



KEN'S STATE OF THE CENTER ADDRESS

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

Last November I gathered my entire team together, all 39 staff members, to discuss the difficult challenge we had before us. In the news was story after story about jobs being lost, non profits going under and foundations being tapped dry. I knew there had to be fears among my staff and did not want unnecessary rumors to start erupting. In this meeting we openly discussed exactly how things stood from a business perspective. I told them, with the help of my leadership team, that each and every person was of high value to us. We have no dead weight, no weak link and no fat -- no frivolous, superfluous or extraneous job. I shared this because it was (and still is) true. I held back nothing. It was going to be a very rough year, but we had no plans to lay anyone off. None. Instead we decided as a team to hold spending down to practically nothing. We'd make do with what we had and be creative for what we did not. We talked about an "all for one and one for all" approach with everyone pitching in

-- especially in areas where we were understaffed and unable to hire new people. The response has been overwhelming.

I could not be more proud of this diverse group of hard-working, fun-loving, kind individuals brought together by a shared passion for our mission. Not only have we managed to save over \$150,000 from our very lean budget (that is no small feat!), but every single program area this year has had record participation, every single one ... more canoe trips, more research, more rentals, more school contracts, more cross country skiing, more food preservation classes, more lecture attendance, more drop-in visitation ... it's amazing! So far this year, with only two months left in our fiscal year, we are projected to actually exceed our budget for revenue generated by program fees by close to \$15,000. On top of this, our staff has contributed more financially to the Center with personal donations than in any other year and logged more volunteer hours than ever before as

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REASON TO RETREAT

by Beth Fetterly, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

Ask any staff person what they like most about working at the Urban Ecology Center, and likely you will hear "My colleagues are awesome!" or some similar sentiment. Recently recognitions like the 2008 Alfred P. Sloan Workplace Flexibility



Award and the 2009 American Society for Quality Social Responsibility Award, provide objective assessment of the employment culture here. What is not as apparent to our community and members is the ongoing work we put toward nurturing a dedicated, supportive and innovative team of employees.

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\$400 BIKE RIDE

by Glenna Holstein, Environmental Educator

I don't know if you know this, but walkie-talkies are *expensive*. The ones we use here cost about \$400. I know because I almost lost one (shhh---don't tell Ken or Judy!)

During a biking trip with a group of 6th graders from Milwaukee Education Center, I realized that I was missing my walkie-talkie. It must have been jostled out of my backpack as we were getting on and off bikes. After the class was over, I got on my bike to retrace our route and I have to admit I was not very hopeful about finding it. "Great..." I thought. "There's \$400 down the half-flush toilet..."

As I rode along the bike path, I mentally started rewriting my budget, subtracting the \$400 I planned to pay to replace the radio. I started to groan, but then checked myself. Could I have bought the day I had with those 6th graders for \$400? Not a chance.

As the sun warmed my back and the wind tickled my face, I remembered how only a few hours earlier I had been able to share just such an experience with

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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: Beth Fetterley, Glenna Holstein, Ken Leinbach, Susan Winans and Joey Zocher.

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 2600 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 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. 40th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208
(414) 344-5460 Fax: (414) 344-5462
jzocher@urbanecologycenter.org

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

DROPLETS

>Welcome to new staff member **Katie Swank**. Katie began as a Saturday reception volunteer and is now our new Community Program Educator whom you will see in the evenings and on the weekends. She brings experience in environmental education, museum planning, and community outreach in New Mexico and we are excited to welcome her!

>Welcome in June we welcomed **14 Summer Interns!** Summer interns serve as assistant educators for our summer camps, help maintain our gardens, run research projects and coach students in outdoor recreation. This year's interns are:

- Keith Armstrong, Macalester College
- Jon Campbell, Middlebury College
- Patrick Duffie, Alverno College
- Kelly Finkowski, UW-Milwaukee
- Davita Flowers-Shanklin, Macalester College
- Britton Jones, UW-Milwaukee
- Kimberly Knoebel, UW-Milwaukee
- Simon Kurt, UW-Eau Claire
- Andrea Lohman, UW-Stevens Point
- Annie Pasbrig, Macalester College
- Brian Rorabeck, UW-Stevens Point
- Jon Rogers, Carroll University
- Jillian Votova, Michigan Tech
- Johannah Waite, UW-Milwaukee

>Welcome Upcoming UEC closings. Urban Ecology Center will be closed on July 4. August 29 - 31 our Washington Park branch will be closed and our Riverside Park location will close at 4 p.m.

WISH LIST

General Needs

Contact: Judy Krause, 964-8505, x102.

- Alka-seltzer tablets
- Blenders
- Cordless drill
- Cornstarch
- Ice cream buckets
- Kernel popcorn
- Video camera

For Riverside Park

Contact: Judy Krause, 964-8505, x102.

- 3 umbrella stands
- 30 pairs of lightweight welding goggles
- Air compressor (at least 26 gallon?) and impact tools
- Animal heat rocks and heat pads
- Bird feeders
- Cabinet for board games
- Dandelion diggers
- Electric impact Driver
- Floor jack for auto repair (at least four ton hydraulic)
- Gardening/work gloves
- Good quality sound system
- Hand clippers & trowels
- Heavy duty wheelbarrows
- Large attractive ceramic planters for indoor potted plants (12"-24")
- Long handled loppers
- Miscellaneous hand tools, drill bits, etc.
- Miscellaneous nuts, bolts, screws, etc.
- Nylon pants
- Open trailer for hauling
- Papershredder
- Portable stage lighting
- Projector screen
- Quality corded circular saw
- Rain ponchos/jackets- all sizes
- Reptile basking light bulbs and infrared light bulbs
- Small all occasion gift bags
- Toaster oven
- Waterproof pants for kids
- Wheelbarrows

For Washington Park

Contact: Joey Zocher, (414) 344-5460.

- Art supplies
- Bike helmets & locks
- Bookshelves
- Canoes
- Clothespins
- Extension cords
- Fishing poles & tackle
- Flat head screw drivers
- Gardening equipment
- GPS device
- Green fish nets for fish tanks
- Hip wader drying rack
- Musical instruments - acoustic
- Nails/screws
- Old towels and rags
- Plastic storage bins with lids
- Power strips
- Socks
- Sports balls
- Sprinklers
- Untreated 2x10's for raised beds
- Vegetable seeds
- Yoga mats

REASON TO RETREAT

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What you *will* notice is that on August 29th through 31st, our Washington Park branch is closed and our headquarters in Riverside Park has shortened hours. Our headquarters are able to remain open thanks to extremely competent volunteers and interns who completely take over running the Center those three days. The entire staff is so very appreciative of this support because this is our annual retreat – the one time that our full staff can count on being all together in one room for several days.

Because the Center has two branches and together they are open seven days and nearly 70 hours each week, it is increasingly difficult to bring all the employees together for planning, learning and envisioning our future. Thus, every year we dedicate three days to the annual retreat. It is a critical component and launching ground of a cohesive, fun and effective employment culture.

The annual retreat started in 2001 when a generous board member offered her home in River Hills as a site for a two day planning session with the staff. In the years following, we were invited to other homes, nature centers and camps, where we'd barter for the rooms by offering environmental education training, a service project or consulting services. All-day retreats became overnight excursions, and every

year we improve on the previous one. For the past couple years we've stayed at Girl Scouts Camp Silverbrook in West Bend, drawing energy and inspiration from their forest and lake.

What happens at the retreat? Each year varies a bit, but typically we bring in at least one outside speaker, staff take turns leading exercises and activities for the whole group and we form teams to prepare each meal. Topics vary from best practices in integrating volunteers into the mission, to building a creative work environment, to serving a racially diverse audience well, to understanding climate change, to learning together on naturalist walks, to team-building and more. Cooking for 33 people becomes a team-building exercise in itself, as well as a recipe exchange.

Our goals for the retreat are in line with the mission, focusing on modeling environmental practices and care for the land, developing a sense of community and camaraderie and building skills in serving urban youth. And did I mention play? We make sure to spend some time playing together – canoeing, swimming, relaxing on the beach. All of this revives our minds, relaxes our bodies and prepares us to dig in to do the best work we can do as a cohesive team. So, yes, my colleagues are what I most enjoy about working at the Urban Ecology Center.

A SENSE OF WONDER AT THE CENTER

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

I met Kaiulani Lee 15 years ago on an elementary school camping trip in Virginia. I was leading the trip and Kaiulani was a parent chaperone. We hit it off as kindred spirits in our love for nature and kids, but it was her quiet strength and disarming wisdom that most impressed me. Through conversation I discovered that she was

quite an accomplished actress, not only on national shows like *Law and Order* and *The Waltons*, but also in many plays on and off Broadway. She invited my wife and me to a one-actress play on the life of Rachel Carson called *A Sense of Wonder* that she had written and produced. The depth, intensity and historical

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THE CENTER IN THE NEWS

You're creating quite a buzz! Thanks to the enthusiasm of our members and friends the media coverage of the Center has grown phenomenally. See the list below.

The Center was the subject of a fantastic **Milwaukee Public Television** documentary feature: *Nature In The City*. This 30-minute documentary shared the "magic" of the Urban Ecology Center through interviews with community members and staff. Thanks to Lyn Falk and Raul Galvan for their terrific work.

Radio Disney (AM 1640) featured Executive Director Ken Leinbach on its "Backyard Show".

The **Outpost Exchange** asked Center staff members to write the new Urban Almanac feature. In the first one Center Educator Matt Flower wrote about flowers (no pun intended). See the next issue for Tory Bahe's article.

The **Shepherd Express** featured the Center in two articles: Summer Fun on the Cheap" and "Milwaukee Color: Spiritual Uplift at Washington Park".

The **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel** featured the citizen science ephemeral pond study. Read more at <http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/46024042.html>

Citizen Science Symposium we hosted last fall is the subject of a re-airing of **Lake Effect (WUWM)**. Listen to it here at www.wuwm.com/programs/lake_effect/view_le.php?articleid=728

UEC YOUNG SCIENTISTS

by Joey Zocher, Washington Park Program Director

You can hear his laugh before he enters the building and it reminds us all why we are here. What good is a park if it's not filled with people? Wednesday nights bring the highly anticipated visits of Mr. E.B. Garner.

And true to most nights, dozens of children are close behind. Eager to learn, eager to help, eager to do something—these kids are not interested in Myspace, or the latest fashion trends. Instead, they enjoy being a part of something bigger than themselves. These are Washington Park's Young Scientists!

Unlike Riverside Park, open hours in Washington Park attract mostly unsupervised kids. These kids live in the neighborhood and most come back daily. If you stop by you are sure to see kids having a great time, but it's not all play.

Kids help with service projects, removing invasive species like buckthorn, burdock and garlic mustard. They clean up after their peers who are not as community minded, picking up litter and cleaning up graffiti. In addition, they are learning real life science by participating in citizen science monitoring. They are helping to take water samples in the



lagoon and monitor the different types of wildlife in the park.

SHARE YOUR PASSION

Our volunteers help with everything from teaching the kids how to canoe to creating Mother's Day cards to finishing their homework. E.B. teaches the kids how to fish. Stephanie teaches them yoga using flora and fauna found in the park. Tracy helps the kids create nature-based art projects. All of these volunteers have taken their passion and brought it to the kids at the Center. Do you have an idea for a project you think our kids would love? Contact Scott at 414-344-5460 or sstromberger@urbanecologycenter.org.

SENSE OF WONDER

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accuracy of the reenactment of the author of **Silent Spring**, the book that many point to as the beginning of the environmental movement, blew me away. I remember at the time wishing everyone could see this important piece.

Well now you can! I've followed Kaiulani as her career has grown, watching her numerous times on TV, including in the lead role on National Public Television's *A Midwife's Tale*. She

too has been watching us grow from a trailer in the park to what we are today. *A Sense of Wonder* has now been turned into a film and thanks to our friendship, Kailani has chosen to offer a free screening here at the Urban Ecology Center! Thus it is with great pride that I bring my friend Kaiulani Lee as Rachel Carson to Milwaukee (see details on page 6). Please make an effort to come and bring a neighbor or a friend. I guarantee you'll leave glad that you did.

OBSERVING VARIABLE STARS

by Jon Bales, Urban Stargazers

Astronomy is yet another field where citizen scientists play an important role. Amateur astronomers record the brightness of variable stars contributing important data to researchers.

A variable star is one whose apparent brightness as seen from earth changes. One way the brightness can change is if the star has an orbiting companion that sometimes eclipses it. This type is called an extrinsic variable.

There are citizen scientists in Milwaukee who observe variable stars and report their findings to the American Association of Variable Star Observers, www.aavso.org. There is no special equipment needed to be a variable star observer, although binoculars or a small telescope are useful and fun to have on hand.

There is a star of special interest in our summer night sky in the constellation Aurigae. Every 27.1 years the star, known as Epsilon Aurigae, or the "Billy Goat", goes into an eclipse that lasts approximately one and a half years. During previous eclipses, it has slowly lost about half its brightness. Then, near the very end of the eclipse, it suddenly gains most of its brightness back in a matter of weeks. No one knows why this happens. The star is bright enough to be seen with the unaided eye, even in the city. All eclipses since discovery have been scrutinized with an increasingly sophisticated array of methods, but to no avail. Something is blocking the light and *we don't know what it is*. Observers are watching this star every day for a change to occur.

Because of its brightness, this star provides an easy entry point for scientific research by all persons regardless of their background, training and equipment: with just good eyesight and a finder chart, the eclipse can be easily monitored.

KEN'S STATE OF THE CENTER ADDRESS

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well! Riverside Park staff members have helped out when Washington Park became overwhelmed with drop-in kids this winter and the Washington Park staff members have helped out at our bigger events in Riverside Park. This is not required, expected or even subtly implied. It truly is an incredible team.

Our expense savings and revenue increases represent the areas in our budget we have some control over. The problem is, the things that are out of our control ... are exactly that ... out of our control. Who would have guessed that portfolios would be down 30 to 50 percent in the span of just a few months? That so many people would be losing their jobs, or that housing and credit markets would be hurting so badly? People cannot give what they don't have, and while we do generate a percentage of our total budget by "selling" programs, there is no way we can come close to charging the true cost of the work that we do. In short, despite all of our Herculean efforts, we are still running short. In fact, when we project out to the end of the year we discover a need of slightly more than \$100,000. Dang!

I so believe in what we are doing here at the Center and I am very excited about our prospect for the future. Our staff is incredible, our volunteers are amazing and our programs are solid. All we need is a little more money to keep it all going. How do we get this? I don't know for sure, but it seems we start by simply asking. Can you help? If everyone could pitch in just a little we'd have enough.

Over the past month I've shared this idea with some of our closest friends. Amazingly eight dedicated supporters have pooled their resources and come up with a \$50,000 year-end challenge. This means that any donations given

to us between now and August 31st will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000! This kind of support actually brings tears to my eyes.

Now it is your turn. Wait, don't stop reading please ... just hear me out.

We print over 3000 newsletters. If every person who is reading this (meaning you!) could give us \$20 or more we'd make it. Twenty dollars, that's it! In a place where you can borrow a sea kayak, learn to band birds or help plant a prairie for nothing what is twenty dollars? So please, right now before you forget, consider either writing a small check to us or go to our website and click on the button on the home page that says "Yes I will match the challenge" and within two minutes you can double your support ... and ... feel good that you are part of this vibrant and dedicated community.

My other request is this: Please spread the word to your neighbors and friends and encourage them to join, or perhaps buy them a gift membership! Seriously. Take a minute and think about at least one person you know who could benefit from being a part of our Center. And before you forget, sign them up ... right now. The more members we have the more we can do for the community. And by the way, any new membership purchased before August 31st will be matched dollar for dollar too!

One final note: If you are in the unfortunate category of being out of work right now, please know that my heart goes out to you. It kills me hearing from my friends who have lost, or may lose, their jobs. If you are in this category, and money is really tight, know that we don't expect a contribution. In fact, we do have some financial assistance that can help cover memberships and programs. We want you to stay with us and if we can help you through this difficult time, please let us know.

\$400 BIKE RIDE

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15 twelve-year-olds. I thought about the smiles on their faces as they felt the freedom of using their own power to move through the beautiful twists and turns of Estabrook Park, and their slightly nervous (but happy!) squeals as we dipped down hills. I smiled to think of how wide their eyes got when, from the top of the Center's tower, I pointed out the radio tower that marked the halfway point of our ride. "We went that far!?" they asked, clearly impressed with themselves. That sense of pride and the joy of that shared experience is something that no amount of money could buy, and I decided that the cost of a \$400 radio would be a more than reasonable price for such a marvelous adventure.

I reached the end of our route and, not having found the radio, was completely ready to turn around and enjoy the last leg of my \$400 bike ride. But at that moment I saw the radio sitting next to the drinking fountain! Someone must have picked it up and put it there so it would be easier to see. I gratefully clipped the radio to my belt and headed back toward the Center. "Amazing," I mused. "I would have happily paid \$400 for today, and here I've gotten it for free!"



JULY - AUGUST 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

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 before the program date if you have accessibility needs.

Scholarships are available for all fee-based programs. For information call (414) 964-8505 or visit www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org

FAMILY PROGRAMS

EPIHEMERAL POND STUDY

Be a citizen scientist and help us verify our ephemeral ponds by collecting data on their characteristics. This information is used by the DNR in the Wisconsin Ephemeral Pond Project to help protect these unique habitats.

Tuesdays, July 7, 21,
August 4 & 18
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.



For everyone
Adults: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Children \$2
(Nonmembers - \$3)
Call to register, 964-8505

RIVERSIDE PARK BUTTERFLY COUNT*

Every year the North American Butterfly Association coordinates volunteers across three countries (USA, Canada and Mexico) to census butterfly populations. Join us for a stroll through Riverside Park to count & identify our resident butterflies. No experience is necessary.

Saturday, July 11
11 a.m.



For adults and
accompanied children
\$3
Call to register, 964-8505

TREE ID HIKE*

Come on a hike around the park to learn about the diverse tree species that Fredrick Law Olmsted planted here over one hundred years ago.

Saturday, July 11 & 25
2 - 3:30 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Children: \$2
(Nonmembers - \$3)
Call to register, 964-8505



NEST WATCH*

Help us partner with the Cornell University's citizen science program by making observations of nesting birds in Washington Park. Dress for the weather!!!

Tuesdays, July 14 & 28
5:30-6:30 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Children: \$2
(Nonmembers - \$3)
Call to register, 964-8505



INTERNATIONAL FAMILY DANCING*

Travel around the world with dance instructor Elaina Qurehi—all you need are your feet and a good imagination! We will explore the rhythms of Africa, Bolivia, France, Mexico, Israel and many more countries. No passport needed. Are you ready for the adventure??

Sundays, July 19, 26
1 - 3 p.m.

For families with
children ages 4
and older
\$10/family or \$3/person
(Nonmembers - \$12/family
or \$3/person)
Call to register, 964-8505



HIGH SCHOOL OUTDOOR LEADER TALES FROM THE TETONS*

Get inspired as the High School Outdoor Leaders describe their experience as interns at the UEC and their trip to the Tetons! Following the presentation at the UEC, we will travel together to the UWM School of the Arts Inova gallery on Kenilworth for a reception.

Tuesday, August 18
6 - 9 p.m.

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



ANIMAL FEEDING*

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.

Saturdays (No Washington
Park session on
August 29)
1 - 2 p.m.

For everyone
Free - donations appreciated



SCIENCE SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS*

Explore science through self-led interactive activities. Topics are:
July - Bumbling Bees
August - The Foods We Eat

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



FISHING WITH E.B. GARNER*

Enjoy a fun evening fishing in Washington Park. Learn fishing techniques and play fishing games. Dependent on the weather. Poles provided.

Wednesdays
5 - 6:30 p.m.

For everyone
Free - donations appreciated



WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Be a citizen scientist and help track the health of the 11 acre Washington Park lagoon. The data collected will give us a better understanding of this unique aquatic habitat.

Fridays
6 - 6:30 p.m.

For everyone
Free - donations appreciated



SPECIAL EVENTS

A SENSE OF WONDER: FILM SCREENING*

A Sense of Wonder depicts pioneering environmentalist Rachel Carson in the final year of her life as she battles cancer and the chemical industry in the wake of publishing *Silent Spring*. Join us for a special free screening, followed by a Q&A with *Wonder's* acclaimed star and writer Kaiulani Lee. See Ken's article on page 2 for details.

Friday, July 10
6:30 - 8 p.m.

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



**URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 4.
AUGUST 29 - 31 OUR WASHINGTON PARK BRANCH WILL BE CLOSED AND OUR
RIVERSIDE PARK LOCATION WILL CLOSE AT 4 P.M.**

URBAN ADVENTURES

Advanced registration is required for all Urban Ecology Center Urban Adventures. Payment is 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 ROCK CLIMBING WALL

Build strength, balance and confidence by climbing on our three story rock wall! Harnesses and belayers provided. All climbers must have a completed and signed waiver before climbing, available at www.urbanecologycenter.org. Please call ahead to register, no walk-ins.

Tuesdays, July 7 - August 18
4 - 6 p.m.
Sundays, July 12 - August 16
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$10
(Nonmembers - \$15)
per session
Children: \$8 (Nonmembers - \$12) per session
Call ahead to register, 964-8505, no walk-ins



KAYAKING 101

Come learn the basics of kayaking. We will start with a brief lesson on land and then continue the lesson on the Milwaukee River. Bring a snack or dinner with you and we can eat on the water! Come prepared to get wet and bring something to hydrate yourself!

Meet at the Rowing Club Boathouse (1990 N. Commerce St.)
One-day class offered
Tuesdays, June 30, July 21 & August 11
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults and children ages 13 and older
Adults: \$20
(Nonmembers - \$ 25)
Children: \$15
(Nonmembers - \$20)
Call to register, 964-8505



WATER SAFETY COURSE FOR BOAT LENDING PROGRAM*

Interested in borrowing our canoes? Come take a 30-minute water safety course to make sure you are ready to get out on the water. If you passed this course last year you do not have to retake it this year. This is a requirement of the canoe/kayak lending program.

Riverside Park
One-day class offered
Saturdays,
July 11 - August 8
10 - 10:30 a.m.
Thursdays through August 20
6 - 6:30 p.m.



Washington Park
One-day class offered
Wednesdays, July 1,
15, August 5 & 19
7 - 7:30 p.m.



For everyone
Free donations appreciated
Registration required, call
964-8505

CANOEING BASICS

Learn the basics of canoe instruction from our lifeguard certified staff. Registration required.

One-day class offered
Saturdays, July 18 or
August 1, 15 & 22
2 - 4 p.m.
For everyone
Adult: \$5 (Nonmembers - \$7)
Children: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Registration required, call
964-8505



CAN YOU CANOE?

Join the Sierra Club for an evening out on the water learning the ins and outs of canoe instruction.

Wednesday, July 22
4:30-6:30 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505



MILWAUKEE HISTORY KAYAK

Want to learn about Milwaukee's history in a unique fashion? Join Urban Adventures Coordinator Chad Thomack on a paddle through downtown to explore some of Milwaukee's interesting history from the river.

Meet at the Rowing Club Boathouse (1990 N. Commerce St.)
Saturday, August 8
9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
For adults and children ages 13 and older
Adults: \$20
(Nonmembers - \$ 25)
Children: \$15
(Nonmembers - \$20)
Call to register, 964-8505



RIVER RHYTHMS CANOE TRIPS

Paddle down the Milwaukee River from the Rowing Club Boathouse to Pere Marquette Park. Enjoy music and festivities at River Rhythms. Then paddle back to the rowing club boathouse. Dress for the weather. Each week fills quickly. Sign-up early!

July 1 - Greg Koch
July 8 - De La Buena
July 15 - Brother
July 22 - Doo Wop Daddies
July 29 - Downtown Employee Appreciation Week's Battle of the Bands
August 5 - Paul Cebar
August 12 - The Urbanites
August 19 - Streetlife
August 26 - Hounds Tooth & Alex Wilson

Meet at the Rowing Club Boathouse (1990 N. Commerce St. 53211)
Wednesdays
5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
For adults and accompanied children
Adults: \$25
(Nonmembers - \$30) per trip
Children: \$15
(Nonmembers - \$20) per trip
Call to register, 964-8505



HIGH SCHOOL EXPLORERS

TEEN BOOK CLUB*

Teens, come join us on a spiritual journey! The Teen Book Club is a new group at the Center that will get together to read some environmental teen fiction and non-fiction. Our first book will be *Dogsong* by Gary Paulsen, which participants should read by the first meeting. Once the group is assembled, we can choose the subsequent books for the upcoming meetings.

Saturday, July 11, 25,
August 8 & 22

11 a.m. - noon

For teens

Free- donations appreciated



CANOEING AT WASHINGTON PARK

Do you want to cool off on a hot summer day? Canoe with us at the Washington Park lagoon. Be prepared to get wet playing fun water games! Meet either at 9:30 at the Riverside Park location for a ride to the park or at the Washington Park location at 10. Space is limited!

Saturday, July 18

10 a.m. - noon

For teens

\$3

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



SUMMER CAMPING AT KETTLE MORAIN STATE FOREST

Finish summer with a bang! Come on an overnight camping trip with other high schoolers at Kettle Moraine Northern Unit, Ottawa.

Saturday, August 22 -
Sunday, August 23

For teens
\$12 (Nonmembers - \$15)
Call to register, 964-8505

Teens must have a permission form signed by a parent or guardian to participate. Download a permission form at www.urbanecologycenter.org/permission or ask for a form from our receptionist.

ADULT LEARNING



MONARCH LARVAE MONITORING

After a brief introduction to the eggs, caterpillar, chrysalis and adult stages of the Monarch, the group will comb the park for examples of all stages of the butterfly's life. Participants collect data for the University of Minnesota's National Monarch Larvae Monitoring Project.

Wednesday, July 1
5:30 p.m.

For adults and accompanied children
\$4 (Nonmembers - \$7)
Call 964-8505 to register



ORNITHOLOGY WORKSHOP*

These monthly workshops delve into the mysterious and wonderful world of birds, looking at current research and well-established topics. Presentation to be followed by a dusk birdwalk. Binoculars provided.

Thursday, July 2
6:30 - 8 p.m.

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



FROGS OF WASHINGTON PARK*

Do you like frogs and learning about their neat adaptations? Then hop on over to Washington Park and learn about our slippery neighbors that live here in the lagoon.

Wednesday, July 8
7 - 8 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$5
(Nonmembers - \$7)
Children: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call 964-8505 to register



DNR FROG & TOAD SURVEY

Come out for a late night of auditory froggin' and help add to the Wisconsin DNR's statewide database of frogs and toads run by citizen scientists. Dress for the weather and wear footwear that can get muddy. We will cover western and southern Milwaukee County. Call Tim Vargo, x116, for details.

Friday, July 10

8:15 p.m. -
12:15 a.m.

For adults and accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call 964-8505 to register



WELLSPRING FARM TOUR

Join us for a tour of Wellspring Farm, a Community Supported Agriculture farm that produces organic produce and provides educational opportunities. Wellspring is also a retreat and conference center, a bed and breakfast and an international hostel. Bring a bag lunch.

Saturday, July 11

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For adults and kids accompanied by an adult
Adults: \$7
(Nonmembers - \$10)
Children: \$3 (Nonmembers - \$5)
Registration required by July 10, call 964-8505



PIONEERING CITIZEN SCIENTISTS: THE PECKHAMS*

George and Elizabeth Peckham were world-renowned arachnologists living and working in Milwaukee over a century ago. Their achievements created a legacy of continuing value from which scientists and citizens still benefit.

Speaker: Joan Jass, Curator of Non-insect Invertebrates, Milwaukee Public Museum
Tuesday, July 14
7 - 8:30 p.m.

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



CHI-GUNG

Translated as "energy work" or "breath work", Chi-gung has been practiced for thousands of years as a way of enhancing health and mental awareness, balancing emotions and calming the mind. Join us as we investigate a sampling of several different breath and movement offerings including Chi-gung and Tai Chi. All physical levels of fitness welcome. Comfortable clothes and a desire to experience a new you is a must!

Wednesdays,
July 15 & August 19
5:30 - 7 p.m.

For adults
\$10 per session
(Nonmembers - \$12 per session)
Call 964-8505 to register



SUMMER COOKING*

Elizabeth Crawford brings to her classes 20 years of professional cooking experience, as well as a deep desire to help people become more confident cooks.

July - Summer Salads. Learn how to create summer salads using organic grains, seasonal herbs and vegetables, artisanal oils and vinegars, nuts and seeds. Food will be prepared and sampled during each class.

August - Tartes. Learn how to create sweet and savory tartes, classic and free-form, using organic vegetables and fruits. Also learn how to make a perfect crust with only four ingredients! Food will be prepared and sampled during each class.

Tuesdays, July 21 & August 4
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults
\$30
(Nonmembers - \$35)
Registration required one week before class, call 964-8505



DARWIN LIVES IN OUR HOMES:

*Natural Selection, Insects and Our Household Ecosystem**

You don't have to go out into a rainforest to see natural selection at work - you just need to step into your backyard or take a look in your basement. Learn about the fascinating world of urban insects and how all of us drive their evolution.

Speaker:

Ted Snyder, entomologist
Thursday, July 23
7 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults and accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call 964-8505 to register



BOOK CLUB*

July: *Biomimicry* by
Janine Benyus

August: *The Jungle Effect*
by Daphne Miller

Saturdays, July 25 & August 22
10 - 11 a.m.

For adults
Free-donations appreciated



SPROUTING THEOLOGY:

*The Growing Relationship Between Food and Religion**

As Jordan finished his degree in religious studies and went to work on an urban farm, he couldn't help but ask himself how his two fascinations, religion and food, were related. What can food teach us about religion and what can our religious beliefs teach us about food? As it turns out, farms and churches have a lot to lend each other.

Speaker: Jordan Wesley Stone, Program Assistant and Urban Farmer, Growing Power, Inc.
Monday, July 27
7:30 p.m.

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



URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER PROGRAMS

(rp) = Riverside Park (wp) = Washington Park

JULY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						CENTER CLOSED
5 Science Sundays Drop in 12:30-4:30p (rp) topic: Bumbling Bees 12:30p Volunteer (rp) 4p Summer Running(rp)	6 Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp)	7 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) Drop in, 4 - 6p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Ephemeral Pond Study (wp)	8 8:45a Stand Together Milwaukee (wp) 9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Chat with Ken (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Monarch Larvae Monitoring (rp) 5:30p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp) 7p Water Safety (wp)	9 8a Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Plant Monitoring (wp) 6p Beth's Tour (rp) 6:30p Water Safety (rp) Ornithology Workshop (rp)	10 4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp) 6:30p A Sense of Wonder (rp) 8:15p DNR Frog & Toad Survey (rp)	11 Science Saturdays Drop in 9:30a-4:30p (rp) topic: Bumbling Bees 9a Wellspring Farm tour (rp) 9a Social Media (rp) 9a Park Rangers (all) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 10a Water Safety (rp) 11a Butterfly Count (rp) 11a Teen Book Club (rp) 12:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (all) 2p Tree ID Hike (wp)
12 Drop in, 2:30 - 4:30p Open Climbs (rp)	13 Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp)	14 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) Drop in, 4 - 6p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Nest Watch (rp) 7p Pioneering Citizen Scientists: The Peckhams	15 9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Ken's Tour (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp) 5:30p Chi-Gung (rp) 7p Water Safety (wp)	16 8a Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Plant Monitoring (wp) 6p Beth's Tour (rp) 6:30p Water Safety (rp) Vegetarian Polluck (rp)	17 9a Riverside Gardens Tour (rp) 4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)	18 9a Park Rangers (wp) 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 10a Canoeing (wp) 10a Water Safety (rp) 12:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (all) 2p Canoeing Basics (wp)
19 1p International Family Dancing (rp) 2p Reflectors – Wet and Wild Drop in, 2:30 - 4:30p 4p Open Climbs (rp) Summer Running(rp)	20 Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp)	21 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) Drop in, 4 - 6p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Ephemeral Pond Study (wp) 5:30p Kayaking 101 (rp) 6:30p Summer Cooking: Summer Salads 6:30p Paths to a Sustainable Future (rp)	22 9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Chat with Ken (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 4:30p Can You Canoe? (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp)	23 8a Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Beth's Tour (rp) 6p Water Safety (rp) 6:30p Volunteer Orientation (rp) 7p Darwin Lives in our Homes (rp)	24 4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)	25 9a Social Media (rp) 9a Park Rangers (all) 10a Book Club (rp) 10a Water Safety (rp) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 11a Teen Book Club (rp) 12:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (all) 2p Tree ID Hike (wp)
26 1p International Family Dancing (rp) Drop in, 2:30 - 4:30p 3p Open Climbs (rp) Knitting Circle (rp)	27 Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp) 7p Scouting Theology (rp)	28 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) Drop in, 4 - 6p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Nest Watch (rp)	29 9a Native-Scaping (wp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp) 7p Ephemeral Pond ID (wp)	30 8a Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Beth's Tour (rp) 6p Plant Monitoring (wp) Water Safety (rp)	31 4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)	



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Science Sundays Drop in 12:30-4:30p (rp) topic: The Foods We Eat Drop in, 2:30 - 4:30p Open Climbs (rp)</p>	<p>Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp) Tac-Well Work- Out (rp)</p>	<p>9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 4-6p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Ephemeral Pond Study (wp) 6:30p Summer Cooking: Tartes</p>	<p>9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Branch Tours (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 7p Water Safety (wp)</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk (rp) 4:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Plant Monitoring (wp) 5:30p Beth's Tour (rp) 6p Water Safety (rp) 6:30p UEC Photo Club (rp)</p>	<p>9a Riverside Gardens Tour (rp) 4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)</p>	<p>1 Science Saturdays Drop in 9:30a-4:30p (rp) topic: The Foods We Eat 9a Park Rangers (wp) 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 10a Water Safety (rp) 12:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (all) 2p Canoeing Basics (wp)</p>
<p>Drop in, 2:30 - 4:30p Open Climbs (rp)</p>	<p>Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp) Tac-Well Work- Out (rp)</p>	<p>9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 4p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Kayaking 101 (rp)</p>	<p>8:45a Stand Together Milwaukee (wp) 9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Chat with Ken (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp) 6p Friends of Red Food (rp)</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk (rp) 4:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Beth's Tour (rp) 6p Water Safety (rp)</p>	<p>4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)</p>	<p>15 Rushing Waters (rp) 9a Park Rangers (wp) 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 12:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (all) 2p Canoeing Basics (wp)</p>
<p>12:30 Volunteer Orientation Drop in, 2:30 - 4:30p Open Climbs (rp) 3p Knitting Circle (rp)</p>	<p>Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp) Tac-Well Work- Out (rp)</p>	<p>9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 4p Open Climbs (rp) 5:30p Study (wp) 6p High School Outdoor Leader Reflections (rp) 6:30p Paths to a Sustainable Future (rp)</p>	<p>9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Ken's Tour (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp) 5:30p Chi-Gung (rp) 7p Water Safety (wp)</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk (rp) 4:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Plant Monitoring (wp) 5:30p Beth's Tour (rp) 6p Savor the Taste of Summer: Tomato Fest 6p Water Safety (rp) 6:30p Vegetarian Potluck (rp)</p>	<p>9a Riverside Gardens Tour (rp) 4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)</p>	<p>22 Camping at Kettle Moraine 9a Social Media (rp) 9a Park Rangers (all) 10a Book Club (rp) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 11a Teen Book Club (rp) 12:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (all) 2p Canoeing Basics (wp)</p>
<p>Camping at Kettle Moraine Drop in, Noon - 2p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp) Eat Local Challenge Fair (rp)</p>	<p>Drop in, 4-7p Sustainable Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp) Tac-Well Work- Out (rp)</p>	<p>9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 9a Volunteer Teacher Orientation</p>	<p>9a Native-Scaping (wp) 9a Chat with Ken (rp) 1p Native-Scaping (wp) 5p Fishing (wp) 5p Tour of Washington Park Branch (wp) 5:30p River Rhythms Canoe Trip (rp)</p>	<p>8a Birdwalk (rp) 4:30p Burdock Brigade (wp) 5:30p Beth's Tour (rp) 6:30p Volunteer Orientation (rp)</p>	<p>4:30p Clean-Up Your Park (wp) 6p Water Quality Monitoring (wp)</p>	<p>29 Riverside Park closes at 4p Washington Park closed 9a Park Rangers (rp) 1p Animal Feeding (rp)</p>
<p>Riverside Park closes at 4p Washington Park closed Drop in, Noon - 2p Building Exhibit Open Hours (rp)</p>	<p>Riverside Park closes at 4p Washington Park closed</p>					

ADULT LEARNING CONTINUED**EPHEMERAL POND ID**

Come learn about the unique habitats that amphibians and reptiles depend on for their survival. We will be outside collecting data on our two potential ephemeral ponds, so dress for the weather.

Wednesday, July 29
7 - 8 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$5

(Nonmembers - \$7)

Children: \$3

(Nonmembers - \$5)

Call 964-8505 to register

**TAO-WELL WORK-OUT**

This 5-week series will bring you closer to nature and will help you clear your mind! Get to know Riverside Park and your neighbors as you improve your functional strength, flexibility, dynamic balance, coordination and overall fitness. John Burns of Tao-Well Center will bring you outdoors and indoors to help you explore your mind, body, spirit and Riverside Park. Pre-registration appreciated.

Mondays, August 3 -
September 7 (excluding
August 31)

5:30-6:30 p.m.

For adults and teens

\$100 for the series/or \$15

per class (Nonmembers -

\$125 for series/or

\$20 per class)

Plus \$25 fee for fitness
apparatus (available for pick-
up on the first day of class)

Call to register, 964-8505

**VISIT AND HIKE AT
RUSHING WATERS
FISHERY**

We will visit Rushing Waters Fishery where you can fish or just enjoy looking around. Then we will travel to Stute Stute Springs and Homestead for a short hike. Fun for everybody! Please bring a bag lunch.

Saturday, August 15

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For adults and kids
accompanied by an adult

Adults: \$7

(Nonmembers - \$10)

Children: \$3

(Nonmembers - \$5)

Registration required by
August 14th, call 964-8505

**SUSTAINABLE BUILDING
EXHIBIT OPEN HOURS**

Remodeling, adding on, or building a new home? Visit the Center's Sustainable Building Exhibit 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.

Mondays

(excluding

August 31)

4 - 7 p.m.

Sundays,

August 23 & 30

12 - 2 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated

Call 964-8505 to register,
walk-ins welcome

**SOCIAL MEDIA SATURDAYS***

Join us for this special five-week workshop opportunity presented by Phil Gerbyshak, a friend of the Center

Learn how social media can help your nonprofit or business. Use Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, blogs and more to get noticed, be remembered, attract customers and demonstrate your expertise. Join acclaimed social media expert, author, coach, blogger and VP of Information Technology Phil Gerbyshak as he demystifies the new web tools small and large firms everywhere are using. Each week will be in a hands-on workshop format. To learn more about these courses, head to <http://philgerbyshak.com/courses>.

Saturdays, June 27, July 11, 25, August 8 & 22

9 - 11 a.m.

For adults

\$249 (Nonmembers - \$299)

Call 964-8505 to register

**URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER WILL BE
CLOSED ON JULY 4.**

**AUGUST 29 - 31 OUR WASHINGTON PARK
BRANCH WILL BE CLOSED AND OUR RIVERSIDE
PARK LOCATION WILL CLOSE AT 4 P.M.**

URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER TOURS**RIVERSIDE GARDENS
TOURS***

Come join the Center's stewardship and native gardening experts to enjoy and learn about the gardens within Riverside Park. Learn how native plants are more hardy, require less water and provide habitat for our native birds, insects and mammals. Tour our rain gardens, sensory green roof garden, butterfly garden and more! Please dress for the weather.

Fridays, July 3, 17, August 7
& 21

9 a.m.

For adults &

accompanied children

Free - donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505

**BRANCH LOOP TOURS**

Tour the Urban Ecology Center's Washington Park branch and future Menomonee Valley site.

Wednesday,

July 1 & August 5

9 a.m. -

noon

For adults

Free - donations

appreciated

Meet at Riverside Park

location

**KEN'S BUILDING TOURS***

Explore our green facility with Executive Director, Ken Leinbach (staff substitution on occasion).

Wednesdays,

July 15 & August 19

9 - 10 a.m.

For adults &

accompanied

children

Free - donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505

**CHAT WITH KEN***

Join our Executive Director, Ken Leinbach for coffee, tea and good conversation about anything environmental. Possible outdoor walk in the park. Call ahead to confirm.

Wednesdays,
July 8, 22,
August 12 & 26
9 - 10 a.m.

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

**TOUR OF WASHINGTON
PARK BRANCH***

Join Washington Park Program Director Joey Zocher on a tour of our branch and Washington Park. Dress for the weather. Call ahead to confirm.

Wednesdays

5 - 6 p.m.

For adults &

accompanied

children

Free - donations welcome

Call to register, 964-8505

**BETH'S BUILDING TOUR***

Explore our green facility with Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning, Beth Fetterley, and learn about the Center's innovative building design and programming (tour leader substitution on occasion).

Thursdays

5:30 - 6:45 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations welcome

Call to register, 964-8505



INTEREST GROUPS

SUMMER RUNNING

Running is a great way to get outside, explore the community, stay in shape and to meet other people. Join us for leisurely runs along the river, the Oak Leaf Trail or beyond. It's a great way to end the weekend!

Sundays, July 5
& 19

4 - 5 p.m.

For teens and adults

Free-donations appreciated



STAND TOGETHER MILWAUKEE*

Collaborate with other organizations and individuals to stand together to confront gun violence in Milwaukee and restore a sense of healthy community through collaborative action.

Wednesdays, July 8
& August 12

8:45 - 10:30 a.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated



FRIENDS OF REAL FOOD*

Share a potluck dinner and join the enthusiastic, informative discussion.

July: Victory Gardens in Milwaukee. Victory Gardens contributed to our country's success through depression and war. Today's are fighting for a different cause. Come find out why Victory Gardening is so important and how you can get involved.

August: Learn about bees! Larry Adams from Walnut Way is coming to talk to us about bees and apiculture in the city. This evening is sure to be a wonderful treat!

Wednesdays, July 8 &
August 12

6 - 8:30 p.m.

For everyone

Free-donations appreciated

Call 964-8505 to register



UEC PHOTO CLUB*

Explore nature in an artistic light and develop new skills.

Thursdays, July 9 (moved due to holiday) & August 6
6:30 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations

appreciated



URBAN ECHO POETS*

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.

Thursday, July 9 (no August program)

7 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated



URBAN STARGAZERS*

Join us for fun, information and stargazing.

Thursday, July 9 (no August program)

7 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated



VEGETARIAN POTLUCK*

Bring a plate and fork along with your meatless dish to share at our picnic style meal every 3rd Thursday of the month.

Thursdays, July 16 &
August 20

6:30 - 8 p.m.

For adults and

accompanied children

Free - donations appreciated



PATHS TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE*

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

July: Sweet Water Organics/Urban Aquaculture Center.

Sweet Water Organics/Urban Aquaculture Center is poised to be the city's first large scale commercial and educational sustainable aquaculture center. Partner James Godsil will describe the history, process and progress of the project. Tour TBD.

August: Transition Milwaukee.

The Transition Initiative is a framework for local communities to address the challenges and opportunities of climate change, peak oil and economic instability through building local resilience. Members of Transition Milwaukee will give an overview of the model, share successful local case studies and discuss ways in which to get involved.

Tuesdays, July 21 &
August 18

6:30 - 8 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations

appreciated

(Nonmembers - \$5)

Childcare available: \$4

(Nonmembers - \$6)

Call 964-8505 to register



KNITTING CIRCLE*

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

Sundays, July 26 &
August 16

3 - 5 p.m.

For everyone

Free-donations appreciated



SAVOR THE TASTE OF SUMMER: TOMATO FEST*

Learn how to jar tomato sauce, tomato paste and whole tomatoes for storage. Materials, handouts, instructions and recipes are included in this hands-on class

Thursday, August 20
6 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

\$25/preregistration

or \$35 at the door

(Nonmembers - \$30/

preregistration or \$40

at the door)

Call 964-8505 to register



EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE FAIR*

Eat Local Challenge arrives the 2nd week in September! The Center, Outpost and Slow Foods will help you get geared up for this Challenge at this fun and informative event. Chef and Restaurant Supported Agriculture founder Dave Swanson describes eating locally and shares resources to buy and eat local food, watch cooking demos, exchange recipes and much more!

Sunday, August 23
1 - 3 p.m.

For everyone

Free-donations

appreciated

Call 964-8505 to register



EARLY MORNING BIRDWALKS

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.

Thursdays

8 a.m.

For adults and

accompanied children

Free - donations appreciated



ART AT UEC

REFLECTIONS - WET AND WILD*

Sunday, July 19

2 - 4 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated

Call 964-8505 to register

Show runs through late September

Sue Haislmaier's watercolors are inspired by looking closely at native plants, natural settings and how light plays on an object, giving you an intimate encounter with objects seen many times but not experienced fully. Jan Montgomery's photographs focus on the aesthetic aspect of water around the world. While we enjoy clean, safe water, over one in six people in the world don't have that same right. She hopes you will reflect on the care we must exercise if this gift of clean water is to endure. Artists will speak at 3 p.m.. Refreshments provided.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

by Susan Winans, Volunteer Coordinator

Are you looking for a way to meet new people while learning or sharing new skills? Check this list for ways you or your group can get connected at the Center. For more information call, Susan (Riverside Park) at 964-8505, x110 or Scott (Washington Park) at 344-5460.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

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

Riverside Park
Sundays, July 5 &
August 16
12:30 - 2 p.m.
Thursdays, July 23 & August 27
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Washington Park
Saturdays, July 11,
25, August 8 & 22
10 - 10:30 a.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated

BIKE RAMP CONSTRUCTION

The Urban Ecology Center is partnering with the Milwaukee School of Engineering to build a bike ramp to be used by our school and camp groups. The date to begin construction on this ramp is Saturday, July 11th. If you have carpentry, construction or landscaping experience or if you just want to lend a hand and a strong back moving equipment and dirt, please contact Chris at x150 to see how you might be able to help on July 11 or any additional scheduled dates.

COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR

Share the excitement of the Urban Ecology Center in the community! The UEC is invited to have an informational table at various events throughout the year, and especially during the summer months. If you enjoy talking with the public and are interested in representing the Center in the Milwaukee area, please contact Nikiya at x104. We will provide you with the information and training that you need!

SUMMER CAMP VOLUNTEERS

Be a part of the summer camp

excitement! Volunteers help with registration on Monday mornings beginning June 29th from 8:30 - 10 a.m., share unique skills and talents with groups of campers during the week or assist with scheduled activities such as canoeing and fishing. For more information or to volunteer, contact Sarah at x125.

PLANT MONITORING

Come to Washington Park and learn about native and invasive plants in the park. This monitoring program will help us keep track of the progress we are making with our land steward efforts.

Washington Park
Thursdays, July 2, 16, 30, August 6 & 20
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated

BURDOCK BRIGADE

Have a direct impact on our natural world by helping increase the biodiversity within our parks. The Burdock Brigade engages in hands on restoration activities: removing exotic invasive plant species and planting native species in order to help increase the habitat of many of our native animals

Riverside Park
Saturdays, July 18, August 1 & 15
9 - 10:30 a.m.
Tuesdays
9 - 11 a.m.

Washington Park
Saturdays, (excluding August 29)
12:30 - 2 p.m.
Thursdays
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated

VOLUNTEER TEACHER ORIENTATION

Canoe, study birds, bike the Oak Leaf Trail and catch bugs with students this school year! Find out how our volunteer teachers do this and more

on field trips with neighborhood school groups. Volunteer teachers must be available on weekdays.

Riverside Park
Tuesday, August 25
9 a.m. - noon
For adults
Call to register, 964-8505

CLEAN UP YOUR PARK

Do you enjoy clean parks? We do too, but they don't clean up after themselves. Help us beautify our park and feel good doing it. Good exercise and having fun outdoors included.

Washington Park
Fridays
4:30 - 6 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated

WOW!

Do you enjoy gardening, landscaping, native plants or just being outside? Then come to WOW, **Work Outside Wednesdays**. Get to know perennials, grasses, shrubs and trees indigenous to southeast Wisconsin while helping us to maintain and establish native plantings and care for our small native plant nursery.

Washington Park
Wednesdays
9 a.m. - noon and
1 - 5 p.m.
For everyone

PARK RANGERS

Our Park Rangers are ambassadors of ecology. The dedication of these volunteers is made visible in the cleanliness, safety and accessibility of our parks. This is a job for those who love the outdoors and the occasion to chat with and even educate visitors to the park.

Riverside Park
Saturdays,
July 11, 25, August 8, 22 & 29
9 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Washington Park
Saturdays (excluding August 29)
9 a.m. - noon
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated

2009 TEEN ADVENTURE CHALLENGE A SUCCESS!

How was this year's Teen Adventure Challenge? Read the testimonials below and find out!

WOW! What a great adventure. We all went home on our bus Sat. completely exhausted and glowing with a sense of accomplishment. The kids and the adults all had a great time. Everything seemed well planned and organized. Today at school you can still hear the kids buzzing about their race.... telling stories from the rock wall and canoeing. What a blast! Thank you and all the volunteers for all your hard work. You guys make great things happen over there. We will certainly be back. - Mrs. Kelly Aubin Belot, Art Educator, Hamilton School District

I wanted to thank you for the work you did getting the boys at AMAD's involved in the Youth Adventure Challenge. It was great to see the boys in an atmosphere like that and even though they complained a little I know they enjoyed themselves. Even more importantly, I think they learned something about their ability to do things they didn't even know they could do. Most of the boys we see at our facility would never dream of getting in a canoe and see no reason to ever try things like that. I really really appreciate you working with me to get them there and I just wanted to let you know that it is sure to have a lasting effect on them. - Thanks again, Lanore Hahn AMAD's Place - Educational Liasion My Home Your Home Inc.



Above: First place team - United Community Center photo credit: Russell Richard. Below: Canoeing leg of race. photo credit: Barbara Miner

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2009 TEEN ADVENTURE CHALLENGE SPONSORS!

TITLE SPONSOR



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Margarete and David Harvey



The Bolger Family



BASE CAMP SPONSORS



THANK YOU FROM THE CENTER

The Urban Ecology Center receives a majority of its support from local foundations, corporations and individuals. This section of our newsletter is reserved 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 previous 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 2,600 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.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER SOLSTICE SOIREE AND AUCTION SPONSORS

This issue is going to press just before our annual Summer Solstice Soiree and Auction on June 20th. The Soiree is an evening of fun with a purpose, raising support that will enable us to fulfil our mission to connect our community to nature. Below is a sneak peak of the generous Soiree sponsors. Check back here next issue for the complete list of all the supporters that helped us celebrate this year!

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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 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 _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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

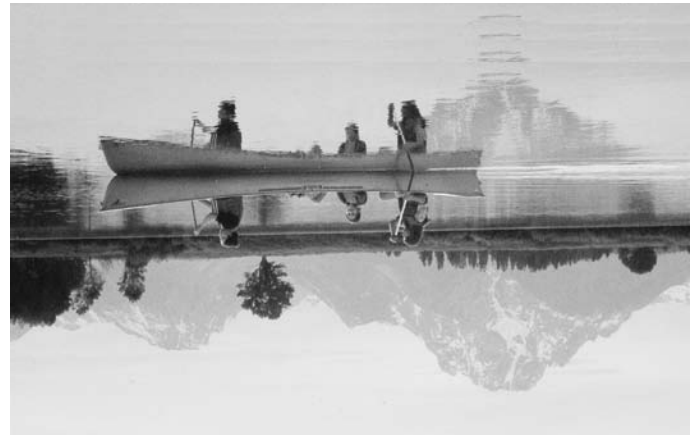
Card Number _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

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Signature _____ Date _____

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



**HIGH SCHOOL OUTDOOR LEADER
TALES FROM THE TETONS**
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 6 - 9 PM.

Riverside Park
1500 E. Park Place
Milwaukee, WI 53211



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