

CE Mission

The Center for the Environment is dedicated to creating new approaches to learning that engage students more actively in the scientific, social and cultural dimensions of environmental study.

We aim to link local action to global issues. We work across the academic disciplines to enable students and the broader campus community to work toward environmentally responsible and just societies. In all efforts, we attempt to bridge diverse interests and backgrounds, and to deepen the connections between people, community, and the Earth.



CE Summer 2008 Interns (left to right): Jacinta Edebeli '12, Alex Weston '10, Lena Afridi '08, Ariel Kagan '11

Taken at the MHC Student Garden on Prospect Hill.



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Center for the Environment

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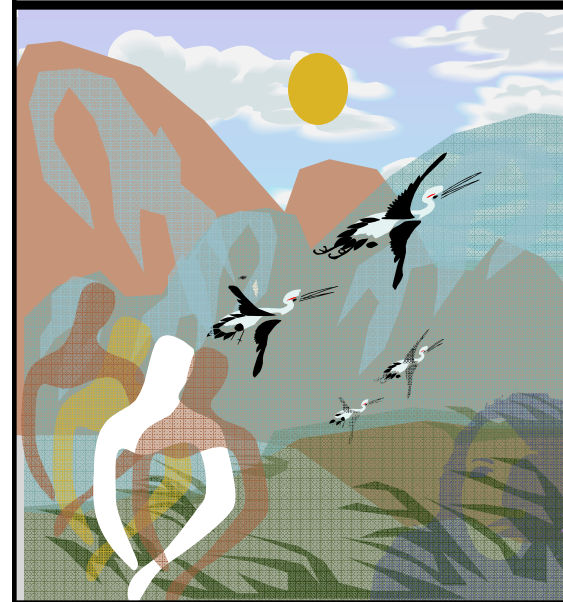
Brochure by: Ruby S. Maddox-Fisher

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Exploring
A World of Difference,
Seeing A World of Change

CENTER FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT

Fall 2008



*Connecting People,
Community, and the Earth*

Tel: 413-538-3091

Words from the Director



Sandra Postel, Leslie and Sarah Miller Director of the Center for the Environment

A world of diversity surrounds us – diverse species, cultures, habitats, and communities. Within this diversity lies much of the beauty, mystery, magic and resilience of the natural world and human societies. Diversity enables natural and human systems to adapt to changing circumstances--a capacity that has never been more crucial than it is today.

So this fall, we celebrate diversity anew in its myriad dimensions. Please join us!

Learning and Stewardship

Gracious Dinner

September 25, 2008 in all Dining Halls

Enjoy a healthy and delicious dinner with food from the MHC student organic garden.



"Lick it Green!"

September 30, 2008, 4-5:30 p.m. Blanchard Campus Center, Lantern Green

Learn what the Green Partners are doing—and how you can help—to conserve energy, recycle materials, and reduce MHC's ecological footprint. Ice cream will be scooped!

What's Up, and Down, in the Stony Brook Watershed

October 3, 2008, 12:15 p.m. Clapp 327

Dr. Leszek Bledski and Isabelle Castillo '09 present their findings on water quality and other factors affecting the health of Stony Brook, the river that flows through our own backyard.



Film Screening

November 17, 2008 7:30 p.m. Blanchard Great Room

Come join us for a film screening and discussion. Free popcorn!

"The Sublime Hills of Western Massachusetts: Edward Hitchcock, Geologist and Romantic Naturalist."

November 13, 2008 4:15 p.m. Kendade 305

Lecture by art historian Robert Herbert.

"What's Race Got to Do with It?: Climate Change, Privilege, and Consciousness"



Carolyn Finney

September 9, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Gamble Auditorium, Art Building

For geographer Carolyn Finney "environmental justice" is too narrow a construct for understanding the deepest issues about race and the environment. For

Finney, it's the "racialization of space" that's important because it narrows black identity, discourages African American engagement with the natural world, and excludes poor urban gardeners from the band of "environmentalists."

Finney's visit to Mount Holyoke will add new angles to the campus conversation around Danzy Senna's debut novel *Caucasia*, the MHC Class of 2012 Common Reading.

Finney's talk is cosponsored by the Dean of the College, the Office of the Dean of Students, and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

"A Spectacle of Wings"

Rosalie Winard

October 16, 2008, 5:00 p.m.
Gamble Auditorium, Art Building

Rosalie's extraordinary photographs bring to the fore not only the poetic splendor of these magical creatures, but a heightened awareness of the precarious habitats that support their existence. "With already half of the world's wetlands gone, we need a new mindset that appreciates the wetlands as water's source and storage instead of land to be drained and developed," said Jamie Pittock, of the World Wildlife Fund. As both artist and activist, Rosalie Winard uses these images of what she calls her "avian primitives" to heighten awareness of that need.

Cosponsored with the Art Museum and the Biology Dept.



"Finding Beauty in a Broken World"



Terry Tempest Williams

October 21, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Gamble Auditorium, Art Building

In her most original, provocative, and eloquently moving book since *Refuge*, Terry Tempest Williams gives us a luminous chronicle of finding beauty in a broken world. Always an impassioned and far-sighted advocate for a just relationship between the natural world and humankind, Williams has broadened her concerns over the past several years to include a reconfiguration of family and community in her search for a deeper understanding of what it means to be human in an era of physical and spiritual fragmentation.

A singular meditation on how the natural and human worlds both collide and connect in violence and beauty, this is a work of uncommon perceptions that dares to find intersections between arrogance and empathy, tumult and peace, constructing a narrative of hopeful acts by taking that which is broken and creating something whole.

Cosponsored by the Odyssey Bookshop.

Environmental Leadership Series

This new program of the Center for the Environment brings to campus professionals whose work and goals place them in the role of environmental leaders striving to create a more environmentally sustainable and just society.

Being Brown, Thinking Green: Reflections of a Restless Geographer

September 9, 2008, 4:15 – 5:30 p.m., Eliot House lounge

An informal talk and conversation with U. C. Berkeley geographer Carolyn Finney, whose life journey spans an acting career of a dozen years, a round-the-world backpacking trip, eighteen months living in a Nepalese village, and now a professorship in geography. Come talk about race and the environment. Learning about Carolyn's life may just change your own.