

July 30, 2009

Welcome to Bard on behalf of the Bard Environmental Resources Department (BERD). I invite you to join the ongoing work to improve sustainability efforts at Bard. Both in and out of the classroom there are opportunities to make a difference in this critical year of climate change action. Join our efforts by reducing your carbon footprint even before you arrive on campus.

- **Buy less:** visit the free, on-campus thrift shop– the Free-Use store - for freebies (including a lot of clothing). Store is open 24x7 when classes begin. Contact your roommate to avoid doubling up on what you bring.



- **Be Car-Free:** bring a bike, light and lock.
- **Be a BERP:** every residence hall has students who are the environmental stewardship coordinators - the Bard Environmental Resources Person. Be the first to volunteer for one of the two slots for your hall by emailing [reduce@bard.edu](mailto:reduce@bard.edu); you can list it on your resume in four short years.

- **Reduce your energy use**

- your use of plug-in items is inevitable, but choose ones with the Energy Star logo, where possible (visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) for more information).



- Use only **compact fluorescent light bulbs** (available at the campus bookstore). One such bulb should last you for your four years at Bard. Traditional incandescent light bulbs are energy hogs and heat up your room.

- Explore: <http://inside.bard.edu/berd/>

I look forward to meeting you, greeting this year's BERPs, and embarking on our low impact relationship.



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