



  
**URBAN  
ECOLOGY CENTER**  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

September 2012 - August 2013





# ABOUT US



## Our Mission

The Urban Ecology Center fosters ecological understanding as inspiration for change, neighborhood by neighborhood.

## Our Vision

To create a world where every urban child can explore the natural world every day of every season of every year of his or her life.

A mentor can share and guide the child in this adventure, building curiosity and respect for this natural world.

They and others of all ages can come together in a kind of outdoor laboratory: a neighborhood Urban Ecology Center, which educates and inspires people to understand and value nature as motivation for positive change.



## OUR BRANCH LOCATIONS



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

*"If people are going to have a meaningful relationship with nature, it's going to be, for the most part, in cities. That means it's either the end of meaningful nature, or the beginning of a new kind of city." -Richard Louv, Last Child in the Woods*

For the past two decades, the Urban Ecology Center has been engaged in **building this new kind of city**. From an innovative approach to environmental education to community festivals that engage neighborhoods across all constituencies, the Center is a proven model for transforming communities by revitalizing urban green space. In the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the culmination of many donors, volunteers, and organizations working together have helped us expand this important work to serve more kids and families. This year we experienced a tremendous amount of growth, with accomplishments visible at each of our Center's branches.

Our branch in Menomonee Valley celebrated its one-year anniversary since opening its doors in September 2012, creating a new gem for our southside community. More than 1,000 Milwaukee-area residents came together to celebrate the **opening of Three Bridges Park in the Menomonee Valley** in July, which now includes a one-mile extension of the Hank Aaron State Trail, hiking and walking paths, and even a canoe launch, so the community can once again be connected to nature.

The **opening of the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum** is another milestone that has occurred in our amazing two decade effort to preserve and protect the urban lands along the restored Milwaukee River corridor. In total the Arboretum, which opened in September 2013 at Riverside Park, boasts over 2,200 new trees within its 40-acre area of urban nature, further increasing awareness and appreciation of the biological diversity found in this area.

A quieter but equally exciting achievement this past year was that we **added a fruit orchard at Washington Park!** The orchard not only provides educational and research opportunities, but it is also a vibrant space where the community can reap the fruits of the land and have access to fresh produce. Washington Park staff and volunteers were hard at work planting roughly 50 fruit trees and over 1,500 native plants to establish the orchard.

Over the past year, the Center continued to **connect and inspire more people in science through ground-breaking research**. Our Research and Citizen Science program serves as a meaningful bridge between academic research and the community at large, where volunteers of all ages conduct cutting-edge research and have the opportunity to present their research at conferences across the country. The Center had many exciting developments on a national level as it led the country as an advisor to the first-ever Citizen Science conference in Portland, Oregon, was one of 30 organizations selected (out of 300) to steer the launch of the Citizen Science Association, and presented research at the International Congress for Conservation Biology in Baltimore, Maryland.

Due to all of your generous and deep support for this important work, we have created beautiful spaces that improve the richness of our urban habitats and help people connect to nature. Is our community connecting? We think so! Our research team **created a park-use study** indicating that people visited the natural areas of our three branches over 208,000 times this past year. Add program participation and visits to our three buildings for a grand total of over 307,000 visits this year alone! It is because of your unwavering support through your time spent volunteering, your talent devoted to our community, and your investment in our programs and mission that have continued to make a difference in the Milwaukee community, connecting kids and adults to nature.

With our deepest gratitude, we share our 2012-2013 Annual Report with you.

Most sincerely,



Ken Leinbach  
Executive Director



Ed Krishok  
Board President  
August 2012-present

# MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

In the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Urban Ecology Center continued to connect 100,000 program participants and even more park visitors with the outdoors in an effort to help them live healthy, abundant lifestyles. Whether providing environmental education to urban youth or protecting public natural land, we help connect people to place and experience. Our mission has far-reaching impacts, spreading beyond the neighborhoods we directly serve. Through projects like the opening of the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum and Three Bridges Park, we are able to build effective partnerships and catalyze meaningful change in our community.

## Provide Environmental Education to Urban Youth

We provide the opportunity for youth to explore the natural world right in their own neighborhoods to help build curiosity, understanding and respect for nature. Over the past year, our educational programs have engaged more children and adults in outdoor science than in the past. Our Neighborhood Environmental Education Project (NEEP) partnered with a total of 48 Milwaukee schools, including eight new schools that partnered with our newest branch in the Menomonee Valley that opened in September 2012. A total of 25,714 students and 3,557 adults explored urban wilderness, engaged in experiential science education and gained ecological intelligence! Over 4,000 participants in this school program recently completed ecological literacy surveys; 93% of these students indicated they felt more connected to nature, had developed their critical thinking skills, gained a deeper sense of community and strengthened their respect for the environment – all because of their experiences with us. NEEP is complemented by our summer camps, and this year 625 campers in 53 camps were connected to urban nature through hands-on, inquiry-based activities every day of these week-long camps!

The Young Scientists Club (YSC), our after-school program that engages kids ages 5-13 in building leadership and presentation skills, continues to flourish, particularly at our Washington Park branch. This past year, the YSC designed and conducted an original research project on birds in partnership with the University of Minnesota's Driven to Discover program, entered their findings into a national citizen science database called eBird, created a poster summarizing their project and presented at three different national conferences! The involvement from this dedicated group of kids continues to inspire, as they develop an environmental ethic and a sense of civic responsibility that can help drive positive change in our community.



## Protect Urban Nature

Our three branches made tremendous strides in working to make public areas safe, accessible and vibrant. It was a historic year with the opening of two new greenspaces in Milwaukee - Three Bridges Park in the Menomonee Valley and the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum in Riverside Park. These important areas of urban nature are protected for generations to come. Both include accessible trails to the rivers, providing universal access to nature.

At the end of our year we had the opportunity to protect a critical 4.5 acre piece of land located in the middle of the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum, once owned by the late Pieter Godfrey. Situated with the Oak Leaf Trail on the east, Riverside Park to the north, and the Milwaukee River wildlife corridor to the south and west, this land is in the heart of greenspace that the Center has been protecting since the organization was founded in 1991. Thanks to the incredible and quiet support of 28 donors who understood this once in a lifetime opportunity, the Center now owns these 4.5 acres. The future vision will need to fully emerge over time, but we are grateful and excited to protect and make vibrant this important land.

## Promote Community

*"The Urban Ecology Center has influenced a whole bunch of aspects of my life, and the experiences I've had here have helped me in a lot of my assignments at school. I'm not going to be leaving the Center anytime soon; the Center is my family and everybody who comes to it is my family too."*

- Darrin Madison, former Young Scientists Club member, High School Outdoor Leader, and regular volunteer

We continually strive to offer resources that enhance learning, support volunteer experiences and promote camaraderie. Year





after year, we are humbled by the support of the individuals and groups that come together to engage with us. This year has been no different. Across our three branches, we had a total of over 3,192 individuals volunteer and contribute over 20,000 volunteer hours at the Center. Whether beautifying our buildings, introducing urban youth to the Milwaukee River for the first time, or helping conduct invaluable park research, volunteers keep the Center buzzing with activity all year long and continually have a positive impact on our community. We are so appreciative of our volunteers for their tremendous investment of time and talent to support this important work!

We also continued to foster relationships within our community. Through local food programs, public festivals, and eco travel opportunities, the Center's community programs engaged individuals of all ages and backgrounds in recreational and learning activities that help them understand and appreciate the environment.

## Preserve Land and Water

Our land stewardship team managed over 80 acres of urban land this year with the continuous help of our very active and engaged volunteers, who contributed over 8,300 hands-on hours healing the land at all three of our branches!

The opening of Three Bridges Park in July 2013 was a huge milestone in transforming the landscape along the Menomonee River. This brownfield-turned-greenspace will serve as an outdoor classroom for our Menomonee Valley branch. Our stewardship team, in conjunction with many project partners, have worked hard toward restoring the 24 acres of park space. Native Wisconsin species typical of prairie, oak-savannah, and oak-hickory woodland and wetland areas have been planted in the newly transformed soil that was formerly a degraded and abandoned site covered by an influx of invasive species.

In Washington Park, land stewards and volunteers doubled the size of the prairie and planted over 135 trees and shrubs in the future woodland. When we began the land stewardship efforts in Washington Park in 2007, we inherited seven acres of unmanaged, low-quality native habitat within the 124-acre park. The Center now stewards over 14 acres of prairie, woodland and wetlands that are in transition to high-quality ecosystems. These areas now include

a variety of native Wisconsin species, which improves the habitat for wildlife including species of special concern, threatened plants, amphibian, birds and mammals.

The opening of the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum in September 2013 is testament to the collaborative partnerships that lead to transformative change. The Arboretum project restored 5,280 feet of riparian corridor and 40 acres of forest, oak savannah and prairie, making it home to 70 species of native trees and hundreds of plant species. The land stewardship team planted over 18,000 plant plugs, 3,000 shrubs and 600 trees in the Arboretum this past year! The Arboretum is an urban ecological gem that has transformed post-industrial land into natural habitat and an outdoor classroom for experiential learning and growing.

## Practice Environmental Responsibility

We continually focus on practicing and modeling environmentally responsible behaviors as a part of every decision we make and it is embedded in everything we do. To help us focus on systems thinking we invited Jaimie Cloud, of the nationally renowned Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education, to host a 2-day workshop for all staff at the Center. This workshop provided invaluable systems thinking tools related to the intersection of ecology, equity and economy, inspiring our staff to further our efforts in developing a sustainable future.

With the help from students and professors at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning, the Center monitors systems to gather and collect data on energy and water usage and savings. For example, from this data collection, we know now that our Riverside Park branch's photovoltaic system, which is a sustainable energy source that uses solar panels to generate electrical power by converting solar radiation into direct current electricity, produced 1/3 of the electricity that the building consumed, and we earned enough from our production to cover 43% of our energy costs within this past year! Collecting and analyzing this data will help us learn and think critically about what we do and will help further inform future decisions related to sustainability.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## The 2012 – 13 fiscal year proved to be another successful year at The Urban Ecology Center!

This year, our goals included growing member and program services with the opening of our third branch in the Menomonee Valley, carrying out the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum capital project and continuing to enhance the infrastructure to support the organization's mission. To meet these goals, the Center increased the operating budget by 31%. We are pleased to report that the Center was able to meet and exceed these goals! The solid financial position in the following reports is a reflection of generous community support and dedication of staff members who carry out the Center's mission.

### Audited Statement of Financial Position as of August 31, 2013 (Accrual Basis)

#### Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,093,759
Riverside Park Building Maintenance Fund	554,437
Receivables	4,353,663
Prepaid Expenses	120,239
Property and Equipment (net)	6,183,356
Earnest Money	49,000
Endowment	59,497

**Total Assets** \$ 13,413,951

#### Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 61,099
Accrued Payroll and Benefits	149,731
Deferred Revenue	158,742
Other Liabilities	18,621

**Total Liabilities** \$ 388,193

#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$ 7,196,406
Temporarily Restricted	5,829,352

**Total Net Assets** \$ 13,025,758

**Total Liabilities and Net  
Assets** \$ 13,413,951

### Audited Statement of Activities for the year ended August 31, 2013 (Accrual Basis)

#### Revenues

Individual Contributions	\$ 3,493,429
Community Shares	8,014
Corporate Grants	346,286
Private Grants	1,538,753
Government Grants	461,366
Fundraising Events	169,085
Membership Dues	70,803
Earned Income	570,251
<i>Program Service Fees</i>	488,237
<i>Rental Income</i>	50,882
<i>Other Revenues</i>	31,132

**Total Revenues** \$ 6,666,178

#### Expenses

Program Services*	\$ 4,175,456
<i>Education</i>	1,878,955
<i>Community Improvement</i>	1,503,164
<i>Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability</i>	793,337
Fundraising	372,028
General Administrative	438,455

**Total Expenses** \$ 4,985,939

**Change in Net Assets** \$ 1,680,239

\*Our program services revolve around three main impact areas: Education, Community Improvement, and Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability. Our operating expenses are allocated accordingly.

While reporting successful results in the current year, the Center has also been well-positioned for continued stability and growth in years to come. The Center's executive leadership, along with guidance from the Board and Committees, maintained a keen focus on the adequacy of cash and overall reserve levels, the positive ratio of assets to liabilities, and a robust fundraising pipeline to ensure a solid financial foundation from which to cultivate future growth. New contributions to our endowment this year continue to build towards a very bright financial future.

We have provided two financial statements to give the most accurate picture of our organization. Our Audited Statements include capital projects such as the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum, whereas our Operating Statement of Activities shows the day-to-day costs of performing our core mission. Our operating revenue was \$3.3 million, while our total organization revenue was \$6.7 million for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Please visit our website at [www.urbanecologycenter.org](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org) for additional information including the IRS Form 990 and our financial statements as audited by the Milwaukee-based public accountants of Scribner, Cohen & Co.

## Operating Statement of Activities for the year ended August 31, 2013 (Cash Basis)

### Operating Revenues

Individual Contributions	\$ 772,797	23%
Community Shares	8,014	<1%
Corporate Grants	446,843	13%
Private Grants	933,967	28%
Government Grants	335,798	10%
Fundraising Events	180,457	5%
Membership Dues	75,529	2%
Earned Income	583,904	18%
<i>Program Service Fees</i>	<i>513,868</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Rental Income</i>	<i>50,883</i>	<i>2%</i>
<i>Other Revenues</i>	<u><i>19,153</i></u>	<i>1%</i>

**Total Operating Revenues**                      **\$ 3,337,309**

### Operating Expenses

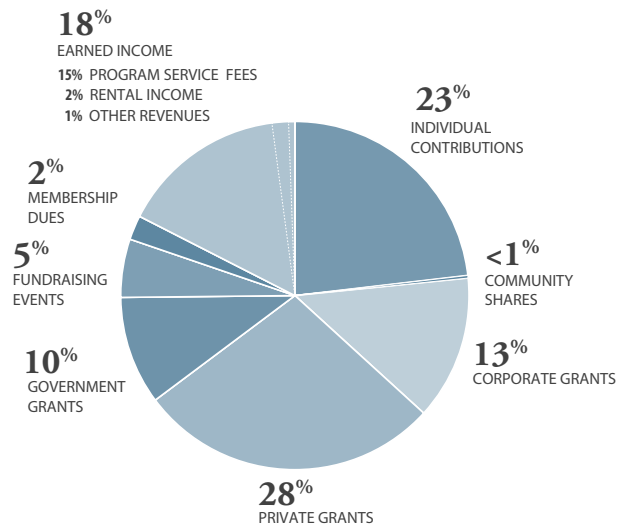
Program Services*	\$ 2,687,344	81%
<i>Education</i>	<i>1,209,305</i>	<i>37%</i>
<i>Community Improvement</i>	<i>967,444</i>	<i>29%</i>
<i>Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability</i>	<i>510,595</i>	<i>15%</i>
Fundraising	362,709	11%
General Administrative	<u>247,302</u>	8%

**Total Operating Expenses**                      **\$ 3,297,354**

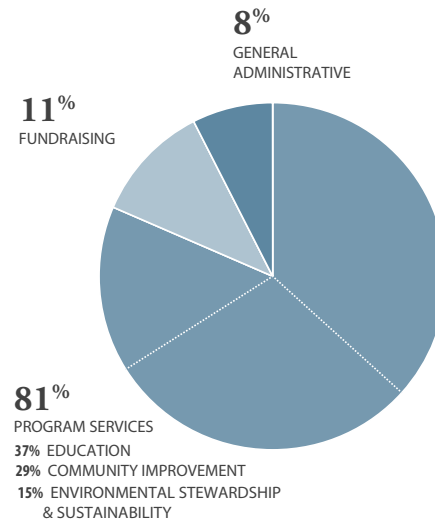
**Change in Net Assets**                          **\$ 39,955**

\*Our program services revolve around three main impact areas: Education, Community Improvement, and Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability. Our operating expenses are allocated accordingly.

### FY 2012-13 Operating Revenues



### FY 2012-13 Operating Expenses



# WITH GRATITUDE

*The Urban Ecology Center thanks our generous donors for their support in the 2012-13 fiscal year.*

We are grateful for the support of the following foundations, corporations, and individuals who made a contribution in the 2012-2013 fiscal year to support our programs or operations. Donor levels reflect total giving for the year, including contributions to Menomonee Valley-From the Ground Up and the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum projects. All donors who gave to special projects are also recognized on subsequent pages, including those that gave exclusively to those projects. Although membership donations are not listed here due to space constraints, we are deeply appreciative of this critical support. Please note, our contributing membership structure changed in April 2014 and will be referred to as such in all future reports.

*A complete donor list that includes membership donations and a list of our volunteers can be found at [www.urbanecologycenter.org/annualreport](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org/annualreport).*

## Foundations, Corporations & Organizations

### \$50,000 & Up

**A** Antonia Foundation | **B** Brico Fund | **D** Dudley & Constance Godfrey Foundation | **F** Foley & Lardner, LLP | **J** Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, Inc. | **K** Kohl's Department Stores, Inc. | **L** Lubar Family Foundation, Inc. | **R** R.A. Stevens Family Foundation, Inc. | Rotary Club of Milwaukee, Inc. | **T** The Burke Foundation Inc. | **W** Walton Family Foundation, Inc. | Windhover Foundation

### \$10,000 – \$49,999

**A** ACTS Community Development Corporation | **C** C&N Family Foundation, Inc. | **D** Department of Natural Resources | **F** Forest County Potawatomi Foundation, Inc. | **G** George B. Storer Foundation, Inc. | Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Colton Charitable Fund | **H** Harley-Davidson Foundation, Inc. | Harley-Davidson Motor Company | **J** Joy Global | JPMorgan Chase Bank | **L** Lux Foundation, Inc. | **M** Mary Nohl Fund for Visual Arts Programs and Projects | Medical College of Wisconsin | Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District | Milwaukee Public Schools | **N** Nasgovitz Family Foundation | National Fish & Wildlife Foundation | **P** Palermo Villa, Inc. | Prairie Springs - Paul Fleckenstein Charitable Trust | **R** Richard & Ethel Herzfeld Foundation | **T** Terri and Verne Holoubek Family Foundation | The Lynde & Harry Bradley Foundation | The Riverbend Fund | Tomkins Family Foundation | **U** United Methodist Children's Services | United Way of Greater Milwaukee | U.S. Forest Service | **V** von Briesen & Roper, S.C. | **W** Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

### \$5,000 – \$9,999

**A** Alterra Coffee Roasters | **B** Brewers Community Foundation, Inc. | **C** CG Schmidt Inc. | **G** Godfrey & Kahn, S.C. | **H** Heartland Advisors | **J** Johnson Controls, Inc. | **L** Local Initiatives Support Corporation | **N** National Business Furniture | **P** Puelicher Foundation, Inc. | **Q** Quarles & Brady | **R** REI-Recreational Equipment, Inc. | Robert W. Baird & Co. Foundation | **S** Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc. | **T** The PrivateBank N.A. | **V** Veolia Water | **Y** YWCA of Great Milwaukee

### \$1,000 – \$4,999

**A** Aveda | **B** Badger Meter Foundation | BMO Harris Bank | **C** Cherry Republic, Inc. | **D** DeWan Dental Wellness | **F** Four-Four Foundation, Inc. | **G** GE Healthcare | Gene & Ruth Posner Foundation, Inc. | Gonzalez Saggio & Harlan LLP | Graef - USA Inc. | Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Claire & Robert Pflieger Charitable Fund, GSZ Family Fund, Kopmeier Family Fund | **J** Jewish Community Foundation, Inc.: Lucy and Jack Rosenberg Charitable Funds | **K** Kalm Bach Publishing Co. | Kashou Carpets | Koss Stereophones | **L** Lucagraphic | **M** Marcus Corporation Foundation | Milwaukee Capital, Inc. | Milwaukee Electric Tool | **N** North Shore Bank | Northwestern Mutual Foundation | **O** Outpost Natural Foods | **P** PCI Group | Pollybill Foundation, Inc. | Prospect Avenue Association | **R** Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C. | Rexnord | Rexnord Foundation | Rockwell Automation | **S** Sandstone Foundation | Schindler Elevator Corporation | Split Rail Foundation | **T** The Boerke Company | Trek Bicycle Corporation | **V** Veit | Visu-Sewer, Inc. | **W** Wheel & Sprocket | Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek SC | **Y** Youth Service America | **Z** Zilli Hospitality Group





## \$500 – \$999

**B** Bay View Bicycle Club, Inc. | Bottom Line Marketing & Public Relations | **C** Cargill | **D** Dave's Welding | **F** Flux Designs and Miller Compressing | **G** Glenn Consulting, LLC | Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Anonymous Fund, George F. and Janet M. Kasten Family Fund | Green Bay Packers | **K** Kahler Slater | Koss Foundation, Inc. | **M** Marquette University | **N** North Star Energy Consulting LLC | **P** Park Bank | Penzeys Spices | Pourman's LLC | **R** Rare Earth Farm | Redwall Screen Printing | Richard G. Jacobus Family Foundation, Inc. | River Run Computers, Inc. | **S** Sacajawea Charitable Foundation | Scribner Cohen and Company | SPIN Milwaukee | **T** The Florsheim/ Yeager Family Fund | The Newark Group - Wisconsin Paperboard Corp. | Thief Wine Shop & Bar | **U** Urban Ecology Center Birders | **W** WEYCO Group, Inc.

## Up to \$499

**A** AB Designs | Alternative Breaks | Amaranth Bakery & Cafe | Arte Wine & Paint | Aurora Health Care | **B** Beans & Barley | Berghammer Construction Corporation | Bon-Ton Stores | Boswell Books | Boy Scout Troop 6 | **C** Camp Manito-wish | City Tins | Cream City Ribbon | Custom Service Hardware | **D** David J. Frank Landscape Contracting Inc. | Di Stefano's Pizza Palace | Discovery World | **F** First Stage | Fore! Milwaukee | Foster Family Foundation | Fox Point Federated Garden Club | Fred Astaire Dance Studio | Full Harvest Farm, LLC | **G** Gap Inc. | Garden Room | Gloss | Gordon Flesch Company | Gran-Aire at Timmerman Airport | Great Lakes Distillery | Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Shirley and Bob Anthony Fund | **H** HGA Architects and Engineers | HSBC Philanthropic Programs | **I** Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin | **J** Johnson Controls Foundation, Inc. | **K** Kalahari Resorts | Kiwanis Club of Milwaukee | **L** Lake Park Bistro | Landmark Theatres | Lowlands Group | Lueder Financial Group | Luther Manor HCC Life Enrichment Program | Lynden Sculpture Garden | **M** Marquette University | Mayes Wilson & Associates | MillerCoors | Milwaukee Repertory Theatre | Milwaukee Art Museum | Milwaukee Ballet | Milwaukee Boat Line | Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club | Milwaukee Cupcake Company | Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity | Milwaukee Magazine | Milwaukee Public Museum | Milwaukee River Advocates Co-Op | Mossfloor | Murray Hill Neighborhood Association | Mutual of America | **N** Name Imagery | New Options | Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee | North Shore Doggy Day Care | North Shore Pet Connection | **O** Olive Fine Organic Living | Oro di Oliva | Orvis | **P** Photography by Danielle | Plymouth Church | **Q** Quad/Graphics | **R** Rauen Guitar & Repair | Reader's Digest | REI - Brookfield | Rivet, LLC | **S** School Sisters of Notre Dame | Shorewest Realtors | Shorewood Woman's Club | Skylight Music Theatre | South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center | Sprecher Brewing Company | St. Ben's Community Meal | Stein Garden & Gifts | Strauss Veal | Summerfest | Sustainable Supply Company LLC | Sven's European Cafe | **T** Telly Foundation | The Beaded Flower | The Bella Donnas | The Great Frame Up | The Jewelry Center | The Kubala Washatko Architects, Inc. | The Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order | Three Lions Pub | Trinity Presbyterian Women | **U** U.S. Bancorp Foundation | United Way of Metro Chicago | Urban Ecology Center Photo Club | Usinger Foundation, Inc. | **V** Venture Products, LLC | **W** Willowglen Wraparound | Wines for Humanity | Winkie's | Wisconsin Athletic Club | Woodlands School | **Z** Zoom Room

# Individual Donors

Every effort was made to ensure that this list of donors is accurate. If you made a gift between September 2012 and August 2013 and your name is not listed, or is listed differently than it should be, please contact Cassie Mordini, Donor Relations Manager, at [cmordini@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:cmordini@urbanecologycenter.org) or by phone at (414) 964-8505.

## \$50,000 & Up

**A** Anonymous (1) | **N** Bill & Marian Nasgovitz

## \$10,000 – \$49,999

**F** Kim Forbeck & Todd Dunsirn | **H** Margarete & David Harvey | **K** Fred & Susie Kasten | **N** Will Nasgovitz & Madeline McNally | **R** Miriam Reading & Richard Miller | **S** Thomas & Kathleen Schrader | **T** Carl & Nancy Trimble

## \$5,000 – \$9,999

**B** Cheri & Thomas Briscoe | **C** Monique Charlier & Holly Blomquist | **E** Tom & Sue Ela | **G** Reed & Nancy Groethe | **K** Juli & Mike Kaufmann | Mary & Ted Kellner | Ed Krishok | **L** Mark & Gale Lazar | Sally Lewis & Kathleen Rivera | Marianne & Sheldon Lubar | **M** Cheryl & Blake Moret | **S** Michael & Joan Spector | **T** Anna & Richard Teerlink

## \$1,000 – \$4,999

**A** Kathleen & Tom Alpren | Anonymous (4) | Cameron & Julie Art | **B** DW & Christena Benson | Jennifer Bolger-Breceda & Enrique Breceda | **C** John & Julie Carpenter | Barbara Carson | John & Christi Clancy | Christin Cleaver | Melissa Cook | Penny & Chuck Cruse | **D** Hugh & Mary Denison | Michele & Derek Deubel | Mike DeWan & Lora Keller | Greg & Dana Dorf | Ginger Duiven | **F** Lincoln & Lilith Fowler | **G** Danni & Shel Gendelman | Dennis Grzezinski & Jane Porath | Mary Gute Witte & Ned Witte | **H** Edward J. Hammond & Marcia Brooks | Philip & Connie Hardacre | Leesly & Joan Hardy | Fred & Beth Heller | Suzy & Jim Holstein | Glenna Holstein | **K** Kathryn & Matthew Kamm | Bruce & Diane Keyes | Kathy Krause | **L** Sue & Brian Lanser | Cora Lee-Palmer | **M** Jennifer & Karl Mattes | Dave & Lisa Misky | George & Julie Mosher | Patricia & George Mueller | Kate & Ken Muth | Linda & Jock Mutschler | **P** Jill Pelisek | Tony Petullo | Claire & Robert Pflieger | **R** Dave & Roberta Remstad | Leo Ries & Marie F. Kingsbury | Lucy Rosenberg | William & Eva Rumpf | Christine Rundblad | **S** Stephanie Sandy & Allan F. Montezon | Scott Schaefer | Molly & Jeff Schissler | Jim Schleif & Bill Morley | Margaret & Robert Schuemann | Carolyn & Jay Scott | John Shannon & Jan Serr | Lyn & Bob Slater | Mary Staten | **U** Michael & Katie Utschig | **V** Polly Van Dyke & William Van Dyke | Daniel & Kristin Van Housen | **W** Carolyn Washburne | Kevin & Patty Whaley | Andre Williams | **Z** Corey Zetts & Benji Timm

## \$500 – \$999

**A** William & Linda Abraham | Anonymous (27) | **B** James Bauman | Polly & Robert Beal | Phil Bilodeau | David Blais | Anne Booth & Charles Trainer | Patricia Bowne | Joan Buccigrossi | **C** Peter Campbell | Kevin Carr & Judy Greco-Carr | Jean Cline | Eric & Elsie Crawford | Gwynn Crow | **D** Dan & Beth Davis | Catherine & William Durako | **E** Julianna Ebert & Frank J. Daily | Mike Eitel | **F** Angelo Fallucca & Stephanie Fallucca | Jim Fitzgerald | John Florsheim & Lindy Yeager | Suzy & Byron Foster | Karlene & Stephen Fox | Cynthia & Jim Friauf | David Froiland & Lisa Bates-Froiland | **G** Alice Gillam & Charles Hays | Dave Glenn | John Gurda & Sonja Nelson-Gurda | Ronald Gutschow | **H** Bill & Libby Hansen | Peter & Sue Hitler | Dolores & Nate Holman | **K** Patricia Kaeding | Brian & Lynn Kilb | **L** Cathy Lewandowski | Karen Lupa |





Alfred Lustig & Janice Watson | **M** Tiffany & John May | Katherine McGregor & John McGregor | Jean McKey & Jerome Houfek | Sandra & Thomas McLellan | Stephanie McNutt | Cassandra & Ryan Mordini | David Moss & Colleen Beaman | Daniel & Catherine Mossman | **N** Rebecca Neumann | **P** Richard & Suzanne Pieper | Mark & Ann Porreca | Ian & Lynn Pritchard | Brian & Laurie Putnam | **R** Charla Reetz | Lorette Russenberger & Sara Wilson | **S** Lisa Schultz | Anoop & Suzanne Singh | **T** Bruce Thompson & Kathleen Miller | **V** Greg & Ann Van Dunk | Charles & Joan Van Norman | Anne & Fred Vogel | **W** Madeline Wake | Susan & Len Weistrop | Tracy Wilkins

## Up to \$499

**A** Rahi Abouk | Elizabeth Aelion | Bill Aeschbacher | George R. Affeldt, Jr. | Mary Ann Affeldt & Bruce Twomey | Louis & Mary Agnew | Patricia & Gary Ahrens | Jean Akhter | Jasmine Alinder & Aims McGuinness | Huda Alkaff | Mary Allegre & David McMullen | Barry & Linda Allen | Heidi & Eric Anders | Jeff & Melody Anderson | Keith & Paula Anderson | David J. Anderson & Laura Petrie Anderson | Cooper Anderson | Marc & Deb Andraca | W. Paul & Deanna Andre | Else Ankel | Bob & Shirley Anthony | Michael Anthony & Emily Brown | Mary Jane Antilla | Melanie Ariens & Joel Peregrine | Peter Armstrong | Kristin & Justin Arndt | Michael & Margaret Arney | Constance Arnosti | Julia & J.P. 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## Legacy Giving

The following individuals have demonstrated their commitment to the Urban Ecology Center’s mission through a legacy gift. As the Center continues to grow, we are dedicated to planning for a sustainable future. The significant impact of the contributions made by these individuals will help ensure the Center’s financial health for generations to come. Thanks to these bequests, the Center can continue to work to create a world where every child can explore nature every day of every year of his or her life.

A legacy society to recognize and thank donors for their commitment during their lifetime is currently under development. If you would like more information, or if you have included the Urban Ecology Center in your will or estate plans and would like to be recognized, please contact Cassie Mordini at (414) 964-8505 ext. 104 or [cmordini@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:cmordini@urbanecologycenter.org).

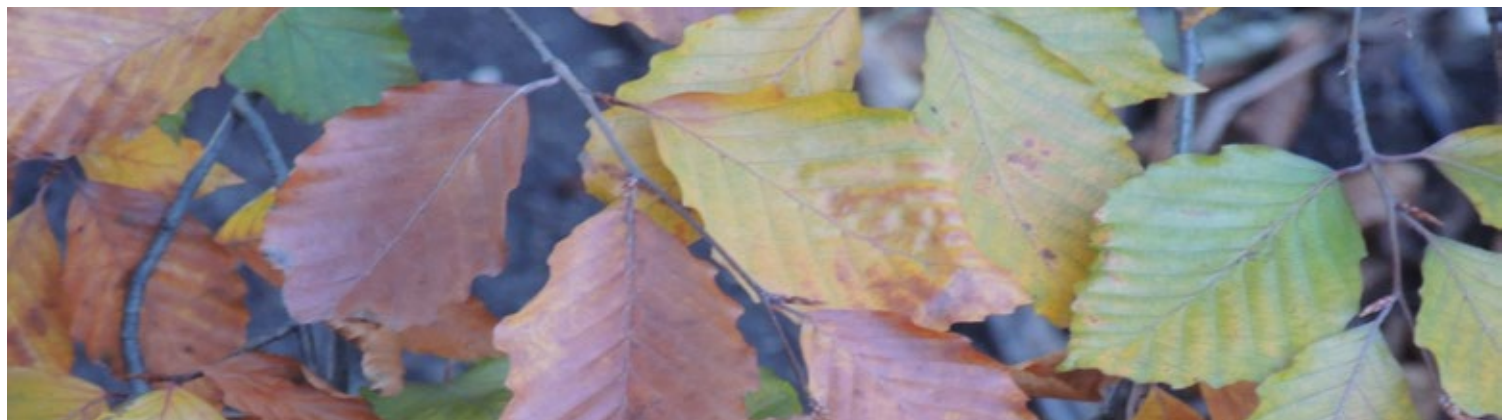
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## RIVERLAND PROPERTY

In June 2011, Pieter Yates Godfrey, neighbor, dear friend, and partner in the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum project, unexpectedly passed away. His absence left a void in the community and unanswered questions about the future of his business and property. Located in the center of the Arboretum and sandwiched between the Milwaukee River and the Riverside Park branch of the Urban Ecology Center, we have a vested interest in its future. With

the generous support of the following donors, we were able to purchase this property in December 2013, preserving the natural sanctuary that Pieter, the Urban Ecology Center, the Milwaukee Rotary Club and many community members have worked so hard to create and improve. We look forward to the prospect of further engaging the community to reactivate this property in alignment with the mission of the Center.

**A** Anonymous (2) | **B** Brico Fund | Cheri & Thomas Briscoe | Brookby Foundation | Robert & Kathy Brumder | **E** Barbara & Robert Elsner | **F** Feitler Family Fund | Anne & Dean Fitzgerald | Foley & Lardner, LLP | **G** Greater Milwaukee Foundation: Burns-Schrader Family Fund, Leesly B. & Joan Hardy Living Trust | Joseph Gromacki | **J** Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, Inc. | **K** Juli & Mike Kaufmann | **L** Nancy & Arthur Laskin | Sally Lewis & Kathleen Rivera | **M** Joe & Laura Mantoan | **N** Bill & Marian Nasgovitz | **P** Phoebe R. & John D. Lewis Foundation | **R** Miriam Reading & Richard Miller | **S** The Sigma Group | Bruce & Janine Smith | **U** David & Julia Uihlein | **V** von Briesen & Roper, S.C.



# MILWAUKEE ROTARY CENTENNIAL ARBORETUM

Look how support has grown! Those listed in blue are new donors to this project since the 2011-2012 annual report.

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The Urban Ecology Center received financial support in the amount of \$953,450 from the Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (EPA GLRI). We were also funded by several others including: the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management under the Coastal Zone Management Act, Grant # NA12NOS4190091, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Knowles Nelson Stewardship Program, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Acquisition & Development of Local Parks (DNR-ADLP), the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources National Recreation Trails Act (DNR-NRTA), and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation - Statewide Multi-Modal Improvement Program - Transportation Enhancement (SMIP-TE).



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In the fall of 2012, we launched this sponsorship program to help us transform post-industrial land into a flourishing native ecosystem.

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Kevin & Patty Whaley

We have been working to improve the assets and accessibility of Riverside Park since our founders formed a grassroots group in the early 1990s. The Park Access Project was an outgrowth of our plans to serve more students from the Riverside Park branch. In 2008, the Milwaukee Rotary Club selected our proposal to create an arboretum to celebrate their centennial anniversary in 2013. Since then, many new volunteers and donors have built on the momentum of the original Park Access Project culminating in the opening of the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial

Arboretum in September 2013. In addition to the \$8 million project, a Preservation Fund has been established. Members of the community and the Rotary Club of Milwaukee have generously contributed to seed this endowment in hopes to reach a goal of \$3 million in 10 years (\$850,000 raised to date), which will allow for the perpetual preservation and maintenance of the Arboretum. Listed below are the supporters to date for this remarkable community effort to improve, expand and maintain the natural oasis of Riverside Park for future generations.

## Rotary Club of Milwaukee Donors: Arboretum Project and Preservation Fund

Those marked with an \* have contributed to both the Arboretum Project and the Preservation Fund.

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### In Memory of Pieter Godfrey

Anonymous

Jen Hagenow

Tom & Monique Meyer

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### In Memory of Pap Joe, Aunt

Charlotte, Malinda Beck, & Mother

Elise

Alice Jo Star & Mark Clausen



# MENOMONEE VALLEY - FROM THE GROUND UP

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Menomonee Valley – From the Ground Up is a collaborative effort of the Urban Ecology Center, Menomonee Valley Partners, the State of Wisconsin, and the City of Milwaukee. Together we are implementing \$26 million worth of projects and programs that weave the Menomonee Valley back into the community and add key assets essential to job accessibility, science education, environmental and public health, and neighborhood vitality. Thanks to project cost

savings and the support of these private sector donors\*, whose pledges and gifts range from \$10 to \$2.3 million, we have secured \$24.2 million toward the goal as of February 10, 2014. Want to learn more? Visit [www.MenomoneeValley-FromtheGroundUp.org](http://www.MenomoneeValley-FromtheGroundUp.org).

*\*Private sector funds raised for this effort are directed to UEC/MVP Project Inc., a third fiscal entity formed by the Center and Menomonee Valley Partners specifically to fund and implement Menomonee Valley – From the Ground Up.*

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### Riverside Park

1500 E. Park Place  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
P (414) 964-8505  
F (414) 964-1084

Branch Manager: Jamie Ferschinger  
[jferschinger@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:jferschinger@urbanecologycenter.org)

Hours:

**Mon - Thurs** | 9am - 7pm  
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### Washington Park

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Milwaukee, WI 53208  
P (414) 344-5460  
F (414) 344-5462

Branch Manger: Willie Karidis  
[wkaridis@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:wkaridis@urbanecologycenter.org)

Hours:

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### Menomonee Valley

3700 W. Pierce Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53215  
P (414) 431-2040  
F (414) 308-1858

Branch Manager: Glenna Holstein  
[gholstein@urbanecologycenter.org](mailto:gholstein@urbanecologycenter.org)

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