

# 2011 Sustainable Mesa Student Essay Contest

*Are you a dedicated plastic bottle avoider,*

*cardboard recycler*

*local food finder,*

*commuter cyclist ...*



Have you ever noticed inefficiency, waste, or a lack of good environmental choices at Mesa?

Have you ever thought about how you could make your surroundings smarter?

Do you want to have your ideas potentially made into reality and earn bookstore cash for your efforts?

The Environmental Stewardship Committee at San Diego Mesa College invites you to write a proposal about one program, project, improvement, or event Mesa could adopt within the next three years. The proposal may relate to any aspect of environmental sustainability such as energy efficiency and conservation, recycling, alternative transportation, sustainable agriculture and local foods, and environmental education.

**The top two proposals will win Mesa bookstore vouchers:**

**1st place: \$200**

**2nd place: \$150**

Each proposal will be rated by 3-4 judges based on:

**Originality** – Is the idea something new to Mesa, i.e. not already in place?

**Relevance** – Does it fulfill a real need on Mesa's campus, and contribute to a more environmentally sustainable campus?

**Impact** – How much of a difference will this program make? What are its long term effects?

**Feasibility** – Is the idea outlined by the proposal achievable? Would it be possible to implement the idea within the next three years?

**Clarity/Academic Merit** – How clearly does the writer present the idea, and how well developed and researched is the proposal?

Please submit all entries electronically to [mrodrigu@sdccd.edu](mailto:mrodrigu@sdccd.edu) **no later than Earth Day, Friday April 22nd.**

\*All currently enrolled part- or full-time Mesa College students are eligible to participate. \*Entries must be a minimum of 500 words and address the theme. \*All entries must include the student's name, home address and preferred phone number. Essays without this information will not be considered. \*Winners will be required to sign releases to allow their submissions to be posted to the college's website.