

Joyful Earth Partnership

January, 2006

“A New Year, New Possibilities, And More to be Grateful For”

By Claire Papin

"It's better to light a candle than to curse the darkness" - Chinese proverb

The New Year arrives with an abundance of new possibilities for a more sustainable world for us all. Knowledge of all areas where help is needed in environmental, economic, and social change is crucial to bring more support for a healthy, thriving world in our individual and collective lives. There is great debate over the cost of bringing about change. And a growing number of people agree that there will be a greater cost if we lack the will or tenacity to bring about that change. It is equally, if not more, important to focus on what we are committed to creating. Acknowledging the challenges we still face in climate change, etc., working toward solutions, and still holding the vision and intent for real and lasting results all play a part in manifesting restoration, renewal, and a return to balance for our Earth and for humanity.

Much has been accomplished, and holding appreciation and gratitude for those accomplishments is part of the energy that creates more of the things we want to be grateful for. Here are just a few tips and resources that might be useful in our eco-friendly architecture of 2006.

1. Teaching our children about issues surrounding their environment is essential to building a culture oriented toward getting more of what matters rather than "more is better." New American Dream and World Wildlife Fund created a curriculum for just this purpose, geared toward middle school kids but applicable to younger and older students. If you are a teacher or know a teacher who would be interested in receiving a free copy of their 300 page Smart Consumers curriculum binder, email outreach@newdream.org.
2. *Green*light* magazine is a new publication focused on providing consumers with practical information about the environment. This new earth-friendly, digital format magazine can be found at www.greenlightmag.com.
3. Earth 911 at www.Earth911.org and www.CLEANUP.org, has a dedicated Green Holiday Section on each of the Web sites that highlights Christmas tree recycling, as well as other important actions one can take to be environmentally conscious. Local

Christmas tree collections and events will also be accessible on the toll-free hotline, 1-877-Earth911 and 1-800-CLEANUP.

4. Green Houston Connection (www.greenhoustonconnection.com) connects people with Houston's green businesses and organizations where people can make green purchases locally, connect with other like minded people and find places to get involved in transforming Houston into a sustainable city. There is also a daily updated blog with the latest articles about innovations in sustainability, etc.
5. Really paying attention to our inner and outer environment is important in managing the energy to balance our lives while we embrace new ways of living. Clearing whatever clutter we have in our lives, materially or otherwise, will make a more visible path for the time, energy, and space to explore new choices and support a resolution to live a healthier and more environmentally conscious lifestyle.

I also have to mention an exciting new radio program that I just launched on '*Lime Radio...healthy living with a twist.*' The network offers entertaining and revealing programming focused on the environment and sustainability, personal growth, alternative health, and business ethics. My show is called [*It's All Good, with Claire Papin*](#), and is on every week, coast-to-coast. We offer down-to-earth tools for a whole new way of living...that works. You'll hear interviews with your favorite authors and everyday sages, with questions you've never heard them asked; find out how they got down to the nitty-gritty and used their tools for real life challenges. This is where the rubber meets the road on holistic living in everyday life – *It's All Good* - the inward outlook with a practical perspective.

Central Standard Air Times
PREMIERES: FRIDAYS 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
ENCORES: FRIDAYS 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
SATURDAYS 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
MONDAYS 5:00 AM – 6:00 AM

Go on line to www.Lime.com to hear the LIVE stream of

It's All Good on the internet, or listen on Sirius Satellite Radio channel 114.

"Energy is the essence of life. Every day you decide how you're going to use it by knowing what you want and what it takes to reach that goal, and by maintaining focus." - Oprah Winfrey

In Peace
Claire Papin

Claire is available for lecture presentations, workshops, and interviews. If you are interested in booking an engagement please send an email to Claire@LightedPaths.org or visit www.LightedPaths.org.

This article originally appeared in "***The Indigo Sun Magazine, January 2006***"