



# newsletter

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Issue 23

## Sustainable Update—Environmental Center Intern Recounts an Epic Two Months

Note from the interns: Another powder-filled month has passed. Between skiing, the Environmental Center has been busy working on Alta's 2011 sustainability goals, updating the Alta Ske-Cology® environmental education program, and cataloging the revegetation and educational efforts that have taken place here at Alta. For more info on how you can become part of the movement to **green** Alta check out the Environmental Center website through [www.alta.com](http://www.alta.com). Now a special note from one intern.



Photo: Mark Pollish

Dear Altaholics,

The Massachusetts Maritime Academy Cooperative Education Program was designed to integrate classroom study with planned and supervised work experiences, providing students with a well-balanced background of theory, field experience, and managerial ability. As my co-op employer, the Alta Ski Lifts' Environmental Center provided me with the project of organizing and cataloging the revegetation efforts that have taken place here at Alta, and to help gather information for the development of a research and education database. Throughout my internship I was challenged to expand my communication and writing skills in order to bring together data and research from all corners of Alta's operations. In the process of compiling data, I scoured the Alta library for reference material, pestered those involved in the revegetation projects with time consuming interviews, and when I needed a break from the computer, I helped out with Alta's recycling. Alta is doing so many great things to be more sustainable, but I can't help from noting how great it is to see this ski area care about the little things like recycling chip bags.

My internship here at Alta has allowed me many new opportunities and experiences. From riding in a snow cat, exploring the mines, skiing with a ranger, and snowshoeing in the backcountry. I feel so privileged to have spent time here in this welcoming town and ski area. Thank you Alta Ski Area, and very special thanks to everyone who helped me in this internship: Thad Bookman, Coleman Motley, Mark Pollish, Dave Richards, Friends of Alta, the Green Team, the Town of Alta and especially Buck Boley. All of you made this powder filled, unique and exciting internship a memorable and educational experience! Think snow! **Sincerely, Adam Geoffroy**

## Alta Green Story: The Omnivore's Dilemma, Solved at Collins Grill By: Matt Hundhammer

Alta's Watson Shelter is well known for being an energy efficient building. According to Dawn Davis, Collins Grill Manager, food combiner, home brewer and green team member, "when the new Watson Shelter was constructed as a green building it was an obvious transition to make the restaurants operating inside run as sustainably as possible."

With the leadership of Jude Rubadue, Dawn Davis, and Eric Davis, Collins Grill has made integrating local and organic ingredients into the restaurant's dishes a high priority. Every meal's main ingredient is organic, and when possible local. In order to ensure that Collins Grill gets only the freshest meat, cheese, and produce, Jude travels to farms to meet personally with farmers. As Dawn put it, taking the extra step to source ingredients from our neighbors, "creates a reciprocated bond between us, as individuals, and our businesses that is mutually beneficial." Buying local and organic food reduces Collins Grill's carbon footprint by limiting the distance food is transported and not supporting chemical farming methods. While being eco and community-minded is a large part of Collins Grill's motivation to pursue local and organic food, Dawn Davis stated it well when she said, "the proof is in the taste."

Next time you're thinking about giving your legs a break from skiing consider Collins Grill. Slip your feet into a pair of fleece-lined slippers, sip a local micro brew, and enjoy your tastefully prepared meal assembled from local and organic ingredients. When it seems as though nothing could get better, remind yourself that your meal directly supported the equitable and sustainable efforts of local and organic farmers.

For more info on Watson Shelter check out the [Salt Lake ReDirect Guide](http://www.redirectguide.com) at [www.redirectguide.com](http://www.redirectguide.com)



Collins Grill's homemade, whole wheat, sunflower, millet bread; served with roasted red pepper hummus and butter. Delicious!  
Photo: Matt Hundhammer

## Nature Nugget – The Moose



Photo: Buck Boley

Alta's Moose, *Alces alces*, is relatively new to the area. Having immigrated from Idaho and Wyoming, the first Moose was spotted in Utah only 100 years ago! Moose are the largest member of the deer family, weighing up to 800 pounds and boasting the largest antlers of any mammal. Male moose use their antlers during fights to show territorial dominance. Moose were attracted to the Wasatch Range by the summer's edible young growth vegetation and welcoming wetlands. With long legs and thick fur, Moose are well adapted to handle Little Cottonwood Canyon's cold temperatures and deep snow. During the winter they are most commonly sited in shallower snow near the base of the canyon. In the spring and summer, Moose can be found munching on shrubs and young deciduous trees in Alta's riparian zones. While large and intimidating, Moose are not dangerous unless threatened. Next time you're spending time in Alta's great outdoors remember to respect and enjoy the rugged terrain with our moose!

## Carpool Tracking Goal

Help us create our commuter baseline!

- Track and report your commuter carbon footprint
- View savings and losses in fuel and emissions
- Provide valuable data for the Environmental Center to more accurately track our company carbon footprint

Visit: <https://alta.mycommuteoptions.com>



Picture Source: Deseret News Archives

## Alta Makes Company-Wide Goal 500 Volunteer Hours



- **Employees!** Help Alta Ski Lifts Company meet its 2011 year goal
- Volunteer with an environmental organization of your choice
- Contact [environment@alta.com](mailto:environment@alta.com) or your Green Team member for more info on how you can volunteer

## Alta SkeCology® Workshop

Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>



### Attention: Formal and Non-formal Educators!

Learn how you can utilize Alta's updated environmental education program

- Updated Material! Comprehensive, Alta-Centric Subject Matter
- Introduces Utilization of K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Utah Core Standards
- Educator's Manual Included
- GPS Mapping Exercise
- Workshop is FREE
- Enjoy Alta in a whole new way!

### Two Sessions Available

**10:00 – 12:00 AM**

(1/2 rate Day ticket available / attendance required)

**3:00 – 5:00 PM**

(Ski Free After 3)

Please RSVP to Matt Hundhammer  
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801.832.1700