



## THE POWER OF THE LITTLE ACT: INTRODUCING THE INTERFAITH EARTH NETWORK

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

I have dedicated most of my life to the study of our environment in the company of children and youth and through this process developed a deep and profound passion for this planet and the miracle of life that resides here. I also have a strong faith. This passion, faith and experience have led me to the conclusion that our living planet is in a deep and troubling place. Many do not see or understand this looming crisis. For those who do, the knowledge can overwhelm, both with its universality and its complexity often resulting in complacency of action. Action, however, is what we need most.

So when Reverend John Strassburger of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee and Dr. Lisa Calderone-Stewart of the House of Peace approached Beth Fetterly and me at the Urban Ecology Center with an idea to connect our environmental message to our neighborhood faith communities we were excited.

After some dialogue together, a letter was sent in March as a plea to engage our neighboring faith leaders. It read:

**Through our work at the Urban Ecology Center we have grown to appreciate the power of the little act, the incredible ripple effect that can occur when a person makes just one small positive change for the environment.**



*We need your help. Through our work at the Urban Ecology Center we have grown to appreciate the power of the little act, the incredible ripple effect that can occur when a person makes just one small positive change for the environment. One small change can so quickly lead to another, and when taken collectively they add up to transformative change.*

*We have watched the earth heal along the Milwaukee River in miraculous fashion, a miracle of which most in our community are unaware. A miracle that began with small human acts for the environment*

*has led to new life in the river, crime reduction in the parks and community building in the city across racial, economic, and cultural divides.*

*We believe that you, as a spiritual and community leader, can have a significant impact in this important work, not just along the River but throughout the entire city ... especially if you*

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## TWO WHEELING WOMEN

by Beth Fetterley, Director of Education

Bicycle commuting is one of my greatest joys. It is absolutely the best way for me to become invigorated for a day of work and to unwind when the day is over. When I lived two miles from the Center, it took exactly 11 minutes at a healthy clip to get from work to home on the Oak Leaf Recreational Trail and about 10 minutes by car, depending on traffic. Now that I live three miles away and spend a little more time on the streets, I need to add about seven minutes to the bike commute but it takes just as long when I drive my car.

Every spring the numbers of bikers on the Oak Leaf Trail increases, as if paralleling the return of our migratory birds. As a year-round biker, I typically encounter only five or six others per day in the heart of winter. In warm weather I usually see upwards of 50 people. Last summer, college students surveyed recreational use of the Oak Leaf Trail and counted more than 400 bikers in one commuting period!

In seven years of bike commuting experience, I have noticed that there are significantly more men than women on the trail. So to

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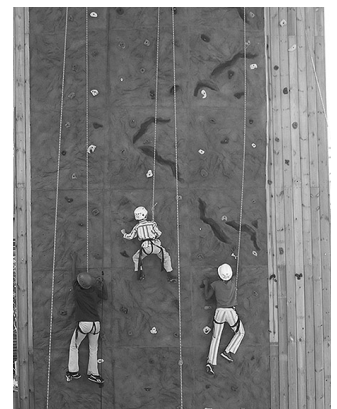
## "I'M NOT GONNA STOP TILL I GET TO THE TOP"

by Erick Anderson, Environmental Educator

Rock climbing is hard. I can sympathize with anyone who can't get to the top of the rock wall. I am one of the climbing-challenged. I had my first rock climbing experience at the Center when I was learning how to teach the class. After a few attempts of trying to get up the Bellevue Bridge wall, I cut my losses, licked my wounds and gave myself the "there's always next time" pep talk.

A couple of weeks later, I found myself teaching that which had given me so much grief.

Elm Creative Arts School was bringing their second graders on their very first trip to the Center and they were excited to do some



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## URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER

*River Reflections* is created and distributed through a team effort by the following people: Carijean Buhk, Ginger Duiven, Judy Krause, Pat Mueller, Shirley Spelt and a volunteer mailing crew.

Contributing writers: Erick Anderson, Noel Cutright, Ginger Duiven, Kimberley Fein, Beth Fetterley, Ken Leinbach, Art Paque and Susan Winans.

*River Reflections* is a publication of the **Urban Ecology Center**. The **Urban Ecology Center** is a 501(c)3 tax exempt nonprofit organization. Its facility and programming are made possible through the generous annual contributions of 82 foundations and corporations, over 1800 member and donor families and many in-kind donors. **No tax dollars are used to operate the Urban Ecology Center.**

To make a contribution, please see page 12 for the easy to use form or call Ginger Duiven at x106.

The **Urban Ecology Center** educates and inspires people to understand and value nature as motivation for positive change, neighborhood by neighborhood.

Our Environmental Community Centers:

- Provide outdoor science education for urban youth.
- Protect and use public natural areas, making them safe, accessible and vibrant.
- Preserve and enhance these natural areas and their surrounding waters.
- Promote community by offering resources that support learning, recreation, stewardship and camaraderie.

### Urban Ecology Center

Riverside Park, 1500 E. Park Place  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211  
(414) 964-8505  
Fax: (414) 964-1084  
uec@urbanecologycenter.org

Hours of operation:  
Monday - Thursday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 12 noon - 5 p.m.

Washington Park, 1859 N. 40<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208  
(414) 344-5460  
Fax: (414) 344-5462  
jzocher@urbanecologycenter.org

www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org

## DROPLETS

- **The 5th annual Teen Adventure Challenge is on June 2, 2007.** Get a group of four teens and one adult together and plan to canoe, climb, bike and take part in other fun events. Contact Dan Gray for registration information, dgray@urbanecologycenter.org. It is also a cool fundraiser! To sponsor a team contact Ginger at gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org.
- **Visionary support for our bits and bytes.** One of the creative ways the Center receives support is the "grant" of an information technology professional through the LEAF ltd private foundation. Through this innovative support, Scott Webb provides the Center with a wide range of expertise to keep our 30 computer work stations, data recording devices and audio visual systems working. Thanks to LEAF and Scott we are able to track the energy produced by our solar panels on the roof and provide speakers with a state of the art system to show presentations. We send a mega thank you to everyone at LEAF for keeping the Center's bits and bytes humming so we can stay connected to you.
- **We are excited to announce a new partnership with the Green Tree Garden Club.** The Green Tree Garden Club is made up of many dedicated, talented gardeners. Last year the members organized a Garden and House Tour fundraiser. They then set out to find a garden related project to support with the funds they raised. Our rain gardens, green roof, butterfly garden, demonstration gardens and community gardens are soon to get a big boost from this support. In addition, the members of the club are working with neighborhood students on four demonstration gardens along the Oak Leaf Trail. So far the plans include an herb garden, native grass wheel garden, vegetable garden and a native plant garden. Watch for them to sprout up this summer! Thanks to all of the Green Tree Garden Club members for selecting the Urban Ecology Center for this incredible support!
- **Help keep our beautiful building spic and span!** A part time custodial position, 20-25 hours per week, is

## WISH LIST

*If you have a donation for the Center, please call Judy Krause, x102.*

- A house
- 60 cup coffee maker
- Claw hammer
- Crayons and markers
- Garden hoe
- Gently used sweatpants
- Ice cream buckets with lids
- Kayaks
- Old towels for rags, any size
- Overhead projector
- Pelts for our Wildlife Trunk: Red Fox, Coyote, Rabbit (one grey, one white), Squirrel, Chipmunk
- Rain ponchos/jackets for little kids (kindergarteners - 3rd grade)
- Sleds
- Step stools - one, two, three steps

### For Washington Park

*If you have a donation for Washington Park, please call Joey Zoicher, x126.*

- Basic tools - screwdrivers, hammer
- Binoculars
- Butterfly nets
- Canoes & paddles
- Clipboards
- Coat rack or hooks
- Crayons and markers
- Extension cords & power strips
- Field guides (esp. trees, birds, insects, flowers)
- GPS device
- Hand lenses/magnifying glasses
- Hats, mittens and scarves
- Kites
- Large coffee percolator
- Medium size plastic storage bins with lids
- Microscopes
- Musical instruments (acoustic - drums, guitars, mandolin, ukulele)
- Native Wisconsin animals: mounted, pelts, bones
- New children's lifejackets
- Pens/pencils
- Sleds
- Snowshoes
- Stopwatches

available beginning June 1. Prior cleaning experience required. Contact Kimberly Fein at 414-964-8505 x150 or kfein@urbanecologycenter.org.

- **Medicine Collection Day - A Prescription for Clean Water and Safe Kids.** Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's Medicine Collection Day will be on June 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Miller Park (lot by the "sausage haus"). Bring old prescription or over-the-counter medications.

## TAKE US HOME WITH YOU

by Erick Anderson, Environmental Educator

Teachers, scout leaders and homeschoolers, have you ever wished that you could bring the Center to your classroom? With our new educational lending materials program, you can! Our three traveling tools, the Bird Mentoring Kit, the Energy Cycle, and the Wildlife Trunk will help you bring environmental education to where you are.

**The Urban Wildlife Trunk** is a portable collection of lessons designed to connect students with the wildlife they can find in their own playground or backyard. The trunk contains more than ten portable activities that can easily be implemented in the classroom, outdoors or at home. Students can handle samples of animal skulls, tracks and scat or listen to the sounds of the wild.

**The Energy Cycle**, one of our most popular teaching tools, turns students into human power plants! By pedaling a bicycle attached to a generator, students turn their body's energy into electrical power for light bulbs, a fan, radio, television set and blow dryer. Of course, the more lights that are turned on, the harder the pedaling gets!

This sweaty demonstration sheds some light onto how much work it takes to meet our typical electricity needs and why it is important to conserve.

**The Bird Mentoring Kit** gives birders of all ages and experience levels the tools to study our feathered friends. Complete with multiple pairs of binoculars, a spotting scope, field guides and a resource CD, this kit is an excellent resource for teaching students how to spot and identify birds. The Bird Mentoring Kit was acquired, in part, through a generous donation by the Riveredge Bird Club and proceeds from last year's Silent Chirp auction at the Center's International Migratory Bird Day Celebration. (Come to the IMBD Celebration on Saturday, May 12th and see the kit on display!)

If you are an educator in any setting you can gain access to these great resources. Join us for a teacher training on Monday, May 14th from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. to learn more about these materials. We will introduce the contents of each kit to you, go through sample lessons, orient you to our lending procedures and eat lunch. For more information on the workshop or the lending materials, contact Erick Anderson at (414) 964-8505, x108.

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

by Susan Winans, Volunteer Coordinator

Unless otherwise noted, please contact Susan at x110 or [swinans@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:swinans@urbanecologycenter.org) to sign up for the following opportunities

### Rock Climbing Volunteer Training.

Help others reach new heights! Join our team of trained rock climbing volunteers to help with various weekday and weekend climbing programs. Must be at least 16 years old. Training held May 1<sup>st</sup>, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Registration required, contact Dan, x115.

**Bike to Work Week.** Assist with a family bike ride on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2 - 4 p.m. or serve breakfast to bike commuters from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and/or Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. To help with the ride, contact Jamie, x114. To help serve breakfast, contact Beth, x103.

### International Migratory Bird Day.

Celebrate this festival for the birds! Greet visitors, help with children's activities, monitor the silent auction, set up and clean up the festival. Contact Kimberly Fein, x150, to sign up.

**Teen Adventure Challenge.** Help high school students as they race around the Milwaukee River and Lake Michigan watershed! Volunteers help with team registration, staff checkpoints along the course, handle equipment like canoes and bikes and serve lunch. Those with the necessary training and/or certification belay

for rock climbing, lifeguard, monitor kayaks in the river and offer first aid.

### Summer Camp Specialists.

Do you have a unique skill or talent that you'd love to share with kids ages 4-11? Music, art, yoga, butterflies, dance ... the sky's the limit! If you have a 1-3 hour indoor or outdoor activity for one or more nature-based camps this summer, please contact Sarah Rohe, x125.

**Help feed the critters!** Once a week during the summer months we need a volunteer to pick up food for our animals from Hoffers Tropical Life Pets (76<sup>th</sup> and Good Hope). If you are in that area regularly, please consider this short-term volunteer opportunity.

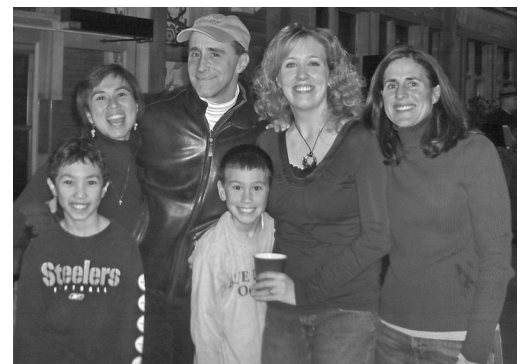
**Gardening** Looking for an opportunity to volunteer outside? Dig in the dirt with our Gardener Joel Springsteen on Thursday and Friday mornings this summer. Email Joel, [jks4@uwm.edu](mailto:jks4@uwm.edu) or call Susan for more information.

**Summer Park Rangers.** Help maintain a safe and clean environment for humans and wildlife in Riverside Park. Rangers walk individually or with a friend, pick up litter, remove graffiti and collect data about park usage. If you can volunteer 1-2 hours weekly, contact Kimberly Fein, x150.

## A HOOT IN THE NIGHT, A HUGE SUCCESS

by Ginger Duiven, Development Manager

In February, John and Christi Clancy hosted "A Hoot in the Night," an annual family fundraiser for the Urban Ecology Center. This year, over fifty families generated enough money to cover the entire cost of UEC Summer Camp scholarships for needy kids! The event featured a silent auction, sledding, night owl hikes, s'mores in the teepee, live music by Sevestapol and food donated by Beans and Barley, Diablos Rojos and Breadsmith. Special thanks to the event's main sponsor, Godfrey & Kahn, and to Direct Supply for their generous support.



## TWO WHEELING WOMEN

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balance the gender bias and encourage more women to bike, I would like to highlight other female commuters.

Ann Banda, who works at UWM, also commutes about 3 miles to work, and says it is a good time to “decompress.” She bikes year-round, unless it is pouring rain, and has done so for the past six years. Ann is able to bring her bicycle right into her office, and discovered that biking is faster than driving. Originally motivated by parking challenges at UWM, she has some tips to share with other potential women (and men) bike commuters.

First and foremost, she says “just give it a try!” There is an adjustment period, but making the change is “actually pretty easy.” Ann starting biking to work about 10 years ago, but it took a few years before it became part of her daily routine. There is no need to “buy any fancy gear,” she says. Ann wears her business attire, bringing her dress shoes

in a backpack to work on Monday and home on Friday.

Janet Ryan works at Northwestern Mutual and commutes about 6 miles to work. Janet chooses to commute by bike both because it is better for the environment and because it is the best way for her to incorporate an exercise routine into her week. Janet is a daylight, warmer weather commuter who brings out her bike during daylight savings time. She transports her clothes in a backpack and is able to shower and change into her business suit at work. Janet recommends taking small steps to get into the biking habit. For example, some of her colleagues who have a 20 or 30 mile commute, park at a park and ride lot, then bike in, still reducing their drive time.

All three of us have been asked by friends and family if the bike commute is safe. While we all try to avoid late evenings, none of us has encountered any dangers on

the path. We all agree that the Oak Leaf is safer than the street. We all also have found that driving saves no time.

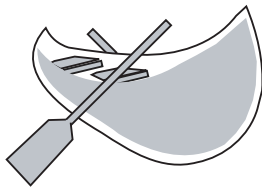
When asked about memorable adventures, Ann explained that there have been some crazy snowy, freezing cold days, but the foul weather adventures were made fun by the Milwaukee Bikes to Work Yahoo email list. As a part of this list, Ann is able to share her adventures with other bikers. See the Bike Federation of Wisconsin’s website to sign-up: <http://www.bfw.org>.

The Urban Ecology Center sends our thanks to bicycle commuters during Bike to Work Week, May 14-18, by providing free breakfast by our climbing tower to bikers on the trail. Please use this as your excuse to get exercise, emotional satisfaction, improve Milwaukee’s environmental health and develop the habit of commuting by bike. See you on the trail!

## DON'T BUY, BORROW!

by Kimberly Fein, Rental and Facility Coordinator

Why buy a kayak if you only paddle a couple times a year? Each boat uses energy, petroleum and money in its manufacturing, packaging and shipping. In the interest of discouraging unnecessary consumption, we offer an alternative – don’t buy a boat, borrow one of ours. Consider us your good neighbor. UEC members are encouraged to borrow our canoes and kayaks as a part of our equipment lending program.



We have recently revised our canoe and kayak lending policies. Read on for tips to ensure a great day on the water.

**Please plan in advance.** We have two canoes and two solo kayaks dedicated to the lending program, as well as paddles and PFDs (life jackets). Last summer, members borrowed our canoes 43 times and our kayaks 13 times. Due to such high demand, it is strongly advised to call at least a week in advance to reserve the boat and equipment you would like to use. Equipment will be checked out on a first call, first served basis.

### EQUIPMENT LENDING POLICIES

Those who borrow a canoe or kayak, or other equipment, must:

1. Be a member of the Urban Ecology Center.
2. Be at least 18 years of age.
3. Have a driver’s license (or state ID) and a credit card. These will be photocopied by the receptionist and the copies kept in a secure place. Upon the return of the equipment in good shape, the copies will be shredded.
4. Be prepared to make a \$5 cash deposit.
5. Fill out and sign an equipment lending waiver.
6. Be prepared to load and transport the equipment yourself. Bring a friend or adult family member to help: it is more fun and much easier.
7. Return the equipment during UEC open hours and make sure it is checked in by staff or a receptionist. The \$5 deposit will be returned after the inspection and paperwork is completed. The \$5 will not be returned if there is damage or equipment is returned after

the return date. Repair or replacement cost will be charged to the credit card.

The canoes and kayaks can be transported off site or wheeled on carts through Riverside Park to our launch site. If you are going off site, please come prepared to load them on your vehicle. The canoes weigh 70 pounds and are cumbersome. It is best to bring a second adult with you. The Center will provide foam blocks, rope or straps and instructions to secure the boat, but we can not guarantee staff will be available to help. If you plan on launching from Riverside Park, be aware that the boat needs to be transported a quarter of a mile through the park. Even though the boat is on a wheeled cart, this is still a strenuous activity.

We anticipate increased use of boats this summer. We hope that these guidelines make the process user friendly and that non-motorized boating will be part of your summer frolics! Please contact Kimberly Fein at (414) 964-8505, x150 or [kfein@urbaneecologycenter.org](mailto:kfein@urbaneecologycenter.org) if you have questions.

Have a boat you are hardly using? Consider donating it to the Center’s satellite location at Washington Park.

## ASTRONOMY NOTES

by Art Paque, Community Volunteer

Summer is coming and the show will begin! Evening planet watchers will enjoy Jupiter, Venus, Saturn and Mercury shining in May and June. See the Eta Aquarid meteor shower and the Full Blue Moon in May. The usual bevy of celestial couplings will be headlined by the breathtaking appearances of Venus and the Moon in May and the trio Venus, Saturn and the Moon in June.

### MAY

Early risers will see Jupiter (-2.6) low in the southwest and Mars (1.0) very low in the east before sunrise. Evening skies will be bejeweled with Venus (-4.3) and Saturn (0.4), and joined by Jupiter (-2.5) and Mercury (-1.0) at mid-month.

On May 5th, Jupiter is 6° and Antares is 5° to the east and west respectively of the Moon after midnight. Eta Aquarid meteor shower (April 21 through May 12) peaks on the 5th. Watch in the east after 4 a.m. on the 5th and 6th and expect 20 per hour. Find Mercury 2° below Waxing Crescent Moon on the 17th. Look in the west northwest after sunset. On the 19th, look for a brilliant Venus (-4.2) 0.5° to the left of Waxing Crescent Moon after sunset. Find Saturn, the Moon, Venus and Mercury in an east to west downward diagonal line on May 20th. Also, look for Pollux 3° to the right of the Moon, after 8:30 p.m. On the 22nd,

find Saturn 2° lower right of the Moon after 8:30 p.m. The planets are still in a line led by the Moon. Look for Regulus 3° below the Moon on the 23rd. Find Spica 1° to left of Moon after 8:45 p.m. on the 27th. On the 31st, find Antares 1° above and Jupiter 6° to the left the Moon. Full Moon (known as the Full Flower Moon) is on the 2nd and New Moon is on the 16th. On the 31st May boasts a Blue Moon. (See sidebar)

### JUNE

Solitary Mars (0.8) greets morning viewers in June while evening sky watchers will be cheered by Jupiter (-2.6) low in the southeast, brilliant Venus (-4.4) and Saturn (0.6) in the west; accompanied by Mercury (rapidly dimming) until mid-month.

On June 2nd, Mercury is at its greatest elongation at 23° east of Sun. This is a good opportunity to view Mercury as it is a time of least interference from the Sun. On the 9th, Venus is at its greatest elongation at 45° east of Sun. Like Mercury, this is a good opportunity to view Venus. Find Mars 5° below the Moon after Mars rises at 2:26 a.m. on the 10th. Look for Pleiades 0.5° from a Waning Crescent Moon after the Pleiades rise (3:31 a.m.) on the 13th. On the 16th, find Pollux 3° above the Moon from after sunset until moonset. On the 18th, find Venus nearly touching the right side of the

## BLUE MOON

We commonly think of a Blue Moon as the second Full Moon in a month. This definition, recent in its popularity, became widespread after it was used on a radio program in 1980. The traditional rule followed by the "Maine Farmer's Almanac" is quite different. This method relied on the tropical year rather than the calendar year. It utilized fixed dates for seasons of equal length rather than astronomical determination. The year usually has twelve Full Moons and each season three, each named after its related activities (Harvest Moon). When four Full Moons occurred in a season, the third was named the Blue Moon. This kept the names and activities aligned. The next Blue Moon, using the "Maine" method will be in May 2008.

Moon as they rise together at 8:48 a.m. That evening find a Waxing Crescent Moon flanked by Saturn and a blazing Venus (-4.4) after sunset. Find Regulus almost touching the right side of the Moon after sunset on the 19th. The Summer Solstice is on the 21st. On the 27th, Antares is 2° left of the Moon at sunset and moves closer during night. Jupiter is also nearby, look 7° to the left. Look for a Conjunction of Venus and Saturn on the 29th and 30th. They'll be 1° apart. Look in the west after sunset. Full Moon (known as the Strawberry Moon) is on the 30th and New Moon is on the 14th.

## I'M NOT GONNA STOP..

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rock climbing! So we took them to the Belleview Bridge, got them geared up in some harnesses and gave them their first ever trip up a rock wall.

One student in particular made quite the impression on me. He had never rock climbed before and it certainly wasn't coming easy to him. He couldn't quite find his foothold. Every time he stepped up, it seemed, he slipped right back down. I could tell it was wearing down on his patience. He needed a breather.

I got him back on his feet and asked him, "Are you ready for a break or would you like to keep going? I know that it's hard."

The look on his face told me all that I needed to know. He turned back to the wall and announced "I'm not gonna stop till I get to the top!" Then, with the whole class cheering his name, he scaled the wall, slowly but surely, touched the top and rappelled down victoriously. "I did it! I made it to the top!"

He learned how to rock climb that day. But that's not all that he learned. He learned that he could do something difficult if

he didn't give up. He learned that his whole class was there to encourage him. He learned that he was stronger than he thought he was. I learned something, too. We're doing much more than teaching kids about nature here at the Center. We're helping to build strong character in our students and strong character is crucial for building respect for the community and the environment.

If you've never rock climbed before, challenge yourself! With our brand new climbing wall, there are plenty of chances to "get to the top."

## MAY - JUNE CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise indicated, participants meet at the Urban Ecology Center, 1500 E. Park Place. Scholarships are available for all fee-based programs. For general information call (414) 964-8505 or visit [www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org](http://www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org) Programs marked with an \* are not accessible for persons with physical disabilities. All others have limited accessibility. Call if you have accessibility concerns.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### NEST QUEST WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 12

7:45 a.m. - noon

For families (children ages 8 and up) and adults

Free - donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505.

Cornell University and the Center are looking for participants for a national pilot program to monitor birds nesting in their neighborhoods. Become a "citizen scientist," learn how to collect data that will be used by renowned bird scientists.

#### INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 12

Noon - 4 p.m.

For everyone

Free - donations appreciated

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day! The 2007 theme is "Birds in a Changing Climate." Experience bird banding demonstrations, owl & raptor shows, children's bird activities and crafts, young birding experience and hikes, and a unique Silent Chirp Auction for all ages. Many bird organizations will be on hand to share information and vendors will sell bird related goods including books, binoculars, seed and feeders.



#### TEEN ADVENTURE CHALLENGE

Saturday, June 2

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Co-ed teams of four teens with one adult

\$60 per team

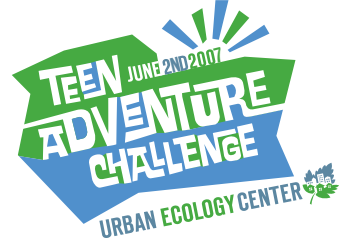
To register contact Dan Gray at

[dgray@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:dgray@urbanecologycenter.org)

To sponsor a team contact Ginger

at [gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org)

Bike, hike, rock climb, canoe the Milwaukee River and take part in mystery events during this unique fundraiser! T-shirt and lunch included.



#### SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Thursday, June 21

6:30 p.m.

For everyone

Free - donations appreciated

Enjoy a global environmental theatre event with your family, called "Drum Dance," featuring Milwaukee Public Theatre's Ajula Performance Troupe and guest artists. Following the hour long performance, celebrate the solstice by drumming, sharing poetry and witnessing the sunset with local artist Harvey Taylor. Bring a drum (or use one of ours), a favorite song or poem to share and a blanket to sit on.

#### ART AT UEC

"Natural Patterns" & "Moods and Voices of Nature"

Exhibit open through June 23rd. Most work available for sale.

#### Art Show Opening

Sunday, July 1, exhibit open through September

2 - 4 p.m.

For everyone

Free-donations appreciated

Most work available for sale.

Call to register, 964-8505.

Kasia Drake's art covers paintings, prints and drawings and has been shown extensively. Layers of abstract expression fill her canvases. Eduardo Vega is a mixed media and found materials artist. He works with oil paint, charcoal and wood, creating multi-dimensional wall art, projecting the continual process of environmental change while preserving the natural essence of organic forms.

### TEACHERS



#### WE LEND, YOU LEARN!

Monday, May 14

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Teachers (formal, non-formal, mentors, home school)

\$10

Call to register, 964-8505.

Are you an educator (formal, nonformal or homeschool) looking to spice up your curriculum with some great hands-on learning? The UEC's educational lending materials program will provide you with exciting, portable lessons for any age. Participants will learn how to use the Urban Wildlife Trunk, Energy Bike and Bird Mentoring Kit. Lunch is provided!

### URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER TOURS

#### WEDNESDAY WALK WITH KEN

Wednesdays

9 a.m. - UEC Building

10 a.m. - Riverside Park

For adults and

accompanied children

Free - donations appreciated

Call ahead to confirm (414)

964-8505.

Explore Riverside Park and/or our green facility with Executive Director Ken Leinbach (staff substitution on occasion).

#### BETH'S BUILDING TOUR

Wednesdays

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

For adults and

accompanied children

Free - donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505.

Explore our green facility with Director of Education Beth Fetterley and learn about the Center's innovative educational programming.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

### NEST BOX BUILDING WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 12  
Noon - 4 p.m.  
For adults and children ages 8 and up  
\$15 or \$45 for family of four or more (Members - \$10 or \$30 for family of 4 or more)  
Free for NestQuest workshop participants  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Build a nestbox to attract cavity-nesting birds to your property.

### FAMILY BIKE RIDE

Sunday, May 13  
2 - 4 p.m.  
For adults and accompanied children who can ride a bicycle  
\$9 or \$30 for families of 4 or more (Members - \$6 or \$18 for families of 4 or more)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Kick-off national "Bike to Work Week". Bring your bicycle or borrow ours. Our bicycle frames generally fit children age 10 and up and most adults. Helmets are required.

### FRIDAY FIRE

Fridays, May 18 & June 15  
7 - 9 p.m.  
For everyone  
\$5 per person or \$10 per family (Members - free - donations appreciated)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

May: Join Pat Pollworth for activities, songs, the story of Gertie the Duck and Milwaukee County Street Names, Street Games.

June: Features a solo performance from Julie Kane who plays guitar and sings Americana music.

### EDIBLE WILD PLANTS

Saturday, May 19  
3 - 4:30 p.m.  
For adults and youth ages 12 and older  
Adults: \$7 (Members - \$5)  
Children: \$6 (Members - \$4)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Learn about edible wild plants and search for them in Riverside Park.

### STORYTIME IN THE PARK

Sundays, May 20 & June 17  
2 - 3 p.m.  
For pre-schoolers - 2nd graders with an adult  
Adults: \$5 (Members - \$3)  
Children: \$4 (Members - \$2)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Take a walk through Riverside Park and stop to listen to nature stories.

### NATURE DETECTIVES

Sundays, May 27 & June 24  
2 - 3:30 p.m.  
For everyone  
\$7 or \$24 for families of 4 or more (Members - \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Discover the natural world as we explore Riverside Park using magnifying glasses and doing scavenger hunts.

### CELEBRATE SPRING

Monday, May 28  
2 - 4 p.m.  
Adults and accompanied children ages 5 and older  
\$8 or \$26 for families of 4 or more (Members - \$5 or \$15 for families of 4 or more)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Celebrate spring on a walk through Riverside Park. We will look for signs of wildlife, spring wildflower blossoms and enjoy the fresh air.

### FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Thursdays, May 31 & June 28  
6:30 p.m.  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Spend an evening with your family watching a movie on the big screen.

May: *Flicka*.

June: *Happy Feet*.

### LOOKING AT THE MICROSCOPIC WORLD

Saturday, June 9  
2 - 3:30 p.m.  
For children ages 6 and older  
\$7 or \$24 for families of 4 or more (Members - \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Search under rocks and logs, touch bugs and plants, and look at them with a hand lens or under a microscope.

### RHYTHM IN NATURE

Saturday, June 16  
2 - 3 p.m.  
For children ages 7 years and older  
\$5 or \$15 for families of 4 or more (Members - \$3 or \$10 for families of 4 or more)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Listen for sounds in nature and create sounds of your own on drums!

### ANIMAL FEEDING TIME

Saturdays  
1 - 2 p.m.  
For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated

Help feed the Center's resident turtles and snakes as you learn about the animals that inhabit the river valley.

### SCIENCE SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

Drop in program  
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sundays, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
For adults and accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated

May: Recycling.

June: Flower Identification.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### BIRD BANDING

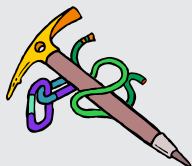
Tuesdays  
May 1 - 22  
Early mornings  
For adults and children  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call Tim Vargo, 964-8505, x116, to register.

A biologist once said, "A bird in the hand is worth thousands on the Discovery Channel." Join us for coffee and an up-close look at migratory birds.

### ROCK CLIMBING VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Tuesday, May 1  
5:30 - 7:30  
For anyone 16 and older  
\$30 per adult OR Free if you commit to volunteer for at least 30 hours of climbing programs  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Join our team of trained, enthusiastic rock climbing volunteers and help with climbing programs of all kinds! You will learn our policies and procedures for belaying climbers and facilitating climbing programs.



### BURDOCK BRIGADE

Tuesdays; Saturdays,  
May 5, 19, June 2 & 16  
9 - 10:30 a.m.  
For everyone, children ages 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult  
Free - donations appreciated

The Burdock Brigade engages in hands on restoration activities: removing exotic invasive plant species and planting native species.

### VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

Saturday, May 5 & June 16  
10:30 a.m. - noon  
Wednesdays, May 23 & June 6  
5:30 - 7 p.m.  
For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Learn about the Center's programs and how to get involved.

### WILDFLOWER WALK

Monday, May 7  
10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
For adults and accompanied children  
\$5 (Members - \$3)  
Free for UEC volunteers  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Join us as we explore Seminary Woods in early spring bloom. Bring your wildflower guide and/or binoculars and a brown bag lunch. Meet at UEC!

### SATURDAY STEWARDS

Saturdays, May 12, 26,  
June 9, 23 & 30  
9 a.m.  
For adults and accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Kick off your weekend by volunteering at the Urban Ecology Center! We need your help with small and large projects around the Center and in Riverside Park. Individuals and small groups, young and old, everyone is welcome. Please sign up so we have an idea of how many are coming.

### NATURALIST WALKS

Monday, May 14 & 28  
11 a.m. - noon  
For UEC volunteers only  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Explore Milwaukee's urban wilderness, meet other volunteers and get to know Urban Ecology Center educators on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Build naturalist skills as educators share their experience and knowledge on these fun and informal walks. On May 28 bring a favorite dish and stay for our annual end of the school year potluck lunch.

## ADULT LEARNING

**LIBRARY OF SUSTAINABILITY OPEN HOURS**

Sundays, noon - 2 p.m.  
 \*New\* Mondays, 4 - 6 p.m.  
 For everyone  
 Free - donations appreciated  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Visit the Library of Sustainability for ideas to beautify your home while honoring the environment. This is a hands-on library of sample products for home construction and interior decorating. Resource person available during open hours.

**BIRD BANDING**

See the description under "Volunteer Opportunities" on page 7 for details.

**THOUGHTS ON ECOLOGY**

Thursday, May 3  
 7 p.m.  
 Free - donations appreciated  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Come celebrate the warming temperatures with this green-themed reading by UW-Milwaukee Creative Writing Faculty Member Kim Blaeser and Creative Writing graduate students Monica Rausch and Melissa Morrow.

**ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMICS AND CULTURE: DEVELOPING A MODEL OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA**

Speaker: Dr. Timothy Ehlinger, Professor, Dept. of Biological Sciences and Conservation and Environmental Sciences Program, UW-Milwaukee  
 Tuesday, May 8  
 7 p.m.  
 For adults  
 \$5 (Members - free - donations appreciated)  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

As the people of Romania emerge from the legacy of Soviet communism, they face a staggering array of economic and environmental problems. Finding sustainable solutions will not come easily. Dr. Ehlinger will describe a new interdisciplinary education and research collaboration, focused on sustainable development in Romania.

**SNAKE SURVEYS**

Wednesdays, May 9, 23 & June 6  
 6 p.m.  
 For adults and accompanied children  
 \$5 (Members - free - donations appreciated)  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Riverside Park is one of the few remaining areas where the threatened Butler's Garter Snake thrives. Join us for a survey of the park's snake community. Dress for the weather and wear old clothes.

**BIG BIRD DAY IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY**

Thursday, May 10  
 8 a.m.  
 For adults and accompanied children  
 Free - donations appreciated  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Help us count as many birds as we can find in Milwaukee County in one day in this fun research challenge. We'll visit birding hot spots until we drop. Bring a lunch.

**INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE**

Speaker: Bill Wilson, Midwest Permaculture  
 Thursday, May 10  
 6 - 9 p.m.  
 For adults  
 \$40 by May 8, \$50 at the door (Members - \$35 by May 8, \$45 at the door)  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Permaculture utilizes a systems approach to designing sustainable human habitats by analyzing and duplicating nature's patterns. Permaculturist and communitarian Bill Wilson ([www.midwestpermaculture.com](http://www.midwestpermaculture.com)) will provide an overview, illustrate examples of permaculture around the globe and share practical tips for incorporating permaculture design into your own life, yard and community.

**BICYCLER BREAKFAST**

Weekday mornings,  
 May 14 - 18  
 7 - 8:30 a.m.  
 For bicycle commuters  
 Free - donations appreciated

As thanks to all bicycle commuters for reducing consumption of fossil fuels, we'll treat you to breakfast! Join fellow bike commuters for free pastries, juice and coffee on the Oak Leaf Recreational Trail.

**BIRD WORKSHOPS: THE AVIAN FAMILY TREE**

Part 1: Thursday, May 24  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Part 2: Tuesday, June 26  
 7 p.m.  
 For adults  
 \$10 (Members - \$5)  
 Free for regular birding volunteers  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

In this two-part series we will look at the evolution of birds from their reptilian roots to the 10,000 modern species inhabiting the planet. We will end with a twilight stroll through Riverside Park. Binoculars provided.

**THE CHALLENGE OF THE CENTURY: GLOBAL WARMING AND ENERGY POLICY**

Speaker: Dr. George Stone, MATC  
 Tuesday, May 29  
 7:30 p.m.  
 For adults  
 Free - donations appreciated  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Evidence of climate change caused by human activity compels scientists to warn that humanity has a narrow window to begin reducing anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions to prevent unacceptable future worldwide impacts. A rising ocean of evidence documents accelerating warming, enlarging impacts, and human causes -- principally combustion of fossil fuels.

**DNR FROG & TOAD SURVEY**

Tuesday, June 5  
 8 p.m. - midnight  
 For adults and accompanied children  
 \$5 (Members - free - donations appreciated)  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Help add to the Wisconsin DNR's statewide database of frogs and toads. Dress for the weather and wear footwear that can get muddy. We will cover western and southern Milwaukee County.

**BONOBOS: THE 4TH GREAT APE - RARE AND AT RISK**

Speaker: Dr. Gay Reinartz, Zoological Society of Milwaukee  
 Thursday, June 7  
 7 p.m.  
 For adults and youth ages 12 and older  
 \$5 (Members - free - donations appreciated)  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

The Bonobo, a highly endangered great ape, faces threats of poaching and habitat destruction in the conflict-ridden Democratic Republic of Congo. For nearly 10 years, Dr. Reinartz and her Congolese counterparts have ventured into the heart of Africa, braving bugs, heat and thick rain forests to help protect the Bonobo.

**LANDSCAPE FEATURES WHICH INFLUENCE THE URBANIZATION OF WILDLIFE**

Speaker: Tommy S. Parker, Ph.D., U.S.D.A. Forest Service.  
 Tuesday, June 12  
 7 p.m.  
 For adults  
 \$5 (Members - free - donations appreciated)  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Investigations on urbanized animals reveal behavioral changes such as a reduced fear of humans, altered activity patterns and increased intraspecific aggression. Little is known, however, about landscape features that may be associated with these changes. This study identifies habitat and landscape characteristics that correlate with adaptations of urban wildlife.

**AUTHOR SERIES**

Presented in partnership with Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops  
 Speaker: Dr. David Backes  
 Sunday, June 24  
 3 - 5 p.m.  
 For adults  
 Free - donations appreciated  
 Call to register, 964-8505.

Author and UWM professor Dr. David Backes provides insight into his book, *A Wilderness Within: The Life of Sigurd F. Olson*. This biography explores the life of a celebrated nature writer and influential 20th century conservationist. Backes will offer commentary, read from his book and show the film "The Wilderness World of Sigurd F. Olson." We recommend reading the book or checking out [www.uwm.edu/Dept/JMC/Olson/](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/JMC/Olson/) beforehand to enliven discussion. You can purchase a book at the Center or at any Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop location.



## URBAN ADVENTURES

Advanced registration required for all Urban Adventures. Payment due at time of registration. Cancellation Policy: When payment is required in advance for a program, you may cancel up to 48 hours in advance without penalty. If the Center cancels a program for any reason, the payment will be refunded or can be used toward a future program. Call the Center at (414) 964-8505 to register at least two days before the trip. Trips run as scheduled, rain or shine.

**ROCK CLIMBING VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

See the description under "Volunteer Opportunities" on page 7 for details.

**BIRDING BY CANOE**

Saturday, May 5  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
For adults  
\$30 (Members - \$25)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Join our Research and Urban Adventure Coordinators as they paddle the Bark River on the lookout for spring migrants. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. Bring a lunch and water. Canoes, paddles and PFDs provided.

**OPEN CLIMBS ON THE TOWER ROCK WALL**

Tuesdays, May 15 - June 5,  
3:30 - 6 p.m.  
Saturdays, June 9 - 30,  
3 - 5 p.m.  
For everyone  
Adults: \$15 (Members - \$10)  
Children: \$12 (Members: \$8)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Unwind after school or work and build strength, balance and confidence by climbing on our Tower Rock Wall! Harnesses and belayers provided. All climbers must have a completed and signed waiver before climbing, available at the Center's reception desk and at [www.urbanecologycenter.org](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org). Registration recommended, walk-ins welcome.

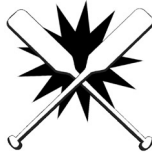
**RIVER RHYTHMS CANOE TRIPS**

Wednesdays, June 6 -  
September 5  
5 - 9:30 p.m.  
For adults and accompanied  
children ages 12 - 18  
Adults: \$30 (Members - \$25)  
Children: \$20 (Members  
- \$15)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Paddle the urban wilderness from Riverside Park to Pere Marquette Park. Enjoy music and festivities at River Rhythms. Then paddle part way back to the rowing club boathouse and shuttle back to the Center. Dress for the weather. Meet at the Center. Each week fills quickly. Sign-up early!

**FUNDAMENTALS OF CANOEING CLASS**

Mondays &  
Thursdays  
June 18, 21, 25  
& 28  
5 - 8:30 p.m.  
For adults and  
youth ages 12 years and older  
\$75 (Members - \$60)  
Call to register, 964-8505.



Build skills to safely enjoy recreational canoe outings from home, to the water, and home again. Using both Lincoln Park and the Urban Ecology Center, we emphasize water safety, calm water paddling and response to hazards associated with canoeing. Upon course completion, participants receive Fundamentals of Canoeing Red Cross Certification.

**LAKESHORE STATE PARK CANOE TRIP**

Wednesday, June 20  
2 - 6 p.m.  
For adults and youth ages 12  
and older  
Adults: \$30 (Members - \$25)  
Youth: \$25 (Members - \$20)  
Call to register, 964-8505.

Paddle the Milwaukee River to Lakeshore State Park and help celebrate the ribbon cutting at Wisconsin's newest state park! Dress for the weather. Canoes will be shuttled back to the Urban Ecology Center.

**SEPTEMBER GRAND CANYON BACKPACKING ADVENTURE**

Contact Dana at 961-1622  
for trip dates and  
to reserve your spot

Experience Grand Canyon below the rim! Backpack to the Colorado River and spend three nights exploring Anasazi ruins, waterfalls and Canyon lore. Additional days visiting local sights. Tents, gear, backpacking meals and lodging provided.



## INTEREST GROUPS

**SAVOR THE TASTE OF SUMMER**

Sponsored by Milwaukee CSA Initiative, Urban Ecology Center and Slow Food Southeast  
Tuesdays, May 1 & June 5  
6 - 9 p.m.  
For adults  
Check class description for fee  
Call to register, 964-8505.

This six-month series is for those with little or no experience in food preservation. Most courses are taught by chef and Master Food Preserver, Annie Wegner LeFort.

**May: Fruit and Vegetable Canning 101.** \$20 (\$15 for CSA members). Watch a demonstration of the basic techniques of canning both fruits and vegetables. This is a good primer for upcoming classes but is not a prerequisite.

**June: Infusing Flavor.** \$30 (\$25 for CSA members). Herbs are not for just tossing into a pot - they can be used effectively to flavor oils, vinegars and butters. Learn how to create homemade vinaigrettes and add flavor to grilled foods. Hands-on learning including herb drying skills.

**UEC PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB**

Thursdays, May 3 & June 7  
6:30 p.m.  
For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
Explore nature in an artistic light and develop new skills.

**FRIENDS OF REAL FOOD**

Wednesdays, May 9 & June 13  
6 - 8 p.m.  
For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
Share a potluck dinner and join the enthusiastic, informative discussion.

**May: Growing Your Own Food.** Learn how to start growing your own food, including options such as container gardens, fruits and veggies, backyard and community gardens.

**June: Composting.** Learn what and how to compost, including bins, systems and working with worms.

**URBAN ECHO POETS**

Thursdays, May 10 & June 14  
7 p.m.  
For adults  
Free - donations appreciated

Join us as we read, write and appreciate poetry with images from nature at its core.

**URBAN STARGAZERS**

Thursdays, May 10 & June 14  
7 p.m.  
For adults  
Free - donations appreciated

Join us for information and stargazing.

**KNITTING CIRCLE**

Sundays, May 13, 27,  
June 10 & 24  
3 - 5 p.m.  
For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated

If you are new to knitting, or an experienced knitter, please come join us for a cup of coffee, good conversation, and knitting.

**VEGETARIAN POTLUCK**

Thursdays, May 17 & June 21  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
For adults and accompanied  
children  
Free - donations welcome

Bring a plate and fork along with your meatless dish to share at our picnic style meal.

**PATHS TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

Tuesdays, May 22 & June 26  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
Childcare: \$4

Our focus is exploring and creating local solutions to the global crises of climate change and the decline of cheap energy. Contact [relocalize@earthlink.net](mailto:relocalize@earthlink.net) for details about our meetings and other events.

**May:** Permaculture, a Systems Approach to Designing Sustainable Human Habitats by Analyzing and Duplicating Nature's Patterns.

**June:** Renewable Energy.

**BOOK CLUB**

Saturdays, May 26 & June 23  
10 - 11 a.m.  
For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated

The UEC Book Club meets once a month to discuss an environmentally themed book. Newcomers and ongoing participants are invited to come enjoy the conversation and refreshments.

**May:** *Deep Economy* by Bill McKibben.

**June:** *Where the River Changes Direction* by Mark Spragg.

**EARLY MORNING BIRDWALKS**

Thursdays  
8 a.m.  
For adults and accompanied  
children  
Free - donations appreciated

Interested bird watchers of all ability levels are invited to explore bird life with us. Binoculars available.

## BIRDS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

by Noel Cutright, Founder, Riveredge Bird Club and Community Volunteer

Birds have long served as indicators of environmental change. Now it appears they are reacting to recent changes in the weather. According to the State Climatology Office, the average temperature in Milwaukee over the past 30 years has jumped 2 degrees from the same 30-year period a century ago. While this may seem a mere drop in the bucket to us, many species of plants and animals are reacting.

The ranges of some Wisconsin birds are shifting, as is the timing of their migration, in response to changes in temperature. And these shifts are not just happening in the Badger State. A recent analysis of 866 studies concluded that spring was advancing around the globe and that many plants and wildlife are creeping into higher latitudes and elevations.

At this point, we can only speculate and attempt to model what future changes will be brought about by global climate change. A recent study projected that by the year 2100 up to 78 bird species will decrease by at least 25% in abundance while as many as 33 species will increase in abundance by at least 25% within the eastern United States.

We can continue to celebrate spring bird migration and appreciate the joy they bring with them as they make the arduous journey between their summer and winter homes. However, this will happen only if we successfully address the many issues important to bird conservation, whether it is habitat change, collisions with towers or glass, or predation by cats. We invite you to join our International Migratory Bird Celebration on May 12 from noon to four p.m. For more information, please contact Kimberly Fein at (414) 964-8505 x150.

## SUMMER CAMP

**Summer Camp spots still available!**  
Contact Sarah Rohe at (414) 964-8505, x125, to sign up.

**Eco-tots** - For ages 4 and 5 by the start of camp  
Session 2, July 9-13, 1 - 3:30 p.m.  
Session 3, July 23-27, 9:30 - noon  
Session 4, July 23-27, 1-3:30 p.m.

**Middle School Overnight Expedition**  
For campers who have completed grades 7 or 8; July 9-13

**Adventure Camp**  
For campers who have completed grades 7 or 8; July 30-August 3,  
Monday - Wednesday: 9-3  
Thursday & Friday: 9-5 Th-F

**Band and Orchestra Sampler Camp**  
For students entering 4th-6th grade  
Aug. 6 - 10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Contact the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music at (414) 276-5760 to register.

## THE POWER OF THE LITTLE ACT...

continued from page 1

*join together with others in the same message.*

*We would like to invite you to join a collaborative project which we are calling the Interfaith Earth Network. Those of us involved are eager to introduce to you this simple way for faith communities to engage in a "little act" for the earth. By agreeing to become a "Green Congregation" in the Interfaith Earth Network you make the important statement to the community that you take the responsibility of stewarding the earth seriously.*

The letter went on to invite these leaders to an Interfaith Earth Network orientation session at the Urban Ecology Center. Here, John, Lisa, Beth and I introduced this new collaborative venture to nearly 50 neighborhood leaders. After a 20-minute introduction, we had breakout sessions for small groups to engage in brainstorming, sharing and discussion. It was a powerful event and we were overwhelmed by the positive response to this initiative ... and this is just the beginning. We now invite you to get involved.

The Interfaith Earth Network (IFEN) provides a structure for engagement and consists of four primary components:

1) **The Interfaith Youth Earth Initiative** is a year-long youth program organized by Tomorrow's Present of the House of Peace. High school aged youth leaders from different faith communities gather in the fall to share and learn, sign up to do community service with environmental organizations and then celebrate and reflect at a spring event.

2) **The Green Congregation Program** provides institutions of faith an opportunity and the structure to become a green congregation. Faith communities which sign up publicly pledge to make care for the earth and to make environmental stewardship a priority in the way in which they live, worship, and interact with the community. To learn about the commitment criteria involved with becoming a Green Congregation check out the Interfaith Earth Network webpage at [www.interfaithconference.org](http://www.interfaithconference.org) or call Rev. Strassburger at (414) 276-9050.

3) **Faith and Ecology Education Programs** are planned through the Faith and Ecology Initiative of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. A series of four educational conferences are scheduled starting in the fall. See schedule and topics on the IFEN web page.

4) **Resources and Networking** opportunities abound for green congregations that wish to get involved, including connections to Green Partners -- local environmental organizations who have signed up to help, a set of resources will be available in UEC's library and web based information sharing through the Interfaith Earth Network.

If you are interested in getting involved in this network, either individually to volunteer or collectively with your church, synagogue, mosque or other faith based group, please check the Interfaith Earth Network webpage at [www.interfaithconference.org](http://www.interfaithconference.org) (click on "Faith and Ecology"), contact Rev. John Strassburger at (414) 276-9050 or [johns@interfaithconference.org](mailto:johns@interfaithconference.org) or come to our next orientation on June 19. We need your help!

## THANK YOU FROM THE CENTER

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schwartzbooks.com  
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outpostnaturalfoods.coop  
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plymouth-church.org  
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rei.com  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
stmarksmilwaukee.org  
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Environmental Community  
Program  
wisconsin.sierraclub.org/gwg  
Trek Bicycle Corp.  
trekbikes.com  
We Energies  
we-energies.com  
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wheelandsprocket.com

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Rotary Club of Milwaukee

## GIFTS IN HONOR OF

20th Anniversary of Karen  
Braam & Dale Nook  
- Judy Knight & Al Rank  
Danni Gendelman  
- Lori Gendelman  
- Shel Gendelman  
- Stefan & Lisa Gendelman  
- Virginia &  
Jeff Gendelman  
- S. Lee Gerhardt

## GIFTS IN MEMORY OF...

Leslie Grinker's brother  
- Diane & David Buck  
Leon "John" Olson  
- Laura Anderko  
Deanna Gutschow,  
Catherine Small &  
Georgia Synder  
- Dennis & Jean Casper  
- Thomas R. Nelson  
- Bill & Eva Rumpf  
- Eve Schrank  
- UEC Birders  
Catherine Small  
- Sandra Anderson  
- Edward & Mary Jo Baisch  
- Gerald & Patricia  
Broderick  
- Barbara & Thomas Burns

- Dennis & Jean Casper  
- Mike & Ginny Chiaverina  
- Tony & Chris Clements  
- James & Lynn Connolly  
- Michael & Ellen Ferentz  
- Ferne Hecker  
- Jeffrey & Diane Kaiser  
- William & Kathleen Kean  
- Judy Knight & Al Rank  
- Dennis & Theresa Lowder  
- Paul & Patricia  
Machmeier  
- Mary McAndrews  
- NMS, Inc.  
- Seymour & Tracey  
Priestley  
- Thomas & Roberta Reiter  
- Phyllis Santacroce &  
Phil Godkin  
- Joan Schilke  
- Patrick Small  
- Barry Snider  
- Linda & Paul Welniak  
- Steven & Julia Werner  
- Hugh Williams &  
Sarah Jerome

## DONORS

*We'd like to thank everyone who renewed their membership, began a new membership or purchased a gift membership. Your generosity is an important part of the Center's support. Below are the people who gave above a membership.*

## CLANCY PARTY FOR UEC'S SUMMER CAMP

Mary Allegre &  
David McMullen  
Debra Anguil & Jamie A.  
Andriacchi  
David & Lisamarie Arnold  
Stephen R. & Pamela S.  
Bednarczyk  
Elisabeth Blue  
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Membership benefits include discounts on programs, invitations to members only events, the ability to borrow our equipment, a one year newsletter subscription and more.

For information, visit our website at [www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org](http://www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org).

Choose one:

- Individual (\$25) includes guest
- Family (\$35)
- Student (\$12)

Financial assistance is available. Please call Ginger Duiven, Development Manager at x106 or [gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org) for details.

## DONATION (IN ADDITION TO MEMBERSHIP)

Please accept my gift to support:

- A community program (\$50)
- One half day for a school class (\$125)
- One full day for a school class (\$250)
- A Citizen Science project (\$500)
- Improved Riverside Park trails (\$1,000)
- A school for one year (\$3,000)
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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My neighborhood park is  Riverside  Washington

I would like to volunteer. Please contact me.

Charge my membership to:  Master Card  Visa

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Please make your check payable to:

**Urban Ecology Center** and return it with this form to:

Riverside Park, 1500 E. Park Place  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211  
[www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org](http://www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org)



Sponsors and co-ed teams are needed for this unique fundraiser! See page 6 for details.

Saturday, June 2, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## TEEN ADVENTURE CHALLENGE



Riverside Park  
1500 E. Park Place  
Milwaukee, WI 53211



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Science Sundays (every Sunday) topic: Recycling</p> <p>Noon Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p>	<p>10a Wildflower Walk</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>5:30p Introduction to Tai Chi</p>	<p>6:30a Bird Banding Burdock Brigade</p> <p>9a Rock Climbing Volunteer Training Savor the Taste of Summer: Fruit and Vegetable Canning 101</p> <p>6:30a Bird Banding Burdock Brigade</p> <p>7p Environment, Economics and Culture</p>	<p>9a Building Tour with Ken Walk with Ken</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p> <p>9a Building Tour with Ken Walk with Ken</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour Snake Surveys Friends of Real Food: Growing Your Own Food</p> <p>6p Snake Surveys</p> <p>6p Friends of Real Food: Growing Your Own Food</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Photography Club Thoughts on Ecology</p> <p>8a Big Bird Day in Milwaukee County</p> <p>6p Introduction to Permaculture</p> <p>7p Urban Echo Poets</p> <p>7p Urban Stargazers</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11</p>	<p>5 Science Saturdays (every Saturday) topic: Recycling</p> <p>8a Birding by Canoe</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>10:30a Volunteer Orientation</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>12 <b>Nest Quest Workshop 7:45 a.m.</b> Saturday Stewards</p> <p><b>International Migratory Bird Day Celebration Noon</b></p> <p>Noon Nest Box Building Workshop</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>3p Edible Wild Plants</p> <p>9a Saturday Stewards</p> <p>10a UEC Book Club: Deep Economy by Bill McKibben</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p>
<p>13 Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>Family Bike Ride</p> <p>Knitting Circle</p>	<p>7a Bicyclist Breakfast We Learn, You Learn! Naturalist Walk</p> <p>11a Library of Sustainability Open Hours Introduction to Tai Chi</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours Introduction to Tai Chi</p> <p>5:30p</p>	<p>6a Bird Banding Bicyclist Breakfast Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>6a Bird Banding Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>Paths to a Sustainable Future: Permaculture</p> <p>Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>The Challenge of the Century: Global Warming and Energy Policy</p>	<p>7a Bicyclist Breakfast</p> <p>8a Building Tour with Ken Walk with Ken</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p> <p>7a Bicyclist Breakfast</p> <p>8a Building Tour with Ken Walk with Ken</p> <p>5:30p Volunteer Orientation</p> <p>6p Beth's Building Tour Snake Surveys</p>	<p>7a Bicyclist Breakfast</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Vegetarian Potluck</p> <p>7a Bicyclist Breakfast</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Bird Workshops: The Avian Family Tree Part 1</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Family Movie Night</p>	<p>18 Bicyclist Breakfast</p> <p>7a Bicyclist Breakfast</p> <p>7p Friday Fire: Pat Pollworth</p> <p>25</p>	<p>19 Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Animal Feeding</p> <p>Edible Wild Plants</p> <p>26 Saturday Stewards</p> <p>UEC Book Club: Deep Economy by Bill McKibben</p> <p>Animal Feeding</p>
<p>20 Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>Storytime in the Park</p>	<p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours Introduction to Tai Chi</p> <p>5:30p</p>	<p>6a Bird Banding Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>Paths to a Sustainable Future: Permaculture</p> <p>Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>The Challenge of the Century: Global Warming and Energy Policy</p>	<p>9a Building Tour with Ken Walk with Ken</p> <p>5:30p Volunteer Orientation</p> <p>6p Beth's Building Tour Snake Surveys</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Bird Workshops: The Avian Family Tree Part 1</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Family Movie Night</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>26 Saturday Stewards</p> <p>UEC Book Club: Deep Economy by Bill McKibben</p> <p>Animal Feeding</p>
<p>27 Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>Nature Detectives</p> <p>Knitting Circle</p>	<p>11a Naturalist Walk</p> <p>2p Celebrate Spring</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>5:30p Introduction to Tai Chi</p>	<p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>The Challenge of the Century: Global Warming and Energy Policy</p>	<p>9a Building Tour with Ken Walk with Ken</p> <p>10a Walk with Ken</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Family Movie Night</p>	<p>31</p>	

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Science Sundays (every Sunday) topic: Flower Identification</p> <p>Noon Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>5:30p Introduction to Tai Chi</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>3:30p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>6p Savor the Taste of Summer: Intusing Flavor</p> <p>8p DNR Frog &amp; Toad Survey</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>3:30p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>6p Savor the Taste of Summer: Intusing Flavor</p> <p>8p DNR Frog &amp; Toad Survey</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>3:30p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p> <p>6p Savor the Taste of Summer: Intusing Flavor</p> <p>8p DNR Frog &amp; Toad Survey</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9a Building Tour with Ken</p> <p>10a Walk with Ken</p> <p>5p River Rhythms Canoe Trips</p> <p>5:30p Volunteer Orientation</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p> <p>6p Snake Surveys</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>6:30p Photography Club Bonobos: The 4<sup>th</sup> Great Ape - Rare and at Risk</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9a Saturday Stewards</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>2p Looking at the Microscopic World</p> <p>3p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Noon Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>3p Knitting Circle</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>5:30p Introduction to Tai Chi</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>7p Landscape Features Which Influence the Urbanization of Wildlife</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9a Building Tour with Ken</p> <p>10a Walk with Ken</p> <p>5p River Rhythms Canoe Trips</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p> <p>6p Friends of Real Food: Composting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>7p Urban Echo Poets</p> <p>7p Urban Stargazers</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7p Friday Fire: Julie Kane</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>10:30a Volunteer Orientation</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>2p Rhythm in Nature</p> <p>3p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Noon Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>2p Storytime in the Park</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>5p Fundamentals of Canoeing Class</p> <p>5:30p Introduction to Tai Chi</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>2p Lakeshore State Park Canoe Trip</p> <p>5p River Rhythms Canoe Trips</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9a Building Tour with Ken</p> <p>10a Walk with Ken</p> <p>2p Lakeshore State Park Canoe Trip</p> <p>5p River Rhythms Canoe Trips</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>5p Fundamentals of Canoeing Class</p> <p><b>Summer Solstice Celebration 6:30 p.m.</b></p> <p>Vegetarian Potluck</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9a Saturday Stewards</p> <p>10a UEC Book Club: Where the River Changes Direction by Mark Spragg</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>3p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9a Saturday Stewards</p> <p>10a UEC Book Club: Where the River Changes Direction by Mark Spragg</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>3p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Noon Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>2p Nature Detectives</p> <p>3p Author Series: Dr. David Backes</p> <p>3p Knitting Circle</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>4p Library of Sustainability Open Hours</p> <p>5p Fundamentals of Canoeing Class</p> <p>5:30p Introduction to Tai Chi</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9a Burdock Brigade</p> <p>6:30p Paths to a Sustainable Future: Renewable Energy</p> <p>7p Bird Workshops: The Avian Family Tree Part 2</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9a Building Tour with Ken</p> <p>10a Walk with Ken</p> <p>5p River Rhythms Canoe Trips</p> <p>5:30p Beth's Building Tour</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8a Birdwalk</p> <p>5p Fundamentals of Canoeing Class</p> <p>6:30p Family Movie Night</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9a Saturday Stewards</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>3p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9a Saturday Stewards</p> <p>1p Animal Feeding</p> <p>3p Open Climbs on the Tower Rock Wall</p>