

Green Team News:

Do you know about Newcomb's "BYOC" PROGRAM????

It is our "**Bring Your Own Container**" program for lunches / snacks brought from home. We are trying to eliminate the amount of **waste** that is used for school lunches.

The basic steps to waste reduction are simple:

- Reduce the amount of disposable waste we pack as parents
- Pack Reusable products
- Recycle anything the students have left over

Easy Tips for a No Waste / BYOC lunch:

- **Replace your disposable lunch bag with a reusable lunch tote.** When half of the stuff we throw away each day comes from food waste and packaging, you'll make a difference for your health and your wallet by switching to reusables.
- **Bring your drink in a BPA-free reusable bottle.** It not only reduces waste, it promotes good health since you're assured no toxins will leach into your drink. With an average savings of \$200 per year over disposable water bottle costs, reusable bottles are a safe and sensible solution.
- **Eliminate disposable foils, plastics and bags by replacing them with reusable containers and sandwich wraps.** Available in a variety of materials, reusable containers come in a variety of shapes and sizes to fit most any size lunch tote. Buying food in bulk is a great way to reduce packaging in general, and often saves money too.
- **Choose reusable cutlery** as an alternative to disposable plastic, or bring your stainless steel cutlery from home. Reusable cutlery is available in a variety of sustainable materials. Stainless steel travels well when wrapped in a cloth napkin, just rewrap after use for easy cleanup at home.
- **Cloth Napkins are a money-saving, tree-free alternative to paper.** You can green your kitchen and save an average of \$40 per year by eliminating disposable paper napkins from your shopping list.
- **Insulated Thermos-type food and beverage containers** keep foods and beverages at the right temperature, so the soup you made over the weekend will stay warm enough for lunch. You may also be surprised at the number of leftover meals that will suddenly become lunch options with the right travel containers.

Ideas for purchasing your No Waste / BYOC containers:

- **Target** - has a variety of colorful and fun drink and "tupperware" containers for storage of lunch products. They have a great aluminum drink container that you can switch out the lids and it has easy cleaning.

- **Macy's** - has a selection of "pack n go" lunch boxes for \$5
- **Dollar Store** - they have small containers for individual packing.
- **Online options are:**
 1. www.gogreenlunchbox.com for full lunch boxes with built in compartments for all of your different foods.
 2. www.GetNGreen.com for "wrap - n - mats". These are COOL mats used as **REUSABLE** baggies / wraps for sandwiches & snacks. Very unique and easy to use!!! They also carry drink containers.
 3. www.theultimategreenstore.com for a unique 'ALL IN ONE' lunch box with the built in compartments and a drink container.

There are many options to help with our **BYOC Program**. Some of these items might be a bit expensive initially but remember how much you'll be saving on the purchase of the plastics, foil and paper.

Our SECRET AGENTS have found several students with 100% BYOC participation. This means absolutely no paper or plastics in their lunch. Your student may come home and tell you that he / she was a **BYOC Winner**. These students will be recognized in the upcoming newsletters.

We are hoping to get to a 100% participation by the end of the 2009 year.

Other Green Team News:

Newcomb Students/Faculty/Staff are doing a FANTASTIC job with their "Recycling: Cans and Bottles Only." Newcomb has collected a large barrel of recycling to benefit the Music Department and Library in just one week. Please continue to dispose of your recycling "Cans and Bottles Only" in the designated boxes around campus. If you have "CRV Cans and Bottles only" and would like to contribute them towards benefiting the Music Department and Library, please remove the lids/liquids, bag them and drop off at the office area with your name and classroom #. Thank you.

It takes each of us to help Newcomb move into "A GREENER FUTURE"!