

[Login](#) | [Register](#)
[Advanced Search](#)



Award Winning Mac & PC Repair
 252 Charlotte Street / 300 Airport Road

home events blogs news a&e features food movies music opinion guides search classifieds forums
 blog the buzz conscious party city council county commissioners article archive RSS

The Green Scene

Plastic, climate-action filmfest and e-waste
 by [Margaret Williams](#) in Vol. 16 / Iss. 13 on 10/21/2009

 Share

Hamming it up for plastic

Did you know that every second, 100 plastic bottles are thrown away in North Carolina? And that one in five plastic bottles doesn't get recycled? Those are just two reasons state legislators passed a bill that bans plastic bottles from landfills. The law took affect on Oct. 1, and during the following week a few North Buncombe High School students came up with their own way of spreading the word: They creatively adorned themselves with plastic bottles under the premise that when someone asked, "Why are you wearing those bottles on your head?" they'd get a chance to educate.

"We already have a great recycling program here that includes plastic bottles," says teacher **Kay McLeod**. "But now it must include *all* of our plastic bottles." The school had to develop new collection methods and get the word out, she adds. Later this month, some students will partner with BlackHawk Recycling to make a video for school broadcast.



Plastic hams: North Buncombe High School students Lowell Capobianco and Brian Clubb ham it up to raise awareness about a new state law banning plastic in landfills. Photo courtesy N. Buncombe High

In related news, the city of Asheville is trying to spread the word that there's "no need to look at the bottom for the recycling symbol and number. Just remember — the neck must be smaller than the base. Please remove the lid before you recycle." Plastic tubs — such as yogurt and margarine containers, food trays, deli containers, plant trays, plant pots, plastic furniture, or toys — can't go into your recycling bins. City officials suggest recycling your clean No. 5 plastic containers by dropping them off at the Greenlife Grocery, which is participating in the Preserve Gimme 5 program, a Boston-based effort to collect No. 5 plastics and turn them into new products such as cutting boards.

For more information on Gimme 5, go to <http://www.preserveproducts.com/gimme5/>.

Climate action and films

Climate, water, energy and activism will be the topics du jour at the Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival in Asheville on Friday, Oct. 23 at UNC-Asheville. The event will feature a selection of award-winning short films, including *All Points South* (which details the environmental threats posed by the paper-manufacturing industry in Chile), *Water Front* (which examines privatized water issues in Michigan) and *Burning the Future: Coal in America*.

"Most people don't realize what an enormous impact the energy industry has on North Carolina's waters," says **Gracia O'Neill**, assistant director of Clean Water for N.C., a nonprofit that is co-hosting the film event. She mentions recent findings about toxins seeping from coal-ash retaining ponds in the state, urging residents and students alike to attend the event, which will also feature speakers such as local civil-rights activist **Isaac Coleman** and anti-nuclear-power activist **Mary Olson**.

The event also jump-starts the International Day of Climate Action, which in Asheville will include a rally at City Hall on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tickets for the film event are \$10 (or \$5 with student I.D.) and are available at the UNCA Student Environmental Center, Clean Water for N.C. (29 ½ Page Ave.), Diamond Brand Outdoors (2623 Hendersonville Road), West End Bakery (757 Haywood Road) and Luella's BBQ (501 Merrimon Ave.). For more information about the Oct. 24 event at City Hall, get on the newsletter for updates by e-mailing asheville350@gmail.com with "Subscribe" in your subject line, or check out these links:

- Global Web site: <http://www.350.org>
- Local: <http://www.asheville350.org>
- Global Twitter: <http://twitter.com/350>
- Local Twitter: <http://twitter.com/avl350>

Black Mountain Counseling & Education Center

Individual Counseling for Adults – Adolescents Groups
 Workshop & Training Programs

LIBERTY BICYCLES

www.libertybikes.com
 National Top 100 Bicycle Dealer 1994 - Present
 National Bicycle Dealer of the Year 2003
 National Bicycle Advocate of the Year 2007

URBAN NEW AGE GARDENS

organic

Recycle Glass

Join Coke in helping the planet by recycling & completing the cycle!

LivePositively.com/JoinUs

Wholesale Containers

See Our Selection of Top Containers & Choose from Over 2,000 Items!

www.ContainerAndPackaging.com

Safer Plastic Bottles

Deer Park Bottles Are Made of 100% Safe PET 1 Recyclable Plastic!

www.DeerParkBornBetter.com

Elite Waste Services

10-40yd Containers Demolition (919)552-2149

EliteWasteServices.googlepag

BWE - Roll Off Containers

Bakers Waste Equipment Inc (NC) Roll Off and Hook Lift Containers

www.bwe-nc.com