plant that is operating at Chewonki. In its third year of an experiment Chewonki has been collecting used vegetable oil from nearby restaurants and converting it into bio-diesel, a plant-based fuel that can be used, without major modifications, in most diesel engines.

**Joey Solomon**, a psychology-based human relations major, completed his summer internship with Pop Sustainability, a non-profit organization based in New York City. Pop Sustainability's primary mission is to introduce the idea of global sustainability-- environmental, social and economic-- into mainstream and popular culture. The organization hosts local events, facilitates challenges on college campuses, and coordinates larger events to attract the attention of mass media in an effort to reach a broader audience.

Joey's responsibilities this summer included editing communication and presentation materials, such as web sites, business overview kits, brochures and other public literature. He also helped to create and produce special events intended to draw current activists together, as well as to reach out to other activist groups. He wrote of his experience: *“During my internship at Pop Sustainability this summer I learned an incredible amount about activism, running a non-profit organization, and helping an organization and its ideas connect with new people. The Pop approach to activism is very interesting and pragmatic.”* Joey also helped to create mutually beneficial partnerships with like-minded organizations, a very important benefit for non-profits.

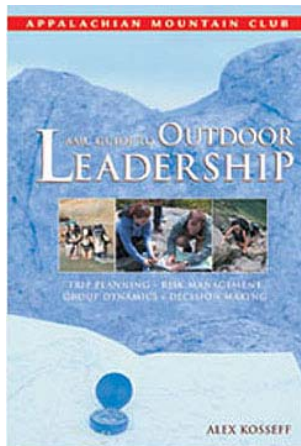
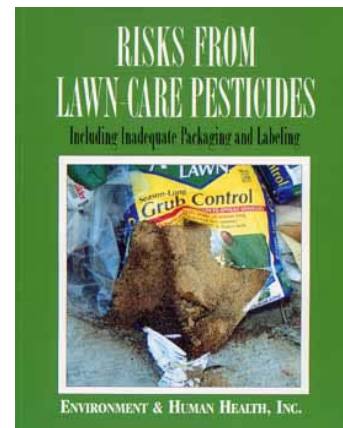


## Recent Publications



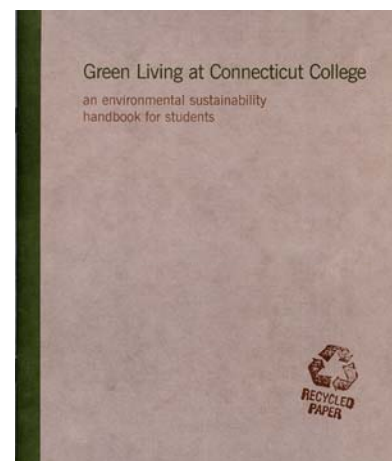
2003 HAS BEEN A PROLIFIC YEAR in the literary sense for many associated with the Center. Most notably **Gerald Visgilio** and **Diana Whitelaw**, associate directors of the Center, co-edited and recently published *Our Backyard: A Quest for Environmental Justice*. The book is based on papers presented at the 2001 conference sponsored by the Center, "A Quest for Environmental Justice: Healthy, High Quality Environments for all Communities," and deals with the history, status, and dilemmas of environmental justice. In addition to focusing on the actions taken by communities and politicians in response to an actual or perceived environmental risk, the contributors also deal with the methodological challenges confronting environmental justice research. The volume also looks at the future of the environmental justice movement with a discussion of the sustainability of environmental justice in a more conservative political climate. Among the many contributors is **Manuel Lizarralde**, assistant professor of anthropology/botany at Connecticut College. For more information contact the Center, or visit the web site at <http://cbes.conncoll.edu>.

**Lauren Hartzell '03**, graduate of the Center's Certificate Program, was recognized for her contributions to *Risks From Lawn-Care Pesticides: Including Inadequate Packaging and Labeling*, a publication put out by Environment & Human Health (EHH), Inc., based in New Haven, CT. Lauren is credited with many of the photos in the book, which she took during her internship with EHH over the summer of 2002. Lauren is currently attending Stanford University where she is pursuing her PhD in philosophy.



Another graduate of the Center's Certificate Program, **Katherine (Jones) Kozin '03**, was involved with a publication from the Boston-based Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) where she interned after her junior year. Katie took several photos during her internship that appear in the new handbook: *AMC Guide to Outdoor Leadership*, one of which is featured on the cover (center photo). According to the AMC web site the handbook, written by Alex Kosseff, details the "critical skills and concepts every outdoor leader needs to know. Katie is currently employed full time with the AMC as a grant writer.

**Matt Turcotte '02** wrote the booklet *Green Living at Connecticut College*, an environmental sustainability handbook for students. Matt researched and compiled the booklet while serving as the Center's Summer Sustainability Intern in 2002. The publication serves as a guide for sustainable living at Connecticut College, and is distributed to incoming freshmen. Matt is currently serving as the College's new Environmental Coordinator. The handbook can be viewed online at the C-Green web site: <http://cgreen.conncoll.edu/>.





CONNECTICUT COLLEGE  
Goodwin-Niering Center for  
Conservation Biology & Environmental Studies  
270 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320-4196

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
New London, CT  
Permit No. 35



**Robert Askins**, Professor of Biology and Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center, recently published a Japanese translation of his book: *Restoring North America's Birds: Lessons from Landscape Ecology* (Second Edition, 2002). In the Japanese version of the text, Dr. Askins included a new chapter on conservation of birds in Japan. The book was translated into Japanese by Reiko Kurosawa, who studied at Connecticut College for her masters degree in zoology. During 1988 and 2001 Dr. Askins spent sabbatical leaves in Kyoto, Japan doing research on the ecology of birds and teaching students who participated in the Associated Kyoto Program.

The Japanese version of Dr. Askins' book is published by Bun-ichi Sogo Shuppan in Tokyo. The Japanese title translates as *Do Birds Have a Future? Learning Conservation from Landscape Ecology*.