



The DIRT

Leaving green footprints for tomorrow's generation

Summer Edition
August 2016

Our mission: Sustainability, efficiency, and conservation: Planting seeds for a greener tomorrow.

A publication for the Airport Community of Orlando International & Orlando Executive Airports



Mark Your Calendar

2016

International Year of Pulses

August

Water Quality Month

- Aug 3 National Watermelon Day
- Aug 12 World Elephant Day
- Aug 13 Left Handers Day
- Aug 19 World Humanitarian Day
- Aug 23 Ride the Wind Day
- Aug 22 National Honey Bee Day
- Aug 26 National Dog Day
- Aug 29 More Herbs, Less Salt Day

September

Whole Grains Month

- Sep 3 Cycle to Work Day
- Sep 4 Nat'l Wildlife Day
- Sep 6 Nat'l Read a Book Day
- Sep 11 Patriot Day
- Sep 16 Int'l Day of the Perseveration of the Ozone Layer
- Sep 19 Talk Like a Pirate Day
- Sep 22 World Car-free Day
- Sep 29 Nat'l Coffee Day

October

Adopt a Shelter Dog Month

- Oct 1 Nat'l Homemade Cookies Day
- Oct 5 World Habitat Day
- Oct 10 Int'l Day of Climate Action
- Oct 12 Nat'l Farmer's Day
- Oct 17 Alternative Fuel Day
- Oct 21 Nat'l Reptile Awareness Day
- Oct 23 Swallows Depart from San Juan Capistrano Day
- Oct 24 Nat'l Food Day
- Oct 31 Halloween

Southwest Airlines Green Queen, Sheila DiPace, Honored with SWA President's Award



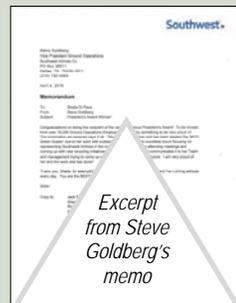
Steve Goldberg VP Ground Operations
Sheila DiPace
Gary Kelly CEO SWA



Sheila DiPace with Herb Kelleher, SWA founder



Surprised at the airport!



Congratulations...
chosen from over 15,000
Ground Operations employees...
Thank you, Sheila, for exemplifying the
Warrior Spirit, Servant's Heart, and Fun
LUVing attitude every day. You are the BEST!



Sheila DiPace was flown to Dallas where she received the President's Award at the annual SWA Awards Banquet.

Some of the sustainability programs implemented by Sheila DiPace, SWA East Coast Regional Green Ambassador:

- ✈ Six Pack Rings with Ringleader program has diverted over 600 thousand plastic six-pack aluminum can holders from the landfill.
- ✈ MCO SWA Magazine Recycle Program, diverting nearly 3 tons of paper from the landfill each month.
- ✈ Pull Tab Recycle Program, collecting and donating to the GOAA Green program in support of Ronald McDonald House.
- ✈ Installing mug racks in the SWA MCO breakrooms to encourage reusing personal mugs, deterring management from purchasing Styrofoam cups for breakrooms, making sure breakrooms and offices have airport recycle information, and organizing local park clean ups.
- ✈ Created Ink for Luv program recycling used ink cartridges from both airside and landside. Funds are given to charity, with a portion going to the SWA Culture Committee fund.
- ✈ Recycling old uniforms and gloves through American Textile Recycling Services.
- ✈ Collected used knee pads for donation to emergency response teams
- ✈ Collecting bubble wrap packets from ink cartridges and donating to the Duty Free Shops, where they are used to package fragile items for international travelers.

Sheila continues to encourage other SWA stations to adopt these sustainability programs and some already have. The MCO Green Team adopted the six-pack ring recycling, and MCO vendor Hudson News is now recycling its magazines. Sheila's efforts have inspired other SWA staff to recycle; wooden pallets that used to pile up at the SWA Cargo area are now turned into cash for their employee appreciation fund.

Earth Day 2016



131 pounds of recycle goods were collected in GOAA containers on Earth Day 2016!
 On April 22nd, MCO invited the public, travelers, and airport employees to celebrate Earth Day 2016. Over 50 vendors participated in this free event including The City of Orlando Green Works, Orange County Solid Waste Department and Orlando Utilities Commission. Curtis Earth returned with his Earth Day trivia program and MCO business partners highlighted their corporate sustainability programs, achievement of environmental initiatives and charitable activities, and presented environmentally-friendly products their companies use or market. Recognizing Earth Day is another way that demonstrates the Authority's commitment to sustainability and green initiatives that benefit the Central Florida community.





Green Team Sustainability Speaker Series

GOAA's Green Team hosts monthly Sustainability Speaker Series luncheons in the Carl T. Langford Board Room. All are welcome and lunch is provided at no cost. Registration is required.

Speaker Series - March

Guest Speaker

Mitch Hedlund, President, Recycle Across America

Standardizing Recycling Labels

by Hilary Girtman



Mitch Hedlund founded the non-profit company Recycle Across America. Mitch stated that recycling is the top action society can do to improve the environment, the economy, and sustainable manufacturing. Her goal is to reduce the amount of waste going to landfills by making recycling easier. The solution is standardized labels that make it easier for people to *recycle right*.

Mitch recognizes that most people want to recycle, but inconsistent recycling signage causes confusion at the bin. This in turn leads to mistakes, apathy, and skepticism about recycling. Individuals who want to recycle unknowingly contaminate recycling bins with items that should go in the trash, while others give in to apathy and put their all their trash and recyclables in the same container. Either way, items that could be recycled wind up in the landfill.



Simple, consistent labeling is the most effective way to increase recycling compliance, and with this goal in mind, GOAA has partnered with Recycle Across America to adopt standardized labels at MCO and ORL.

For more information on Recycle Across America, visit www.recycleacrossamerica.org.

Everyone was encouraged to BYOC (bring your own cup) for beverages while enjoying the wonderful fresh sandwiches sponsored by Areas.



Speaker Series - May

Guest Speaker

David Mayer, CEA, REA

Conservation Specialist, Orlando Utilities Commission

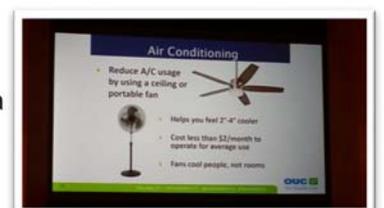


The Green Team welcomed David Mayer, Conservation Specialist from Orlando Utilities Commission as May's guest speaker. David addressed what attendees could do to reduce their lighting and air conditioning costs. Some suggestions were as simple as changing from incandescent bulbs to LED, and using a fan instead of lowering the AC to cool people.

OUC has many community and education programs, such as the Green Neighborhood Program, which has made energy conserving improvements to over 825 homes. This program provides up to \$1,000 per home to install energy upgrades and make repairs. Partnering with the City of Orlando, the P.O.W.E.R. program evaluates health concerns like mold as well as energy efficiency, and provides subsidies of up to \$15,000 per home towards renovations and rehabilitation.



As part of OUC's educational programs, Conservation Specialists are available to talk about topics like energy and water conservation, and renewable energy. Tours of OUC's LEED Gold-certified building are available. For more information on scheduling a speaker or attending a tour, click [REQUEST](#).



Green Team also extends a big thank you to OUC for sponsoring this month's lunch!

Green Roots Around the Airport

GOAA's Water Quality Program: History and Overview

By Liz Barker, Bio-Tech Consulting, Inc.

The Orlando International Airport (MCO) comprises approximately 13,300 acres within the City of Orlando, Florida. The airport has a unique landscape with over 1,400 acres of wetlands, lakes, canals and ditches within the property. During the many years that the airport has been in operation, environmental concerns have focused on the quality of surface waters within the airport and the sustainability of the Orlando area's water resources. In addition, state and regional requirements that originated from the Development of Regional Impact process and the South Florida Water Management District regulatory permit process required monitoring of the quality of the airport's surface waters. In response to those concerns and regulatory requirements, the airport instituted a surface water monitoring program to monitor the quality of the waters within the property.

The water quality program was initiated in the late 1970s and the first phase included the collection of background data and the monitoring of surface water quality. During this time, monthly water grab samples were obtained throughout the airport and analyzed for a variety of water quality parameters at the various sampling stations. As the airport grew in size, the water quality program was increased to include the sampling of on-site construction areas and completed projects. In 2001, the second phase of the water quality program was initiated that included the installation of 21 remote solar-powered monitoring stations that collected both water quality and water level data at one hour intervals. During those years, the data was sent via radio telemetry to the environmental program's office, which was continually reviewed by airport environmental staff for irregularities and water quality violations.

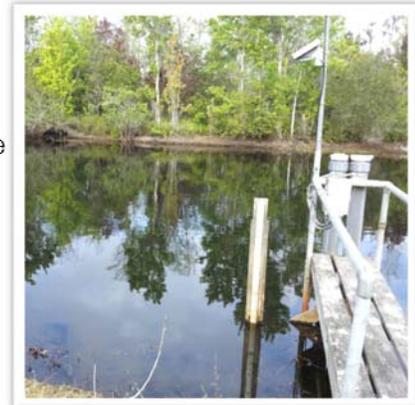
In 2014, the airport acquired contractors to develop and install a real-time response and cellular telemetry system for the monitoring of the airport's surface waters with a secure web datacenter that provided an online interface for viewing the water quality data and current water levels. The new system allowed airport staff, consultants and contractors to review the status of the airport's water quality and water levels on an hourly basis, which is used to evaluate National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) criteria. Over the years as the airport continued to grow in size, the environmental staff expanded its water quality program to monitor and analyze the environmental conditions within the property.

So, what is the next technical tool to be added to the Authority's current program? Future tools may include flow meters, high-definition cameras and possibly smartphone mobile applications designed to have the data delivered directly to any phone.

The future condition of the airport's surface waters resides in the work we conduct today. Working together will ensure today's focus remains on maintaining a healthy environment and safe and productive surface waters.



Mud Lake Water Quality Station



Boggy Creek Outfall Water Quality Station



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency GoGreen! Newsletter

Tips for a better environment

Transportation: 1) choose a cleaner commute: car pool, public transportation, bike, or walk when possible; 2) combine errands; 3) keep tires properly inflated; 4) keep car engine properly tuned; 5) don't top off gas tank. For more information click [Cleaner Air](#).

Pesticides: When gardening, protect the bees and READ LABELS when using pesticides. For more information on protecting bees and other pollinators click [Protecting Pollinators](#).

Mosquitoes: They're here!!! Regularly drain/change standing water. Some mosquitoes only need a few tablespoons to breed! When using insect repellents, READ THE LABEL. For insect repellent information click [Buzz Off](#) and for mosquito control click [Get Out](#).

About this newsletter: Americans want to help protect and improve the nation's land, water, and air. "GoGreen!" is a monthly newsletter from the US EPA summarizing recent news and info you can use to make a difference in your home, community, and workplace.

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Green Roots Around the Airport

Sharing Sustainability with ecoPreserve

By Alexa Stone, LEED AP O+M, Sustainable Facility Professional™

April 22nd was an exceptionally important Earth Day. Leaders from 175 countries signed the Paris climate agreement. This action at the United Nations in New York represented a critical step. With their signatures, the leaders committed to strategies and timeframes that will slow the accumulation of greenhouse gases. The ratification process continues. It is dangerously slow, but awareness and determination over these past 46 years have at least led to agreement.

Several ecoPreserve team members participated in MCO's Earth Day reaching out to the 100,000 visitors that pass through daily at the airport. The Airport Green Team (GOAA Green) took a fun approach with educational games, prizes, and special guest appearances from the Bag Monster.

Chanel Jelovchan, one of ecoPreserve's Sustainability Specialists, brought attention to the issue of plastic bag waste. Her Bag Monster costume demonstrates the impact each person can have. The costume consists of over 600 plastic bags representing the number of bags the average American uses each year. Another Sustainability Specialist, Sarah Hamoui, and Jessica Wright, Project Manager, challenged passersby in a matching game called "How Long Until I'm Gone." Participants matched pictures of different objects with the years the object needs to decompose.

Our card stand was popular even with those who passed by the game. Clothespins attached unusual but quite practical recipes to the rack. These recipes weren't for food, but nonetheless essential in and around the home: Laundry detergent; room fragrance sprays; gentle, natural household cleaners; ecofriendly fertilizer; and non-polluting weed killer. Send an email with "Recipe Request" in the subject line to info@ecopreserve.net to receive these recipes.



Plug the Power Drain!



Energy is invisible unless carried by light, yet we can see and hear its use in many ways. Look for glowing screens in vacant cubicles, meeting rooms that are brightly lit after adjournment, and computer peripherals that hum long after the computer shuts down...someone pays for that tune. If you give your computers a break, they will give utility costs a break. Check the system settings on each machine. Often you will find that sleep mode can be configured for the workstation and each separate monitor. Sleep mode cuts energy consumption in half, which can save \$75 per computer, per year. Using colorful smart strips and light switches with sensors can help save energy too.

For more information on how you can reduce energy waste click [SLEEP](#), [SMART STRIPS](#), or [LIGHT SWITCH](#).

To subscribe to Building Sustainability with ecoPreserve monthly newsletter, send an email to info@ecopreserve.net with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

Our Planet Earth

Audubon Florida—Eric Draper: 10 Things You can Do to Help Coastal Water Quality

To read the full article, click [WATER](#) to find out 10 ways you can do to help coastal water quality.

Last Call!



GOAA GREEN TEAM CHALLENGE

Pull Tab Challenge Continues!

The GOAA Green Team will continue to collect **pull tabs** through August 2016. Collected tabs will be donated to the third Ronald McDonald House in Orlando. This three story house near Nemours Children's Hospital in Lake Nona will open August 11, 2016. The two other RMH Orlando are located on the Florida Hospital and Arnold Palmer Medical Center campuses. For more information on RMH Orlando, visit their website www.ronaldmcdonaldhouseorlando.org. Stay tuned for tab collection news from Al E. Gator!

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Join Us!

Would you like to part of the Green Team? The Airport Green Team is an all-volunteer committee of airport employees who meet periodically. Please contact Judith-Ann Jarrette at Judith-ann.jarrette@goaa.org or Anita Lemmon alemmon@goaa.org for details.



Have comments, ideas, suggestions? Email GreenTalks@goaa.org

Stay MCOConnected!

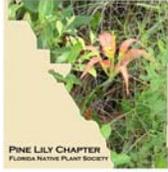


Thank you to our Earth Day vendors!



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Terracon



Kissimmee Valley Audubon Society



Green Works Orlando
MAYOR DYER'S GREEN INITIATIVE

Wings FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION



Curtis Earth Trivia



BRITISH AIRWAYS



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start somewhere®

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GOAA Wildlife Control



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More Earth Day 2016

