

# STEAM

The monthly newsletter of the Green Lake County Sustainability Team\*

For May 2010

Compiled by Jason Kauffeld, UWEX Community Resource Development Educator

**\*GLC STEAM meets the first Tuesday of every month from 2-3pm in the demo room of the County Courthouse in Green Lake. The meeting is an open discussion of current projects, ideas for the future, and a sharing of advice and lessons learned.**

**Next meeting is Tuesday, June 1 and is open to all. Please come and contribute!**

## #1

**Dubbed a hero, Allen looks to take farming to the skies**, by Karen Herzog of the Journal Sentinel, posted: April 29, 2010

It's hard to imagine a five-story farm in the middle of a city, but if Milwaukee urban farmer Will Allen is behind the idea, anything's possible.

After all, Allen is a world hero, according to an issue of Time magazine that hits newsstands Friday. He's among 100 individuals and small groups picked by Time editors for the annual ["Time 100: The World's Most Influential People,"](#) which honors ideas, innovations and actions that are "shaping our world."

Allen already has been dubbed a genius by the John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation, which awarded him a \$500,000 "genius grant" in 2008.

To read more, follow this link:

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/92477004.html>

## #2

**"Marquette electric van project wins funding," Business Journal of Milwaukee, May 6.**

An electric van project at Marquette University will receive a \$65,000 grant from Wisconsin's Clean Transportation Program to continue development to make the vehicle street legal..

**#3**

**"Study: Growing more veggies could profit Midwest," Channel 3000, Associated Press, May 7.**

A new study shows that if Midwest farmers raised more of the fruits and vegetables eaten there, they could create thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in income. The Iowa State University study found that if farmers in six Midwestern states raised enough of 28 crops to meet local demand, they could create \$882 million in sales, more than 9,300 jobs and about \$395 million in labor income. Michelle Miller, of the University of Wisconsin, said other regions of the country could see similar benefits if they also grew food to meet local demand...

**#4**

**EPA Releases Report of Climate Change Indicators in the United States**

EPA's "Climate Change Indicators in the United States" report will help readers interpret a set of important indicators to better understand climate change. The report presents 24 indicators, each describing trends related to the causes and effects of climate change. It focuses primarily on the United States, but in some cases global trends are presented to provide context or a basis for comparison. EPA will use these indicators to collect data and generate analyses to:

- Monitor the effects/impacts of climate change in the United States
- Assist decision-makers on how to best use policy making and program resources to respond to climate change
- Assist EPA and its constituents in evaluating the success of their climate change efforts

Download individual sections or the full report at:

<http://epa.gov/climatechange/indicators.html>

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State and local officials interested in additional information about developing and implementing cost-effective climate and energy strategies that help further environmental goals and achieve public health and economic benefits may visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate>

To subscribe to or unsubscribe from this listserv, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/listservs/index.html>

## #5

One Moos and One Hums, but They Could Help Power Google / By: Ashlee Vance  
The New York Times -- May 19, 2010

Hey diddle diddle. Guess what the cow has done this time? America's dairy farmers could soon find themselves in the computer business, with the manure from their cows possibly powering the vast data centers of companies like Google and Microsoft. While not immediately intuitive, the idea plays on two trends: the building of computing centers in more rural locales, and dairy farmers' efforts to deal with cattle waste by turning it into fuel.

## #6

**["Entrants turn to clean-tech for Wisconsin business contest," Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 22.](#)**

...From all across the state, entrepreneurs with big ideas, all finalists in the Governor's Business Plan Contest, are highlighting the growing interest in clean-tech, a sector of technology and innovation investment that includes renewable energy, energy efficiency, water technologies and pollution controls...Wisconsin lags other states in clean-tech investment, but advocates say it's well-positioned because of the research power of the University of Wisconsin System and the presence in the state of large companies with an expanding clean-technology focus...

## #7

**["Find a green college: Check!"](#), USA Today, May 23.**

For the past 19 years, The Princeton Review has been helping students shop for colleges by creating guidebooks that look at a dizzying array of factors, from academics to campus life. So why would it add yet another factor to the checklist of items for college applicants to consider? Put simply, because students are going green and care about a college's commitment to sustainability...

**#8**

**["UW-Madison awarded \\$3.7 million to study nuclear energy,"](#) Business Journal of Milwaukee, May 20.**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison was awarded five federal grants worth \$3,682,798 to work on projects to advance nuclear energy research and development, the U.S. Department of Energy announced Thursday...

**#9**

**["UWP Pioneer Farm to present 'environment in action' program,"](#) Wisconsin Ag Connection, May 26.**

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville Pioneer Farm will present an Environment in Action program next month for high school students entering grades 10-12 with an interest in environmental sciences...