River Reflections

Summer in the City

I have never been more excited about a summer program than I am this year and I’ve been in the business of running kid-oriented outdoor programs for over 20 years! We have a state-of-the-art Ecology Center to utilize, four natural gas vans in which to explore the community and an incredible array of equipment (nets, microscopes, canoes/kayaks, waders, rock climbing gear, etc.) to use. But more than that, we have absolutely the most fun, most qualified and most dedicated staff that I have ever worked with. Granted, I’m biased … but it’s true! If you don’t believe me, come observe a school group in action at the Center. I can guarantee you’ll be smitten with the team. There is energy here, a contagious enthusiasm that will captivate any child who participates.

New Publishing Method Saves Paper, Costs Less

by Eva Augustin Rumpf, UEC Member

It is said that we all have books inside of us, just waiting to be written. But unless an aspiring author has the reputation of a Stephen King or the popularity of a Bill Clinton, getting that book published may be next to impossible.

In the past, the writer’s options were few: stash away the manuscript in your bottom desk drawer and live with regret for what might have been. Run off a few copies at Kinko’s and pass them out to your family and friends. Find a “vanity publisher” who will overcharge you to print 1,000 copies, which you try to sell from the trunk of your car until you give up and leave the rest to mildew in the basement.

Here are five reasons why you should convince all children between the ages of 4 and 18 to consider our program.

Location, location, location

This is the first Summer Camp season in our new building! Whenever something is done for the first time, extra energy and time is put into preparation. There is a unique excitement among the staff that comes from being the first to do something that kids this year will be a part of.

Community

This is not sending your kid away to camp. Ecology Center participants join a learning community within their neighborhood that can stay with them as they grow, a group that they can contribute to throughout the year.

Who’s Been in Your Back Yard?

by Chad Thomack, Environmental Educator

Have you ever wondered what critter made those tracks in your yard? P.S.S.T.! Let me share this secret with you. Honestly, reading tracks is not a daunting task. Let me fill you in. Look at the Pattern, Shape, Size, and Toes, to determine what critter made the tracks. Examine these four properties of the track and you will be well on your way.

Patterns can separate the tracks into four general categories. First the walkers, they move hind and opposite-side...
Bits and Pieces of News From the Center

- Darrell Smith, our Community Program Coordinator, will be leaving us in April to work with his landscaping business and pursue a Master’s Degree in Counseling. He’s made his own distinctive mark on the Center, beginning both the Candlelight Walk and Speed Dating for Nature Lovers and expanding our Lifelong Learning lecture series among other things. In his words, “I’ve enjoyed connecting to the community and participating in the creative work of the Center. I’d like to thank the volunteers who have helped in so many ways: weekly Burdock Brigaders, gungho Special Event helpers, and all of the individuals who have contributed something unique to the Center.” We wish Darrell the best in his future endeavors.

- Please consider supporting a camper with a summer camp scholarship. Thanks to the generosity of our membership we are able to sponsor students each year. Send your check attn: Judy Kruse and write summer scholarship in the memo line, or call 964-8505 with your credit card handy.

- A special thanks to Larry Moon, Mary Jo Vasarella and the employees of Lakeside Manufacturing in West Milwaukee for the recent donation of stainless steel carts and custom made plant stands. The carts are a wonderful, and much needed, addition to the Center’s program needs.

- Bowling in the library? Many thanks to Dan Vogel of Heartwoods Furniture Restoration for donating his services to refresh the table in our library. The table is made from an old bowling alley and makes a great conference table!

- Cory the Bike Fixer’s grand re-opening. Celebrate Cory’s 9th anniversary and grand re-opening. Cory the Bike Fixer has been a long-time supporter of the Urban Ecology Center, offering discounts to our staff, teaching bicycle repair classes and supporting the community and staff’s goals to commute by bicycle. His store at 2410 North Murray Avenue has recently had a face lift. Please visit Cory the Bike Fixer on March 15th to celebrate the grand re-opening. A percentage of the proceeds from sales made on that day will be donated to the Center.

- Giving opportunities found in our community. Please take advantage of these ways to give to the Center.

  **Shop at Outpost Natural Foods**
  (on Capitol Drive or the Wauwatosa Store) on Wednesdays in the month of April and 1% of the day’s sales will be donated to the Urban Ecology Center. Thanks to all of you that nominated the Center for the Community Wednesday program at Outpost. If you would like to volunteer to greet shoppers as a representative of the Center on one or more of those Wednesdays, give Ginger a call at 964-8505, x. 106.

- The Center is a member of Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee. If your employer does not offer workplace giving, call Judy at 964-8505, x. 102, to help start a Community Shares campaign at your office.

- Through a partnership with Ranch Community Services, you can donate your car or other older vehicle to support both nonprofits. The Center will receive 50% of the sale for any vehicle donated through our contacts.

- Be sure to designate the Center, #879200, as your Pick’n Save We Care choice. Each time you use your Advantage Plus Savers Card, the Center will receive a cash rebate.

- New! Recycle your cell phone.
  Recycle your old ink-jet cartridges and cell phones at the Urban Ecology Center. For each shipment of recyclable materials, a donation is made toward the betterment of our urban environment.

- Part Time Job Announcement: If interested in one of the following opportunities, please call Ken at 964-8505, x. 101.

  **Janitorial help** needed at the Center. Twenty hours per week.

  **Additional Playground Attendant** is needed from 3 to 5 each afternoon starting in April.

  **Check out the tower view from the comfort of your home!** The Urban Ecology Center is now part of the Weatherbug network (and a smart weather station for Fox6 News) to measure temperature, dew point and other weather related data, as well as offering a bird’s eye view of the park. Check out [www.aws.com/wx.asp?id=MLWKC](http://www.aws.com/wx.asp?id=MLWKC) or [www.weatherbug.com](http://www.weatherbug.com).

- Many thanks. The Center would like to thank the following organizations for their generous contributions: Leaf Ltd., Gretchen & Andrew Dawes Charitable Trust, Payne & Dolan, Robert G. Zach Family Foundation, Northwestern Mutual Foundation, Nasgovitz Family Foundation, Bank One Foundation, Pollybill Foundation, Stevens Family Foundation and Fleck Foundation.

- Building on success. The Center would like to thank the following organizations for their generous contributions to its capital campaign: Kresge Foundation, Krase Family Foundation, Richard G. Jacobus Family Foundation, We Energies and Dorothy Inbusch Foundation.

Wish List

We are extremely grateful for the generous support of our members and friends. If you have an in-kind donation for the Center, please call Ken at 964-8505, x. 101. The Center is in need of the following items:

- VCR
- Computer speakers
- Locking 2 or 4 drawer file cabinet
- Portable fabric covered display board
- Portable Tradeshows exhibit
- Lateral 2 drawer file cabinet (36”)
- Firewood
- Poster-size frames
- Parachute/earth ball/juggling stuff
- Two 8 foot step ladder
- Stepstools
- Desk/floor lamps
- Mandolin
- Good electric keyboard
- Chest freezer
- Large cast iron bell
- House for internship housing
- Electric dryer
- Bath towels
- Dish towels
- $40,000 for tower climbing wall
- Prius to serve as a community car
**Summer in the City**

**Diversity**

We reside in an economically and racially diverse neighborhood and are committed to serving the entire neighborhood. Our camps reflect this. You might disagree with me, but I believe that the program is stronger, the community is richer, and the experience the students take away from them more profound, thanks to this commitment to diversity.

**Kids can be kids**

This is a program where the kids decide what to learn and to some extent how to structure their days. It is inquiry education at its best. Not a prescribed formula, but an empowering freedom of choice. It is so easy for kids these days to get plugged in . . . be it TV, video games, lesson timetables or hectic soccer schedules. The Ecology Center programs allow kids a chance to be kids . . . to catch crayfish, skip stones on Lake Michigan, or silently watch a majestic great blue heron from a canoe, all conveniently close to home.

**Did I mention our staff?**

It is people that make all the difference and we have good people!

**Note:** At the Ecology Center we have never turned away campers because they can’t afford to come. In the past this sometimes has meant not making our summer budget. If you are able, please consider contributing to our summer scholarship fund.

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**New Publishing Method Saves Paper**

Even traditional publishers can’t turn every book they publish into a bestseller. They typically print a few thousand and warehouse the books until they’re ordered by bookstores. But thanks to the phenomenal growth of the internet and the services it makes available, less costly and more environmentally friendly publishing methods are now available through e-publishing.

E-publishing is the electronic delivery of content. This rapidly developing industry includes e-mail newsletters, e-books and print-on-demand (POD) books, all of which save paper and storage space. E-books, which must be read on a computer or hand-held electronic reading device, have been slow to be embraced by readers who like the familiar feel of a book. However, production by POD is growing in use and popularity.

POD technology allows publishers to print a single book as it’s ordered, avoiding costly print runs, the need for warehousing inventory, and the waste of unsold books. It is also faster, delivering the book just days after it’s ordered.

Scores of e-publishers can be found on the web. Writers who are interested in e-publishing should devote some time to researching the companies on the internet and comparing services, costs and track records. Reputable publishers are upfront and clear about what they offer. One web site, www.booksandtales.com, evaluates and compares numerous e-publishers.

After unsuccessfully trying for months to find an agent and publisher for my first novel, Prot U, I researched e-publishers and decided to go with Booklocker.com. I formatted the manuscript according to their instructions and provided a cover designed by my daughter, who is a photographer.

In a couple of weeks, I received the first printed copy, a 5.5” by 8.5” trade paperback with a shiny, full-color cover. As soon as I approved it, Booklocker posted my book page on their Web site, http://www.booklocker.com/books/1646.html.

The benefits of e-publishing to both the author and the environment are obvious. However, one drawback is that the responsibility for publicizing and marketing the book falls almost entirely on the author, who may just want to write, not sell.

E-publishing is beginning to compete with traditional publishers, and while the newer method of getting books out may never replace the older one, it is saving money, space and natural resources. Equally important, it’s offering aspiring authors a sensible way to see their work in print.
WHO'S BEEN IN YOUR BACK YARD?

continued from page 1

front limbs forward at the same time. They have long limbs and narrow bodies. Humans, deer, and dogs are considered to have walking patterns.

Next are the waddlers; they move hind and same side front limbs forward at the same time and have short to medium length limbs with wide bodies. Bears, raccoons and opossums waddle.

Third are the bounders that move both front limbs forward and then both hind limbs and have short limbs and long, narrow, tube-like bodies. Mink, otters and other weasels have a bounding pattern.

Lastly are the hoppers that move both front and hind limbs forward, having powerful hind limbs and less-powerful front limbs. Hind footprints land ahead of front footprints. Rabbits, squirrels and other rodents typically have this pattern. I encourage you all to make your own interpretations of these track patterns outside in the snow.

Shape of the track helps determine the group of animals to which it belongs. For instance, round tracks tend to be made by felines and more oval tracks are made by canines (canines show claw marks while felines tend to have claws retracted.). There are many other generalities to look for and they can be found in many tracking books.

Size of the track helps determine which specific animal from a group of animals was there. For example, a mouse track will be smaller than a squirrel's.

Counting the number of toes can help separate tracks into groups. Some general rules are as follows: Canines and felines have four toes. Bears, opossums, raccoons and weasels have five. Rodents tend to have four front toes and five hind toes, except for the beaver which has five on each. Hoofed animals like a deer tend to have two toes.

Now remember, becoming good at tracking takes some practice. Just getting out there with a tracking book is a great start. If you don’t have one, come down to the Center. We would love to help you.

FROM THE BOARD

by Lorraine Jacobs, President, UEC Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors has grown in the past month as four new members were nominated and accepted at the January meeting. Each of the new people brings his individual mix of talent and commitment to the Center. Welcome to: Jeff Anthony, Troy Hilliard, Bill Rumpf and Ben Caslbeek. Future articles will introduce these gentlemen.

At this time I’d like to tell you a bit about myself and introduce you to two long standing Board Members who have been connected to the Center, Dennis Grzezinski, Membership Chair and Theresa Lins, Publicity Chair.

I currently serve as President of the Board. I have been connected with the Center since 1992, volunteering where needed. Retired from the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, I recently began a part-time position with Interfaith, serving older adults who wish to remain in their homes but need support. A long time

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

If you or your group have a program to share with others, give us a call and we’ll consider listing it in this section.

FILM-VERDE BIKE RIDE
Saturday, March 5
11 a.m.
Milwaukee Environmental Consortium, 1845 N. Farwell Ave.
Bring your bike and a bag lunch
Come celebrate three of your favorite things: movies, bikes and the environment! We’ll take a bicycle tour of Milwaukee’s environmental hot-spots with a bag lunch stop at Urban Ecology Center. We’ll end the ride at the Milwaukee Environmental Consortium, where we will watch an environmentally-themed film and eat popcorn.

UWM HONORS PROGRAM COLLOQUIUM:
SEARCHING FOR COMMON GROUNDS: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE SPECIALTY COFFEE INDUSTRY
Wednesday, March 9
4 - 5:30 p.m.
UWM Union, Room 191
For more information, contact Kate Coffaro at: kcoffaro@uwm.edu or 414/229-4021
Al Liu, Alterra Coffee Roasters Director of Culture and Communities, discusses socio-economic and ecological concerns and how the specialty coffee industry is responding to these issues.

EGG HUNT IN RIVERSIDE PARK
Sunday, March 20
10:30 a.m.
Sponsored by Murray Hill Neighborhood Association
For more information contact Geralyn at Murray Hill Pottery 332-8828
Colored eggs, art eggs, green eggs? Come celebrate spring and hunt for the elusive egg. Volunteer dyers, artists, hiders needed.

SPRING ART RECEPTION
Friday, April 8
6 - 9 p.m.
Sponsored by Ranch Community Services
Location: Urban Ecology Center
Ranch Community Services is pleased to announce a special Spring Art Reception showcasing original art by participant artists. All art available for sale.

ANTHROPOLOGY PRACTICE AND NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCING COURSE SERIES
Marquette University’s College of Professional Studies
Spring 2005 and beyond, call for current course list. (414) 288-3153
For a complete list of courses visit http://www.urban-anthropology.org/cert
Anthropology Practice And Neighborhood Resourcing are continuing education courses developed by Urban Anthropology Inc. Courses can be taken alone or combined to earn a certificate in Neighborhood Resourcing and/or Applied Anthropology.
Astronomy Notes

March will give us the year’s best evening views of Mercury. Close to the sun and normally difficult to see, it will be farthest away from the Sun on the 12th, when it will rise 11° above the horizon. See the sidebar for more on this small sun-drenched planet. April night skies will display Jupiter as it grows to nearly one half-degree in size and reaches magnitude -2.5°. It will be brighter than all nearby objects.

March

There will be a Lunar occultation of Antares (the 15th brightest star in the sky) beginning at 4:43 a.m. and ending at 6 a.m. on March 3rd. On the 6th, look for Mars 5° north of the Moon at 5:30 a.m. Look very low in southeast. Find Mercury 3° west of the Moon low in west after sunset on the 11th. By the 14th the Waxing Crescent Moon will be 5° from the Pleiades star cluster. Look for Jupiter 3° from Moon very low in east southeast in the evening of the 26th. Jupiter will move from below the Moon to its upper left as the duo traverses the sky.

March 20th brings the vernal equinox and the beginning of spring. Did you know that the sun doesn’t always rise in the east? The tilt of the Earth’s axis and the rotation of the Earth around the sun causes the sun’s path in the sky to be northeast to northwest in the summer and southeast to southwest in winter (northern hemisphere). Equinoxes are the moment when the sun appears to cross the celestial equator and will rise due east and set due west.

April

Daylight Savings Time begins on April 3rd. Look for Mercury 3° north of the Moon about twenty minutes before sunrise on the 7th. On the 11th the Moon will be just south of the Pleiades star cluster. Find it in the west at 7:00 p.m. Look for Saturn 4° south of the Moon on the 15th. Look in the west after dark.

The Lyrid meteor shower occurs from the 16th - 25th with a peak on the 22nd at 5 a.m. Watch directly overhead (zenith) for 10-20 per hour.

The New Moon is on the 8th and the Full Moon (Crow/Sap/Death/Crust On Snow) is on the 25th.

First lunar eclipse of 2005 is a penumbral eclipse on April 24th. Lunar eclipses occur when the Earth screens the sun relative to the Moon. The Earth projects behind it an “umbra” (“umbra” is Latin for “shadow”) and a “penumbra”. The penumbra is a zone of lighter shadow where the sunlight is only partially blocked. Look for a slight darkening of the northeastern portion of the Moon at 4:55 a.m.

Mercury

Mercury is the second smallest planet, about one-third the diameter of Earth. It is also the closest to the Sun, averaging about 36 million miles away. The proximity to our star heats the lighted side to 800° F, yet temperatures on the unlit side can plunge to a chilly -297° F. Mercury has no more than a trace of an atmosphere, primarily potassium and sodium.

When viewed from Earth, Mercury is almost always in twilight; its orbit is never more than 27° away from the Sun. We must view it, low in the east, before the Sun rises or, low in the west, after the Sun sets. This year’s best evening viewing will be after sunset from now until March 23rd. The best morning views will be before sunrise from November 30th through December 31st.

From the Board

residents of Riverwest, I currently serve on the Riverwest Neighborhood Association Board.

During my year as President, I’d like to build Board and Committee Membership to expand representation of the cultures and neighborhoods we serve. Also, I would like to encourage the Board as it supports the Director and staff in achieving our common goals.

Dennis Grzezinski is an Environmental attorney in solo private practice, primarily representing environmental organizations, citizen groups, and municipalities. He is also a commissioner of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and currently serves as Vice-Chair. Dennis has participated in numerous wilderness service trips with Sierra Club and Wilderness Volunteers.

Dennis has been a member and advisor for the UEC since its founding. He has been a Board Member since 1998, serving as the immediate past President, during which time he negotiated the acquisition of the land upon which our new building sits. Currently he serves as chair of the Membership Committee. When asked about his goals, he stated, “I’d like to see our supporting membership double or triple in the near future. I’d also like to see an increase in evening and weekend programs/activities to the point where the Center becomes a major community meeting place.”

Theresa Lins is currently the Public Relations committee chairperson for the Center. Upon moving to Milwaukee, Theresa lived a block away, on Oakland Ave. Being curious about her new neighborhood, she explored the Center and gradually found a niche within the organization. Theresa considers herself lucky to have had the opportunity to promote Urban Ecology Center people, activities and programs, “far and wide to Milwaukee, statewide, and hopefully soon, national media.”

When she’s not spreading the word about the UEC, Theresa works in the non-profit sector in Milwaukee on community development projects.
Special Events

Peggy Seeger
Songwriting Workshop and Benefit Concert
Saturday, March 5

Songwriting Workshop:
1:30 p.m.
Urban Ecology Center
$12 in advance
$15 at the door (Members - $12)

Concert:
8 p.m.
Miramar Theater, 2844 N. Oakland Ave.
$12 in advance
$15 at the door (Members - $12)

Earth Day at UEC!
Saturday, April 16

River to Lake Hike:
9 a.m. - 12 noon

Celebration:
12 noon - 4 p.m.
Free, all ages welcome

See insert for details!

Marked programs are not accessible for persons with physical disabilities. All others have limited accessibility.

Urban Adventures

Call the Center at 964-8505 to register at least two days before the trip. Trips will run as scheduled, rain or shine.

Hike the Milwaukee River*
Wednesday, April 13
5 - 8 p.m.
For adults and accompanied children 12 & older
$7 (Members - $5)
Get in touch with the early spring river and its banks! We will begin at the Center, hike to Port Washington Road, cross and come down the west bank, crossing back at the new pedestrian bridge. Total length about 8 miles. Bring water, wear boots and expect mud!

Birding By Canoe*
Saturday, May 7
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
For adults
Limited to 8 canoes
$25 (Members - $20)
Call 964-8505 by May 4 to register, payment due at time of registration

Bird books and binoculars are available for use. Bring a lunch and water. Canoes, paddles and PFDs provided.

Kayaking Lake Michigan*
Thursday, June 16
5:30 - 8 p.m.
Intro to Sea Kayaking class or other previous kayaking experience required
For adults and accompanied youth, age 12 & older
$30 (Members - $25)

Fundamentals of Canoeing*
June 20 - June 22
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
with a break for lunch.
For adults and youth, age 12 & older
$60 (Members - $50)

Milwaukee River Canoe Trip*
Thursday June 23
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
For adults and youth, age 12 years & older
$30 (Members - $25)

Adult Rock Climbing Trip*
July 15 - July 17
For adults age 18 and older who attended at least two of the Climbing Clinic classes.
Tents, transportation and food will be provided.
$175 (Members - $160)
Price includes introductory classes

Devil’s Lake Climbing Trip*
July 15 - July 17
For adults age 18 and older who attended at least two of the Climbing Clinic classes.
Tents, transportation and food will be provided.
$175 (Members - $160)
Price includes introductory classes

Plan Ahead:
Upcoming Adventures

River Rhythms Canoe Trips*
Every Wednesday
June 8 - September 7
5 - 9:30 p.m.

Introduction to Sea Kayaking*
Tuesday, June 14
5:30 - 8 p.m.
For adults and accompanied youth, age 12 & older
$30 (Members - $25)

Kayaking Lake Michigan*
Thursday, July 7
5:30 - 8 p.m.
Intro to Sea Kayaking class or other previous kayaking experience required
For adults and accompanied youth, age 12 & older
$30 (Members - $25)
Family Programs

Team Safari*
Saturday March 5
10 a.m. - 12 noon
For adults and accompanied children ages 8 & up
$5 (Members - $3)
Call 964-8505 by March 3 to register.
Flex your problem-solving muscles while teaming up with fellow participants to conquer various challenges. You will learn to think outside the box as you tackle the obstacles set before you. If you enjoy fun and games, you won’t want to miss the Team Safari!

Maple Sugaring in Riverside Park
Sundays, March 6 & 20
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
For everyone!
Adult: $8 (Members - $5) for both days
Child: $6 (Member - $3) for both days
A maximum of $15 will be charged per family for both days
Take part in the ancient practice of collecting and boiling down maple sap into maple syrup. On the 6th we will tap trees in the park. On the 20th we will boil down the sap into syrup. Yummmm!

Milwaukee Community Supported Agriculture Open House
Saturday, March 19
12 noon - 4 pm
For everyone!
Free
Meet local farmers and learn about Community Supported Agriculture which brings fresh, sustainably-grown produce local farms to your neighborhood. Enjoy free food samples from Slow Food, workshops on preparing healthy snacks and music.

Kite Building Workshop
Saturday, April 16
2 - 3 pm
For everyone! Children under six should be accompanied by an adult or teenage sibling
$5 a kite (member and nonmembers)
Call 964-8505 by April 4 to register.
Build attractive flying sled kites of beautiful color for family fun and enjoyment. Ver dell and Jim De Yarman, founders of the Kite Society of Wisconsin, will teach kids of all ages how to build a kite. Participants will be able to personalize their decorations, creating a gift idea for friends and family. Great for families interested in celebrating Earth Day at the Center.

Storytime in the Park
Sundays, March 13 & April 17
2 - 3 p.m.
For accompanied preschool & kindergartners
$5 (Members - $3) per child
Listen to nature stories and meet animal friends in our classroom or look for new friends in the park!

High School Outdoor Leader Programs

Outdoor Leadership Information Session
Wednesday, March 16
6 - 7 p.m.
Free
For high school students and their families
High school students and families are invited to an information session about the 2005 summer High School Outdoor Leadership Program. Students interested in community leadership, outdoor recreation and/or environmental issues can apply to participate in a summer training program, including a trip to the Teton Science School in Wyoming. The Ecology Center provides significant scholarships, so students of all financial means are encouraged to get involved. High school students interested in paid positions at the Center during the school year must successfully complete this program.

River Clean Up By Canoe*
Saturday, April 23
9 a.m. - 12 noon
For high school youth
Free
Take part in Friends of Milwaukee’s Rivers annual Spring River Clean Up. We will use canoes to get to sections of the river and river bank that are hard to clean up from shore. It is a fun way to serve the community and the river.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Orientation
Saturday, March 12 & April 9
10 a.m. - 12 noon
Free
Volunteers play an important role in operating the Center. Come to this informational session and learn about the Center’s programs and how to get involved.

National Youth Service Day
Saturday, April 16
For youth and teens 10-17 years old
Free
Please register by April 11, call 964-8505.
National Youth Service Day (NYSD) is coming to the Urban Ecology Center! See article on page 3 for details.
EcoLOGical Change in Southeastern Wisconsin
Speaker: Gary Casper, Collections Manager for Herpetology, Milwaukee Public Museum
Tuesday, March 8 7 - 8:30 p.m.
For adults
$5 (Members – free)
Focusing mainly on amphibians and reptiles, Gary will discuss pre-settlement flora and fauna communities in Milwaukee County, and how they have changed over the past two centuries. Biodiversity losses are well underway and this talk will address how these trends might play out in the future throughout the region.

Afternoon Birding Workshop:
Owls, Doves & Friends
Saturday, March 12 4 - 5:30 p.m.
For adults
$5 (Members – free)
Night owls & birders, seemingly incompatible, can now mingle in our afternoon birding workshop series. This month, night owls can also learn about their own kind, as we review identification and interesting facts about owls, doves and various birds that call the park home. The afternoon begins with a slideshow and ends with a walk through the park. Binoculars provided.

Adult Discussion Course:
Choices for Sustainable Living
Organizing session: Tuesday, April 5, 7 p.m.
Class meets Tuesdays, April 12 - June 7 7 p.m.
$20 ($15 for GLEI members)
Call 964-8505 by April 3 to register.
Discover steps that can be taken to move toward ecologically sustainable lifestyles and communities. This 8 week discussion course offers the chance to discuss short readings, develop friendships and reflect thoughtfully about choices we make each day.

Take me to the Water:
Angler Education Workshop
Taught by Department of Natural Resources staff
Saturday, April 9 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
For adults
$5 (Members – free)
For registration materials go to http://dny.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/fish/kidsparents/anglereducation/workshopschedule.shtml
Contact Beth at 964-8505, x.103 for more information.
Angler Education workshops provide training for adult volunteers to offer fishing programs in their schools and communities. The program introduces children to basic fishing skills and connects them to Wisconsin's lakes and streams. Adults who attend the workshops receive free materials that they can use to teach their own angler education courses and help guide adventures in local water resources investigations. Fishing equipment and other supplies are available for loan to instructors at the Center.

From a Daydream to Reality:
The Quad 30 Campaign
Speaker: Noel Cutright, Past President, Wisconsin Society for Ornithology
Tuesday, April 12 7 - 8:30 p.m.
For adults
$5 (Members – free)
Some have called it a birding marathon, others a birding odyssey. However one views it, during the 2004 bird breeding season, local birder Noel Cutright accomplished what many birders said was impossible. Noel successfully completed one breeding bird survey every day in June. Noel describes how his “Quad 30” project evolved and highlights some of his findings.

Urban Wildlife Trunk Workshop for Teachers
Wednesday, April 13
12 noon - 3 p.m.
For adults
$15 (includes lunch)
Call 964-8505 by March 31 to register.
This workshop is designed for teachers in urban environments to introduce students to urban wildlife issues. Through hands-on lessons that can be carried out in the classroom or on the playground, participants will explore ecological relationships in urban settings, the scientific process, and issues related to urban wildlife. Participants will receive a curriculum and be able to access to our newly-created wildlife trunk containing materials for all activities (skulls, skins, tracks and scat samples of wildlife common to urban Milwaukee). Fee includes lunch and a bound curriculum. Supported by the Bureau of Land Management.

Celebrate Urban Ecosystems
Saturday, April 16
9 a.m. - 12 noon
For adults
Free, lunch included
This workshop is designed for teachers and community members interested in exploring the diverse interactions of native plants and wildlife found in the city. Discover materials available on loan from the Center to aid in teaching youth about wildlife. Curriculum materials are provided. Topics include native plant identification, schoolyard science activities and more. This program is being offered in collaboration with UW Madison’s Arboretum and is supported by the ESEA Title II Higher Education Professional Development Program.

Afternoon Birding Workshop:
Woodpeckers
Saturday, April 23
6 - 7:30 p.m.
For adults
$5 (Members – free)
Some of us may occasionally bang our heads on wooden objects, but woodpeckers do it all the time and are no worse for the wear. Join us for a slideshow and presentation on woodpecker identification tips and adaptations. We will finish with an early evening stroll through the park to look for our resident woodpeckers.

Urban Ecology Center
Photo Club
Thursdays, March 3 & April 7
7 p.m.
For adults
Free - donations welcome
Explore nature in an artistic light and develop new photographic skills.

Urban Stargazers
Thursdays, March 10 & April 14
7 p.m.
Free - donations welcome
Join us for information and stargazing if weather permits.

Vegetarian Potluck
Thursdays, March 17 & April 21
6:30 - 8 p.m.
For adults and accompanied children
Free - donations welcome
Call 964-8505 to register.
Bring a plate and fork along with your meatless dish to share at our picnic style meal.

Burdock Brigade
Every Tuesday, 9 - 11 a.m.
and Saturdays, March 5 & 19 and April 2 & 16
9 - 10:30 a.m.
Free
Improve biodiversity in the park by removing alien plant species like burdock.

Wednesday Walks
With Ken*
Every Wednesday
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<td>7p Ecological Change in Southeastern Wisconsin 7p Voluntary Simplicity</td>
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<td>8a Birdwalk 7p Urban Stargazers</td>
<td>7p Friday Fire: Jean-Andrew of Storylore</td>
<td>10a Volunteer Orientation 1p Animal Feeding 4p Afternoon Birding Workshop: Owls, Doves &amp; Friends</td>
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Please Contact the Center for details

(414) 964-8505 www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org
### Urban Ecology Center Programs

**Urban Ecology Center hours:**
- Monday - Thursday 9a-7p
- Friday - Saturday 9a-5p
- Sunday 12 noon-5p

**Please Contact the Center for details**  
(414) 964-8505  
www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org

#### April 2005

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Thank You From the Center

In-kind donations:
Robert Bass - bread machine, charcoal, tools, weed cutters, bowls, table cloth, garden sculpture, towel set, trailer hitch, tools, kitchen tools, sewing machine, framed poster
Dudra Benois - aloe plant
Jean Casper - gloves
Monique Chartier - fireplace & fireplace tools
CMA of Milwaukee - ladder
Rose Daitsman - polished concave mirror
Downer Hardware - seeds
Patricia Frost - telescope, table saw
Lauren Gindol - desk lamp
Al Felderborn - plant
Nancy Hindin - camera tripod, books
Eleanor Ildefonse - clock
Robert Ken - tools
Mark A. Koeppl - buffalo hide
Lakeside Animal Hospital - reptile exam
Theresa Mattke - gloves & hat
Pat Mueller - gavel
Peggy McGuffe - telescope
Milwaukee Catholic Home - magnifier, floor lamps
Jayne Pelton - cart
Anne Marie Rhodes - framed prints

Gifts in honor:
In honor of Pat & Marge Evans marriage
- Ashia Grispen
In honor of Susan Kasten & Lissa & Clayton Logan
In honor of Sally Tolan & Fred Berman

Welcome New and Renewing Members:
Duke Anderson
Andrew M. & Donna H. Barnes

Volunteers’ Corner

Many thanks! Many thanks to our friends and members who volunteered for recent Center events. The Candlelight Walk, Winterfest and Speeddating for Nature Lovers could not have happened without your help. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Susan Winans at 414-964-8505, x. 110.

More opportunities!
Lend a hand at the Center. Choose an area that matches your own interests and you’re sure to have a fun and meaningful experience!

Community Supported Agriculture Open House, March 19: Come tend the fire in the tipi, assist children with a craft or keep the sledding hill full of hay as you find out more about local subscription farmers and how you can support them.

Earth Day, April 16th: Volunteer Earth Day organizers needed. If interested, call Dianne at 964-8505, x. 104. Volunteers are also needed at the event to set up an exhibit on sustainable living, help children put on rock climbing harnesses or lead a hike through our park as we celebrate our planet!

Receptionists: Be an integral part of the Center team. If you are a “people person” who wants to get to know the Center in a relaxed environment we still have weekday shifts open for receptionists and substitute receptionists.

Community Ambassadors: Do you love the energy of Milwaukee’s lively festivals? We are looking for volunteers to share the excitement of the Urban Ecology Center with the general public at upcoming events.

Woodworkers: Looking for woodworkers to assist in setting up our shop as well as helping with some fun woodworking projects for the Center.

A special thanks goes to the following businesses for their continued in-kind donations.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Alterra Coffee Roasters</th>
<th>Bayside Garden Center</th>
<th>Hoffers Tropic Life Pets</th>
<th>CyberLynk Network, Inc.</th>
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<th>Volunteers’ Corner by Susan Winans, School Program Coordinator</th>
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Join us in March & April!

Songwriting Workshop and Benefit Concert with Peggy Seeger
Saturday, March 5

Earth Day at UEC!
Saturday, April 16

Membership

Membership benefits include discounts on programs and products, invitations to special events, opportunities for neighborhood stewardship and a one year newsletter subscription. For more information, please visit our website at urbanecologycenter.org.

- Individual - $25 (includes 1 guest)
- Family - $35
- Students - $12
- Newsletter subscription (no membership) - $10

Financial assistance is available. Please call Ginger Duiven, Membership Coordinator at 964-8505, x. 106, or email to gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org for details.

Donation

In addition to membership

You're doing a terrific job. Please accept this donation for the support of programs and services.

- $50
- $100
- $250
- $500
- $1000
- $2500
- $5000
- Other $ __________

Total Enclosed $ ________________

- I would like to volunteer at the Center. Please call me.

Name ____________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State/Zip __________________________
Phone __________________________ Email ____________________________

Charge my membership to:  □ Master Card  □ Visa
Card Number __________ - ________ - ________ - ________
Expiration Date _______/_______
Signature __________________________
Date __________________________

Please make your check payable to: Urban Ecology Center and return it with this form to:
Urban Ecology Center
Riverside Park
1500 E. Park Pl.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
or use your credit card and call (414) 964-8505.