



All hands on deck—When John Carroll University's cafeteria, like those at many schools nationwide, went trayless, food waste went way down.

Campus Cafeteria Goes Trayless

John Carroll University Students Carry On

CLEVELAND — Walk into a student cafeteria at John Carroll University, and you might think you're in the wrong place. There are no big bins of steaming food being dished out by bored, hair-netted cafeteria workers. And where are the trays?

John Carroll is part of a growing trend of college cafeterias working to reduce waste. According to Xavier Flores, director of dining services, the whole idea of a college cafeteria is changing.

"Our philosophy is eat what you want, and eat what you take," he says. "We use the three-three-three system. Three orders prepared for three customers in three minutes. You select what you want, and it's made right there."

This has eliminated waste on many levels. Because food isn't prepared in bulk, there's

less chance of something going uneaten. Portions are controlled, and since there aren't trays to load up, students eat what they've been served and go back for seconds if they're still hungry.

"It's more of a residential restaurant than a regular cafeteria," Flores says.

Since instituting Trayless Tuesdays (students can use trays other days, but they're in a hard-to-find spot in the cafeteria), Flores reports a 21 percent decrease in the amount of food waste. Students seem to be adjusting just fine.

"We started this program at the beginning of school, when the football players were the only ones here," he says. "I thought we were going to get a lot of negative response, but after we explained it to them, they really seemed to get the concept."

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JESUIT MINISTRIES ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL ROLL



Santa Clara University senior Meghan Mooney works on a solar-powered home that garnered her school a third-place award in a Department of Energy competition. Santa Clara has a full-time Sustainability Coordinator, a "green" voice on campus.
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Amy Sands and Kyle Konopka—prime movers in a Saint Joseph's University bike-share program.

Pedal Pushers

Recycling Bikes a Hit at Saint Joseph's University

PHILADELPHIA — "We're responding to a need," says Saint Joseph's University sophomore Kyle Konopka. He and Amy Sands have been instrumental in helping fellow students faced

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Hortus in Urbe

Gesu Parish Garden a Growing Asset

DETROIT — It's an oasis in the middle of the city. The Gloryland Community Garden at Gesu Parish in Detroit provides food and gives parishioners the natural beauty that can be lacking in an urban landscape.

Brainchild of Gesu parishioner Jackie Fulbright, the garden occupies a quarter-acre plot behind the church. Its first harvest this fall provided hundreds of pounds of food for the members of the garden co-op, who work six hours a month, as well as for the needy people served by the parish's St. Vincent de Paul chapter, which

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Thinking Big Thinking Green

Loyola University Chicago's Information Commons on the lakelakefront
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A Jesuit accompanies Sudanese refugees (page 10)