



CGTC Newsletter

Caribbean Green Technology Center

What's in this edition: • World Water Month Lunch & Learn webinar series this March • CGTC updates its Strategic Plan • CGTC host successful webinar on drought mitigation for farmers • Native Fruit Tree Program is launched



On March 3rd the CGTC hosted its first #WorldWater Day event on drought mitigation strategies for farmers. This webinar discussed how drought is monitored, what the impacts to community are, and creative ideas from farmers to help overcome the impacts of drought. The session was moderated by Dr. Greg Guannel and Christina Chanes of CGTC and included speakers from the US Drought Monitor, the Governor's Drought Task Force, local farmers from Bordeaux and a drip irrigation researcher from USF. Over 50 people attended and a recording is available [here](#).



CGTC awarded grant from CFVI for Native Fruit Trees with a focus on Water and Soil Quality

This February, UVI CGTC received a grant from CFVI and the USDA to address food and water security in the Territory. This project will include building a network for drought monitoring, virtual trainings for home gardening, and a native fruit tree replanting initiative.

Many of these native fruit trees will be raised by local farmers and then given to the broader community. According to the United Nations, Virgin Islanders import about 97% of their food. Having more native fruit trees can greatly increase food security, thus benefiting the community.

CGTC updates its Strategic Plan



The mission of the Caribbean Green Technology Center is to develop, promote and help implement the use of innovative green technologies to improve the sustainable development of the U.S. Virgin Islands and the well-being of all the Territory's communities. CGTC's four main pillars

are: **Energy, Sustainable Materials Management, Food and Water Security** and **Disaster Risk Reduction**.

Click [here](#) to view our mission and updated Strategic Plan.

Other updates:

- CGTC holds Board Meeting to review recently updated Strategic Plan
- VI Waste Characterization report to be published
- Abstract for Cistern & Water Conservation model accepted to International Tropical Islands Water Conference, April 2021
- Greg joins the Foundation for Climate Restoration's Council of Experts

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Kervin Mathurin, a UVI senior Physics major, is working with CGTC to identify feasible sites for microgrids in the US Virgin Islands using ArcGIS mapping tools. He has written a blog post about microgrids. A short excerpt: "Humankind energy consumption is expected to increase the more technologically

advanced we become. We have to meet our high energy demands at all times. This can be done with the use of microgrids, which can work alongside or independently to the central grid to continuously provide the power we desire". See more [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

- March 16 - Annual CGTC Board Meeting
- March 24 - HMRP Webinar on Engineering for Disaster
- World Water Month events - see page 2

MARCH 2021

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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WORLD WATER MONTH

Lunch & Learn Webinar Series

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAR 03 Drought Mitigation Strategies for Farmers 1PM-2:30PM

1 hour presentation followed by Q&A
Speakers include: USDA, USVI Governor's Drought Task Force, USF, Bordeaux Farmer

MAR 22 Safe Drinking Water in Your Community 1PM-2:30PM

1 hour presentation followed by Q&A
Speakers include: Coral Bay Community Council, Sawyer Products, Aquagenx, CaripurH2O

MAR 24 Engineering for Disaster in the Caribbean 12-1:30PM

Speakers include Dr. David Smith, Esteban L. Biondi and Dr. Greg Guannel.
Hosted by Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Plan Team

MAR 30 CGTC Water Guide Launch and Webinar 1PM-2PM

Guide will be posted soon on our website!

For more information please visit our website: www.cgtc-usvi.com/world-water-month