



## A DIFFICULT QUESTION

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

I don't know what happens to us after we die, but I do know the profound effect our actions in life can have on others when we do finally meet our end.

I knew Gertrude Erskine, Tula as she was called, but I did not know her well. I knew she was into mushrooms (she was a mycologist) and that she liked coming to our vegetarian potluck when we still operated out of the trailer. She was a very kind, elderly lady who was a little eccentric. I like eccentric so I liked Tula. Tula passed away March 17, 2000. Who would ever guess that it was after her death that Tula and I would truly connect. You see Tula, unbeknownst to even her closest friends, had two hidden assets that in effect changed the course of history for the Urban Ecology Center. First, over her 92 years of existence she had, despite her very humble lifestyle, accumulated a significant amount of wealth. Second, she had a plan for what to do with this wealth. About three months after Tula passed away, I received a call from a lawyer with the news that Gertrude "Tula" Erskine had left us, and three other organizations, a bequest of over \$300,000 each. Holy Cow! The kind, elderly, eccentric woman was a millionaire!

This bequest provided our fledgling organization with savings that we never had. It was this operational cushion that allowed our board to take the risk in 2001 of embarking on the capital campaign that resulted in our beautiful Riverside Park building. I can honestly state that without Tula's forethought and planning, we would not be here as we are today.

I don't know about you, but I sure hope that my actions in life can have as big an effect on the world after I die as Tula's had — which leads me to why I am writing this.

I want to ask you a question, but it's a very difficult one. There are a few personal things that you just don't talk about in casual or professional company... money, politics, and death are among these. I, of course, am tackling two of these in one fell swoop... your personal wealth and your ultimate passing.

Before I do, however, I have to tell you why I feel compelled to ask the question. I ask it because I totally and completely believe in what we do at the Urban Ecology Center. I have a pure and honest passion for getting people, and especially kids, outside. I believe in the value of volunteerism and building community

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## BE PART OF THE CLIMATE SOLUTION

by John Clancy, President, UEC Board of Directors

Over the last couple of years I have had the opportunity to work on the Governor's task force on climate change. As a member of the Center's board and an environmental attorney at Godfrey and Kahn, the opportunity to be involved with this work has been very rewarding. The Governor is working to put Wisconsin on the leading edge in the United States on taking action to meaningfully impact climate change. As members of the Center, it is likely that you would agree that we face a huge environmental challenge of climate change. Unless we take big steps to dramatically decrease our CO2 emissions we face tremendous global warming impacts. Despite this, I am not writing about the concerns raised by climate change, but the incredible opportunity we each have here in Wisconsin to help solve this worldwide problem.

As you might know, we as Americans are the leader in carbon emissions. According to Scientific American magazine, even though the U.S. makes up only 5% of the world's population, we are responsible for 28% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. This is because per person we emit over double the carbon as Japan and Western Europe and many times that of growing economies such as China and India.

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## NO RULES? LET'S PLAY

by Beth Fetterley, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

How many of us can recall hours of wandering through the outdoors as children? Most of my peers, my parents' peers and my grandparents' peers can point to time when they roamed free, without expectations and rules, through their neighborhoods and adjacent green spaces.

Whether in a local park, forest or backyard garden, all that mattered was the exploration. We caught frogs, built forts and chased sticks down streams along street gutters. And think of what we learned! I learned that the little chorus frog I stuck in my pocket could propel itself in one giant leap away from me as soon as it had the chance — much to my grandmother's chagrin, as the direction of its flight landed the tiny anuran on her head as she was playing her hand of hearts. Not only can I recall images of vibrant red, blue and green leafhoppers, the smell of



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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: John Clancy, Jamie Ferschinger, Beth Fetterley, Sujatha Govindarajan, Ken Leinbach, Emily Michi, Scott Stromberger 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 2200 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, visit our website at [www.urbanecologycenter.org](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org) 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](mailto: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](mailto:jzocher@urbanecologycenter.org)

Hours of operation:  
Tuesday - Friday: 4 - 7 p.m.  
Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

[www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org](http://www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org)

## DROPLETS

Bring your family down to the Urban Ecology Center for some winter fun!

**Want to go sledding?** Borrow our sleds and race down the hill.

**Want to take a quiet hike through the woods?** Members can borrow snowshoes and cross country skis for free from 3 - 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday or for up to three days over the weekend.

**Are you a stay at home mom or dad getting cabin fever?** Make a play date with another parent at the Urban Ecology Center. Pack a snack or come with your brown bag lunch and enjoy the comfy couch in front of the fireplace while your little ones enjoy some of the Center's toys or explore. Or check out one of our activity backpacks from the reception desk and learn about the plants and animals that live in the park.

Remember, hot chocolate, coffee and tea are on hand all day!

Congratulations to **Jennifer Callaghan**, Citizen Science volunteer and Research Intern for the Urban Ecology Center, for winning a statewide award for Outstanding Achievements in Citizen-Based Monitoring, presented annually by the Citizen-Based Monitoring Network of Wisconsin. Jennifer has taken a leading role in our small-mammal, turtle and migratory bird monitoring projects, logging over 500 hours this year and more than 1200 hours over the past three years.

Congratulations to **Beth Fetterley**, our Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning, for winning the Roger Tory Peterson Institute's top tier Blanche Hornbeck citation for outstanding work in nature education. Beth's work in place-based, nature-based education was described as innovative and current, something that other educators could use to improve their own programs. We are extremely proud to have an award winning leader at our Center.

## WISH LIST

For Riverside Park

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

- 3 umbrella stands
- 30 pairs of lightweight welding goggles
- 8x10 picture frames in good condition
- Adult gloves and mittens
- Air compressor
- Alka-seltzer
- Animal heat rocks and heat pads
- Bocce Ball set
- Cornstarch
- Dandelion diggers
- Electric or Diesel Grounds "Utility" Vehicle (not a car or truck)
- Gardening/work gloves
- Hand clippers
- Hand trowels
- Ice auger
- Ice cream buckets
- Ice skates
- Kayaks
- Kernel popcorn
- Large attractive ceramic planters for indoor potted plants (12"-24")
- Lockable 2-drawer file cabinets
- Nylon pants
- Open trailer for hauling
- Projector screen
- Rain ponchos/jackets for little kids (kindergarten - 3rd grade)
- Reptile basking light bulbs and infrared light bulbs
- Scooter (moped)
- Skate skis
- Sleds
- Small all occasion gift bags
- Used cell phones, print cartridges, video games and digital cameras
- Waterproof pants for kids

For Washington Park

*If you have a donation for Washington Park, please call Joey Zoicher, (414) 344-5460.*

- Hybrid car
- Buckets
- Field guides
- Film canisters
- Fishing nets
- Fishing poles
- Flat bed sheets
- Garden hoses
- GPS device
- Hip waders
- Hip wader drying rack
- Kites
- Kids boots
- Locking storage units
- Musical instruments - acoustic
- Old towels and rags
- Old snow pants / sweatpants
- Plastic storage bins with lids
- Sleds
- Sprinklers
- Sweatshirts
- Winter adult boots

## SUPPORT LOCAL AT THE LOCAL FARMER OPEN HOUSE

by Jamie Ferschinger, Community Program Coordinator

Without realizing it, the importance of supporting the local economy was instilled in me at a young age. Throughout the years I would watch my father read labels, turn over items to see where they were made and ask questions about the wheres and hows of the products and services he was considering. I noticed that, given the choice, my father would choose a local company or product over a nationally or globally produced one. As a child, I did not think much about these choices, but now I do the same thing! And as an adult I understand the wisdom and importance of supporting local. As we navigate through the uncertainty of the current economic climate, supporting local seems to come to the front in more and more of my recent conversations. Investing in your own community makes sense!

Eating locally produced foods is an important way of supporting the local economy and eating well. A great number of people within our community realize this; over 700 people

visited our **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Open House** last year at which they were able to sign up to become a member and receive food weekly from a local CSA farm.

Feedback from Open House visitors within the last couple years has revealed that, in addition to information on CSAs, there is an overwhelming demand for information on other local food producers who provide products such as meat, dairy, honey, fruit and eggs. In response to the feedback and the increasing interest in local foods, we are expanding the next Open House. **In addition to CSA farmers, the March 7<sup>th</sup> 2009 CSA and Local Food Open House will include farmers who offer meats, dairy, honey, fruit and eggs.**

We are excited to include these other local food producers in the event. Come and meet the farmers, ask them questions, and learn how you can get locally produced foods. **Mark your calendars and I hope to see you March 7<sup>th</sup>. Buy local!**

## A PROBLEM AND AN OPPORTUNITY

by Scott Stromberger, Community Program Coordinator  
& Emily Michi, Environmental Educator

“POOP”, “NAY NAY”, “DOOKIE”, and my favorite “BOO BOO” and always “ewww gross” — this is the way most of our field trips begin in Washington Park. As they are saying this their feet begin what I like to call the “scat dance”, hopping this way and that to avoid stepping in scat. Students spend more time being concerned about not stepping in scat than actually learning about nature!

As our unofficial mascot, the Canada goose has literally left its mark on Washington Park. Geese enjoy the luxury of freshly cut grass clippings, large areas of open space and access to our 11-acre lagoon. In return our feathered friends leave behind large amounts of goose scat — over 200 pounds a day! What seemed like a no-win situation has turned into

a really cool learning opportunity for our kids. In fact, managing the goose population has become a learning experience for us adults as well.

In an attempt to focus the kids' attention, I give a little scat talk at the beginning of each field trip. I start by mentioning that we are scientists and we call it “scat”. Then we talk about how scientists study scat to learn more about the animals that left it behind. I point out that I walk through the park everyday and never worry about stepping on it, even though I am sure that I have lots of times. Given the goose's vegetarian diet, their scat doesn't play host to infectious pathogens commonly associated with other water fowl. And as a bonus, it doesn't stick to your shoes.

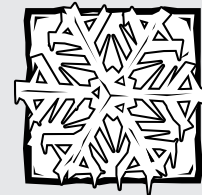
## VOLUNTEER CORNER

by Susan Winans, Volunteer Coordinator

Unless otherwise noted, please contact Susan at x110 or swinans@urbanecologycenter.org to sign up for the following opportunities

### Volunteer for Winterfest 2009 on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>!

Help our community celebrate the winter season. Volunteers working outside will assist with winter sports. Those who prefer to be indoors will greet visitors, serve food and warm beverages, or lead children's activities. Contact Susan at x110 to sign up for a shift.



### Show your love for winter at the Washington Park branch Winter Wonderland Festival on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Help with indoor or outdoor activities during this new festival. Contact Scott at 244-5460 to sign up for a shift between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

### Can you come out and play at our Washington Park Branch with our neighborhood kids?

Lead outdoor activities like skiing, snowshoeing and sledding the second Friday of each month between 4 and 7 p.m. If interested, contact Scott, at 244-5460.

**Snow shovelers.** Join the staff in the morning before programs start to shovel the walkways surrounding our building and help us get ready for the public. Please contact Chris at x150 for more information.

### Excited about what the Center is doing?

Join a group of volunteers who represent the Center at events in the Milwaukee community and spread the word about all the cool things we've got going. Contact Nikiya at x104 for more information.

**Save these dates!** We will be looking for volunteers to help us with the following events: Community Supported Agriculture Open House on March 7<sup>th</sup>, Earth Day on April 18<sup>th</sup>, and the Teen Adventure Challenge on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact Susan at x110 for more information.

## A PROBLEM AND AN OPPORTUNITY

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At this point I offer them a chance to join my scat club. It is simple; all they have to do is step on a piece of goose scat. For joining my club they get a high five. Of course we always talk about how goose scat is not like dog scat, which is very sticky and something we don't want to step in. I always step in scat first to prove that it doesn't stick to my shoes. They love it. At first some students are a little apprehensive but by the end of class most students have joined the club. The ones who joined once continue to give me high fives for the many more pieces of scat they have stepped on. Because of the scat's characteristics, no one leaves the field trip with disgusting shoes and they spend more time exploring the park instead of side-stepping scat.

## LEARNING FROM BIRD BEHAVIOR

Although goose scat doesn't stick to your shoes, it does contain concentrated amounts of soluble nitrogen and phosphorus which find their way to the lagoon, leading to algal blooms and oxygen depletion. This diminished water quality has a direct effect on biodiversity

by favoring organisms adapted to survive in this poor environment. So, even though they have helped us teach about scat, the geese are hurting the environment they



*Geese taking flight from the Washington Park lagoon.  
photo credit: Coree Coppinger*

love. In addition, the scat's appearance dissuades area residents from using this large area of urban green space.

This is where the adult learning experiences come in. Overall, geese are a bit lazy and, like many birds, easily spooked by new things in their environment. A simple yet effective

deterrent was installed on the boat launch this past October by a group of environmental engineers from the Parks Department. Behind our building is a set of concrete steps that lead into the water. By attaching foam noodles to these steps the geese, which were too lazy to climb over the noodles and a bit spooked by their sudden appearance, moved to other areas of the park. Another management technique we are trying is to create a 10-20 foot wide buffer zone of native vegetation around the lagoon which would capture nutrient runoff and deter geese who prefer not to enter grasses over 18 inches.

Now that the lagoon is frozen and migration is well underway, it is time to regroup and look ahead to the spring. We will continue to work with others to try even more ingenious plans to create a healthy environment for plants and birds alike and hopefully reduce membership in Emily's ever-growing scat club.

Do you know of any unique goose management techniques? Visit us at Washington Park and tell us your ideas and maybe we'll try them out next year!

## A DIFFICULT QUESTION

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through service. I am almost obsessed with sustainable living practices as a necessity. I totally embrace urban living and can think of nothing nobler than to preserve and bring back healthy natural ecosystems for urban dwellers to learn from and enjoy. At the Urban Ecology Center we do all of this and more. I'm excited about our vision for the future that involves branching out to other neighborhoods, planting the seed of environmental community centers in neighborhoods around the city and perhaps to other cities as well. This passion and conviction is what emboldens me to ask a question that I have never felt comfortable asking before. Here goes:

*Would you please take a moment to seriously consider putting the Urban Ecology Center in your will?*

I don't ask this question easily or lightly, but I see it as a necessity. I came into this work as a teacher knowing very little about the business of running a successful non-profit. The learning curve has been steep. One thing I've learned is that every lasting non-profit that I've researched has an endowment ... every single one! We don't. I am committed to keeping this organization vibrant long after I am gone and it seems that growing an endowment is required. When I research how endowments come to be I find that in almost every case they start with, and grow from, gifts in people's wills. Empowered with this knowledge, we put a percentage of Tula's unrestricted gift into an "acorn fund" with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. This is a financial mechanism from which we

can now grow our future into a strong and stable oak tree as all bequests will be placed in this endowment fund.

If there is even the slightest thought that you might consider this request, call Ginger or me at 964-8505. We'd like to invite you to become a "Partner for the Future" and join a select group of like-minded people who share the passion for the work that we do and the future we envision.

Also, if you already have us in your will we'd love to know that too. Please call Ginger and thank you so much for already being our "Partner".

To learn more about Tula, come visit the Tula Erskine Memorial Library at our Riverside Park facility.

## TELESCOPE: 400 YEARS

by Sujatha Govindarajan, Urban Stargazers

The year 2009 has been declared by the International Astronomical Union as the International Year of Astronomy, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo Galilei.

Although, in antiquity, it was known to glassblowers while making stained glass that spherical blobs of glass could magnify images, it took centuries for anyone to make the inventive leap of assembling two lenses into a telescope. Most reliable accounts place the invention of the telescope in 1608 by Hans Lippershey, a Dutch eye-glass maker. But it was the refinement of the telescope in 1609 by Galileo that triggered one of the greatest scientific revolutions of all time. Four hundred years after its invention, the telescope has become an essential scientific instrument, an icon of science.

Galileo hosted the world's first stargazing parties in Venice and for the first time, people were witnessing the true splendor of the universe as never before, with their own eyes. Instead of seeing the perfect disks of celestial objects, they saw that the moon was pockmarked with craters, that Saturn had strange "ears," that Jupiter had moons of its own, and that even the sun, the centerpiece in cosmology at that time, had spots.

Telescope design has advanced a long way since then. Lens-using refracting telescopes have been replaced by mirror-based reflecting telescopes, resulting in much bigger telescopes—Mount Wilson Observatory's 1.5m & the 2.5m Hooker telescopes for example. Segmented mirror construction design in recent years aims to build even larger telescopes.

With these telescopes, the aim is two-fold: First, to study Earth-sized planets and the likelihood of life existing elsewhere in the galaxy. Second, by gathering more light than ever before, astronomers will be able to detect fainter objects that are further back in our universe's history. They hope that the new telescopes will see "first light," when the first stars formed out of the primordial universe's post-Big Bang mass.

I hope this provides an inspiration to all of us to get our telescopes out and look at the universe to see the grandeur and splendor it has to offer. Visit our website at [www.urbanecologycenter.org](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org) to find a calendar of star gazing events and for a schedule of the Urban Stargazers meetings.

## NO RULES? LET'S PLAY

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cone flowers and the response of worms to my prodding, but I have a distinct memory that is less tangible. In those moments of play, I felt a type of whole-body relaxation that best can be described in my adult mind as "rejuvenation."

In the environmental field, there increasingly are educators and researchers working to identify and understand this "rejuvenation." Evidence is mounting to show that this kind of unstructured outdoor exploration plays a critical role in a child's ability to concentrate, focus, learn and even mitigate aggressive behaviors.\* Unfortunately these experiences are increasingly rare in the lives of our youth, especially in the urban setting. Peer pressure and fear of lawsuits shame parents into providing high levels of structure and control in their approach to "play" for their children. During structured activities, children use what is called "directed" attention. During unstructured play, children use "involuntary" attention, which allows the brain to process information differently and rest over-stimulated neurons activated during focused learning.

Unstructured play promotes curiosity and wonder – bringing out the child's inner scientist - and creates a dynamic learning environment for the child.

Based on this understanding, the Urban Ecology Center is offering new programs this summer. Using the success of our inquiry-based camps as a springboard, we are offering two new programs called "Go Outside and Play" that are just what the title describes. Campers will choose what and where they want to explore. Educators will be there to ensure that the children are safe, serve as role models of environmental stewardship, share ideas, answer questions as they arise and encourage exploration. While there will be some structured activities to provide a foundation and build interest each day, the majority of each day will be camper-directed exploration.

Rejuvenation.

What better way to spend a week?

\*For more on this research, you can read *Last Child in the Woods*, by Richard Louv.



### URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER SUMMER CAMP 2009!

Plan on sending your child  
to an Urban Ecology Center  
Summer Camp this year!

Camps for preschool  
through 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Camps at both our Riverside  
Park and Washington  
Park locations

Watch your mail or visit  
our website after January  
15<sup>th</sup> for details.

## JANUARY - FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS

**What's with the frogs and fish?**

The Center offers public programs at both Riverside and Washington Parks. Use these icons to know at a glance the location of each program.



= Riverside Park



= Washington Park

Also, programs marked with an \* are accessible for persons with physical disabilities. All others have limited to no accessibility. Please call 964-8505 at least two days ahead of the program date if you have accessibility needs.

Scholarships are available for all fee-based programs. For general information call (414) 964-8505 or visit [www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org](http://www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**WINTERFEST FOR AFTERNOON NAPPERS\***

Saturday, February 7  
10:30 a.m. - noon

For kids, ages 5 & under, accompanied by an adult  
Free - donations appreciated

Registration is required by February 6th, call 964-8505

A Winterfest program for the young ones! Enjoy a puppet show, craft and outdoor activities

**WINTERFEST AT RIVERSIDE PARK\***

Saturday, February 7  
Noon - 4 p.m.

For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated

Family fun in the winter! Enjoy sledding, crafts, music, food and activities for the entire family.

**WASHINGTON PARK'S WINTER WONDERLAND FESTIVAL\***

Saturday, February 14  
Noon - 4 p.m.

For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated

Enjoy sledding, ice skating, snowshoeing, a clothing swap and activities for the entire family at Washington Park.

**GUNS, GRIEF AND GRACE IN AMERICA: A DOCUMENTARY**

Part 1, "Dear Rita"

Riverside Park  
Wednesday, January 7  
6 p.m.



Part 2, "America's Promise"

Washington Park  
Wednesday, January 14  
7 p.m.



For adults  
Free

The first two parts of this documentary series view the gun violence dilemma through the lenses of local, state, and national communities, as it aims to reframe the debate in our country from one of Second Amendment rights to that of public health.

## URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER TOURS

**TOUR OF WASHINGTON PARK BRANCH\***

Wednesdays  
5 - 6 p.m.

For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505  
Washington Park



Join Washington Park Program Director Joey Zocher on a tour of the new branch. Then follow up with a tour of the park and learn about the many improvements in progress. Dress for the weather! Call ahead to confirm.

**BETH'S BUILDING TOUR\***

Thursdays  
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.

For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505



Learn about the Center's innovative building design and programming from Director of Education, Beth Fetterley.

## HIGH SCHOOL EXPLORERS

**FORT BUILDING AND WINTER FUN**

Saturday, January 17  
2 - 4 p.m.

For teens  
\$3 (Nonmembers - \$5)  
Call to register, 964-8505



Build forts, go sledding and do other winter activities in Riverside Park with other teens and then come inside to warm up with a cup of cocoa by the fire. Dress for the weather!

**CHILI AND A MOVIE\***

Friday, February 20  
6 - 9 p.m.

For teens  
\$3 (Nonmembers - \$5)  
Registration required,  
call 964-8505



It's a potluck! We'll make the chili, you bring the rest. Enjoy food while watching *Into the Wild*. When registering, please tell us what food you plan to bring.

**WEDNESDAY WALKS WITH KEN\***

Wednesdays  
9 - 11 a.m.

For adults and accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505



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






## FAMILY PROGRAMS

**OUTDOOR PLAY**   
 Fridays, January 9 & February 13  
 4 - 7 p.m.  
 For everyone  
 Free-donations appreciated


Come play outside with us in Washington Park! We have sleds, snowshoes and hot cocoa!

**LET'S MAKE CRACKERS\***   
 Saturday, January 10  
 2 - 4 p.m.  
 For everyone - children must be accompanied by an adult  
 \$7 (Nonmembers - \$10)  
 Registration required by January 8<sup>th</sup>, call 964-8505

Everybody loves crackers! Learn how to make crackers that are tasty and healthy. Join others for fun in the kitchen!

**FUN WITH FRICTION**   
 Sunday, January 11  
 2 - 3:30 p.m.  
 For kids ages 7 & older, accompanied by an adult  
 \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more  
 (Nonmembers - \$7 or \$24 for families of 4 or more)  
 Call to register, 964-8505

Winter is a great time to play with friction. Let's build hovercrafts and go sledding.

**OWL PROWL**   
 Wednesday, January 14  
 5:30 - 7 p.m.  
 For everyone  
 \$5 (Nonmembers - \$8)  
 Call to register, 964-8505

Learn about local owls, then head onto the Oak Leaf bicycle path, Riverside Park and adjacent areas to listen and look for owls. Dress warmly. We will stop frequently along the path to listen and end with a hot drink in front of the wood burning stove.

**STORYTIME WITH EVA\***   
 Saturdays, January 17, 31, February 14 & 28  
 10 - 11 a.m.  
 For kids, ages 5 & younger, accompanied by an adult  
 \$2 or \$6 for families of 4 or more (Nonmembers - \$3 or \$9 for families of 4 or more)  
 Call to register, 964-8505


Warm up by the fire with some cocoa and listen to stories.

**LET'S POONGMUL! CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR WITH KOREAN DRUMS!\***   
 Saturday, January 17  
 11 a.m. - noon  
 For kids, ages 5 & older, accompanying adults welcome  
 \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more (Nonmembers - \$7 or \$24 for families of 4 or more)  
 Registration required by January 16<sup>th</sup>, call 964-8505

Learn how to play Korean drums! Students will learn traditional rhythms of Korea through drumming in this fun and interactive workshop. Students will use special sticks to play the Jang-Go, an hourglass-shaped, wooden drum. The instructor will incorporate Korean culture and language while drumming and relate how Korean drums are connected to nature. Students will also explore how Koreans play drums to celebrate the Lunar New Year and learn about the different customs during the New Year.

**BEHOLD HIBERNATION AS THE HIBERNATOR**   
 Saturday, January 24  
 10:30 a.m. - noon  
 For kids, ages 5 & older  
 \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more (Nonmembers - \$7 or \$24 for families of 4 or more)  
 Call to register, 964-8505


Learn about winter survival and experience as wildlife does. We will build nests, snow dens and tunnels to simulate how animals live in the winter. Weather and snow dependent.

**NATURE DETECTIVES**   
 Sundays, January 25 & February 22  
 2 - 3:30 p.m.  
 For everyone  
 \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more (Nonmembers - \$7 or \$24 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.

**READING COMES ALIVE WITH YOGA!**   
 Saturdays, January 31 & February 28  
 10 - 10:45 a.m.  
 For kids, ages 4 - 5  
 \$7 (Nonmembers - \$8)  
 Registration required, call 964-8505

This fun, playful class for four and five year olds follows a story sequence with yoga poses to match. Sign up for one or both classes. Each class centers around a different book.

**YOGAKIDS! FITNESS, FUN AND FEELING GREAT!**   
 Sundays, February 1 - March 8 (no class February 22<sup>nd</sup>)  
 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.  
 For kids, ages 6 - 9  
 Registration required, call 964-8505

Your child will experience the traditional benefits of yoga (strength, stamina, flexibility, concentration and relaxation) in fun and playful ways. Games, ecology, music and learning about the body are all part of YogaKids classes.

**YOGAKIDS GROW UP!**   
 Sundays, February 1 - March 8 (no class February 22<sup>nd</sup>)  
 1:45 - 2:45 p.m.  
 For kids, ages 10 - 12  
 Registration required, call 964-8505


This fun, dynamic class will have kids moving, stretching, strengthening, and starting their week off centered, focused and relaxed.

**ONE BIG LOVE! PLAYFUL FAMILY YOGA**   
 Saturday, February 14  
 10 - 11 a.m.  
 For adults & accompanied children ages 6 & older (at least one kid per adult)  
 Free - donations appreciated  
 Registration required, call 964-8505

Spend time with someone in your family moving, stretching and having fun! Prior yoga experience not required. This is a karma yoga class. Heartfelt donations to the Center are welcomed!


**COOL ICE AGES**   
 Sunday, February 15  
 2 - 3:30 p.m.  
 For kids, ages 6 & older  
 \$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more  
 (Nonmembers - \$7 or \$24 for families of 4 or more)  
 Call to register, 964-8505

Play in the snow with us building "glaciers" while learning how ice ages have affected the planet. Weather and snow dependent.

**SCIENCE SATURDAYS\***   
 Drop in program  
 Saturdays  
 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 For everyone  
 Free-donations appreciated

Discover the world of science through self-led interactive activities and crafts. Some of the activities will occur outside, dress for the weather and then join us for hot cocoa!

January: The Four Seasons  
 February: Rocks and Minerals

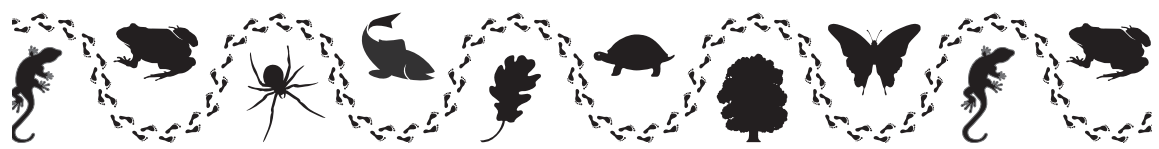
**ANIMAL FEEDING\***   
 Saturdays  
 1 - 2 p.m.  
 For everyone  
 Free - donations appreciated

Come to either location to help feed the Center's resident turtles, snakes and fish as you learn about the animals that inhabit Riverside and Washington Parks.

**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 & accompanied children  
 Free - donations appreciated

Discover the world of science through self-led interactive activities and crafts.

January: Owls  
 February: Air





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= Washington Park

## ADULT LEARNING

## ECO-HOMES SERIES

## HOW HEALTHY IS YOUR BEDROOM?\*

Presenters:

Lyn Falk and Kurt Bauer

Monday, January 19  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

\$15 (Nonmembers - \$20)  
Call to register, 964-8505

We spend 1/3 of our lives sleeping so it's important to make sure our bodies are resting in a healthy, nurturing environment. How healthy is your bed, your bed linens and pillow, and the air you're breathing? Is having a night light on good or bad for you? Lyn Falk and Kurt Bauer will share information about creating a non-toxic and environmentally sound bedroom so that you can enjoy sweet dreams with peace of mind.

## KEEPING YOUR HOME CLEAN AND HEALTHY DURING THE WINTER MONTHS\*

Presenters:

Lyn Falk and Ann Russo

Monday, February 16  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

\$15 (Nonmembers - \$20)  
Call to register, 964-8505

During the height of cabin fever and flu season, how can you keep your home and your family healthy? This presentation will look at humidity and temperature levels, heating methods, air purification systems and healthy cleaning methods.

## SUSTAINABLE BUILDING EXHIBIT OPEN HOURS\*

Mondays,  
4-7 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

Visit the Center's Sustainable Building Exhibit for green ways to beautify your home. This is a hands-on exhibit of sample products for home construction and interior decorating. Resource person available.

## WEDNESDAY LECTURE SERIES\*

Wednesdays,  
January 7, 21,  
February 4 & 18  
7 - 8 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

Come to Washington Park for our adult lecture series!

January:

- 7 - History of Washington Park
- 21 - Environmental Justice and the Center.

February:

- 4 - Owl Prowl. We will spend up to 30 minutes outdoors, so please dress warmly!
- 18 - Biofuels

## CHANGING DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE OF WISCONSIN BIRD SPECIES\*

Speaker: Bill Mueller,  
Conservation Chair,  
Wisconsin Society  
for Ornithology  
Tuesday, January 13  
7 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated  
(Nonmembers - \$5)  
Call to register, 964-8505

Learn how many of Wisconsin's bird species are increasing or declining and some of the reasons why. Learn how you can help a variety of monitoring projects whose data assists us in seeing these critical measures of species' populations.

## URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER BOOK CLUB\*

Saturdays, January 24  
& February 28  
10 - 11 a.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

The Urban Ecology Center Book Club meets once a month to discuss an environmentally themed book.

January: *The Great Lakes Water Wars* by Peter AnninFebruary: *The Power of Place: How Our Surroundings Shape Our Thoughts, Emotions, and Actions* by Winifred Gallagher

## CREATING WITH CORKS\*

Saturday, January 24  
2 - 4 p.m.

For adults

\$5 (Nonmembers - \$7)  
Call to register, 964-8505

Come and create with corks! We will make cork wreaths, trivets, and cork boards.

## ORNITHOLOGY WORKSHOPS\*

Saturdays,  
January 24, 3 - 4:30 p.m.  
February 21, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

For adults

\$5 (Nonmembers - \$10)  
Free for regular  
birding volunteers  
Call to register, 964-8505

These monthly workshops delve into the mysterious and wonderful world of birds looking at current research and well-established topics, including migration and navigation. A powerpoint presentation will be followed by a dusk birdwalk. Binoculars provided.

## USING X-RAYS TO TAKE A PICTURE OF ME?\*

Speaker: Sergio Lemaitre,  
Ph.D., Technology Architect,  
GE Healthcare  
Tuesday, February 10  
7 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated  
(Nonmembers - \$5)  
Call to register, 964-8505

Medical imaging has made tremendous advances in recent years, helping doctors to make decisions on how to best address a variety of health issues. We will look at some of the opportunities and limitations of medical imaging procedures, especially when x-rays are involved. Gain useful information before your next doctor's appointment to get a picture taken.

## THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MASSAGE\*

Saturday, February 14  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

For adults

\$7 (Nonmembers - \$10)  
Registration required by  
February 13<sup>th</sup>, call 964-8505

Relax this Valentine's Day with a massage. Learn the art and science behind giving a good massage. Partners are not necessary but are recommended.

## LET'S POONGMUL! KOREAN TRADITIONAL DRUMMING FOR ADULTS AND TEENS\*

Sunday, February 22  
1 - 2 p.m.For adults and teens  
\$5 (Nonmembers - \$7)  
Registration required,  
call 964-8505

Learn how to play Korean drums! This is a special drum workshop for teenagers and adults. Students will learn to play an hourglass-shaped, wooden drum called the Jang-Go and learn basic rhythms of Korean drumming. The instructor will incorporate Korean culture and language to expose the student to drumming in Korean culture. Come to have fun and explore the rhythms of Korea! Drums will be provided for each student.

## HOW TO HELP BIRDS IN YOUR BACKYARD AND ON YOUR LAND\*

Speaker: Vicki Piaskowski,  
International Coordinator,  
Birds Without  
Borders -  
Aves Sin Fronteras®  
Thursday, February 26  
7 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated  
(Nonmembers - \$5)  
Call to register, 964-8505

Learn the results of Birds Without Borders research in Wisconsin and discuss and distribute free copies of their new guide, *Recommendations for Landowners: How to Manage Your Land to Help Birds*.

## ART AT UEC

## RETURNING TO EARTH: ROBERT SMITH; HUMAN NATURE: HAL KOENIG\*

Sunday, January 11  
2 - 4 p.m.

For adult

Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505  
Show runs through  
late March

Whether painting an overgrown industrial relic or geometric paths cut into the natural landscape, Hal Koenig's paintings blur edges of the built environment and nature, depict deterioration and rebirth and convey regionalism and sense of place. Photographing in the city, Robert Smith confronts garbage and discovers an impossibly beautiful ugliness. The ugliness of rot gives way to the beauty of regeneration, but will that always be the case?





= Riverside Park



= Washington Park

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS\*

Fridays, January 2 & February 6  
6 - 7 p.m.  
For adults & accompanied children  
Call to register, 964-8505



Saturday, January 3  
10:30 a.m. - noon  
Tuesday, January 13  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Sunday, February 8  
1 - 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, February 19  
6:30-8 p.m.  
For adults & accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505



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

### BURDOCK BRIGADE

Tuesdays  
9 - 11 a.m. &  
Saturdays, January 3, 17, February 14 & 28  
9 - 10:30 a.m.  
For adults & accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated



Have a direct impact on our natural world by helping increase the biodiversity within the outdoor classroom of Riverside Park.

### PAPERMAKING

Thursdays  
4 - 6 p.m.  
For anyone ages 12 & older  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

Join us as we learn the art of recycled papermaking to create beautiful gifts for our Center's supporters.

### PARK RANGER CREW

Saturdays,  
January 10, 24,  
February 14 & 28  
9 - 10:30 a.m.  
For adults & accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505



Help with small and large projects around the Center and in Riverside Park. Individuals and small groups, everyone is welcome.

### SATURDAY STEWARDS

Saturdays  
10 a.m.  
For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505



Help with small and large projects around the Center and in Washington Park. Individuals and small groups, everyone is welcome.

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### LITERATURE OF ECOLOGICAL VISION

Late January - mid May  
Urban Ecology Center,  
Riverside Park  
Tuesdays, 6 - 8:30 p.m.  
For enrollment information,  
call 229-6209 between  
9 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays

Jeff Poniewaz will again teach his popular UWM off-campus course at the Urban Ecology Center. This course will appeal to those who love nature and are interested in ecology as well as to those who love great writing in general. We'll read and discuss a spectrum of writers including Emerson, Whitman, Thoreau, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, Wendell Berry, Annie Dillard, Edward Abbey and Beat writers Allen Ginsberg and Gary Snyder.

## URBAN ADVENTURES

*Advanced registration is required for all Urban Ecology Center 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, at the discretion of the trip leader.*

### OPEN CLIMBS ON TOWER

Sundays, January 4, 18, February 1 & 15  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
For everyone  
Adults: \$10  
(Nonmembers - \$15)  
Children: \$8  
(Nonmembers - \$12)  
Call to register, 964-8505



Build strength, balance and confidence by climbing on our tower's rock wall! All climbers must have a completed and signed waiver before climbing, available at [www.urbanecologycenter.org](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org). Please call ahead to register, no walk-ins.

### INTRO TO X-C SKIING

Saturdays, January 17 & February 21  
1 - 3:30 p.m.  
For adults & accompanied children, ages 12 & older  
Adults: \$6  
(Nonmembers - \$10)  
Children: \$5  
(Nonmembers - \$8)  
Call to register, 964-8505



Learn how to cross country ski! Bring an adventurous spirit; we'll provide the skis and hot chocolate. We will begin on the athletic fields and then head into the woods or down the bike trail.

### IGLOO AND SNOW SHELTER BUILDING

Sunday, January 25  
Noon - 4 p.m.  
For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated  
(Nonmembers - \$5)  
Call to register, 964-8505



Here's your chance to impress your friends and neighbors by building an igloo or a quinzee. These dome shelters are very strong and surprisingly warm. Wear warm layers for outside and we will provide the hot cocoa to warm up afterward. In the event of minimal or no snow, program will be rescheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>.

### SNOWSHOE AT THE SOUTHERN KETTLE MORAIN

Saturday, January 31  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
For adults & accompanied children, ages 12 & older  
Adults: \$15  
(Nonmembers - \$20)  
Children: \$10  
(Nonmembers - \$15)  
Call to register, 964-8505



Explore the hilly terrain of the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest. Dress in layers, wear sturdy and warm shoes, bring water and a lunch. Meet at the Center, transportation provided. In the event of minimal or no snow, we will hike.

### X-C SKI AT NORTHERN KETTLE MORAIN

Friday, February 13 & Sunday, March 1  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
For adults & accompanied children, ages 12 & older  
Adults: \$15  
(Nonmembers - \$20)  
Children: \$10  
(Nonmembers - \$15)



State Park trail pass required for anyone 16 years or older. If you do not have an annual pass, please come prepared to purchase a \$4 day pass.

Call to register, 964-8505

Explore Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest on skis. Previous experience x-c skiing highly recommended. Dress in layers, bring water and a lunch. Transportation provided. In the event of minimal or no snow, we will hike (trail pass not required for hiking).

### TRACKING MYSTERIES

Saturday, February 21  
10 - 11:30 a.m.  
For adults & accompanied children  
Adults: \$5 (Nonmembers - \$7)  
Children: \$3  
(Nonmembers - \$5)  
Call to register, 964-8505



Ever wonder what animals are around this time of year? Come learn how to identify animal tracks and signs by playing interactive games. We will warm up at the end with hot chocolate by the wood stove.

### SPONTANEOUS SNOW OUTINGS

Sign up to join others interested in snowshoeing or skiing this winter. These spontaneous outings will be planned at short notice when the weather is right. Invitations will be sent by email. Beginners welcome!

Want to meet on the east side?  
Contact Chad at [cthommack@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:cthommack@urbanecologycenter.org).

Want to meet on the west side?  
Contact Scott at [ssstromberger@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:ssstromberger@urbanecologycenter.org).





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## INTEREST GROUPS

**UEC PHOTO CLUB\***

Thursdays,  
January 8, 22  
& February 5  
6:30 p.m.



For adults  
Free - donations appreciated

Explore nature in an artistic  
light and develop new skills.

**URBAN ECHO POETS\***

Thursdays, January 8  
& February 12  
7 p.m.



For adults  
Free - donations appreciated

Our purpose is to observe and  
experience nature, then to express  
these observations in poetry and  
essay. We will read and write  
and appreciate poetry with  
images from nature at its core.

**URBAN STARGAZERS\***

Thursdays, January 8  
& February 12  
7 p.m.



For adults  
Free - donations appreciated

Join us for fun, information  
and stargazing.

**STAND TOGETHER  
MILWAUKEE\***

Wednesdays,  
January 14  
& February 11  
9 - 11 a.m.



For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

Collaborate with other organizations  
and individuals to stand together to  
confront gun violence and restore  
a sense of healthy community.

**FRIENDS OF REAL FOOD\***

Wednesdays, January 14  
& February 11  
6 - 8 p.m.



For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

**January: Farm to Restaurant.**  
Chef David Swanson of the Braise  
Culinary School will share his  
experiences organizing the state's first  
Restaurant Supported Agriculture  
system. Dave partnered with the  
Pinehold Gardens farm, to make  
local, seasonal produce more  
available to Milwaukee restaurants.

**February: Literacy discussion  
and knife demo.** Many of our  
grandparents knew where their  
food came from and how to cook  
it from scratch. Today many have  
lost that kitchen literacy. Grow  
your knowledge of food traditions,  
cooking skills and learn from area  
chefs about how to better use knives.

**VEGETARIAN POTLUCK\***

Thursdays,  
January 15 & February 20  
6:30 - 8 p.m.



For adults &  
accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated

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

**PATHS TO A  
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE\***

Tuesdays, January 20  
& February 17  
6:30 - 8 p.m.



For adults  
Free - donations appreciated  
(Nonmembers - \$5)  
Childcare available: \$4  
(Nonmembers \$6)  
Call to register, 964-8505

We strive to increase self-reliance to  
address the global crises of climate  
change and the decline of fossil fuels.

**January: Green is Economical.**  
Please join us to share examples  
of how living sustainably  
can mean thriving in an  
economically unstable time.

**February: Biodiesel - Crime  
against Humanity or Fuel for  
a Revolution?** Tom Brandstetter  
of the Milwaukee Biodiesel Co-op  
will lead a discussion of this poorly  
understood alternative to corn  
ethanol, exploring the complicated  
world of how this biofuel fits into  
the energy mix of the future.

**KNITTING CIRCLE\***

Sundays, January 25  
& February 15  
3 - 4:30 p.m.



For everyone  
Free - donations appreciated  
Call to register, 964-8505

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

**EARLY MORNING  
BIRDWALKS\***

Thursdays  
8 a.m.



For adults &  
accompanied children  
Free - donations appreciated

Kick start your day with fresh air and  
bird song. Interested bird watchers of  
all ability levels are invited to explore  
bird life with us. Binoculars available.

**BE PART OF THE CLIMATE SOLUTION**

*continued from page 1*

The good news is that we can all take action to reduce our "carbon footprints" and do our part to address the environmental challenge of our lifetime. We can have a greater effect than others precisely because we are the biggest emitters in the world.

To figure out how to reduce our footprints, we first need to know where those emissions come from. About 85% comes from the burning of fossil fuels, like the gasoline we use in our cars, the coal that is used to make our electricity and the natural gas and oil we use to heat our homes. So if we can use less gasoline, electricity and heat, we can have a real impact.

Every gallon of gasoline our cars burn produces almost 20 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>; think of a 20 pound bag of potatoes at the grocery store as you pump each gallon into your car. So, if we can find ways to drive less, we can have a real effect on our potato, oops I mean, carbon footprints. If you can car pool, walk or ride your bike for short trips, take the bus, or just in general drive less, you can substantially lower your carbon footprint. The Center's staff is doing this with their Eco-buck program, which encourages them to find ways other than driving to get to work. So far in 2008, they have avoided driving 6260.25 miles (or about 5634.25 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>). Also, if you are looking for a new car, remember even with gas below \$2 per gallon, miles per gallon is still very important.

In Wisconsin, most of our electricity comes from burning coal, which is about the biggest emitter of CO<sub>2</sub> on the planet. So, if we can lower our electricity use, we can have a real big impact. The easiest first step is turning off lights and appliances we aren't using. The next is to replace our incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents, which use 75% less electricity. When the time comes to replace your appliances, look for the Energy Star label, which means they're energy efficient. Also, think about joining We Energies' Energy for Tomorrow program, which lets you wipe out your electricity carbon footprint. The Center is a part of this program and the solar panels on our roof are a source of clean energy utilized by those in the program.

Anything we can do to reduce heating bills also lowers our carbon emissions. So think about turning down your heat (especially when you are not at home) and adding insulation and weather-stripping. Also, when you're ready to replace your furnace, boiler, windows or hot water heater, make sure that the new ones are as efficient as possible.

Finally, think about recycling more. In addition to all the other environmental reasons for recycling, it also helps lower our CO<sub>2</sub> footprint. In fact, recycling a pound of paper avoids almost four pounds of emissions. Likewise, recycling aluminum cans avoids almost 14 times their weight in emissions. In fact if Wisconsin could increase recycling by just 1%, we would avoid an additional 170,000 tons of carbon emissions every year.

Join me and my family as we dedicate ourselves in the new year to making time to recycle more, change those light bulbs (even the ones that I need to get out the big ladder to change) and dial back our set back thermostat another degree during the night. I feel empowered by the ironic fact that because we produce the most carbon we can reduce the most too!



## THANK YOU FROM THE CENTER

The Urban Ecology Center receives a majority of its support from local foundations, corporations and individuals. This page of our newsletter is reserved each issue to thank you and the many supporters of the Center. **The names listed are those that made a contribution to the Urban Ecology Center in the two months since our last newsletter.**

We thank those of you who have begun a new membership, renewed your membership or given a gift membership. Since our membership has grown to 2200 households we no longer can list all of our new and renewing members here. When space is available we will print the list of in kind donations. Rest assured we appreciate every donation and membership and are working hard to make your investment in the Center produce results 7 days a week, 357 days of the year! Call Ginger at the Center if your name has not appeared as you expected.

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rei.com  
Slow Food Wisconsin Southeast  
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Environmental Community  
Program  
wisconsin.sierraclub.org/gwg  
Trek Bicycle Corp.  
trekbikes.com  
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wheelandsprocket.com  
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Matt McCoy/Lanex, LLC  
Richard & Ethel Herzfeld  
Foundation  
Hinrichs Foundations

### GIFTS IN HONOR OF...

Else Ankel  
- Shirin Cabraal  
Ami & Luke's wedding

- Jim Schleif  
Benji & Corey  
- Don & Helen Bleser  
- Elaine Miller &  
Andrew Schwartz  
McCabe's 25<sup>th</sup> wedding  
anniversary  
- Jim Schleif  
Susan Winans & Judy Krause  
- Robert & Lois Winans

### GIFTS IN MEMORY OF...

A dearly departed friend,  
David A. Johnson  
- Sarah Olson  
Kyle Schmid  
- Jessica R. Wirth

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Thank  
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# JOIN OUR COMMUNITY TODAY!

## MEMBERSHIP

### Renew or begin your membership, 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.

### Give a gift membership:

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

Recipient Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Eve. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send the announcement card to

- Me    Gift recipient    Card picked up

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_ Deliver by \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 (\$5,000)
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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My neighborhood park is

- Riverside    Washington    I love them all!

- I would like to volunteer. Please contact me.

Charge my membership to:    Master Card    Visa

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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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)



**WINTER FUN AT THE URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER!**

**Winterfest for Afternoon Nappers**  
Saturday, February 7  
10:30 a.m. - noon

**Winterfest at Riverside Park**  
Saturday, February 7  
Noon - 4 p.m.

**Washington Parks Winter Wonderland**  
Saturday, February 14  
Noon - 4 p.m.

Riverside Park  
1500 E. Park Place  
Milwaukee, WI 53211



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# URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER PROGRAMS

(RP) = Riverside Park (WP) = Washington Park

# FEBRUARY 2009

Contact the Center for details (414) 964-8505 or visit [www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org](http://www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org). Hours: Monday - Thursday 9a-7p, Friday - Saturday 9a-5p, Sunday 12 noon-5p

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 RP - Science Sundays (Drop in, 12:30a-4:30p) topic: Air 12:30p Yogakids! (RP) 1:45p Yogakids Grow Up! 2:30p Open Climbs on Tower (RP)	2 Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (Drop in, RP)	3 9a Burdock Brigade (RP)	4 9a Wednesday Walks with Ken (RP) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (WP) 7p Lecture Series - topic: Owl Prowl (outside) (WP)	5 8a Birdwalk 4p Papermaking(RP) 5:30p Beth's Building Tour (RP) 6:30p UEC Photo Club (RP)	6 6p Volunteer Orientation (WP)	7 WP - Science Saturdays (Drop in, 10a-5p) topic: Rocks and Minerals RP - Science Saturdays (Drop in 9:30a-4:30p) topic: Air 9a Burdock Brigade (RP) 10a Stewards (WP) <b>Winterfest for Afternoon Nappers</b> <b>10:30a - noon (RP)</b> <b>Winterfest</b> <b>Noon - 4p (RP)</b> Animal Feeding (All branches)
8 12:30p Yogakids! (RP) 1p Volunteer Orientation (RP) Yogakids Grow Up! 1:45p (RP)	9 Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (Drop in, RP)	10 9a Burdock Brigade (RP) 7p Using X-rays To Take a Picture of Me? (RP)	11 9a Wednesday Walks with Ken (RP) 9a Stand Together Milwaukee (WP) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (WP) 6p Friends of Real Food (RP)	12 8a Birdwalk 4p Papermaking(RP) 5:30p Beth's Building Tour (RP) 7p Urban Echo Poets (RP) 7p Urban Stargazers (RP)	13 10a X-C Ski at Northern Kettle Moraine (RP) 4p Outdoor Play (WP)	14 9a Park Rangers (RP) 10a One Big Love! Playful Family Yoga (RP) 10a Storytime with Eva (RP) 10a Saturday Stewards (WP)
15 12:30p Yogakids! (RP) 1:45p Yogakids Grow Up! 2p Cool Ice Ages (RP) 2:30p Open Climbs on Tower (RP) 3p Knitting Circle (RP)	16 4p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (Drop in, RP) 6:30p Eco-Homes Series: Keeping your Home Clean and Healthy During the Winter Months (RP)	17 9a Burdock Brigade (RP) 6:30p Paths to a Sustainable Future (RP)	18 9a Wednesday Walks with Ken (RP) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (WP) 7p Lecture Series - topic: Biofuels (WP)	19 8a Birdwalk 4p Papermaking(RP) 5:30p Beth's Building Tour (RP) 6:30p Volunteer Orientation (RP) 6:30p Vegetarian Potluck (RP)	20 6p Chili & a Movie (RP)	21 9a Burdock Brigade (RP) 10a Tracking Mysteries (RP) 10a Saturday Stewards (WP) 1p Intro to X-C Skiing (RP) 1p Animal Feeding (All branches) 4p Ornithology/Workshops (RP)
22 1p Let's Poongmuli! Korean Traditional Drumming for Adults and Teens (RP) 2p Nature Detectives (RP)	23 4p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (Drop in, RP)	24 9a Burdock Brigade (RP)	25 9a Wednesday Walks with Ken (RP) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (WP)	26 8a Birdwalk 4p Papermaking(RP) 5:30p Beth's Building Tour (RP) 7p How to Help Birds in Your Backyard and on Your Land (RP)	27	28 9a Park Ranger Crew (RP) 10a Storytime with Eva (RP) 10a Reading Comes Alive with Yoga! (RP) 10a Saturday Stewards (WP) 10a Book Club (RP) 1p Animal Feeding (All branches)