Updating Our Neighbors

The Clifton Community Partnership (CCP) is an initiative started by Emory to provide a framework to discuss common quality of life issues within the Clifton community - the area within three miles of Emory’s core campus.

Their goal is to engage local audiences in a productive, community dialogue, including:

- civic leaders
- business leaders
- local governments
- employers/employees and
- local residents

The CCP focuses on four areas that will have a significant and positive impact on the community:

- Live Locally
- Walk Anywhere
- Commute Creatively
- Enhance Vibrant Neighborhoods

To support this initiative the CCP mails and emails a newsletter to thousands of homes near Emory every month. The newsletter provides a quick look at the interesting personalities and unique projects that are happening at Emory and in the general community. The newsletter is also available to Emory’s faculty and staff. Sign up at http://cliftoncommunitypartnership.org/about/contact.html.

In addition to the newsletter, neighbors and Emory’s faculty and staff can learn more about the Clifton community, upcoming events, ways to get involved and much more by visiting the CCP’s new website, www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org.

Important 403(b) Dates

Emory’s goal is to help employees meet their retirement objectives by ensuring that the 403(b) plan provides a fund lineup of appropriate and diversified options. Recent changes to the plan have been communicated through a series of Take Care newsletters that were mailed to home addresses over the last several months.

As a reminder, these are dates that you need to be aware of:

- **June 2008 – September 2008**
  Determine if you are currently contributing to or have money invested in any of the funds listed for elimination beginning October 1, 2008.

- **Before October 1, 2008**
  Contact your retirement plan vendor (Fidelity, TIAA-CREF or Vanguard), to redirect (if you have any) your future contributions AND/OR move any remaining account balance(s) into the other plan investment options available. No action is required if you do not have money invested in one of the eliminated funds.

- **October 1, 2008**
  Identiﬁed funds will be eliminated and future contributions will be mapped to designated funds with similar investment objectives.

- **January 2009**
  Remaining account balances for funds previously identiﬁed as not appropriate for the plan will be mapped to designated funds.

- **April 2009**
  Remaining account balances for funds identiﬁed as too narrowly focused or duplicates will be mapped to designated funds.

To see the list of funds being eliminated and their mappings or to view the Take Care newsletters online, go to http://www.hr.emory.edu/employee/benefits/retirementланoptions/index.html.

Employee Discounts with Sparkfly

Feeling the heat to save money? Then soak up the savings with Sparkfly’s discount offers. From amusement park tickets to hotel accommodations, their discount offers can help make your vacation dollars go further. And, if you are looking to hit the high seas, their discounts on cruises will get you sailing in the right direction.

Staying put? Then Sparkfly’s home and garden discounts can provide you a great reason to spend some time at home. So whatever your plans are this summer, Sparkfly’s discount offers can help make your summer fun and affordable! You can login to Sparkfly at www.sparkfly.com.

Do you have an award winning idea?

Emory employees have submitted over 246 ideas to date. Each month the new ideas submitted to the site are reviewed by the Bright Ideas committee, then forwarded to the appropriate division for further consideration and categorized as one of the following:

- In review
- Implemented
- Duplicate
- In progress
- Previously planned by Unit
- Not feasible at this time

Submit your idea(s) to the Bright Ideas website (www.brightideas.emory.edu).

Options for high gas prices

As one of “The Best Colleges to Work For”, Emory is concerned about the well being of our employees and the effects of traffic and pollution on our quality of life. Therefore, Emory continues to offer options that can help offset rising gas prices.

Although they are different programs, both Emory’s Commute Options and Alternative Work Arrangements provide ways to assist employees in reducing their monthly spend on gas.

Emory’s Commute Options include Clip Shuttle, Park-n-Ride, Biking, Walking, Carpools, Vanpools and MARTA/Public Transit. Learn more about these options and the associated benefits by going to http://transportation.emory.edu and clicking on the option that best fits your needs.

Alternative Work Arrangements (AWA) offer staff such options as flextime, telecommuting, and work schedule alternatives. For more information on AWAs, please visit the website at www.emory.edu/HR/employee/customerservice/Benefits/PIA/WorkLifeSupport/AWA.html.

While Emory realizes that not everyone is able to take advantage of all the opportunities, employees are encouraged to become familiar with the options and to utilize these options when feasible.

WPEC Payroll Deduction

As of August 1, 2008, payroll deduction is available at the WPEC. Details are as follows:

- To initiate payroll deduction, faculty and staff should visit the membership office to sign the deduction authorization form. Please bring your seven digit employee ID number (found on your paper pay stub or online pay advice.)
- The first month’s payment will be $15.00 and will need to be paid in person at the WPEC office.
- $15.00 will be deducted from your paycheck in the month following the month in which you authorize payroll deduction.
- Membership office hours are 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Should you wish to pay in a lump sum, the rate is $180.00 for one year from the date of purchase. For more information about the WPEC, go to www.wpec.emory.edu.

Employee Reminders...
Recycling at Emory

**Myth:** Recycled materials collected at Emory are just thrown away instead of actually being recycled.

**Fact:** Fifty nine percent of Emory’s waste stream is recycled. In 2006-2007, 11,000 tons of waste was recycled at Emory.

Energy at Emory University

**Myth:** Fluorescent lights take more energy to turn back on, so you shouldn’t turn them off.

**Fact:** Fluorescent bulbs do have a startup surge; however, they only need to be turned off for 23 seconds in order to save electricity. It is best to turn off the lights – even if only for a short time – no matter what bulb you use. Also, switching from incandescent bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs increases energy efficiency by 75%.

**Myth:** Cell phone and i-Pod chargers will not continue to use electricity once the device is removed from the charging cord, even if the charger is left plugged in the outlet.

**Fact:** As long as the charger remains plugged in, it will continue to use electricity (even if the device is removed from the charging cord).

Water Consumption

**Myth:** Bottled water is always safer to drink than tap water.

**Fact:** Tap water is monitored by the EPA and must meet federal Safe Drinking Water Act standards. Bottled water does not have to meet the same federal standards. According to government and industry experts, as much as 40% of bottled water is actually tap water.

If you drink bottled water, please use reusable bottles and recycle those that are not reusable.

**Source:** Discovery Channel and Emory’s Office of Sustainability Initiatives

Farmers Markets – Promoting Sustainability

Offering healthy choices conveniently to the Emory community, the Farmers Markets at Emory feature fresh, local produce, along with meat, bread, cheese, and other artisan products.

As part of the University’s Sustainability Initiative, Emory hosts a weekly farmers market:

- **Every Tuesday**
- **11 AM – 2:30 PM**
- **Cox Hall Bridge**

Come meet local farmers and learn more about their methods of sustainable production.

The market is open to everyone. It is sponsored by the Sustainable Food Initiative in cooperation with Emory Dining.

Learn more about Emory’s Sustainability Initiative and the sustainable food effort by visiting [http://www.emory.edu/sustainability.cfm](http://www.emory.edu/sustainability.cfm).

Bike Share Now Open at 1599 (and other locations)

Bike Emory has launched a new Bike Share station in the lobby of the 1599 Clifton Road Building. Next time you have a trip to make consider checking out a Bike Share bike. The program is FREE and it is a simple. To get started download the waiver form ([www.bike.emory.edu](http://www.bike.emory.edu)), fill it out and bring it with you to the check out desk (you only have to fill it out once).

Next follow these 5 steps to check out a bike once you are there:

1. Choose a bike (bikes are numbered)
2. Go to the desk, fill out the form and get the key
3. Inspect the bike (ask for the checklist from attendant)
4. Put on a helmet and you’re off!

PLEASE NOTE: Everyone must wear a helmet. A limited number of helmets are available for check out so please plan on bringing your own. Other Bike Shares are located at select locations on campus:

- **1762 Clifton Road, Plaza 1000** (8:30 AM - 5:30 PM)
- **Peavine parking deck** (8:00 AM - 11:00 PM)
- **1599 Clifton Rd. Building** (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)
- **Emory’s Oxford Campus** (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM)

For more information on the Bike Share program visit the Bike Share page on the Bike Emory website at [http://bike.emory.edu/ride/bike-share](http://bike.emory.edu/ride/bike-share).

Step Up Emory’s nutrition initiative, “A Healthy Body, A Healthy Earth” focuses on increasing your consumption of vegetables, fruits and whole grains, as well as choosing sustainable foods whenever possible.

As a part of this initiative, Step UP Emory presented a talk by Dr. Will Clower on the Mediterranean Diet.

If you missed this informative talk on July 18, you can now view it at your convenience online at [www.stepup.emory.edu](http://www.stepup.emory.edu).

Food demonstrations and cooking classes are also being offered throughout the Emory system to Emory employees. The last two will be held:

- **Tuesday, August 5**
  - 11 AM - 2:30 PM
- **Emory’s Farmers Market**
  - **Cox Hall Bridge**

Grilled Chicken and Turkish Salad
(Food Demonstration)

- **Thursday, August 7**
  - 5 PM
  - **1599 Building**
  - **Cafe Montage**

Tabbouleh Salad
(Food Demonstration)

Recipes for all of the demonstrations and cooking classes are available online at [www.stepup.emory.edu](http://www.stepup.emory.edu).

Step UP Emory invites you to partake of these options that taste good, are good for you and are good for the environment.

Learn more about healthy and sustainable eating by visiting [www.stepup.emory.edu](http://www.stepup.emory.edu).

Emory cares about your health and well being. Learn how you can take an active role in leading a healthier future by visiting the Step UP Emory website – [www.stepup.emory.edu](http://www.stepup.emory.edu).

Here you will find links to useful information such as:

- Wellness Tools - HealthQ
- Exercise Tips - Health News
- Emory Healthcare - Prevention

Take a minute today towards creating a healthier future by visiting Step UP Emory – [www.stepup.emory.edu](http://www.stepup.emory.edu).