Reduce: Gustavson’s greenhouse gas emissions dropped by 12% in 2012! We cut back on paper, electricity, natural gas (for heating), and commuting CO₂!

Reuse: BEC’s sartorial swap on July 30 was a huge success! A couple of dozen people enjoyed lively conversation, delish cookies, an astounding array of great clothes, and Shannon Perdigao’s personal shopping expertise. Nobody left empty handed and the Victoria Women’s Transition House is the lucky recipient of six bags of great clothes.

Recycle: we’re getting great feedback on the expanded, easy-to-use array of recycling bins in the kitchen. PLUS – our compost can now be emptied in the big green bin in front of DSB! How easy is that!

Ethics in the classroom pays off (from the PRME blog, July 29, 2013)
In a recent survey of alumni who took at least two elective classes through the Centre for Education on Social Responsibility at Colorado University’s Leeds School of Business, Dr. Donna Stockell, executive director of the centre says:
77% said their elective ethics courses increased awareness of ethical issues at work
72% said the courses made them more confident in dealing with ethical issues at work
72% said the courses influenced their career behaviour
63% said the courses helped them identify business cultures that matched their values

“Cerrejón mine in Colombia: can it address its human rights risks?” by Oliver Balch, Guardian Professional, July 24, 2013. The operators of Colombia’s largest open-pit coal mine have been accused of evictions, pollution and human rights abuses. The owners say they are doing all they can to respect human rights.

21 million: people trapped in forced labour
32 billion: dollars in annual profits from slavery
3: spot that people-trafficking holds on the UN’s list of the biggest criminal industries, right after guns and drugs

“Brazil’s ‘dirty list’ names and shames companies involved in slave labour,” Annie Kelly in Guardian Professional, July 24, 2013
In Brazil an aggressive anti-slavery strategy has led to a name-and-shame strategy to eliminate slavery from major industries. “The issue [for companies] isn’t moral but strictly business,” says Leonardo Sakamoto, founder of an NGO that investigates companies accused of slave labour. “Being on the list makes you a risky investment.”

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