



Biography: Ken Leinbach



Ken Leinbach is the Executive Director of the Urban Ecology Center and a national leader in promoting community-based environmental education. Since 1998, Ken has developed the economically and environmentally sustainable community center, including the Neighborhood Environmental Education Project, the center's award-winning urban education program. Under Ken's guidance, the Urban Ecology Center built a \$5 million state-of-the-art green facility, expanded by opening a second branch on Milwaukee's west side and has become a significant asset to the city.

In 1995, Ken was awarded the Thomas Jefferson Medal for natural science in Virginia and received the National Nature Educator of the Year Award from the Roger Tory Peterson Institute in New York. Many more awards have followed with his work at the Urban Ecology Center, including the River Hero Award from the Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers; the Wellspring Award for Environmental Leadership; and Green Non-Profit Leader of the Year from *The Business Journal*.

Ken speaks to a number of environmental issues and trends, including:

- Urban environmental education.
- Sustainable design and construction, including recycled building materials, water conservation systems and energy conserving and generating systems.
- The value of nature in children's development.
- Nonprofit management, leadership and fundraising.
- Green behavior in your work, community, home and life

Ken and the Urban Ecology Center have been featured in local and national media outlets, including: *The New York Times*, *Milwaukee Magazine*; *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*; *Wisconsin People & Ideas*; *Children, Youth and the Environment*; *Orion Magazine*; Milwaukee Public Television; 88.9 Radio Milwaukee; and the latest edition of the book *The Last Child in the Woods*.

A certified science teacher, Ken received a master's degree in Environmental Education from Prescott College in Arizona and holds a Bachelor of Science from Antioch College in Ohio. He commutes by bike from his home in nearby Whitefish Bay, Wis., where he and his family strive to live with as little environmental impact as possible.

For more information about the Urban Ecology Center or to coordinate an interview with Ken Leinbach, visit www.urbanecologycenter.org or call (414) 964-8505.

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