

A COASTAL BIRD, AN OIL SPILL AND ME

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

“Large beak, mostly white with black wings and maybe black on its head, I couldn’t tell for sure. I’d swear it had orange feet. A REALLY big bird. Any ideas?”

“You’re sure it was not a gull ... right? Geez, the only thing I can think of that might match this description is the black crowned night heron ... but the orange feet don’t fit and the heron is big, but not REALLY big.”

I was visiting some friends in Door County looking out at Green Bay. Literally ten minutes after this questioning I looked up in the sky.

Happy Coastal Awareness Month!

In honor of September being Wisconsin’s Coastal Awareness Month as designated by Governor Doyle, our three lead articles all focus on our coastal waters.

“Holy Cow! There’s your bird! That is so cool!!! Look at the way it glides. The wing span must be a full eight feet! I’d know that bird anywhere; I just don’t think of them in Wisconsin. It’s a white pelican!”

The next morning I convinced my host to join me in our inflatable sea kayak and go way out into Green Bay. My secret objective was to get a better sighting of this amazing flyer. It worked. There it was, gracefully gliding close over our heads. When it touched down on the water we gave chase.

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OF ASPHALT AND RAIN GARDENS: A TEACHER’S SUMMER

by Beth Fetterley, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

How do teachers spend their summer? When they spend it with the Urban Ecology Center, they get to play outdoors, meet professional colleagues and, most importantly, they tap into what drives them the most: learning.

For eleven years, the Urban Ecology Center has teamed up with UW Madison’s Arboretum to offer hands-on, inquiry-based ecological trainings for school teachers. This program, the Earth Partnership for Schools (EPS), was launched with a vision of students and teachers working and learning together to create ecologically rich outdoor learning spaces on school grounds and study them. Implementing this vision has been an exceptional challenge for participating urban schools because school property is often covered in concrete and asphalt. Together we rose to the challenge, working closely with over 30 schools and 100 teachers in the Milwaukee area to plant native gardens and integrate the planning and implementation into reading, math, science, art and social studies lessons for urban youth.

So far, this initiative has been going very well. The Urban Ecology Center is one of seven EPS hubs across the state

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LAKE MICHIGAN MUSINGS

by Glenna Holstein, Environmental Educator

I’ve been thinking a lot about water recently. For one thing, at the end of this summer I am going to be moving to Albuquerque, NM, a place with very, very little water. I’ve become more aware of how much I enjoy living in such a water-rich place and I’m determined to enjoy all of the benefits it has to offer before I move. The more I think about it, the more privileged I feel to live in a place along the shore of Lake Michigan. The lake is so important, not just because it supplies one of our most vital physical needs, but because I believe it fulfills some of our deeper needs as well.

Ask any child what her favorite day at summer camp was and she’s likely to say “beach day!” It’s incredible how every single child is able to find something to connect to at the lake, whether it’s skipping stones, searching for “sea glass” (broken glass that has been worked over by the waves to make it rounded and smooth), burying their counselor or splashing in the frigid waves. Perhaps such an easily crossable boundary between land and water enables children to stop worrying about other “boundaries” they have in their minds and just play. Or perhaps it’s the sheer vastness of sparkling water before them that allows their imaginations to run wild and their

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

Contributing writers: Jamie Fersching, Beth Fetterley, Glenna Holstein, Ken Leinbach, Jeff McAvoy, Susan Winans and Joey Zocher.

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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 964-8505.

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

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 St.,
Milwaukee, WI 53208
(Mailing address: 4145 W. Lisbon Ave.,
Milwaukee, WI 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.

www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org

DROPLETS

◆ We are excited to welcome two new environmental educators to our team! **Regina Miller** brings with her over 10 years of experience in the environmental education field and has a passion for teaching and connecting children to the outdoors. **Haven Davis** will spend a year with us through the Lutheran Volunteer Corp. She recently graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College with a degree in environmental studies and English and has experience teaching environmental education in Minnesota.

◆ We are sad to say good-bye to three excellent educators. **Glenna Holstein** has been connected to the Center as a volunteer, intern and staff member for the past six years. Her insightful and thoughtful approach to teaching and life are exhibited in her article "Lake Michigan Musings" found in this newsletter. She is moving to Albuquerque, NM for new adventures in teaching and the outdoors. **Jon Rogers** started last summer as a summer intern and then became an educator through the Lutheran Volunteer Corp. Jon's positive "can-do" attitude and ability to inspire kids to learn and have a whole lotta fun outside will be missed! His year of service ended in August and we look forward to seeing where he uses his talents next! **Jeanne Salmon** has worked with us as a High School Outdoor Leader intern, an Adult Summer Intern and Urban Adventures Assistant. This fall Jeanne will be taking on a new adventure with Public Allies. We'll miss her and hope to see her again, so instead of "goodbye" we'll just say "See you later, Jeanne!"

◆ The Urban Ecology Center is delighted to be the recipient of the 2010-12 League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Business Bronze Award. This national award

program honors innovative bike-friendly efforts and recognizes employers' efforts to encourage a more bicycle friendly atmosphere for employees and customers.

◆ **Congratulations, Eric!** Long time Urban Ecology Center friend, Eric Hansen, received a first place award for Commentary/Editorial from the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association for his WUWM op-ed essay originally titled "Copenhagen, Climate Change and Common Sense Conservation in Wisconsin". Eric hopes that this award is "a solid encouragement to other citizen essayists, a nudge to stand and deliver. The door is open and there is much to be said."

◆ **Call for your best rummage items.** The Victory Garden Initiative needs items for their rummage sale at the Urban Ecology Center Fall Festival on September 25th. Please contact Gretchen Mead at gretchen.mead@gmail.com if you have gently used items valued at \$5 or more that you are willing to donate.

WISH LIST

To see our complete list visit our website www.urbanecologycenter.org

For Riverside Park

Contact: Judy Krause, 964-8505, x102.

- Beekeeping veils
- Ceramic and terracotta pots
- Chain saw
- Dandelion diggers & trowels
- Globe (one that has a base and spins)
- iPad
- Seasoned firewood
- Woodworking tools hand or powered

For Washington Park

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

- Adult and youth plain t-shirts and sweatshirts (for silkscreening)
- Electric golf cart
- Old plastic cards to use for silkscreening
- Outdoor paint (any color)
- Rakes
- Softball equipment

A COASTAL BIRD, AN OIL SPILL AND ME

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Being the nature nut that I am, these are the kinds of moments I live for. We got within 30 feet of this amazing sea bird (or lake bird in this case). We even watched as it scooped its inflated beak into the water attempting to trap a fish!

Sharing this adventure at work is when the horror of the situation struck home. These elegant birds which are making a remarkable comeback by nesting on Cat Island in Green Bay will all be migrating this winter to the Gulf of Mexico.

This is sooo wrong! It makes my blood boil and my heart falter. I wish we could warn them. What are their chances? Will the oil slick in the Gulf subside by the time they arrive? Will the fish they depend on even be there? If so, will they be safe to eat?

Who do I get mad at? BP Oil for not following proper protocol with their drilling? They certainly share a good portion of the blame for shoddy work, bad judgment and questionable management. The string of errors that led to the explosion and resulting

catastrophe is unconscionable ... but ... when making a profit is the primary motive for a company, cutting corners should not be all that surprising.

Or should I instead get mad at the government? Shouldn't they have proper oversight and regulation for this kind of thing? If they can control what kind of fence I put up in my yard, it certainly seems like they should have some say in the safety procedures of a deep water oil well. On the other hand, regulation costs money ... am I willing to pay for this oversight? Are you? Based on polls, it seems that many in this country are not.

Or should the blame fall on me? I still want to be able to drive to Door County when the mood or opportunity allows. My actions are a loud vote for more drilling no matter what my words say. This is why I choose to avoid the blame game, because in the end I always find that I had a hand in the mess.

No one, BP, the government, I or anyone else wanted this accident to happen. It is not a conspiracy and it

was not intentional. Unfortunately, however, the accident is a statistical likelihood when we live in a world that is so desperate for and dependent on oil.

So what can I do? I can't control the policies and practices of large corporations and I'm not in a position to influence the actions of our federal government. Even if I were, I'm not sure I'm smart enough to know what the right actions are to take. What I can control, however, is me. I have my political vote, I have my economic muscle, and I have free will to choose my actions. When it comes to energy conservation and promoting clean energy sources I, for one, intend to take my actions to the next level and I hope you will consider doing the same.

I want my kids, and I want their kids and all the kids seven generations out and beyond, to have the opportunity to see the white pelican glide over Lake Michigan. It is a rare and beautiful site.

Maybe you aren't like me. Maybe seeing a white pelican glide through the crisp Wisconsin air isn't the thing that gets you all jazzed up, but never having the opportunity to see this would be just plain wrong.

At the Urban Ecology Center we make every effort possible to role model personal and collective behaviors that lead to less consumption, less habitat destruction and less fossil fuel use. We also role model appreciation. We teach how the ecosystem works in a balance. We don't dwell on environmental problems, but we don't sugar coat them either when it is appropriate to bring them up. We provide information and teach kids how to think ... we do not tell kids what to think. Our loudest voice and our greatest influence come from our actions — how we use water, how we conserve fuel, how we enjoy nature and how we interact with each other. Thanks for being part of our community. 🍁

LAKE MICHIGAN MUSINGS

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inhibitions to fade away. But whatever it is, children's interaction with nature is never so easy and natural as it is along the lakeshore, which usually makes beach day my favorite day too.

I remember when I traveled to Anapia Island on Lake Titicaca, Peru, I found I shared something really special with the children there who were also growing up along the shores of a huge lake. When I showed them pictures of Lake Michigan, they said "Oh, that's what your lake looks like?" as though

it made perfect sense that everyone in the world lived along a huge lake.

Sometimes I wish every child did grow up on a lake, because I see how formative that can be. What I hope each of us gains from our experiences on our beautiful lakeshore is a deep sense of possibility as we look out on the water that seems to never end. But I hope we gain an equally deep sense of responsibility, recognizing that the water needs to be cared for and conserved, so that it continues to be a place where internal barriers are washed away and wonder is born. 🍁

OF ASPHALT AND RAIN GARDENS: A TEACHER'S SUMMER

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of Wisconsin. Two years ago UW Madison introduced EPS nationwide, providing training for education centers from Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, California, Oregon, Maryland, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana and North Carolina. It has been embraced by colleagues around the country as a successful experiential learning program.

But, this summer we decided to change it. Why change a successful model? The answer: because of what is happening in Milwaukee right now, even as I write this article. As I put words to the page, the city is recovering from floods that caused a road to swallow a SUV. Many cars were washed off streets into overflow channels and creeks that had turned into rivers, resulting in tragedies of lost lives, injuries, damaged property and polluted waters. This flooding added urgency to our past goal of planting

native rain gardens. As educator Kathy Palmer states, this program “illustrates what we can be doing better.”

The EPS program evolved into the Great Lakes Earth Partnership with a new focus on rain gardens and the connection between the quality of our land and the quality of the water. This happened as our cities, state and country began to recognize that our citizens — our students — need to understand that what happens on their school grounds and at their homes impacts everyone.

For example, during this summer's amazing flood the Urban Ecology Center's rain gardens held rainwater, preventing it from flowing into the already inundated sewers. The rain gardens also helped to minimize pooling on the saturated lawn and football field and served as an amazing learning tool for children and adults alike.

This summer the teachers are studying two watersheds: Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. They are fully immersed in the context of living in Wisconsin's freshwater ecosystem while they learn how to do positive things with their students to protect this freshwater resource. “Among teachers there is great interest in using rain gardens as educational tools. Planting and using a rain garden for scientific study is multi-disciplinary and appropriate for all age groups,” Palmer added. “Even people who aren't environmentalists clearly see the need for rain gardens to increase water absorption and alleviate run-off into storm sewers.”

So, what did our teachers do this summer? They played and explored outdoors. They learned, worked hard and had fun. They became a part of the solution. What a great way to prepare for the school year! 🍁

PAT'S BIG DEAL

by Joey Zocher, Washington Park Program Director

Have you ever thought you were telling someone something small, only to realize it meant something big to the listener? I love it when that happens. Just the other week I got to let a neighbor know her little tidbit was actually a big deal. Here's how it went:

“Hey, Joey?” Tory yells to see if I'm in my office using our back-to-basics intercom system. “Pat's on the phone for you.” Smiling, I pick up the phone. “Joey, you'll never guess what I just saw in the gardens by the Senior Center!” The first idea that pops into my mind is dragonflies. Pat loves dragonflies and brought over a dead one she found a few weeks ago. Although our citizen scientists have only recently started keeping track, it seems like there have been twice as many dragonflies this year compared

to last. Just when I feel confident enough to throw my guess out there, Pat reveals the answer, “a SNAKE!”

Now, if you've met me, you know I get pretty excited about things. Even small things. Pat knows me pretty well, but I think even she was surprised by how excited I was to hear this. You see, we've been looking for snakes in Washington Park for the past three years. Citizen Science volunteers placed large pieces of plywood, called snake boards, on the ground throughout the park, trying to coax these critters into a warm resting spot. They diligently check under these boards, yet, we have never found a snake. In fact, until this phone call we have never even heard of anyone seeing one! This is great news for Washington Park, but we wouldn't have known what a big deal it was

without our snake board study. And, we wouldn't have had this study without the help of Citizen Science volunteers.

Are you interested in helping with our Citizen Science research? Join us every Wednesday for our Citizen Science day! Weekly activities include water monitoring and morning bird hikes.

Thanks to a kind donation from Prairie Nursery again this year, the Milwaukee Conservation Leadership Corps and our Young Scientists have helped us plant an additional 2,000 native plants. This means we may have more Monarchs this year. We can find out only with your help. Join us for Monarch Butterfly Tagging on September 2nd! Exciting changes are happening in Washington Park. Who knows, maybe you'll be the person who discovers the next “big deal!” 🍁

RECORD BREAKING SOLSTICE!

by Jeff McAvoy, Marketing Communications Associate



Our 3rd Annual Summer Solstice Soiree and Auction was a smashing success! We hosted more guests and raised more funds than ever! Over 200 guests enjoyed each other's company, a wide array of "green" auction items, delicious organic food, gourmet desserts and music, all while showing their tremendous support for our mission.

Many people worked together to pull off this fantastic event. Special thanks go to Jennifer Bolger Breceda, Jim Schleif, Jeff Anthony, Danni Gendelman, Liz Graumann, Amy LaMacchia, Mary Gute Witte, Will Nasgovitz and Tracy Wilkins for their dedicated efforts. We'd also like to extend our appreciation to the board members, sponsors, auction item donors and attendees for their support.

If you'd like to help plan next year's Soiree, contact Ginger Duiven at 964-8505 or gduiven@urbanecologycenter.org.

Photos left to right: A surprise visit from "Mother Earth" — a piece from "George Sheppard's - Milwaukee Wearable Sculpture Show"; Board Members and Event Co-chairs Jim Schleif and Jennifer Bolger Breceda relaxing after all their great work to bring the Soiree to life; Shel and Board Member Danni Gendelman share a glass of wine with Lucy Rosenberg as the evening begins.



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The Private Bank	Muscari Flowers	Outpost Natural Foods	

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Calendar Key:**What's with all the frogs & fish?**

The Center offers public programs at both Riverside & 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.

WASHINGTON BARK DOG DAYS*

Bring your four-legged friend and join us for the sixth annual Washington Bark Dog Days. In addition to the dog pools, lure-coursing, dog psychic and vendors, we will have an open house at the Center. You and your best bud are welcome to meet our native snakes, turtles and fish at 1 p.m. then join us on a walking tour of the restoration projects happening in the park at 2. Proceeds benefit ROMP, Neighborhoods United for Washington Park and the Urban Ecology Center.

Sunday, September 12

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

\$6 per dog

(includes a doggie goodie bag)

**10/10/10 TOUR WITH KEN**

Join Executive Director Ken Leinbach's "Global Work Party" tour and clean-up of the newly protected Milwaukee River Basin. Inspired by author Bill McKibben's "Global Work Party" invitation to communities around the world to understand and work toward solutions to protect the environment, Ken is sure to inspire. Tour includes: 5-10 mile hike depending on how far we get, a clean-up service project along the way and an environmental conversation focused on action. Come dressed for the weather.

Sunday, October 10

1 - 4 p.m.

For adults and children accompanied by an adult

\$10 (Nonmembers - \$20)

Call 964-8505 to register

**Fall Festival***

Woohoo, it's fall!

Time to get out for some family fun!

Meet our bees and visit their home!

Shop for rummage and preserved fruit and veggies thanks to Victory Garden Initiative

Try some hands-on science experiments

Go rock climbing

Enjoy a nature walk in Riverside Park

Create crafts

Ride in a carriage

Play games

Eat caramel apples and baked potatoes

Visit resource booths and more

Saturday, September 25

Noon - 4 p.m.

For everyone

Free - donations appreciated

Fall Festival for Afternoon Nappers*

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

Saturday, September 25

10:30 a.m. - noon

For kids 5 and younger accompanied by an adult

Free - donations appreciated

Registration required by

September 24, call 964-8505

**FILM SCREENING:**

BAG IT: IS YOUR LIFE TOO PLASTIC?
INCLUDES DISCUSSION WITH SPECIAL GUEST AND PRODUCER MICHELLE HILL*

Try going a day without plastic. It is a challenge! Plastic infiltrates our lives in unimaginable ways. *Bag It*, a film by Suzan Beraza, starts as a film about plastic bags and evolves into an investigation of how plastic affects our lives, bodies and waterways. Travel around the world with us through a film that unveils how little we truly know about plastics! Following the film producer Michelle Hill will lead a discussion and answer questions about the film. This is an event you should not miss...we'll provide the popcorn!

Saturday October 23

7 p.m.

For everyone

\$10

Registration required by October 20th, call 964-8505

**CELEBRATE THE POWER OF BRIDGING FAITH AND ECOLOGY***

Created by the Interfaith Earth Network and partners, this open house will highlight the success of local congregations' green initiatives. Enjoy an afternoon of inspiration and live music (Jeff Bray, James Tony Finlayson, Holly Haebig). Green teams will demonstrate their sustainable living, faith education and advocacy projects. Children's activities and refreshments available as well. See www.interfaithearthnetwork.org for more information.

Sunday, October 24

1 - 4 p.m.

For adults and children

accompanied by an adult

Free-donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505



FAMILY PROGRAMS

MONARCH BUTTERFLY TAGGING*

Join us as we carefully catch, tag and release monarch butterflies who are on their migration to Mexico! We will be supplying valuable data to scientists at the University of Kansas through Monarch Watch, a national research project.

Wednesday,
September 1
5 - 6 p.m.



Thursday,
September 2
5 - 6 p.m.



For adults and children accompanied by an adult
\$3 (Nonmembers - \$5)
Call to register, 964-8505

DISCOVERY HIKES

Kids, come and have fun as we discover the natural world of Riverside Park. Every month we'll explore something new!
September: Predators and Prey. Join us on a stroll around Riverside Park, where we'll play games and explore the lives of Milwaukee's hunting animals.
October: The Fall. The leaves fall, the temperatures drop, and animals get ready for winter in many different ways. Come join us as we learn about the most colorful season!

Saturdays,
September 11 &
October 9



10:30 a.m. - noon
For kids ages 4 and 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

COASTAL CLEANUP HIKE

Celebrate Coastal Awareness month by walking along Lake Michigan's awesome coastline, playing games and learning about what we can do to help our beautiful water source.

Sunday, September 26
Noon - 2 p.m.

For families with kids ages 5 and over
Adults: \$5
(Nonmembers - \$7)
Children: \$3
(Nonmembers - \$5)
Call to register, 964-8505



PUMPKIN CARVING SOCIAL*

Looking for the perfect pumpkin for your porch? Want to get a leg up on your neighbor's scariest design? Then bring your best gourd to the Center and use our stencils and tools to create a chilling masterpiece.

Friday, October 22
5 - 6:30 p.m.

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



YOUNG SCIENTISTS CLUB*

Become a Young Scientist and do fun science, research and stewardship projects in our parks!!

Every Monday -
Wednesday except
September 6
4 - 6 p.m.



Every Tuesday - Friday
4 - 6 p.m.
and
Every Saturday
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.



For kids ages 5-15 years old, parents welcome
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5 annual membership)

YOGAKIDS FUN, FITNESS AND FEELING GREAT!

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

Every Tuesday
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

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



HOMEWORK HELP*

Getting divided on a math problem? Science not sticking with you? We're here to help. Bring in your homework and together we'll get it done just in time for dinner.

Every Tuesday -
Thursday
6 - 7 p.m.
For youth

Free - donations appreciated



SCIENCE SATURDAYS*

Discover the world of science through self-led interactive activities and crafts. Topics:
September: Weird Water
October: 4 Seasons

Every Saturday
9:30 - 5 p.m.

For everyone
Free - donations appreciated



SCIENCE SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS*

Drop in and discover the world of science through self-led interactive activities and crafts. Topics:
September: Weeds!
October: The Animals that Live in Our Animal Room

Drop-in program
Every Saturday
9:30 - 5 p.m. &
Sunday
12:30 - 5 p.m.

For adults and 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



PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

GO NUTS FOR SQUIRRELS!*

We see them every day, but what exactly are squirrels up to? We'll explore their world through music, play and exploration.

Tuesday,
September 21
10 - 11:30 a.m.



GET READY, WINTER'S COMING!*

Join us for a morning of stories, games and songs as we discover how the animals in and around the Center are preparing for winter.

Tuesday,
October 19
10 - 11:30 a.m.



Our preschool programs are for kids 2-5 years old accompanied by an adult. Please, no more than 3 children per adult.

\$8 for the first child, \$4 for an additional child (Nonmembers - \$12 for the first child, \$7 for an additional child)
\$4 per child needing childcare during the program
Call to register, 964-8505

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

C.A.L.S. TRIP

Who's Cal and why is he taking a trip? C.A.L.S. stands for UW Madison's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Middle and high school students are invited to spend the day exploring the College and learning about its programs. Space is limited!

Thursday, October 28
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Middle and high school students
Free - donations appreciated
Reserve your spot no later than October 21st, call 964-8505



CREEPY CAVING

Face your fears on a Halloween exploration deep under the ground at Ledge View Nature Center's caves in Chilton, Wisconsin. Wear clothes that can get super muddy. Bring a flashlight and a change of clean clothes. Space is limited so sign up early.

Friday, October 29
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For high school students
\$10 (Nonmembers - \$12)
Registration required by October 28th, Call 964-8505





ADULT LEARNING

"MEET THE BEES" HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSIONS**BEE HIVE INSPECTION***

Open the Urban Ecology Center's Beepod and see our bees at work! Follow a biweekly inspection by a beekeeper instructor. Learn about pollen, nectar, honey and brood. See workers doing daily tasks. Spot the drone bees, maybe even find the Queen! Best to wear white clothing and little perfume. Space is limited, sign up early.

Saturdays, September 4 & 18
10 - 11:30 a.m.

For adults

\$15 (Nonmembers - \$20)

Call to register, 964-8505

**BEESENTATIONS: ALL ABOUT THE BEES!***

Bees and Beekeeping Revealed! Bees play an important role in our food systems. This is an introduction to bees and beekeeping. Learn the difference between wasps and bees. Discover who's inside the hive and how people have managed bees for pollination and honey. Whether you want to start a dance with bees through beekeeping, or just learn of the dance they do to find nectar, this course gets you buzzing.

1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month
7 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

\$15 (Nonmembers - \$20)

Call to register, 964-8505

**BEEKEEPING BASICS: COURSE & CERTIFICATION***

Three 2-hour courses will give you a foundation to start beekeeping. From determining the type of hive to placement, rules, installation, inspections, treatment, harvesting and overwintering; you will learn what to expect and how to deepen your new relationship with bees. You are required to pass a test to receive a Beepod Certificate for Beekeeping.

Mondays - 3 week series
September 13 - 27 or October 4 - 18
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

\$140 for the series

(Nonmembers - \$150 for the series)

Call to register, 964-8505

**SUNDAY BEEKEEPING SYMPOSIUMS***

Continue your learning with these in-depth, 2-hour courses dealing with specific issues important to beekeepers.

Topics:

October 3: Swarming

October 17: Honey Extraction

Sundays, October 3 & 17
1 - 3 p.m.

For adults

\$50 (Nonmembers - \$60)

Call to register, 964-8505

**ORNITHOLOGY WORKSHOPS***

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

Wednesday,
September 8
5 - 6:30 p.m.



Saturday,
October 2
3:30 - 5 p.m.



For adults

\$10 (Nonmembers -

\$20) Free for regular

birding volunteers

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 and an up-close look at birds.

Every Tuesday,
September 14 -
October 12

Early mornings

For adults and
accompanied children

Free - donations welcome

Contact Tim at x116, or
tvargo@urbanecologycenter.
org for details

**SAVOR THE TASTE OF SUMMER: PICKLING SUMMER'S FARE***

Canning fruits and vegetables in a vinegar base is an age old practice for preserving summer's harvest. The instructor will guide participants in their hands-on efforts to preserve vegetables such as green beans and pickles. Canning materials, produce, handouts and recipes are included

Tuesday, September 14 or
Tuesday,
September 21
6 - 8:30 p.m.

For adults

\$25 in advance,

\$35 at the door

Call to register, 964-8505

**BIRDS AND WISCONSIN WIND FARMS***

Wind power is a great source of alternative energy, but there are concerns about the impacts of wind turbines on birds. By using observations of birds in areas where wind farms are planned and comparing them to observations after construction of wind farms, we can get a better understanding of how birds are affected. Results of research on local Wisconsin wind farms and their impacts on resident and migratory birds will be discussed.

Speaker: Julie Garvin,
avian biologist,
environmental consultant

Tuesday,
September 14
7 p.m.

For adults

Free -

donations appreciated

(Nonmembers - \$5)

Call to register, 964-8505

**EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE BOOK DISCUSSION***

Take time to read during the Eat Local Challenge (the first two weeks of September). The Urban Ecology Center and Boswell Books presents a community book discussion of *Plenty: One Man, One Woman, and a Raucous Year of Eating Locally* by Alisa Smith & J.B. Mackinnon (may also be titled, *Plenty: Eating Locally on the 100-Mile Diet*).

Tuesday,
September 14
7 - 8 p.m.

For adults and teens

Free - donations appreciated

Call to register, 964-8505

**BEGINNING T'AI CHI**

Spend rush hour learning a new approach to physical fitness and mental/spiritual well being. Often called "meditation in motion", T'ai Chi promotes balance and strength with a flexible, relaxed and integrated body and mind. This gentle exercise is great for all levels of physical ability. This class will be held weekly for 3 months.

Every Wednesday,
September 15 -
December 15
5 - 6 p.m.

For adults and teens

\$10 per session, payments

due monthly (Nonmembers

- \$12 per session,

payments due monthly)

Call to register, 964-8505


**WANT TO RECEIVE WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATES?**

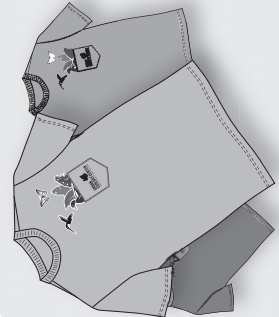

Sign up for the Weekly Guide e-newsletter! Every Wednesday you'll receive an email with updated information about the programs and events coming up in the next week and timely content highlighting special programs, providing "green" living tips, and more! To sign up, click on the Weekly Guide link on our home page.

URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER

(rp) = Riverside Park (wp) = Washington Park (vps) = WP Senior Center (bh) = Boathouse

SEPTEMBER 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>WANT TO RECEIVE WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATES?</p> <p>Sign up for the Weekly Guide e-newsletter! Every Wednesday you'll receive an email with updated information about the programs and events coming up in the next week and timely content highlighting special programs, providing "green" living tips, and more! To sign up, click on the Weekly Guide link on our home page.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>All Urban Ecology Center locations closed</p>	<p>Wow! Tuesdays sure are busy!</p> 	<p>8a 9a 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Monarch Butterfly Tagging (wp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 10:30a 4p 4-6p 5p 5:30p 6-7p 6:30p</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Monarch Butterfly Tagging (rp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Homework Help (wp) Photo Club (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p Topics: Weird Water (wp), Weeds! (rp) 9a Park Rangers (wp) 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 10a Bee Hive Inspection (rp) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 10:30a Volunteer Orientation (rp) 11a-4p Young Scientists (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Weeds! (rp)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Beekkeeping Basics (rp)</p>	<p>9a 9:30a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 5:30p 6-7p 6:30p 7p</p> <p>Burdock Brigade (rp) Belay Training (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Bike Ride (rp) Homework Help (wp) Volunteer Orientation (rp) Victory Garden Initiative (rp) Beesentation (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4-6p 5p 5:30p 6p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Ornithology (rp) Kayaking 101 (bh) Friends of Real Food (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 10:30a 4p 4-6p 6p 6-7p 7p 7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp) Echo Poets (rp) Stargazers (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p Topics: Weird Water (wp), Weeds! (rp) 9a Park Rangers (wp & rp) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 10:30a Discovery Hike (rp) 11a-4p Young Scientists (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Weeds! (rp)</p> <p>Washington Bark Dog Days (wp) 11a - 3p</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Beekkeeping Basics (rp)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Early 9a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 5:45p 6p 6-7p 7p 7p</p> <p>Bird Banding (rp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) College Climb (rp) Pickling Summer's Fare (rp) Homework Help (wp) Birds and WI Wind Farms (rp) Eat Local Challenge Book Discussion (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning Tai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 10:30a 4p 4-6p 6p 6-7p 6:30p</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp) Vegetarian Potluck (rp)</p>	<p>2p 4-6p</p> <p>Volunteer Orientation (rp) Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p Topics: Weird Water (wp), Weeds! (rp) 9a Park Rangers (wp) 9a Burdock Brigade (rp) 10a Bee Hive Inspection (rp) 10a Gluten Free Dutch Apple Pie (rp) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 11a-4p Young Scientists (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (rp & wp) 1p Kayaking 101 (bh)</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Weeds! (rp)</p> <p>Noon-2p Sustainable Building Exhibit (rp)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Sustainable Building Exhibit (rp) Beekkeeping Basics (rp) Green Frugality 101 (rp)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Early 9a 10a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 5:30p 6p 6-7p 7p</p> <p>Bird Banding (rp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Go Nuts for Squirrels! (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Bike Ride (rp) Pickling Summer's Fare (rp) Homework Help (wp) Beesentation (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning Tai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 10:30a 4p 4-6p 6p 6-7p 6:30p</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Fall Festival for Afternoon Nappers (rp) 10:30a Fall Festival (rp) Noon-4p 9a Park Rangers (wp) 10a Volunteer Orientation (wp) 11a-4p Young Scientists (wp) 1p Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Weeds! (rp)</p> <p>Noon Coastal Cleanup Hike (rp) 3p Knitting Circle (rp)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Transition Milwaukee (rp) Beekkeeping Basics (rp) Green Frugality 102 (rp)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Early 9a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 6-7p</p> <p>Bird Banding (rp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning Tai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 10:30a 4p 4-6p 6p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Available in September, these brand new shirts are made of either recycled materials or organic cotton and sport two designs:</p> <p>"THE POCKET" LOGO Show your support and your playful side at the same time! If you're serious about your support, this shirt is for you!</p> <p>Both styles come in a variety of colors of recycled and organic materials in Men's, Women's and Youth sizes!</p>	<p>4-6p 6:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Bee Keeping Basics (rp)</p>	<p>Early 9a 11a</p> <p>Bird Banding (rp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Arboretum Volunteer Training (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4p 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Papermaking (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning T'ai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	 <p>8a 10:30a 4p 4-6p 6p 6-7p 6:30p</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp) Photo Club (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p. Topics: 4 Seasons (wp), Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>9a 9a 10a 10:30a 11a</p> <p>Park Rangers (wp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Volunteer Orientation (wp) Volunteer Orientation (rp) Arboretum Volunteer Training (rp)</p> <p>11a-4p 1p 3:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp) Animal Feeding (rp & wp) Ornithology (rp)</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>1p</p> <p>Sunday Beekeeping Symposium (rp)</p> <p>2p</p> <p>Art Opening: Surrealists' and Verigo in Flatland</p>	<p>4-6p 6:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Bee Keeping Basics (rp)</p>	<p>Early 9a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 5:30p 6-7p 6:30p 7p</p> <p>Bird Banding (rp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Arboretum Volunteer Training (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Bike Ride (rp) Homework Help (wp) Victory Garden Initiative (rp) Beesentation (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4p 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Papermaking (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning T'ai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp) Photo Club (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p. Topics: 4 Seasons (wp), Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>9a 10a 10:30a 11a-4p 1p</p> <p>Park Rangers (wp & rp) Burdock Brigade (wp) Volunteer Orientation (wp) Discovery Hike (rp) Young Scientists (wp) Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>10-10-10 Tour with Ken (rp) 1p</p>	<p>4-6p 6:30p 6:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Radical Homemakers (rp) Bee Keeping Basics (rp)</p>	<p>Early 9a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 6-7p 6:30p 7p</p> <p>Bird Banding (rp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Homework Help (wp) Volunteer Orientation (rp) Organic Lawn Care (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4p 4-6p 5p 6p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Papermaking (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning T'ai Chi (rp) Friends of Real Food (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp) ECHO Poets (rp) Stargazers (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p. Topics: 4 Seasons (wp), Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>9a 10a 11a-4p 7p 1p</p> <p>Park Rangers (wp) Burdock Brigade (rp) Volunteer Orientation (wp) Young Scientists (wp) Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>Noon-2p</p> <p>Sustainable Building Exhibit (rp)</p> <p>1p</p> <p>Sunday Beekeeping Symposium (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p 4-7p 6:30p 6:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Sustainable Building Exhibit (rp) Radical Homemakers (rp) Bee Keeping Basics (rp)</p>	<p>9a 10a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 5:30p 6-7p 7p</p> <p>Burdock Brigade (rp) Winter's Coming! (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Bike Ride (rp) Homework Help (wp) Beesentation (rp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4p 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Papermaking (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning T'ai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp) Vegetarian Potluck (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p 5-6:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (wp) Pumpkin Carving Social (wp)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p. Topics: 4 Seasons (wp), Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>9a 10a 10a 11a-4p 1p</p> <p>Park Rangers (wp & rp) Gluten Free Foods (rp) Book Club (rp) Volunteer Orientation (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>Bridging Faith and Ecology (rp) 1p</p> <p>31</p> <p>Science Sundays - all month Drop in 12:30p-4:30p. Topic: Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>3p</p> <p>Knitting Circle (rp)</p>	<p>4-6p 6:30p 6:30p</p> <p>Young Scientists (rp) Transition Milwaukee (rp) Radical Homemakers (rp)</p>	<p>9a 4-6p 4-6p 4:30p 6-7p</p> <p>Burdock Brigade (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Open Climbs (rp) YogaKids (wp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>8a 9a 4p 4-6p 5p 6-7p</p> <p>Birdwalk (wp) Riverside Park Building Tour (rp) Papermaking (rp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Beginning T'ai Chi (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Birdwalk (rp) CALS Trip (rp) Burdock Brigade (wps) Burdock Brigade (wp) Young Scientists (wp & rp) Water Safety (rp) Homework Help (wp)</p>	<p>9a 4-6p</p> <p>Creepy Caving (rp) Young Scientists (wp)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Science Saturdays - all month Drop in 9:30a-4:30p. Topics: 4 Seasons (wp), Our Animal Room (rp)</p> <p>9a 10a 11a-4p 1p</p> <p>Park Rangers (wp & rp) Volunteer Orientation (wp) Young Scientists (wp) Animal Feeding (rp & wp)</p>

Bag It: Is Your Life Too Plastic? (rp) 7p



= Riverside Park



= Washington Park

ADULT LEARNING CONTINUED

GLUTEN-FREE DUTCH APPLE PIE WORKSHOP*

In this hands-on class, Laura Steele will walk you through making your own gluten-free pie crust, apple pie filling and streusel topping to make a fantastic Dutch Apple Pie to fit the autumn season. Make your own pie to take home with you!

Saturday, September 18
10 a.m. - noon

For adults and
accompanied children

Adults: \$25
(Nonmembers - \$30)
Children: \$12
(Nonmembers - \$15)
Registration required,
call 964-8505



SUSTAINABLE BUILDING EXHIBIT*

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.

Sundays,
September 19 &
October 17
Noon - 2 p.m.

Mondays,
September 20 & October 18
4 - 7 p.m.

For adults
Free-donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505; walk-ins welcome



GREEN FRUGALITY*

Find out how a local CPA and an Environmental Consultant practice Green Frugality; actions large and small that benefit the environment and your finances. 101 covers shelter, food, entertainment and community activity choices. 102 focuses on transportation, health care, clothing and household goods. Bring your own ideas & experiences to share.

101: Monday, September 20
102: Monday, September 27
7 p.m.

For adults
\$10
(Nonmembers - \$15)
Call to register, 964-8505



Coming soon!

**Green Investing:
Savings that Support
Environmentally Responsible
Investments for the Future**
Check our next issue for details

RADICAL HOMEMAKERS DISCUSSION COURSE*

Radical Homemakers describes the story of pioneering men and women who are redefining feminism and the good life by adhering to simple principles of ecological sustainability, social justice, community engagement and family well-being. Join this 4-week discussion course on this renewed way of living. Book purchase included in fee, facilitator will coordinate book pick-up and first reading assignment.

Co-sponsored by The
Victory Garden Initiative
Mondays, October 11 -
November 1

6:30 - 8 p.m.

For adults

\$30 (Nonmembers - \$35)
Registration is required by
October 4, call 964-8505



ORGANIC LAWN CARE FOR HEALTHIER SOILS AND HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES*

Earthcare Natural Lawn and Landscapes is an all-organic lawn care company that has served Milwaukee since 2004. Darrell will discuss tangible steps that homeowners can take to grow beautiful lawns, improve soil quality and protect natural resources.

Speaker: Darrell Smith,
President, Earthcare Natural
Lawn and Landscapes
Tuesday, October 12

7 p.m.

For adults

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



GLUTEN-FREE BREADED FOODS WORKSHOP*

Learn breading the gluten-free way! Laura Steele will demonstrate chicken fingers and tempura battered seasonal vegetables paired with delicious herb yogurt dipping sauce. Come prepared to get your hands into the food and cook!

Saturday,
October 23

10 a.m. - noon

For adults and
accompanied children
Adults: \$25

(Nonmembers - \$30)
Children: \$12
(Nonmembers - \$15)
Registration required by
October 22nd, call 964-8505



URBAN ADVENTURES

OPEN CLIMBS ON THE TOWER WALL*

Extend your skills on the Center's three-story climbing wall. Equipment and belayers provided. All climbers must have a completed and signed waiver before climbing, available at the Center's reception desk and at www.urbanecologycenter.org.

Every Tuesday

4 - 6 p.m.

For adults and kids

ages 7 and older

Adults: \$7 (Nonmembers - \$10)

Children: \$5 (Nonmembers - \$8)

Registration required, call 964-8505



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!

Note: Meet at the Rowing Club Boathouse
(1990 N. Commerce St.)

Wednesday, September 8

5:30 - 8 p.m.

or Saturday, September 18

1 - 4 p.m.

For adults and kids ages 12 and older accompanied by an adult

Adults: \$25 (Nonmembers - \$30)

Children: \$20 (Nonmembers - \$25)

Call 964-8505 to register

WATER SAFETY COURSE*

Interested in borrowing our canoes or kayaks? Come take a 30-minute 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.

Every Thursday starting September 9

6 - 6:30 p.m.

For everyone

Free - donations appreciated

(Nonmembers - \$5)

Call 964-8505 to register



COLLEGE CLIMB NIGHT*

It's college night at the Urban Ecology Center! Scale the Center's 40-foot climbing wall. Instruction and gear provided. This is a great way for you to try out this exciting sport! Interested in becoming one of our volunteer belayers? Come and meet our instructors and learn about the Urban Ecology Center's unique teaching opportunity, belaying school children during our programs.

Tuesday,

September 14

5:45 - 7 p.m.

For college students

\$3 per climb

Call 964-8505 to register



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.

ART AT THE CENTER

NOW SHOWING: INTERLUDE: QUIET SPACES



Show runs through
September 25

Katherine Steichen Rosing's abstract paintings reveal the essence of rippling ponds, patterns of bark and forests in rain as she explores cycles of transformation, growth and decay. For more information visit www.studioksr.com.

ART SHOW OPENING: SURREALISTS' AND VERTIGO IN FLATLAND

Sunday, October 3
2 - 4 p.m. (Artists will
give a talk at 3)
For everyone
Free - donations
appreciated



Surrealism, a concept of dissidence and surprising juxtapositions of things that don't normally go together, inspired Kate Loehrer and Philip Krejcarek in their *Surrealists'* series. Combining sculpture and photography, they created a series from discarded or used objects, recycling them as art. In *Vertigo In Flatland*, Jim Zwadlo paints the urban pedestrian from the aerial point of view. This choice of subject and point of view make it possible for him to present complex abstract ideas using only simple, realistic imagery in a familiar, recognizable context. Refreshments served. Show runs through late December.

URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER TOURS

BOOK YOUR OWN TOUR!

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

RIVERSIDE PARK BUILDING TOURS*

Get an insider's view of the Urban Ecology Center's Riverside Park's green facility through these staff-led tours. Explore and learn about our innovative building design and programming from the folks who are "in the know".

Thursday, September 2, 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.
Every Wednesday, 9 - 10:15 a.m.
For adults & accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
Call 964-8505 to register



UEC PHOTO CLUB*

Explore nature in an artistic light and develop new skills. Check out our website at www.uepc.org. Newcomers welcome!

Thursdays,
September 2 &
October 7
6:30 p.m.



For adults
Free - donations appreciated

TUESDAY EVENING BIKE RIDE

Are you looking for a fun way to get outdoors, exercise and meet new people? Join us as we bike the Oak Leaf Trail and beyond on an evening ride! Route and distance will vary depending on riders' preferences (15 miles average). Bring your own bike, helmet and water bottle, or borrow ours.

Tuesdays,
September 7, 21,
October 5 & 19
5:30 - 7 p.m.



For adults
Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$10)
Call to register, 964-8505

VICTORY GARDEN INITIATIVE: EAT AND MEET*

Join the Victory Garden Initiative at a monthly Eat and Meet. This is a meeting for newcomers as well as active VGI volunteers. We start at 6:30 with a potluck and at 7:00 we break into workgroups.

Tuesdays,
September 7 &
October 5
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



For everyone
Free-donations appreciated

INTEREST GROUPS

FRIENDS OF REAL FOOD*

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

September: Savor and Celebrate Local Food: Join the Eat Local Challenge! Share a potluck dinner of fresh and tasty local food from our gardens, area farmers and/or locally owned businesses. Discuss how we've defined the Challenge for ourselves and tips we have for eating locally all year long.

October: Slow Money and Land Trusts. Speakers: Beth Gehred of Town and Country RCD and Angela Curtes of the Yggdrasil Land Foundation. Slow Money is a grassroots attempt to create an investment tool to transform both our local food infrastructure and the excess return-rate appetite of venture capitalism. The Yggdrasil Land Foundation is a new form of land trust that provides preservation and access opportunities for communities that integrate sustainable agricultural practices.

Wednesdays, September 8 &
October 13
6 - 8 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.

Thursdays, September 9 &
October 14
7 p.m.



For adults
Free - donations appreciated

URBAN STARGAZERS*

Join us for fun, information and stargazing.

Thursdays, September 9 &
October 14
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, September 16 &
October 21
6:30 - 8 p.m.



For adults and
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, September 26 &
October 31
3 - 4:30 p.m.



For everyone
Free-donations appreciated

TRANSITION MILWAUKEE*

Transition Milwaukee is part of an international movement to address the challenges of climate change and peak oil. We are working to rebuild local resilience through creating community projects to grow our own food, generate our own power, develop our own economies and reskill. We invite you to join in our monthly Hub meetings.

Mondays, September 27 &
October 25
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



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

THE URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER BOOK CLUB*

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

October: *Cream City Chronicles: Stories of Milwaukee's Past* by John Gurda

Saturday,
October 23
10 - 11 a.m.



For adults
Free-donations appreciated

EARLY MORNING BIRDWALKS

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

Every Wednesday
8 a.m.



Every Thursday
8 a.m.



For adults and
accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE

Join people throughout our state and challenge yourself to eat more locally than you currently do during the first two weeks of September. Celebrate and learn about eating locally at the events below. For more information and resources check out eatlocalmilwaukee.org

September 1, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. —
Westown Market Celebration
Zeidler Union Square (On Michigan
between Third & Fourth Streets),
learn more at westown.org

September 8, 6 - 8 p.m. —
Friends of Real Food,
Urban Ecology Center,
Riverside Park location

September 11, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. —
Local Food Festival at Fondy
Market, 2200 W. Fond du Lac Ave.,
learn more at fondymarket.org.

September 14, 7 - 8 p.m. —
Book discussion, *Plenty* by Alisa
Smith & J.B. Mackinnon,
Urban Ecology Center
Riverside Park location

SAVE YOUR PLASTIC POTS! SAVE THIS DATE!

Clean up for fall and do a good thing for the environment by bringing your pots (any color and size with recycling numbers 2, 5 and 6), polystyrene cell packs and trays and hanging baskets to Boerner Botanical Gardens for recycling. For more information contact Shirley Dommer Walczak, Gardens Director, 414-525-5603 or Patti Peltier, UW-Extension Horticulture Center at Boerner Botanical Gardens, 414-525-5638. Volunteers are needed and appreciated. Please help!

September 23-25
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Southeast corner of Boerner Botanical
Gardens parking lot
9400 Boerner Drive, Hales Corners

WILD ONES' NATURAL LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS CONFERENCE

Reducing greenhouse gases, conserving water, guarding against flooding, providing habitats for birds and insects are a few reasons why Wild Ones promotes replacing lawns with native plants. To help people learn how to help slow down global warming and prevent extinction of America's birds and insects, Wild Ones is sponsoring this one-day conference. Program choices will include homeowner experiences, plant choices and more.

Cardinal Stritch University
Saturday, October 23
8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
For more information about the
Wild Ones visit www.for-wild.org/conf
or call 414-299-9888, x3.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

by Susan Winans, Volunteer Coordinator

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Want to spend more time outside?
Looking to work alongside ecologically-
minded people? Interested in sharing
your gifts with the community?
Come find out how you can
contribute your time and talents
to the Urban Ecology Center.

Riverside Park

- Saturdays, September 4 &
October 2
10:30 a.m. - noon
- Tuesdays, September 7 &
October 12
6:30 - 8 p.m.
- Friday, September 17
2 - 3:30 p.m.

Washington Park

- Every Saturday
10 a.m.

For everyone
Free-donations appreciated

BELAYER TRAINING

Join our team of trained and
enthusiastic rock climbing volunteers
and help with climbing programs of
all kinds! At this training you will
learn our policies and procedures for
belaying climbers and facilitating
climbing programs. Attendance is
limited and pre-registration is required.

Riverside Park
Tuesday, September 7
9:30 am-noon
For adults
Free - donations appreciated
Call to register, 964-8505

ARBORETUM VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Come to one of two sessions that will
introduce volunteers to a variety of
opportunities to create and improve 40
acres of diverse native habitat between
North Avenue and Locust Street.
This area will include the new Rotary
Centennial Arboretum funded by the
Rotary Club of Milwaukee and the US
Environmental Protection Agency

Riverside Park
Saturday, October 2 or
Tuesday, October 5
11 a.m. -noon
Free-donations appreciated

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 in October
4 - 6 p.m.
For adults and accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
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 (no Park Ranging
on September 25th!)
9 - 10:30 a.m.

Washington Park

Every Saturday
9 - 10 a.m.
For adults and accompanied children
Free - donations appreciated
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 and restore
native vegetation and animal habitats.

Riverside Park

- Every Tuesday
9 - 11 a.m.,
- 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month
9-10:30am

Washington Park

- Every Thursday
4:30 - 6 p.m.

Washington Park Senior Center

- Every Thursday
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

For everyone
Free - donations appreciated

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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Erv Russell's birthday
- Scott Russell

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*Thank
You*



Riverside Park
1500 E. Park Place
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Non-Profit Org.
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Milwaukee, WI.
Permit
No. 5190

Fall Festival at Riverside Park

Saturday, September 25
10:30 a.m. - noon

Washington Bark Dog Days

Sunday, September 12
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Film Screening:

Bag It: Is Your Life Too Plastic?

with special guest and producer

Michelle Hill

Saturday October 23
7 p.m.



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

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 _____
Expiration Date ____/____/
Signature _____
Date _____

- Total Enclosed**
- Sponsor a school for a year, 24 field trips for city kids! (\$5000)
 - Restore native plants to an acre of public land (\$1000)
 - Support a high school summer intern (\$600)
 - Provide a summer camp scholarship (\$195)
 - Provide an educational program for families (\$75)
 - Provide a membership for a low income family (\$35)
- Please accept my gift to support:

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Recipient Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
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Send the announcement card to Me Gift recipient
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Give a gift membership:
Assistant at x104 or nharris@urbaneecologycenter.org for details.
Financial assistance is available. Please call Nikiya Harris, Development
 Individual (\$25) includes guest Family (\$35) Student (\$12)

Renew or begin your membership, choose one:
 Individual (\$25) includes guest Family (\$35) Student (\$12)
Did you know you can give a donation, join or renew your membership securely online? Visit www.urbaneecologycenter.org and click either "donations" or "membership"

MEMBERSHIP JOIN OUR COMMUNITY TODAY!