

ASUC Green Certification Program

Green Checklist Documentation

Description/Documentation

For this program documentation can take the form of a picture of a sustainable practice, a paragraph description, and receipt of all sustainable purchases. A lot of the points are **honor code based**, though the GreenCAT will come to group's meetings/events for surprise audits. For **Description** of individual points, please refer to the Resource Guide.

Pre-requisites



Group must have a “Green Team” or “Sustainability Officer” position to coordinate sustainable practices.

Description/Documentation: After deciding to become Green Certified, Alternative Breaks’ finance director, Rica Garcia, created a “Green Team.” Danielle Ngo and Carmen Ye were selected as the main coordinators of the team.



Group hosts at minimum 25% Green Certified Events through the Office of Sustainability (<http://sustainability.berkeley.edu/os/>)

Description/Documentation: The Office of Sustainability “Green” certified their first event on November 15, 2011, the Alternative Breaks All Community Meeting. meeting on Feb. 1st was not that big of an event, for it lasted 1.5 hours and consisted mainly of speakers introducing the De-Cal to prospective participants. Alternative Breaks intends on “Green” certifying their event on April 18th, which would well surpass the 25% Green Event certification requirement.

Documentation: The certification for the Nov. 15th event is attached.



Group pledges to stay green and do educational information sessions about their sustainable efforts and the group’s participation in the Green Certification Program.

Description/Documentation:

Green Points



Waste Management

*Achieve a 75% diversion rate by June 2012 and zero waste by 2020.
- Campus Sustainability Plan, 2009*

1. At all meetings and activities, group actively recycles* all 1&2 plastics, glass bottles, mixed paper and cans. (1 point)

Documentation: At the Nov. 15th event, Rica explained that in addition to recycling all of their waste, they also had a person standing next to the recycling and composting bins directing people which items belonged in which bins.

Description/Documentation: Unfortunately there is no visual documentation, though Rica stated that this *active* method did occur.

5. Group recycles all unused publications and fliers. (1 point)

Description/Documentation: All extra flyers are recycled.

Documentation: Unfortunately no picture of flyers in recycling bins were taken.

Advertising and Paper Reduction: Publicity Efforts to Reduce Waste

7. Group emails meeting minutes/agenda instead of passing out paper copies (1 point)

Description/Documentation: This information is kept this private since a lot of internal things in this meeting are not to be beyond the group of the 5 directors. Also, the break leader training session agendas are not printed out.

8. Group projects documents and other information during meetings to save paper handouts (1 point)

Description/Documentation: Alternative Breaks decided to project their Finance Presentation to their participants instead of printing it out. Additionally, this powerpoint was then emailed out.

Documentation: The Finance Powerpoint is attached.

Description/Documentation:

10. Group prints advertisements for events, meetings, and activities on 1-side clean paper, quarter sheets, and/or advertises multiple events on one flier. (1 point)

Documentation: The three quarter sheets they used during their Fall recruitment are all scanned onto an attached document.

11. Group prints all flyers/handbills on *at least* 30% post-consumer recycled paper. (2 point)

Description/Documentation: The 30% post-consumer recycled paper was a shared resource among several different programs at Cal Corps and therefore the paper was purchased in bulk and the receipt cannot be obtained.

15. Group buys promotional items from environmentally friendly products from ethical businesses (t-shirts, sweatshirts, pens, pencils, handbills). (1 point)

Description/Documentation: On March 2nd, Alternative Breaks is ordering program t-shirts from a local, organic, and ethical clothing company **Graphic Traffic**.

Documentation: Because this is yet to occur, documentation will be provided accordingly.

Publications

18. Group publishes ____ percent of newspapers, newsletters, and magazines online:
- 50% (2 points)
 - 75% (3 points)
 - 100% (4 points)

Description/Documentation: Alternative Breaks has one main newsletter sent out after Spring Break. This newsletter reflects upon the service trips that occur during Spring Recess. Additionally the **Alumni Newsletter** will be sent in April.

19. Groups publishes or creates a column on group's website or newsletters that lists sustainable initiatives and ways to reduce their environmental footprint. (1 point)

Description/Documentation: The Newsletter, which is sent out after Spring Recess, will consist of a section supporting sustainable initiatives and reduction of environmental footprints. Because the Newsletter has not been sent out, there is no documentation.

Transportation

20. Group utilizes video or phone conferencing for gatherings that would otherwise require traveling more than 100 miles. (1 point)

Description/Documentation: The Community Partners Director coordinates and housing with other director in other states via Skype.

21. Group carpools or uses public transportation for outings, activities and story coverage (1 point)

Description/Documentation: All of Alternative Breaks events use BART and MUNI as for transportation. For the trips that take place outside California, such as the New Orleans trip, the group leaders either carpool or set up rental cars.

Documentation: See page 3 of Nola's Break Proposal.

Food & Dining at Meetings, Activities, and Outings

24. Group offers sustainable water containers (either small personal ones or larger 3-5 gallon coolers). (1 point)

Description: Alternative Breaks does not provide participants with water bottles at meetings. More notably, they have mandated that all participants bring their own reusable water bottles during the trip.

Documentation: Each break proposal plan states: "We require that our participants bring their own reusable water bottles, Tupperware, and utensils to eliminate the need for disposable water bottles and paper good" (See page 4 of Nola's Break proposal)

25. Snacks provided during meetings and activities are cooked or purchased with environmental impact and health in mind (1 point)

Description: Alternative Breaks adopted an all vegan menu for the All Community Meeting on Nov. 15th as an innovation point for the Green certification and created an electronic food infographic focused on sustainable foods.

Documentation: Both the "Sarah's Smart Foods" menu and the electronic food infographic are attached

Events

27. Group puts on 50% Green Certified Events through the Office of Sustainability (1 point)

Description/Documentation: As mentioned previously, the All Community Meeting on Nov. 15th was already “Green” certified. The April 18th meeting will also be expected to become “Green” certified by the Office of Sustainability.

Innovation Points

Alternative Breaks decided that they would require each break leader to implement a “Sustainability Plan” to their break proposals. (1 point)
Nola’s Break Proposal is an example of one of ten break leaders who have accomplished this. See page 4 for a complete reference.

Instead of offering re-useable cups, plates, utensils, etc., Alternative Breaks decided to require all participants to bring their own utensils and Tupperware during the trip. This way no unnecessary waste is created. (1 point)

The Environmental Justice trip was just added to the Alternative Breaks program this year and the trip focuses on environmental education and raising awareness about justice issues within them. (1 point)