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A DIFFERENCE

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Sustainable
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ECO HEROES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FROM THE GROUND UP

Ever feel that our environmental crises are insurmountable? Don't. Here are seven environmental leaders from all walks of life — corporate, artistic, non-profit and small business — determined to make a difference, no matter how big or small. The consensus among these innovators? Mindful living for a healthier planet is something every one of us can — and must — do.

BY JULIA DAULT PHOTOGRAPHY RAINA KIRN & WILSON BARRY



DAWN DANBY

Sustainable design advocate

For Dawn Danby, design isn't just about objects. "There is so much stuff — too much stuff," she says from her Toronto studio. I'm interested in tool-sharing, co-op structures, providing people with things they don't necessarily need to own."

Danby trained as an industrial designer at the Rhode Island School of Design, which is where she became interested in the ecological impacts hidden in product-design decisions. For the last two years, she has focused on sustainable design as it relates to the urban environment. Along with Canadian artist Noel Harding and visual arts professor Rod Strickland, Danby has been an integral member of the Green Corridor Project, a redevelopment of the bridge corridor linking Canada and the U.S. at the Windsor-Detroit crossover. On the Canadian side, the team of planners, building and landscape architects, educators, city planners and residents are working to turn the two-kilometre-long concrete jungle into a regenerative green zone.

As well as her design work, Danby frequently contributes to worldchanging.com, an online environmental magazine. One of the site's projects is a book called *WorldChanging: A User's Guide for the 21st Century* (published by Harry N. Abrams Books), with over 50 contributors. Danby has written several sections on sustainable product design — appropriate, since she's currently a candidate for an MBA in sustainable business from the Bainbridge Graduate Institute.

As a designer, Danby's goals are down to earth and practical: to develop environmentally sustainable systems and products that change the way we experience the things around us. www.barkingcrickets.org