

 March 2013

Sustainability in the Caribbean

- News
- Events
- Publications



Environmental
Finance
Center
Syracuse University

News

Welcome to the EFC eNews on Sustainability in the Caribbean!

Welcome to the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center (EFC) eNews on Sustainability in the Caribbean! The EFC at SU, part of a national Environmental Finance Center Network, is proud to facilitate the development of sustainable and resilient communities throughout New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, eight tribal nations, and other Caribbean communities.

The purpose of this eNews is to educate, encourage and enable the public to participate in projects and initiatives related to sustainability in the Caribbean. Expect to receive periodic eNews updates and announcements on meetings, educational opportunities, and publications.

In this issue you will find information on the Puerto Rico Recycling Partnership (PRRP) and US Virgin Islands Recycling Partnership (VIRP), as well as news, webinars, events, and more!

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Zero Waste Puerto Rico Promotes Recycling at Plaza Colón in Old San Juan



This week at Plaza Colón in Old San Juan, Zero Waste Puerto Rico and various non profit organizations gathered to promote recycling. The goal of the demonstration was to raise awareness and to send a message that the will to recycle exists but that there needs to be the proper infrastructure in place to do so. [Learn more at the PRRP News Page](#)

Representative Velázquez Requests \$40 Million for Vieques Cleanup

U.S. Representative Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY) led 48 of her colleagues in writing the U.S. Navy to ask that \$40 million be provided for cleanup of Vieques in Fiscal Year 2014. The full text of the letter is available at the [PRRP News Page](#).

PRRP Options Report Now Available in Spanish

The *Puerto Rico Integrated Solid Waste Strategy*, also referred to as the "PRRP Options Report" is now available in Spanish.

The Options Report was translated into Spanish by Mónica Salazar and Rafael Pérez Vázquez. Ms. Salazar is a student at the University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras, is a PRRP Organics Intern and Project Assistant for the Environmental Finance Center. In addition to translating the report's Main Goals, she will continue to edit the perceived barriers and remaining appendices. Mr. Pérez Vázquez, President of Puerto Rico and Caribbean Recycler Association, volunteered his time to assist in this project. The PRRP and EFC would like to thank both Ms. Salazar and Mr. Pérez Vázquez for their time and effort.

Click [here](#) to access the Options Report in Spanish, *la Estrategía*

**Event: Workshop:
Conservation Science and
Sustainable Landscapes**

Calendar

March 30, 2013

9:00 am - 3:30 pm
[ABCs of Composting
Workshop](#)

April 1, 2013

9:00 am - 10:00 am
[VIRP Community Education
and Outreach Meeting](#)

April 2, 2013

9:00 am - 12:00 pm
[EPA "Green Marinas"
Workshop](#)

April 16, 2013

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
[Webinar: A Look at E-Scrap
Legislation in the United
States](#)

May 6, 2013

9:30 am - 5:00 pm
[Workshop: Small Drinking
Water Systems Asset
Management](#)

May 7, 2013

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

May 23, 2013

10:00 am - 5:00 pm
[Workshop: Conservation
Science and Sustainable
Landscapes](#)

Partners



integral de desperdicios sólidos en Puerto Rico.

EFC Sustainability Speaker Series Teams Up with Green Drinks San Juan

Earlier this month Jessica Seiglie, a Co-chair of the PRRP Education and Outreach Team, and leader of Basura Cero Puerto Rico, spoke on "How to Develop Leadership in Environmental Education to Promote Sustainability in our Schools and Communities." This presentation, part of the EFC Sustainability Speaker Series, was held in conjunction with the Green Drinks San Juan Event at The Garden Restaurant. Thank you to everyone who attended this event!

The EFC launched the Sustainability Speaker Series aimed at educating the community on sustainable materials management. Have an idea for a speaker series event? Contact Laura Cardoso at Lcardoso@syr.edu.

PRRP and VIRP Team Chairs Create a Steering Committees

At the February PRRP and VIRP Meetings, various members suggested that teams would benefit from more communication with each other. Team chairs have also recognized parallels within their respective team goals.

As a result, the PRRP and the VIRP will each create a new Steering Committee, to be comprised of all team chairs. This group is being created in an effort to promote inter-team communication. Its goals will be to both determine and move forward the top priorities of PRRP or VIRP teams, respectively. Responsibilities of the Steering Committees will include:

- Determining the top priorities of the teams
- Assisting team chairs in developing communication with government leaders
- Determining whether a team is ready to communicate with government leaders
- Decision-making related to future developments of the PRRP or VIRP

In the first Steering Committee Meeting, team chairs will establish a meeting schedule and determine task priorities. Mark Lichtenstein of the Environmental Finance Center will facilitate the Steering Committee. [Learn more](#)

New Leadership for the VIRP Community Education and Outreach Team

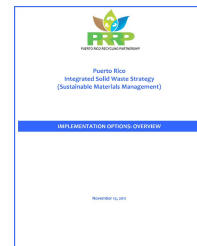
The VIRP is happy to announce the following leaders of the



For more information on how to become an eNews partner, contact [Laura Cardoso](#).

Tools and Publications

Puerto Rico
Integrated Solid Waste
Strategy
(Sustainable Materials
Management)



(November 2011)
(Updated March, 2013)
Environmental Finance
Center at Syracuse /
Puerto Rico Recycling
Partnership (PRRP)

US Virgin Islands
Integrated Solid Waste
Strategy (Sustainable
Materials Management)

Community Education and Outreach Team for the month of March:

Kysa Wallace - Lead
Cheryl Rae - Co-lead
Cordell Jacobs - Scribe

Team meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month at 9:00am. The next meeting will be Monday, April 1, 2013. You may call in to the meeting at 1-888-433-2065 with the access code 296113. For more information visit the [VIRP Community Education and Outreach Team Page](#) or contact Keshema Webbe at Webbe.Keshema@epa.gov.

EPA Announces New Guidelines for Energy Efficient Homes in Puerto Rico; Will Help Puerto Ricans Conserve Energy, Protect the Environment and Save Money

Federal, Commonwealth, and San Juan officials joined the U.S. Green Building Council today in San Juan to announce new guidelines for energy efficient homes in Puerto Rico. The new guidelines, developed by EPA as part of the federal ENERGY STAR program, are designed to take the Puerto Rico climate into account in determining energy efficiency for homes. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Judith A. Enck, Puerto Rico Department of Housing and Urban Development Office Director Efrain Maldonado, San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulin Cruz-Soto, and U.S. Green Building Council Caribbean Chapter President Vincent Pieri made the announcement at EPA's office in Guaynabo. [Learn more](#)

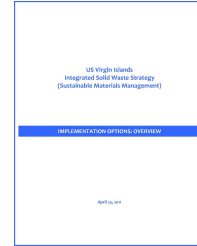
EPA Provides Funding to Protect Wetlands in Puerto Rico; Nearly 250,000 Awarded for Wetlands Research

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded \$249,487 to the Puerto Rico Department of Environment and Natural Resources to support wetlands protection across the commonwealth.

These funds provide opportunities for environmental agencies to conduct research and help build the science behind comprehensive wetlands programs at the local level. Recipients of these grants are required to contribute a minimum of 25 percent of the cost of the project. [Learn more](#)

Rising Seas Imperil Caribbean Wetlands

A rise in sea levels by a meter from climate change could destroy more than 60 percent of the developing world's coastal wetlands currently found at one meter or less elevation, according to a World Bank study. That would lead to economic losses of around \$630 million per year. [Learn more](#)



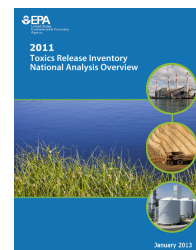
(April 2011)
Environmental Finance
Center at Syracuse
University / Virgin
Islands Recycling
Partnership (VIRP)

Sustainable Materials Management in Haiti



(2012) SyracuseCoE
Center for Sustainable
Solutions
at Syracuse University

Toxics Release Inventory National Analysis Overview



(January 2013)
U.S. Environmental

Encourage Your Colleagues to Join the Puerto Rico Recycling Partnership and Virgin Islands Recycling Partnership!

In an effort to increase membership and team listings, we are asking PRRP and VIRP members to encourage colleagues, friends and family to get involved! Simply share the following online membership forms. Thank you!

PRRP Membership: [Click here to register](#)

VIRP Membership: [Click here to register](#)

Meetings, Trainings & Webinars

ABC's of Composting Workshop

Saturday, March 30, 2013

9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Mandahl Bay at Camp Umoja
St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands

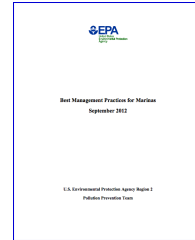


This free community composting workshop is being hosted by the VIRP and USVI Organics Interns, with the Environmental Association St. Thomas/St. John, the VI Conservation Society, the Environmental Rangers & Sankofa Saturdays, and other partner groups.

Organics Interns from the University of the Virgin Islands will also provide information on how to become involved in their Organics Internship program, made possible with a grant provided by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at Syracuse University. [Learn more](#)

Protection Agency

Best Management Practices for Marinas



(September 2012)
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency Region
2
Pollution Prevention
Team

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VIRP Community Education and Outreach Team Meeting

Monday, April 1, 2013

9:00 am

Call in number: 1-888-433-2065

Access Code: 296113

This meeting will be conducted as a teleconference. Team projects to be discussed include:

- Holding a Public Meeting
- Good To Go Cups
- Bring Your Own Bag Campaign
- Options for creating reusable bags
- A review of the VIWMA Education Outreach Plan

Read the minutes from the last team meeting [here](#).

For more information on this and other VIRP meetings, contact Keshema Webbe at Webbe.Keshema@epamail.epa.gov.

SWANA Collection Systems Certification Course

Monday-Wednesday, April 1-3, 2013

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

4th Floor, Puerto Rico Solid Waste Authority,
Environmental Offices Building, San Juan, PR



Covering topics such as routing, procurement, operation and maintenance, health and safety and more. This course is intended for operators, system planners, employees responsible for daily operations of the system, consultants, haulers, municipal and industrial representatives.

View information on registration and associated costs in the documents included. Space is limited, please send registration form as soon as possible via email to puertorico@swanacaribbean.com or fax (787-751-8988) and payment (including the tax exemption sheet issued by the Puerto Rico Treasury Department) to PO Box 191981, San Juan, PR 00919-1981. We hope you're able to attend

this important event! [Register here](#). [Learn more](#)

EPA "Green Marinas" Workshop

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Puerto Del Rey Marina

Fajardo, Puerto Rico

On April 2, 2013, the EPA will host a Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention Workshop for marina owners and operators. Among the topics the EPA will cover at this workshop are: on-site boat maintenance, fuel management, stormwater management and regulatory requirements, emergency planning for the hurricane season and green marina certification programs. [Learn more](#).

To RSVP for the workshop, or for more information, contact Jaime Lopez at 787-977-5851 or lopez.jaime@epa.gov.

Webinar: A look at E-Scrap Legislation in the United States

National Recycling Coalition &

The Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

1:30pm - 2:45pm (EST) [Register](#)

Topic Subject Matter: Electronic Scrap Collection and Recycling/
State Legislation
Technical Complexity: Moderate

26 States have some sort of legislation that regulates the disposition electronic scrap. Learn about the major similarities and differences and what are the emerging issues concerning e-scrap regulation.

[Learn More](#)

Asset Management and Finance Workshops for Drinking Water, Waste Water and Storm Water Systems

Asset Management

Monday, May 6, 2013

9:30am - 5:00pm

San Juan, PR area

This workshop presented by the Environmental Finance Center Network, and hosted by the Syracuse EFC, will provide an overview of the five core components of Asset Management including interactive exercises and a discussion on implementation.

Participants may contact the EFCN instructors after the training with questions that arise during implementation. All participants will be provided with an electronic copy of the Asset Management Manual.

[*Register Free Here](#)

Financing

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

9:30am - 5:00pm

San Juan, PR area

This training presented by the Environmental Finance Center Network, and hosted by the Syracuse EFC, is primarily for drinking water systems serving 10,000 or fewer customers. While operators are welcome, this training is best suited for individuals who make financial decisions on behalf of water systems-board members, local government managers and finance staff, and system managers. Topics will include rate setting, capital planning, affordability, and available loans and grants. This training will also include a component regarding financial data that is helpful to have for any system that has a grant or loan with a state or federal entity. The information will assist a system in knowing what type of information these funders would want to see and what type of data to maintain. Waste water and storm water managers will also find the workshop helpful. [*Register Free Here](#)

*Please note that these workshops are free of charge, but all food and travel costs are the responsibility of participants, including the cost of any group food orders organized by the Network.

[Learn More](#)

Workshop: Conservation Science and Sustainable Landscapes

The Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative

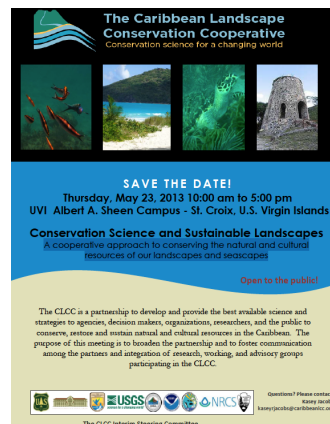
Thursday, May 23, 2013

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

UVI Albert A. Sheen Campus

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

[Register free](#)



Save the date! This event will discuss a cooperative approach to

conserving the natural and cultural resources of our landscapes and seascapes. [Learn more](#)