



APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS ... BUT WHAT DO MAY FLOWERS BRING?

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director and Mike Larson, Executive Assistant

Why Pilgrims, of course! (Remember this from second grade? Still makes me chuckle!)

Unfortunately, if big enough, April showers also may bring us something far less pleasant — sewerage overflows into our beautiful Lake Michigan. Ironically, this same body of water we so frequently contaminate is also where most of our drinking water comes from. We'd like to empower you in this article to help alleviate this problem with what we are calling "The 100 Gallon Challenge"...but first we must understand the problem.

Take a single drop of water. Out in Lake Michigan our drop of water bravely begins its cyclical journey when it is sucked into an intake pipe about a mile off the coast of Milwaukee. It then goes through an energy exhaustive cleaning and distribution

process where it is treated with ozone, coagulated, mixed, settled, filtered, chlorinated, fluorinated, stored and then mixed with phosphorous and ammonia. Next it flows to one of three pumping stations scattered around Milwaukee and then finally travels over four miles to my home. Then what do I do with this precious commodity? I may drink or wash with it, but odds are higher that I'll use it to flush my toilet. Almost 30% of this "valuable" resource goes right into the back of my toilet waiting for my next flush. Yes, it is important that our drinking water be purified before we use it, but to use this highly processed water in our toilets or even to water our lawns and gardens seems pretty wasteful — but that is how our system work (unless you model the Center — one of the few building in the state that uses rain water to flush and clean).

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THE MAGIC OF SUMMER CAMP AT WASHINGTON PARK

by Joey Zocher, Washington Park Program Director

I am excited! The days are getting longer, the plants are getting greener and the birds are getting louder. Even though I've lived in Wisconsin my whole life, I still feel like there is something magical about the greener half of the year. It makes sense that we celebrate Earth Day during the time that the earth "wakes up". (Be sure to join us for our Earth Day Festival at Washington Park on April 24th from noon to 4 p.m.)



Although I love the changes that spring brings I really love the magic of summer. I'm excited to witness the magic of learning again at this year's summer camps! On the surface the Center's summer camps seem similar. They all get urban kids outdoors in nature. They all are led by seasoned environmental educators. They all consist of small groups with high camper to staff ratios. So what's so unique

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VOLUNTEER CORNER AND OPPORTUNITIES

by Susan Winans, Volunteer Coordinator

"I AM DONG-UK"

The first time that I met Dong-uk Kim, a student in UWM's English as a Second Language (ESL) program, these were the only words he said that I could comprehend. He was attending one of our volunteer orientations and I honestly wasn't sure, given the language barrier, how best to have him volunteer.



A horticulture student in his native South Korea, Dong-uk started volunteering with the Burdock Brigade. His winning smile and willingness to work hard required no translation.

Shortly thereafter, I received a call from Dong-uk's professor at UWM, Val Chamberlain. "Would you have opportunities for more international students to volunteer and practice their English?" she asked. I was inspired by Val's enthusiasm and determination to connect her students

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

Contributing writers: John Clancy, Beth Fetterley, Mike Larson, Ken Leinbach, Emily Michi, Susan Winans, Suzanne Zipperer and Joey Zoicher.

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To make a contribution, please see page 14 for the easy to use form, visit our website at www.urbanecologycenter.org or call Nikiya Harris at x104.

The **Urban Ecology Center** fosters ecological understanding as inspiration for 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, volunteerism, stewardship, recreation, and camaraderie.
- Practice and model environmentally responsible behaviors

Urban Ecology Center

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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, 4145 W. Lisbon Ave.
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jzoicher@urbanecologycenter.org

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

www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org

DROPLETS

- ◆ Thanks for three fun and creative events! Dennis Grzezinski, former Board President and our longest serving board member, celebrated a significant birthday (let's just say that it had a "0" in it) with a wonderful party at the Center. Dennis encouraged his guests to make donations to the Center as their birthday gift to him. Thank you, Dennis, for choosing the Center as the place to celebrate, for all the gifts you have given to us over the years and for the many ways you have introduced and engaged your friends and family in the Center's mission. We couldn't do it without you.
- ◆ Special thanks to **Tim and Carol Cochran** for hosting a creative "friend raising" event at the Center! When Development Committee member Tim Cochran learned that he was being transferred to Bogota, Columbia, his family concocted a plan. Instead of just writing a generous donation check, they held a party at the Center as a way to introduce their circle of friends to our program. They bought all who attended a membership to the Center! That translated to 50 new family memberships ... Wow! What an incredibly brilliant and fun way to support the Center. Thank you Tim and Carol for this wonderful going-away gift to the Urban Ecology Center. We wish you the best of everything in your new home.
- ◆ On Saturday, February 6th (just two days before our newsletter deadline!) **John and Christi Clancy** and **Marc and Deb Andraca** hosted the 6th Annual Summer Camp Family Fund Raising Party. Watch the next issue of the newsletter for pictures and the full story. Our deep appreciation goes to Christi and Deb for making this year's party a fun and successful night!

WISH LIST

Thank you to the many people who have given wish list items. Your contributions have helped us serve our programs, parks and community.

Below is a partial list of items we need. You can find our full list at www.urbanecologycenter.org/donations/donations.html

For Riverside Park

Contact: Judy Krause, 964-8505, x102.

- 3 umbrella stands
- Bird feeders
- Burlap/ potato/coffee sacks
- Chain saw
- Corded circular saw
- Dandelion diggers & trowels
- Field & lannon stone
- Heavy duty floor jack at least 5 ton hydraulic
- Leaf rakes
- Microwave oven
- Potting soil & quality topsoil
- Root jack/ weed wrench
- Seasoned firewood
- Small all occasion gift bags
- Video camera
- Waterproof pants for kids
- Weed-wackers and scythes
- Wire garden fencing
- Woodworking tools, hand or powered

For Washington Park

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

- Arts and crafts materials
- Beginner 35mm cameras
- Bench vise
- Bicycles, helmets & locks
- Bookshelves
- Canoes/kayaks
- Convex security mirror
- Cordless drill
- Gardening tools
- Globes (Model Earths)
- GPS device
- Ice cream buckets and lids
- Moveable shelves
- Musical instruments - acoustic
- Non-cloth stackable chairs
- Pants for children ages 3-7
- Plastic storage bins with lids
- Power strips
- Small portable soccer goals
- Stopwatches
- Trash grabbers
- Vegetable seeds
- Video camera

RELUCTANT TEENS

by Emily Michi, Environmental Educator

Reluctant (rĭ-lŭk'tənt) adj. feeling or showing hesitation or unwillingness

I cannot even count how many times I have heard “I am too old to go sledding” or “uh-uh I am not going canoeing” before one of our high school classes begins. Recently one of our students claimed, “It’s against the law to make us do something we do not want to do!” Without a doubt most of the high school students who visit are feeling some hesitation as we head from their school to Washington Park.

If I were going to be completely honest with you, I am just as reluctant as they are. I wonder if I am really going to be able to teach them about ethnobotany or how to maneuver a canoe around the pond. Maybe it is because most of

them are taller than I am and not as easily amazed as younger students are.

The students and I are both reluctant for the same reason — lack of experience. The heart of the Center’s programming is to get urban kids into the woods. Many of these students have never canoed or gone sledding before. Some went sledding in grade school but are reluctant to try it again. As for me, I have worked with many different ages of students, but few in high school. It is really a fear of the unknown that insills reluctance. As the class begins we all are unsure what exactly is going to be happening for the next two hours.

What I have learned in the past two years is that reluctance can quickly turn to enthusiasm as we work together on

the day’s activities. We almost always have fun. They laugh as they sled down the hill with big grins on their faces. I may have to calm a couple of students down enough to get them into the canoes, but in the end they do it and most times they even like it. Working with high school students has become one of my favorite parts of my job. It is not everyday you get to watch someone take a risk and try something new. These are really special moments.

In the end, the student who claimed that “forcing” her to go sledding was against the law was the first one to grab a sled and head down the hill. As she ran back up the hill smiling and half covered in snow, I could tell that deep down she really did want to go sledding. 🍁

ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS EATING

by Suzanne Zipperer, Community Volunteer

Each day a global network of food distributors brings us cinnamon grown in China, raspberries in winter from Chile and coconut milk processed in Mexico. We’ve grown accustomed to variety that would astound our Wisconsin ancestors who relished dandelions as fresh greens after a long winter of root vegetables and smoked meat.

But food, as other imported goods, creates a carbon footprint as it moves from processor to packager, farm to table. The further the source, the larger the footprint. Or is it?



A frequently cited statistic is that food travels 1,500 miles on average from farm to consumer. That figure comes from the Leopold Center for Sustainable

Agriculture at Iowa State University. In 2001, the transport of 28 fruits and vegetables to Iowa’s markets via local, regional, and conventional food distribution systems was analyzed. The results showed that produce in the conventional

systems traveled on average 1,546 miles in contrast to locally sourced foods that averaged 44.6 miles.

Calculating post production travel costs alone would lead us to easily determine that buying locally is environmentally the most responsible thing to do. Unfortunately, it’s not that simple.

The environmental impact of food production must consider pre-production resources used and greenhouse gas emissions as well as post-production. The transportation of feed, fertilizer and other farm inputs adds to the environmental impact. Then there is the manufacturing of these products. And don’t forget the methane gas released by those dairy and beef cows and their manure. It all adds up.

What’s an environmentally conscious eater to do? Simple, know your farmer and know your food.

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MAGIC OF SUMMER

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about Washington Park camps? Let me tell you about the magic...

I remember the magic last season. The laughter was floating in the air and so were cattail seeds that were stirred up by campers exploring the lagoon in hip waders. I remember the kids being so excited to water the gardens that some may have helped plant. Fishing in the lagoon, hiking around the island, searching for frogs, free and safe from the possible hazards of the city. Many of us remember having times like these growing up but recognize they are not even an option for many of our kids today. When our kids are bombarded with stimuli at all times, it is important to give them the opportunity to quietly notice nature in their own neighborhood.

I remember the magic last season. The laughter was floating in the air, following the conversations of new



friends. I remember Angie and Trina. These sixth grade girls connected

because they both really liked trees. Oh, and boys. They talked nonstop for the rest of the week about trees, ugly frogs and cute boys. They lived only a few blocks apart but had never met. I remember they were so excited to tell each other stories of situations that were similar and different in their lives. Washington Park summer camps not only teach about biodiversity, but teach our children to value the diversity of each other.

I remember more magic, but instead of telling you about it, I encourage you to send your own kids so they can tell you their stories. I could go on and on about the benefits summer camp provides for our kids, but the best way to feel the excitement is to stop in and visit us. If that isn't possible, feel free to call me for more details at 344-5460. 🍁

FROM THE BOARD

by John Clancy, President, UEC Board of Directors

With two Earth Day celebrations and an explosion of new life in our parks – this is a really busy time of year at the Urban Ecology Center. It is also an exciting time for our Board of Directors as we welcome four new members. I am pleased at this time to introduce Derek Deubel, Tim Bowers, Pete Campbell and Mary Witte.

Although Derek and his family live in Hartland, he joined the Center because of his strong connection to our mission. His interests include bicycling, golf, activities with his family and volunteering his time to Friends of Beaver Lake (a non-profit organization charged with protecting and maintaining the water quality of Beaver Lake). Derek is Vice President/ Partner of TechniBlend, Inc.

Tim's interest in the Center began as a curious neighbor. His commitment grew and he and his wife became key sponsors of our 2nd Annual Summer Solstice Soirée and Auction. A successful entrepreneur, Tim is President and Managing Partner of Global Health Engines, LLC, a Wisconsin company he founded in November, 2009. He and his wife are actively involved at Immanuel Presbyterian Church and the medical home project of the Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin.

We are very excited to have Pete join the Board after providing invaluable assistance on the Center's Finance Committee this past year. Among the many things Pete is involved in, he especially enjoys

marathons, skiing, rugby and golfing. He is an Assurance Manager with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Mary Gute Witte's background led her to graduate school in 2006 to pursue a Masters in Urban Studies. Her grandfather, a civic leader in the 50s, 60s and 70s, gave back to his city; she went to graduate school so that she could become better at giving back. Mary successfully completed her graduate work in December 2009 with a study focused on the affects of deemed successful Brownfield redevelopments in the 53212 zip code – Harambee/ Brewer's Hill neighborhood.

I look forward to working with these talented people this year. 🍁

RELIEF IN HAITI: WASTE EQUALS FOOD

by Beth Fetterley, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

As images and sounds of the disaster in Haiti travel the information highways to our homes, it is hard not to count our blessings and think about how much we take for granted. Not long after the earthquake, I heard from Rose Daitsman, a long-time community leader and volunteer at the Urban Ecology Center. She wrote to me to share a story about her remarkable friend who has been taking action to improve conditions for the people of Haiti. Her work of several years is even more relevant and critical now. Here is Gigi's story.

Four years ago, Gigi Pomerantz, a

Milwaukee nurse practitioner, got a call from a friend asking her to bring her nursing talents to a project in Haiti. A church, located just outside of Chicago, formed a mission team that travelled to



Volunteers from Organization of Progressive Youth for Development of Haiti (OPYDH) who built this public bathroom outfitted with dry compost toilets. OPYDH has been involved with many sanitation and community gardening initiatives

Haiti to assess the critical needs of Haitian people who were struggling with poverty, lack of sanitation and disease. Through interviews with key community members, improved sanitation rose to the surface as the most critical need. Gigi brought her deep understanding of the connection between the health of our environment and the health of people to address this problem. She found inspiration and ideas in the Hesperian Foundation's book

Sanitation and Cleanliness for a Healthy Environment. Pomerantz determined that a composting toilet installation project would begin to address this critical sanitation problem.

Regular hand washing and the installation of one of two types of composting toilets, arbor loos and dry composting toilets, best fit the community environmental and health needs. Teams of young people ranging from 15 to 30 years old rallied to install these clever devices as solutions to diseases and parasites like dysentery and round worms that affect people in areas with poor sanitation. Arbor loos are shallow pit toilets, no deeper than one meter covered with a slab top. About a cup of ash or soil (mostly ash in Haiti) is spread on top after each use to keep smell and flies low and to encourage the composting process. After a few months, the pit will be full and a tree, maybe even a fruit tree, can be planted. Resulting compost is a nutrient rich home to the new tree. The family then can move the slab top to a new pit and start over. Since Pomerantz's first visit in 2006,

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The Urban Ecology Center is excited to announce its 3rd Annual Summer Solstice Soiree and Auction scheduled for June 19th, 2010.

Plan to join us for a special evening of food, music and fun. This event will raise funds to support the Center's mission. Please watch our website or call for more information.

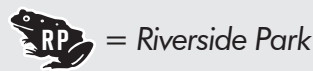
MARCH & APRIL CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS

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.

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



SPECIAL EVENTS

MAKING IT HOME FILM FESTIVAL*

Friday, April 16 -
Sunday, April 18



Co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Humanities Council and Milwaukee Film

Kick off event! BILL MCKIBBEN

Meet Bill McKibben, environmental author and activist, at this special kick off event and reception. Bill's 1989 book, *The End of Nature* was the first book to warn the general public about the threat of global warming. His most recent book, *Eaarth*, examines the need for a real re-thinking of how we're going to live on this planet.

Friday, April 16, 7 p.m.

For everyone
Free-donations appreciated



Registration begins March 15 and is required for this limited seating event. Call 964-8505

FILM FESTIVAL

The Making it Home film festival is about finding and celebrating the connections we have with the places we love.

April 17:

Ghost Bird - 10 a.m.

Bird Walk - 11:15 a.m.

Know Your Mushrooms - 3 p.m.

Mushroom Foray - 4:15 p.m.

The Making of Green Fire and Milking the Rhino - 6 p.m., reception to follow

April 18:

What's On Your Plate? - 1 p.m.

Family cooking class - 2:15 p.m.

Men of the Lake and Upstream Battle - 5 p.m.

Free-donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505

8TH ANNUAL LOCAL FOOD AND FARMER OPEN HOUSE*

Explore how you can eat more healthful, local and sustainably-produced food! Meet local farmers and learn about Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), how you can subscribe to a farm and how you can buy sustainably-produced meat, cheese, eggs and more, directly from the farmers. There will also be activities for children and door prizes!

Saturday, March 13
Noon - 4 p.m.

For everyone
Free-donations appreciated



PROTECTING CHILDHOOD: THE GIFT OF PLAY FILM & DISCUSSION*

Co-sponsored by Tamarack Waldorf School and Lifeways Childcare

View *Where Do the Children Play?* a documentary that examines today's trends that remove children from the opportunity for creative play, especially in nature. Learn about the importance of open-ended play for children's development. Followed by a talk by Mary O'Connell, Director of Lifeways Childcare. A concurrent nature program will be offered for children ages 5-7.

Saturday, March 27
10 a.m. - noon

For adults & accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
Space is limited so call now to register, 964-8505



PEGGY SEEGER SONGWRITING WORKSHOP*

As part of her farewell tour, Peggy Seeger is offering a songwriting workshop for songwriters or anyone interested in learning how songs are crafted. This is a workshop not to be missed!

Saturday, March 27
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

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



PEGGY SEEGER IN CONCERT WITH SPECIAL GUEST LARRY PENN* Benefit Concert for the Center

Peggy will be moving back to the UK later this spring so this may be your last chance to see her live!

Saturday, March 27
8 p.m.

(doors open 7:15)
Miramar Theatre,
2844 N Oakland Ave.

\$15 - special discount for Center members!
(Nonmembers - contact the box office at info@themiramartheatre.com)



23RD ANNUAL EARTH POETS AND MUSICIANS

Special guest (and recent Milwaukee poet laureate) Susan Firer joins James Tony Finlayson, Louisa Gallas, Holly Haebig, Jeff Poniewaz, Suzanne Rosenblatt and Harvey Taylor.

7 p.m.: Interactive music and poetry for the whole family. Feel free to bring along your own poem or song for Mother Earth!

8 p.m.: Earth Poets and Musicians

Friday, April 23

7 p.m.

For everyone

Free - donations appreciated



EARTH DAY FESTIVALS!*

Saturday, April 24
Noon - 4 p.m.

For everyone

Riverside Park



- Music by 18 Strings
- Live animals (llamas and more!)
- Korean dance performance
- Rock Climbing
- Water Wonders with Professor Oops
- Southeast Wisconsin native plant seed sale by Prairie Future Seed Company
- Nature Hikes using GPS
- Zoe Weil, author of *Most Good, Least Harm*

Washington Park



- Lagoon restoration and park improvement projects
- Trash roundup
- Music, crafts and more!

Also on the 24th

EARTH DAY FOR AFTERNOON NAPPERS*

Hike, craft, stories, fun!

Saturday, April 24

10:30 a.m. - noon

For kids 5 & under accompanied by an adult
Free-donations appreciated
Registration required by April 23, call 964-8505



RIVER TO LAKE WALK*

Join us on a 4-mile hike from Riverside Park to the lakefront and back.

Saturday, April 24
9:30 a.m.

For everyone
Free





= Riverside Park



= Washington Park

FAMILY PROGRAMS

FAMILY GARDENING

STARTING YOUR VEGGIE GARDEN*

Learn gardening basics for your 2010 growing season! Overview includes how to prepare your garden, when to plant, improving soil fertility and how to engage your family throughout the whole process!

Saturday, March 6
2:30 - 4 p.m.
\$5 (Nonmembers - \$8)
Call to register, 964-8505



HEY KIDS: WHAT'S IN A GARDEN?*

While the adults are learning about starting a garden, kids can get down and dirty exploring soil and plant parts. Wear some clothes you don't mind getting messy.

Saturday, March 6
For kids ages 5 & up
\$4 (Nonmembers - \$7)
Call to register, 964-8505



YOGAKIDS! FITNESS, FUN AND FEELING GREAT!

Increase your child's strength, flexibility and ability to focus and concentrate through this fun and playful class. Kids will learn techniques to relax and feel great. Games, ecology, music and learning about the body and mind are all part of YogaKids classes. Pre-registration appreciated.

Every Tuesday
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
For kids ages 6 -8
\$50 (Nonmembers - \$58)
Scholarships available:
contact Scott at 344-5460.
Call to register, 964-8505



MAPLE SUGARING IN WASHINGTON PARK

Learn how to identify maple trees in Washington Park, then try your hand at tapping some for their delicious sap.

Wednesday, March 3 &
Saturday, March 6
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

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



DISCOVERY HIKES

March: Feathers and Fur.

How do warm blooded animals survive in the cold? Come explore Riverside Park with us as we learn about how animals use feathers and fur to keep themselves warm.

April: Plants Wake Up! After a long winter of doing not much of anything, the plants are starting to "wake up". Come join us as we learn what happens to plants in the spring time.

Saturdays, March 6 & April 10
10 - 11:30 a.m.
For kids ages 4 & older accompanied by an adult
\$4 or \$12 for families of 4 or more (Nonmembers - \$7 or \$21 for families of 4 or more)
Call to register, 964-8505



MAPLE SUGARING IN RIVERSIDE PARK

Participate in the classic winter activity of collecting maple sap. On the 7th we will tap trees and on the 21st we will boil our collected sap into delicious syrup.

Sundays, March 7 & 21
2 - 3:30 p.m.
For everyone
Adults: \$5
(Nonmembers - \$8)
Children: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$6)
Maximum of \$15 per family
Call to register, 964-8505



PANCAKE BREAKFAST*

Come join us for a pancake breakfast to celebrate the coming of spring. Pancakes will be served with 100% maple syrup made from trees in Riverside Park. Sausage, coffee and juice will also be provided.

Sunday, March 7
10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$5
(Nonmembers - \$8)
Children \$3
(Nonmembers - \$6)
Call to register, 964-8505



PROJECT BUD BURST

Be a citizen scientist and help track changes in plant budding, leafing-out and blooming times in Washington Park through the national Project Budburst. By monitoring the phenology of native plants in the park, you can help scientists track changes in earth's climate.

Thursdays,
March 18 &
April 15
4 - 6 p.m.

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



BIRD HOUSE/FEEDER BUILDING WORKSHOP*

Need a bird house for your back yard? Could you use another bird feeder? We will have the designs and wood to make your own avian creation, so come over and build yourself some fun!

Tuesday, April 6
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

For everyone
Adults: \$5
(Nonmembers - \$8)
Children: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$6)



EB GARNER'S FISHING DAY*

Come hang out with EB Garner's fishing club and try your luck landing a big one! All the "how to's" are provided from knot tying to casting techniques. Fun for the whole family!!!

Saturday, April 10
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505



FAMILY MENTORSHIP IN THE OUTDOORS*

Bring your family to this double program for both adults and kids. The adults will learn about ways to help foster the connection between children and the outdoors. We'll discuss techniques and activities while your children learn about the animals in the Native Wisconsin Animal Room. Next we'll all go out and explore Riverside Park and put some of these activities in action. Please dress for the weather.

Sunday, April 11
1 - 3 p.m.

For adults & children
Adults: \$7
(Nonmembers - \$9)
Children: \$5
(Nonmembers - \$7)
Call to register, 964-8505



WATER SAFETY COURSE FOR CANOE LENDING PROGRAM*

Interested in borrowing our canoes? Come take a short water safety course to make sure that you are ready to get out on the water. This is a requirement of the canoe/kayak lending program.

Saturday, April 17
Noon - 12:30 p.m.

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



YOUNG SCIENTISTS CLUB*

Itching to get outside as we thaw out? Then come join our educators with fun science, research and stewardship projects in the parks!!

Every Tuesday
4:30 - 7 p.m.
Every Saturday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Every Monday
4 - 6 p.m.



For everyone
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5 annual membership)

FAMILY PROGRAMS CONTINUED

NATURE BASED ARTS AND CRAFTS*

Does the natural world make the right side of your brain hum? Then join the Young Scientists Club members at Washington Park and dive into some cool projects including screenprinting, papermaking, nature sketching and "crazy with clay". Bring that shirt you'll "never wear" 'cause it might get messy.

Every Tuesday
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call to register, 964-8505



SCIENCE AND MATH TUTORING*

Getting stuck on your science and math homework? Then stop by the UEC at Washington Park and get over the hump with help from our knowledgeable staff and volunteers.

Every Tuesday & Thursday
4 - 5 p.m.
For kids in K-12th grades
Free - donations appreciated



INTERGENERATIONAL CITIZEN SCIENCE

There is always something to learn in Washington Park! Join the UEC Young Scientists in collecting and recording data while exploring this diverse urban park.

Every Wednesday
5 - 7 p.m.
For everyone
Free-donations appreciated



ART AT UEC

POINT OF VIEW - JOHN FATICA ARTISTIC INTERPRETATIONS OF SPRING - STEVEN YEO*

John explores the landscape from varying perspectives - from close up and intimate to the distant and silent - and the way these points of view influence his experiences of land and water. Utilizing digital photographs of biotic material from regional Wisconsin and urban parklands, Steve's exhibition presents artistic visions of natural process and forms that ask, "Why not?"

Show runs
January-March



SCIENCE SATURDAYS*

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

March: Water
April: Edible Plants

Every Saturday
Drop-in program,
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
For adults & accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated



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.

Every Saturday
1 - 2 p.m.
For everyone
Free - donations appreciated



SCIENCE SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

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

March: Fish
April: Showers

Drop-in program
Every Saturday
9:30 - 5 p.m. &
Sunday
12:30 - 5 p.m.
For adults & accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated



TEEN OUTDOOR LEADERS

TEEN PING PONG AND PIZZA PARTY*

Join the Urban Ecology Center Teen Outdoor Leaders for a night of rad activities - making (and then eating!) pizza and playing ping pong!

Friday, March 19
6 - 9 p.m.
For teens
\$7 (Nonmembers - \$10)
Call to register, 964-8505



RIVER CLEAN UP BY CANOE

Take part in Milwaukee Riverkeepers annual Spring River Clean Up. We will use canoes to get to sections of the river and river bank that are hard to clean up from the shore. It is a fun way to serve the community and the river.

Saturday, April 24
9 a.m. - noon
For teens
Free - donations appreciated
Meet at the Milwaukee Rowing Club Boathouse - 1190 N. Commerce
Call to register, 964-8505

TEEN SCAVENGER HUNT

Take part in a totally awesome scavenger hunt throughout Riverside Park and the surrounding area set up by the Urban Ecology Center Teen Outdoor Leaders, with an Earth Day theme and fun twists and surprises!

Sunday, April 25
1 - 3:30 p.m.
For teens
\$5 (Nonmembers - \$7)
Call to register, 964-8505



URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER TOURS

BOOK YOUR OWN URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER TOUR!

Can't make it to one of our free building tours? Got a group of five or more who want to visit our branches? Private garden, green building, branch and park tours are available for individuals or groups. Please contact Mike at mlarson@urbanecologycenter.org or 964-8505, x126 for fees and scheduling.

RIVERSIDE PARK BUILDING TOUR*

Explore Riverside Park's green facility and learn about the Center's innovative building design and programming.

Thursdays, March 4 & April 1
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.
For adults
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.

Thursdays,
March 11 & April 8
4 - 5 p.m.
For everyone
For adults and accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505



CHAT WITH KEN*

Capture an hour of Executive Director Ken Leinbach's time on a walk outside or relaxing in the beautiful Riverside Park building. Call ahead to confirm.

Every Wednesday
9 - 10 a.m.
For adults & accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505



ADULT LEARNING

BRRRRRRDS IN WINTER*

How do they do it? Most birds go south for the winter, but a lot stick it out with the rest of us. In fact, for some birds, this is their winter vacation home. We'll look at behavioral and physiological adaptations that allow birds to go through the deep freezes of winter while maintaining a 104 degree body temperature.

Wednesday,
March 3
7 p.m.



For adults
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)

SEED SWAP*

Swap seeds with gardeners from the Center, Milwaukee Urban Gardens and from the Milwaukee area. Bring any extra seeds collected from last year's growing season and come home with a bounty of new seeds to enhance your 2010 growing season!

Saturday, March 6
1 - 2 p.m.



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

COMMUNICATIONS AS BARRIERS TO BIRD MIGRATION AND OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE THE RISK*

Each year millions of Neotropical migrant birds collide with communication towers during migration in the United States alone. Tower height, tower guy wires and tower lights are all significant variables tied to bird mortality. Dr. Gehring will present her research on bird collisions and discuss ways in which we can reduce the risks.

Speaker: Joelle Gehring,
Senior Conservation Scientist,
Michigan State University.

Tuesday, March 9
7 - 8:30 p.m.



For adults
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call to register, 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, March 15
& April 19
4 - 7 p.m.



Sundays, March 28 & April 25
Noon - 2 p.m.

For adults
Free-donations appreciated

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS*

Bring a lunch and join us in a discussion about what is happening in and around Washington Park.

Tuesday, March 16
& April 20
Noon - 1 p.m.



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

GROW YOUR OWN GROCERIES*

Enjoy the taste of homegrown food? Milwaukee Urban Gardens us for Grow Your Own Groceries is a basic gardening course that teaches you how to design, plant, and care for a productive organic vegetable garden using any space available. Let's grow food for our tables and our health!

To register: visit www.milwaukeeurbangardens.org or call 431-1585

Saturday, March 20
10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



For adults
\$20-\$40 pay what you can

TWILIGHT BIRD HIKE

It's only March, but spring migration will be under way. Thirty-six species have been recorded in Washington Park in March, including Woodcock, Bluebirds, Phoebes, Sapsuckers, Kingfishers, Coots and Grebes. We'll try to add to this list and enter our sightings on e-bird. All skill levels welcome and binoculars are provided.

Wednesday,
March 24
6 p.m.



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

ORNITHOLOGY WORKSHOPS*

The application of molecular genetic techniques has revolutionized our view of avian mating systems (Simon Griffith) Bird mating systems take on extremely varied and bizarre forms. Learn about this and other bird-related topics through a short presentation followed by a dusk walk. All interest levels welcome and binoculars will be provided.

Wednesday,
March 31
4:30 - 6 p.m.



Thursday, April 29
5:30 - 7 p.m.



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

BOOK CLUB*

March: *Bitter Chocolate: The Dark Side of the World's Most Seductive Sweet*. A look at the multi-billion dollar cocoa industry.

Saturday, March 27 (no Book Club in April)
10 - 11 a.m.

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

RAW FOOD WITH CHEF CAROLINE*

Are you ready to spring clean your body? If so, join Raw Food Chef Caroline to learn which fruits & vegetables to eat that will help your body cleanse itself naturally.

Wednesdays,
March 31 &
April 28
7 - 8:30 p.m.



For adults
\$25 (Nonmembers - \$30)
Call to register, 964-8505

PURPLE DELIGHT - AN URBAN FAVORITE*

Purple Martins, our largest swallows, have become singularly dependent on humans putting up houses for their survival. In this talk, Richard Nikolai will discuss purple martin ecology, habitat requirements, management, housing and the historical aspects of the issue.

Speaker: Richard Nikolai,
Wildlife Biologist,
Wisconsin DNR.

Tuesday, April 13
7 - 8:30 p.m.



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

BIRD BANDING*

Few experiences compare with feeling the rapid heartbeat of a bird in your hand while releasing it back to the wild. Join us for coffee, bakery treats and an up-close and personal look at birds during spring migration.

Tuesdays, April 20 - May 25
Early mornings

For adults &
accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
Please call Tim Vargo x116
for information or to register



ADULT LEARNING CONTINUED



THE BATS OF WASHINGTON PARK*

When the sun sets over Washington Park, conditions become ripe for an aerial battle for mastery of the nighttime skies. Insects emerge to feed and so do insect-eating bats. Join us for a night-time hike with our bat detector.

Wednesday,
April 21
7 p.m.

For adults

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



CHAMPION TREE HUNT (AND DISCUSSION)

Join Jeremy Solin, director of the LEAF K-12 forestry education program, on a hunt for the champion tree in Washington Park. Learn how to inventory native tree species along the way and learn how Wisconsin school forests can play a role in sustainable communities.

Wednesday,
April 21
7 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults &
accompanied children

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



DNR FROG & TOAD SURVEY

Come out for a late night of froggin' by ear and help add to the Wisconsin DNR's statewide database of frogs and toads. Dress for the weather and wear footwear that can get muddy. We will cover western and southern Milwaukee County.

Wednesday,
April 28
7:30 - 11:30 p.m.

For adults &
accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call Tim Vargo, x116, for
details or to register.



BEGINNING T'AI CHI

Start the new decade with a new approach to physical fitness and mental/spiritual well being. Often called "meditation in motion", T'ai Chi promotes balance and strength along with a flexible, relaxed and integrated body and mind. This gentle exercise is great for all levels of physical ability. Come experience T'ai Chi to see why it has been practiced by so many for hundreds of years.

Wednesdays in March
4:45 - 6 p.m.

For adults & teens
\$10 per session
(Nonmembers - \$12
per session)
Payments due monthly



WANT TO RECEIVE WEEKLY UPDATES OF UEC EVENTS?

Sign up for the Weekly Guide e-newsletter! Every Wednesday you'll receive an email with updated information about the programs coming up in the next week and timely content highlighting featured events, providing "green" living tips and more! To sign up, simply fill out the form on the home page of www.urbanecologycenter.org.

INTEREST GROUPS

PHOTO CLUB*

Explore nature in an artistic light and develop new skills.

Thursdays, March 4
& April 1
6:30 p.m.

For 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,
March 10 &

April 14

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.

Wednesdays,
March 10 & April 14
6 - 8 p.m.

For everyone

Free-donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505



March: Mindful Eating: What We Eat Matters? Eating mindfully means we consider where our food comes from and make conscious choices based on what matters most to us. Anne Steinberg will help us explore guidelines and joys and benefits of mindful eating.

April: Alice's Garden. Venice Williams, Executive Director, SeedFolks Youth Ministry will teach us about Alice's Garden, a community garden in Milwaukee. During the past three years, successful programs have brought together many children and families for gardening, learning, celebrating and building community.

URBAN ECHO POETS*

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

Thursdays,
March 11 & April 8
7 p.m.

For adults

Free - donations appreciated



URBAN STARGAZERS*

Join us for fun, information and stargazing.

Thursdays,
March 11 & April 8
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.

Thursdays,
March 18 & April 15
6:30 - 8 p.m.

For adults &

accompanied children

Free - donations welcome



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, March 21
& April 25
3 - 5 p.m.

For everyone

Free-donations appreciated



TRANSITION MILWAUKEE*

Transition Milwaukee is part of a international movement to address the challenges of climate change and peak oil proactively by relocalizing. We are working to rebuild local resilience and self-reliance through creating and promoting community projects to grow our own food, generate our own power, develop our own economies and reskill. .

Mondays,
March 22 & April 26
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

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



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.

Every Thursday
8 a.m.

For adults &
accompanied children

Free - donations appreciated



APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS ... BUT WHAT DO MAY FLOWERS BRING?

continued from page 1

Back to our water drop...we just flushed it down the toilet or poured it down the drain, so what happens next? If all goes well, it travels through the sewers to our wastewater treatment plant where it goes through another exhaustive and expensive, yet very effective treatment process before it finally makes its way back to the lake. However, during large storm events the system gets overwhelmed with massive quantities of rain water in our system, either intentionally in areas of the city served by a combined sewer system, or unintentionally through leakage of aging pipes. When this happens we have no choice but to dump untreated water back into the lake (the alternative is sewer backups in our homes). Our Deep Tunnel system, a huge cavern we dug under Milwaukee, has helped to mitigate this

problem by storing excess rainwater for later processing. We used to dump nine billion gallons of untreated sewer water into the lake each year. Now, with the Deep Tunnel, we are down to one billion gallons every year. That's great progress, but in my mind that's one billion gallons too many.

Whether you want to admit it or not, you and I are part of this problem. Sure the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) can add more Deep Tunnels, repair outdated sewer lines and restore wetlands to absorb excess rain water (and they are doing all of this), but what about us? Is there anything we can do to help? The answer is yes...we can and we should!

We would like to propose a simple and elegant way that you can join

us in doing our part to protect Lake Michigan: we call it the 100 Gallon Challenge. Think of it as a 40th anniversary Earth Day pledge. The challenge is for every household which reads this newsletter to reduce the amount of water that goes into the Deep Tunnel during a heavy storm session by 100 gallons. Here's how:

First, purchase a rain barrel and connect it to a downspout on your house. Rain barrels are distributed by the MMSD and can be purchased at the Urban Ecology Center or another location for \$45. A properly utilized rain barrel can save 55 gallons from going into the sewer every time it rains. Second, pay attention to the weather. If rain is in the forecast, be sure your barrel is emptied (you can use the excess water to wash your car or water your garden in between rains). Finally, if it is raining or rain is in the immediate forecast, wait to do the laundry or dishes until after the rain event is over (this website might help: <http://v3.mmsd.com/StormUpdate.aspx>). This simple step can save another 55 gallons of water per household from going into the sewer. Taking short showers instead of baths or flushing the toilet less during a storm can save an additional 25 gallons. We did it, and it was so simple...over 100 gallons saved!

Think about this during the rains of April. If everyone in Milwaukee got into this habit of responsible behavior, we could be well on our way to a healthier lake. If businesses follow suit and the MMSD keeps expanding its water storing infrastructure, we might just lick this problem. Without your help, however, it will never work.

Eco tip: Have you ever considered line drying your clothes? People who harness the power of the sun to dry their clothes naturally wait for a sunny day to wash their clothes. This helps mitigate the water problem without even thinking about it and it saves energy too! 🌿

TAKE THE 100 GALLON CHALLENGE!

Before a storm:

- Add a rain barrel to your house and save 55 gallons of water
- Pay attention to the weather and empty your barrel before it rains
- Consider line drying your clothes to save water and energy

When it's raining:

- Wait to do the laundry or dishes and save another 55 gallons of water
- Take short showers instead of baths
- Flush the toilet less



RELIEF IN HAITI: WASTE EQUALS FOOD

continued from page 5

60 arbor loos have been installed in rural Haitian homes.

Pomerantz also took the initiative to get dry compost public toilets installed at the local market, two schools, an orphanage and at a village center. These toilets separate the liquid urine from the solid feces. The liquid is put to use as a high quality fertilizer. According to Pomerantz, when a mix of three parts water to one part liquid waste are applied to gardens the plants produce up to three times more cabbage, eggplant, pepper, carrots

and black beans than gardens left untreated. People in the community who do not have composting toilets are taught the value of this liquid and are encouraged to collect their urine, in bottles or other containers, to mix with water and use as fertilizer as well.

Managing the solid waste is slightly more complicated, as it contains many vectors of disease. When the solid waste reaches capacity in the composting toilet, it is mixed with soil or ash, capped and composted for a year – long enough to kill off resilient problem

organisms. If we were to do this in the United States, compost duration could be as short as three months. However, in Haiti round worms pose a significant health concern and it takes a year to ensure that they no longer survive in the compost. Many commercial compost systems in the US also have built-in fans and turners. In Haiti the compost is vented naturally and turned by hand. When the composting process is complete the solid waste becomes disease-free, nutrient-rich soil that can be used to improve the infertile and overused soils of Haiti.

Gigi Pomerantz not only installed the eco-friendly and health building solutions to human waste, but launched a nonprofit organization, Youthaiti, to bring more support to Haiti and its people. YOUTHAITI is a Milwaukee-based charitable organization focused on developing ecological sanitation options and sustainable food sources through composting toilets, community gardens, and community education. Gigi has also co-founded a Haitian orphanage.

So how has the recent tragic earthquake changed her volunteer efforts? It has created more urgency. As people flee Port-au-Prince for rural areas, they bring with them the same sanitation issues. Education is critical to prevent spreading disease and protect the surrounding areas from human waste pollutants. To find out more about how you can get involved, please check her website (www.youthaiti.org). The hope is that we, whether as Milwaukeeans or as citizens of the world, take inspiration from volunteers like Gigi Pomerantz to take action close to home or in places that once seemed so distant. Thank you Rose for introducing Gigi and her work to us. 🌿

ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS EATING

continued from page 3

Grazing dairy and beef cows reduces the need to grow, harvest and transport feed, which reduces the fuel cost of production. Grazing near the market reduces the transportation post-production. So locally grown grass-fed beef and dairy may have the least environmental impact. That is, provided the pastures are properly managed and not contaminating through run-off into streams. Know your farmer, know your food.

While it's great to get fresh vegetables in winter, do the fuel consumption and emissions from heating greenhouses so you can grow them in Wisconsin offset the transportation savings? One Swedish study showed it was environmentally better to transport tomatoes from Spain than to grow them in Sweden. Can you get around heating in Wisconsin? Maybe. Hot beds (the use of decomposing compost that

8th Annual Local Food and Farmer Open House

Saturday, March 13
Noon - 4 p.m.

is giving off heat in the process) can reduce fuel consumption. On the other hand, spinach does quite well in a cooler house and collards are extremely hardy. Maybe doing without tomatoes for a few months and eating seasonally is the answer. Know your farmer, know your food.

A conversation with a grower can educate you on the whys and hows of food production. Take advantage of the learning opportunity provided at the Urban Ecology Center's 8th Annual Local Food and Farmer Open House on March 13th. Meet our partners in environmental management and sustainability. 🌿

VOLUNTEER CORNER AND OPPORTUNITIES

continued from page 1

to the Milwaukee community. We arranged for Dong-uk and a dozen of his classmates from China, Colombia, India, Japan, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, to serve food, paint faces and pull the carriage during Riverside Park's 2008 Fall Festival. Val has continued to send her ESL students to volunteer at our special events ever since.

For a year, Dong-uk volunteered with us every time he could. This past summer I received the following email: "I am Dong-uk. Now, I came back to my country. It's very lucky that I took part in volunteer at the Urban Ecology Center. I miss you and other staff there. So, I expect your healthy life. Sincerely, Dong-uk"

Working with the international students like Dong-uk reminds me of the impact that we can have, not just in the Milwaukee community, but globally. What students learn here about caring for the environment they can take back and share in their home countries.

If you would be interested in volunteering alongside an international student for our upcoming Earth Day celebration, or volunteering in another capacity, please contact me, swinans@urbanecologycenter.org or 964-8505, x110.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

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

Riverside Park

Thursday, March 18, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 6 &

April 3, 10:30 a.m. - noon

Tuesday, April 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Washington Park

Every Saturday through April 17
10 - 10:30 a.m.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Contact the staff person listed if you'd like to help out at the following events

Riverside Park

Local Food and Farmer Open House, March 13 - Jamie, x114

Making it Home Film Festival, April 16-18 - Jamie, x114

Riverside Park Earth Day Festival, April 24 - Susan, x110

Washington Park

Washington Park Earth Day Festival, April 24 - Scott, 344-5460

INTERGENERATIONAL HABITAT RESTORATION

Help start native seeds this spring for the planting by area adults and youth this summer of a new prairie near the Washington Park Senior Center.

Washington Park

Thursday, March 4 &
Every Thursday in April
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

For everyone
Call to register, 964-8505,
drop-ins welcome

BIRD BANDING TRAINING

A biologist once said, "A bird in the hand is worth thousands on the Discovery Channel." Learn how you can help us monitor migratory birds at the Urban Ecology Center.

Riverside Park

Thursday, April 15
8 a.m.

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

WEED-OUT

Bring your gardening gloves and work alongside community members and volunteers as we work to improve biodiversity of Riverside Park.

Riverside Park

Saturday, April 24
9 a.m. - noon

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

NEW! COMPOST CREW

Come roll up your sleeves and let's learn together as we chop, shred, layer, turn-over and amend organic matter to create rich healthy soil for the Center's various gardens.

Riverside Park

Every Monday, 4 - 5 p.m.

For everyone

Call to register, 964-8505

PAPERMAKING

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

Riverside Park

Every Wednesday, 4 - 6 p.m.

For adults and accompanied children

Call to register, 964-8505

BURDOCK BRIGADE

The Burdock Brigade engages in hands on restoration activities: removing exotic invasive plant species and propagating and planting native species in order to preserve native plant/animal communities.

Riverside Park

Every Tuesday, 9 - 11 a.m.

1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month
9 - 10:30 a.m.

Washington Park

Every Thursday, 3:30 - 5 p.m.

For everyone

Call to register, 964-8505

PARK RANGERS

Dress for the weather and join other volunteers as we walk through the parks picking up trash and noting any maintenance needs.

Riverside Park

2nd, 4th (& 5th) Saturdays of the month
9 - 10:30 a.m.

Washington Park

Every Saturday through April 17
9 a.m. - noon

For everyone

Call to register, 964-8505

BELAYER TRAINING

Join our team of volunteers and help with climbing programs of all kinds! You'll learn our policies and procedures for belaying climbers and facilitating climbing programs. Space is limited so register early.

Riverside Park

Saturday, May 8, 9 a.m. - noon

For adults

Registration required, call 964-8505

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 who 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 3000 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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Ellinger Foundation
Claire & Robert Pflieger
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GIFTS IN HONOR OF...

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Frank Martinelli
- Dan & Valerie
Stefanich
Gloria Foster
- Jessica Foster
Leslie Grinker
- David & Diane Buck
Dennis Gryzinski
- Simone Conceicao
Mick Hatch
- Susan Lloyd
Susie Kasten
- Janet Eggie
Scott Stromberger
- Eleanor & JC
Stromberger
Sally Tolan
- Fred J. Berman

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF...

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- Alice Jo Star
Ernest & Jeanette Norquist
- Robert & Mary Stetson

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Todd Dunsirn
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Susan Lloyd
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ANNUAL FALL FUND DRIVE

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Natalie & David Beckwith
Chris Beimbom &
John Bleidorn
Edward & Janet Beimbom
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