

Cool-Cities Messages 2008

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I have excluded messages that were relevant only for the time in which they were sent.

Some of the links may no longer work.

- 1 Jan 2008: For those of you who may not have seen it, here is the Action Plan on Global Warming for the City of Portland and Multnomah County, Oregon:
<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=112118>
- 18 Jan 2008: I recently installed a [high-efficiency toilet](#) in my home to save water and energy. It is excellent. I followed Bill Claus advice and bought a [BOGO \(Buy One Give One\) LED flashlight](#). It is very well made and has a high-intensity light. I am going to buy several of them to give as gifts over the next year to encourage others to buy more of them. When you buy one you are actually buying two, one to go to a family in a village that does not have electricity in a developing country.
- 15 Feb 2008: [Article about Salem Mayor Howard Packett signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement](#) in today's Roanoke Times.
- 22 Feb 2008: You can see how our [U.S. senators and congressman are scored](#) by the League of Conservation Voters.
- 20 Mar 2008: [A speech about how to move a nation to electric vehicles. Here is a web site about it.](#)
- 15 Apr 2008: [Al Gore's latest slide show.](#)
- 17 Apr 2008: Those of you who might be interested in buying a hybrid or plug-in hybrid in the future, might be interested in this web page: <http://www.thetruthaboutcars.com/the-great-hybrid-showdown-chevrolet-volt-vs-toyota-prius/>
- 25 Apr 2008: The Roanoke Environmental Group on yahoo had this interest message this morning: CVS sells toilet paper, their brand, that is made from "100% total recycled content; 60% min. post-consumer content; and is made without chlorine bleaching"? - I bought a 12 roll pack for \$7.99.? For some great facts and info about various brands and the reason not to use "virgin" tp and other products check out this link:
<http://www.itsyournature.org/files/TissueWalletCardNRDC.pdf??> There is also a more detailed list at: www.nrdc.org/paper? -- for the complete toilet paper list (how I found out about CVS's tp) click on this link:
<http://www.nrdc.org/land/forests/tissueguide/ratings.aspx?paper=toilet+paper>
- 29 Apr 2008: Pat Bixler called my attention to an article [in the NYT about oil & gasoline prices](#). There are some inaccuracies in it, but most of it is correct. You can see the inaccuracies by looking at my web page, [World Fossil-Fuels Depletion](#). Most countries are well into the downward depletion curve, including Middle East countries with the exception of Iran. Maybe we should start being "nice" to Iran!
- 30 Apr 2008: [PBS Now program about Cambridge MA city-wide plan to Save Energy, Save Money, Save the Planet.](#)

- 5 May 2008: For those of you, or your friends, who are considering buying a Prius might want to view the [Prius Primer slide show](#) I have devised.
- 8 May 2008: Here is a [list of the plastic recycling codes](#) and a [list of 33 things you can recycle](#).
- 21 May 2008: Link for the [Roanoke Clean and Green Campaign](#). It links to a [Greening the Office checklist](#). Much of the checklist applies to homes, also.
- 22 May 2008: FYI: [Vehicle Production Rises, But Few Cars Are "Green"](#) We all need to do all we can to increase the production of more fuel-efficient vehicles.
- 30 May 2008: Some of you might be interested in the [Clean Special Fuel Vehicles Plates](#) for Virginia.
- 27 Jun 2008: The Easy Way Packaging Center at 610 N. Main St. (next to Taco Bell) will take the following items for reuse: Packing peanuts | Soft-foam packing (cleaned of paper, wood, etc.), but **not** hard-foam packing. **NOT paper cups or food take-out boxes.** | Bubble wrap | Medium-size boxes (They do not use them, but they provide them to customers.) This is better than recycling them. I have been told that the UPS store in downtown Blacksburg will take bubble wrap and packing peanuts. Someone should ask them if they take foam packing, especially hard-foam packing. We need to find a place that will take hard-foam packing; a huge amount is deposited in the land fill. For reuse it needs to be cut by a saw to fit in packages.
- 29 Jun 2008: You might be interested in a book to be published soon: *Climate Code Red: The case for emergency action* out of Australia. [Here is a web page about it](#). On that web page you can download an excellent summary of the science behind the book. [You can download a pdf of the book here](#). The [Climate Code Red web page](#) has an interesting link about [The Fate of the Arctic](#). This book should cause you to ramp up your efforts to reduce global warming.
- 30 Jun 2008: Here is a [recent article, "Tipping Points Near" by Dr. James Hansen](#).
- 2 Jul 2008: The [7 July New Yorker](#) has an article "*The Island in the Wind*" about wind energy on an island of Denmark and about the [2000-Watt Society](#) that originated in Switzerland. Here are some data given in the article: Bangladesh: 300 watts per person; India: 1000 watts per person; China: 1500 watts per person; Switzerland: 5000 watts per person; Western Europe: 6000 watts per person; United States: 12,000 watts per person. My [PowerPoint slide show about energy](#) supposes that population levels off at 8.3 billion and average world energy use per person levels off to current U.S. energy use. I show that after fossil fuels deplete it is feasible with much effort to use renewable energy to yield that high energy use. It would be 6 times easier to yield 2000 Watts per person instead of 12,000!
- 7 Jul 2008: I believe that a most important need to ameliorate the energy supply issue and global warming is to have a massive national project to create an Interstate Railway System similar to the Interstate Highway System. I have contacted Rep. Boucher about the need for this project and have created a web page about it <http://www.roperId.com/science/InterstateRailwaySystem.htm>. Perhaps some of you would like to contact Rep. Boucher in support of this important idea. I cannot find on the internet any proposal for an Interstate Railway System. If you know of any such proposal, please inform me about it. I welcome suggestions about additions to the web page.
- 26 Aug 2008: [15 greenest cities in the world according to ICLEI](#).
- 3 Oct 2008: I just came back from Fitzgerald Toyota in Gaithersburg MD where I [had my 2005 Prius hybrid converted](#) to the [A123/Hymotion plug-in](#) hybrid. (Also, Pat Bixler had his converted at the same time.) [See this for a detailed description of the conversion](#).
- 12 Oct 2008: Environmentalist worry that the current financial crisis, accompanied by low oil prices, will greatly slow down efforts to decrease global warming. A first step in ascertaining if

that will happen is to understand the financial crises. The best article I have seen that explains it is: This Is Not A Normal Recession: Moving on to Plan B .

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=11072>

- 26 Dec 2008: [Coal ash spill in TN](#)