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Food For Thought

"Observation of my life to date shows that the larger the number for whom I work, the more positively effective I become. Thus, it is obvious that if I work always and only for all humanity, I will be optimally effective."

-R. Buckminster Fuller

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Trends and Perspectives

Hot-Selling Honda Civic May Stir Interest in Hybrids

Tom and Fiorella Williams put in an order for a new Honda Civic Hybrid sight unseen.

(Source: Environmental News Network)

Barking Up the Wrong Tree

Apparently spooked by a recent history of devastating floods and blinding sandstorms, China has unveiled a plan to plant trees on almost 200,000 square miles of land in an effort to reverse rampant deforestation. The plan, which Chinese officials call the largest conservation effort ever attempted, will cost an estimated \$12 billion over 10 years and restore trees to an area larger than Germany.

straight to the source: BBC News, 15 May 2002

http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/asia-pacific/newsid_1988000/1988142.stm

(Source: BBC News/Grist Magazine)

Putting Fuel Cells To the Test

Next year people living in California and Tokyo could actually glimpse some fuel-cell cars driving around on public roads. Maybe they will even get a chance to kneel down, sniff the tailpipe, and discover that fuel-cell exhaust is truly no different from the warm, moist air rising from a mug of tea. But these won't be the sort of cars ordinary drivers could buy. Honda plans to produce a gaggle of cars for testing with one or two fleet customers in California, and Toyota will do the same in Japan.

(Source: Fortune)

Local Access: IT Takes a Village

A Peruvian tribe's success in learning about and installing its own Internet server sets a fine example for others. Manny Frishberg reports from Seattle.

http://go.hotwired.com/news/culture/0,1284,52690,00.html/wn_ascii

(Source: Culture)

FTSE Sets New Environmental Standards for 'Responsible' Companies

Global index provider FTSE Group has announced the first criteria revision since the standard-setting Socially Responsible Investment index series was launched last year.

http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=20780

(Source: GreenBiz.com)

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Organic Farming more Efficient, Swiss Study Finds

Organic farming may produce lower yields, but in the long run it is more efficient and is much easier on the environment, Swiss researchers reported recently.

http://enn.com/news/wire-stories/2002/05/05312002/reu_47397.asp

(Source: Environmental News Network)

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Resources

Artifacts of Buckminster Fuller - An Audio Documentary in 10 parts

This site hosts a 10 part audio documentary featuring Fuller's students, colleagues and friends including:

Amy Edmondson; E. J. Applewhite, co-author: Synergetics; Dr. Donald Ingber, Cancer Researcher; Kenneth Snelson, Tensegrity Sculptor; J. Baldwin, author: BuckyWorks; Andrew Culver, Musician.

FIGS Cybrary

Operated by the Finance Institute for Global Sustainability this online resource center hosts reports, articles, and news on the link between the finance sector and economic and social responsibility.

http://www.greenbiz.com/reference/webguide_record.cfm?LinkAdvID=25366

The Alternative Fuels Data Center

A one-stop shop for all your alternative fuel and vehicle information needs. This site is generated by the Office of Transportation Technologies, and has more than 3,000 documents in its database, an interactive fuel station mapping system, and listings of available alternative fuel vehicles.

http://www.afdc.doe.gov/

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Events

An Emerging Business Model: Eco-Parks and Industrial Ecology

July 13, 2002

Burlington, Vermont

Learn how Burlington, Vermont's Eco-park demonstrates an emerging economic model for small business partnerships based on ecological technologies. Several businesses are integrated in a cooperative new venture to convert food wastes into value-added agricultural products with the help of waste heat from a nearby power plant. A site visit and discussions with project organizers is included.

For more information on this course and other programs, please visit http://www.oceanarks.org, or e-mail to education@oceanarks.org

WorldView 2002: Futures Unlimited!

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July 20-22, 2002

Philadelphia, PA

This year's Annual Conference of the World Future Society will continue the tradition of a "World's Fair of Ideas," with sessions on the environment, new technologies, social change, public policy, economics and finance, futures methodologies, and much more.

For more on this event visit http://www.wfs.org or call 800-989 8274.

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BFI Update

spaceshipEARTH Development

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At the conference we will submit a paper and make a presentation to more than 400 educators. Plus we will present at the Internet and Multimedia opening night reception and have an exhibit booth housed in a geodesic dome. The conference gives us an opportunity to receive feedback on the ES from educators and GIS software users from around the world.

This summer, the EARTHscope is also being used for a graduate level course through Golden Gate University titled 'Making the Invisible Visible.' Students will develop an EARTHscope pilot project featuring historical perspectives and future scenarios on the relationship between poverty, peace and conflict.

To learn more about spaceshipEARTH and the EARHTscope, please visit http://www.spaceshipearth.org earn more about spaceshipearth.org or http://www.spaceshipearth.org earn more about spaceshipearth.org

BFI's First E-Fundraising Campaign

Yesterday, we kicked off our first ever e-fundraising campaign!

We are grateful to all the new and renewing members we have on board and hope that many more of you will choose to support our work with a tax-deductible donation at:

http://www.websitesecured.com/~bfi.org/giftDonate.asp

Thank You!

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