



Photo by Jeff Wasielewski/TBC

FAIRCHILD'S KEEPING IT GREEN COMMITTEE

In an effort to help Fairchild fulfill its mission of “exploring, explaining and conserving,” staff throughout the garden began meeting regularly to find ways to make our garden green. The idea was not new, as there had previously been a Green Committee. A year ago, then new staff member Erin Healy, wanted to rekindle the effort, so she approached staff members to solicit their participation.

- Redesigning Fairchild’s recycling bins to include effective and consistent signage and design;
- Educating staff, volunteers and visitors about Miami-Dade’s new recycling system;
- Raising eco-awareness among staff through the Earth Day competition in which staff members competed for prizes by tallying their sustainable behaviors;
- Installing hand dryers in bathrooms that may eventually replace paper towels;
- Recycling electronics;
- Sampling various biodegradable products to eventually replace Styrofoam and plastic plates, cups and utensils; and
- Switching to biodegradable cleaning products.

Other departments are getting greener, too. The Horticultural Department relies heavily on integrated pest management, using natural predators such as ladybugs, to control pests. Following the success of the Education Department’s solar-powered golf cart, Visitor Services recently purchased three solar-powered trammettes to use as shuttles throughout the garden.

Look out for our new recycling bins!



The committee’s future plans include reducing waste by collaborating with the Garden Café to use biodegradable disposable products and reducing electricity usage.

EDUCATION CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

The Fairchild Education Celebration luncheon was held on Thursday, May 7, with a preview of education programs and student work, followed by the luncheon, featured speakers and recognition of this year’s honorees, Tanya Acosta Masi and Mario Facella. The luncheon celebrated Fairchild’s education programs, acknowledged the generous support from donors and inspired others to give and to invest in the education programs that begin at the garden and reach far into the Miami-Dade community and beyond. Many thanks to the sponsors and contributors who allow Fairchild’s education programs to continue to celebrate nature, cultivate minds and inspire action among more than 60,000 students and community members each year.



Photo by Education Staff/FBC

Give a Membership Gift

Consider a gift of membership and share your support of Fairchild. Members enjoy free admission to Fairchild; a subscription to *The Tropical Garden*; priority registration for Fairchild classes; invitations to members-only events; library privileges; discounts on books, gifts and classes; and free admission to hundreds of gardens, arboreta and science museums throughout the United States.

To give the gift of membership or to renew, please contact the Membership Office at 305.667.1651, ext. 3301 or ext. 3362 or visit www.fairchildgarden.org.