

NEWS FROM THE NATUREHOOD

SEE HOW YOU'RE CONNECTING PEOPLE IN CITIES TO NATURE AND EACH OTHER | WINTER 2018





Because of you, our next generation of environmental scientists is growing. Up and out the door at 6 a.m., Analiese is ready to dive into the latest Community Science research project at the Urban Ecology Center!

It's not how you'd expect an 11-year-old might start her day. But for Analiese, walking a few doors down to the UEC at daybreak was a weekly routine during the summer of 2018. Ana's involvement with the Center began when her grandma first brought her to the Menomonee Valley branch for the Young Scientist Club. "I really felt this good vibe. It was somewhere I could be myself, and I felt safe there. I just kinda clicked with it," she explains. "After going to the Urban Ecology Center, I realized how powerful nature is and all the great things it has to provide us."

Lucky for us, Ana decided to stay and her adventures with the Young Scientist Club led to a deeper fascination with Community Science. Jennifer Callaghan, Research & Community Science Coordinator, was totally impressed. "Ana's curiosity, commitment, and intelligence have led her to contribute meaningfully to many of the Center's research and community science projects. Whether it's helping collect data for a bat survey at 10:00 p.m. or

entering information into a tricky database after a 6:00 a.m. small mammal survey, Ana's helpfulness and sense of adventure lend well to field ecology. Her joyful spirit is infectious and every time I have an interaction with her, I leave feeling a little happier."

Today, Ana helps share all she has learned with those around her. "Now I teach my family: that's switch grass, that's a yellow finch, that's a house sparrow. My parents are actually very proud of it and so surprised at how much I've grown." And she loves helping other kids learn about monarch butterflies, migration, hibernation, and how plants grow. In her opinion, "the UEC is a place you can see that TV is not the best thing. Maybe it's nature!"

It's no surprise that Glenna Holstein, Menomonee Valley Urban Ecology Center Branch Manager, says, "Ana is definitely an honorary member of the Menomonee Valley team, and none of us will be surprised if she's running this place someday!" We believe it Ana!

You've given Analiese the chance to learn from nature!

Help others by giving to the UEC.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

"Think globally, act locally." Carol Brill tries to live her life by this guiding motto. By getting involved with local organizations in her community, Carol recognizes that her work and actions have a far-reaching impact.

When you walk into the Riverside Park branch on a Friday afternoon, you will be greeted by Carol. Whether she is answering the phone, signing people up for our membership program, helping members reserve and check out equipment, or welcoming families to the UEC, Carol's role as a volunteer receptionist is integral to the Center's operations. "I love working the reception desk on Friday afternoons," she says. "There's lots of action, lots of people coming in, lots of equipment going out – that's what I like." We are grateful for Carol and all of our amazing volunteer receptionists!



Learn about all the ways YOU can get involved at the UEC!

Whether volunteering on your own or with a group, becoming a member or providing a monthly or annual monetary gift, your support is needed.

REUSE, RECYCLE, RECOMMIT!

TIPS FOR A MORE EARTH-FRIENDLY HOLIDAY SEASON



Whether you are one of the more than 100 million Amazon Prime members or an avid in-store purchaser, the holidays can rack up a lot of extra cardboard and packaging material quickly. Here's how to spread holiday cheer while keeping Mother Earth in mind:

Reuse If you need to mail or wrap a gift, great—simply reuse your Amazon boxes and packaging. Crafting is always an option, too!

Recycle Check out urbanecologycenter.org/eco-holiday for a page FULL of resources to learn more about your recycling options for everything from gift packaging to your daily garbage.

Recommit What are YOU willing to do this year to change your daily habits and live a more eco-friendly life? Share your 2019 commitment with us our our Facebook page!



CANDLELIGHT WALK for kids & adults

December 15 | 4:30 - 9 p.m. Riverside Park All ages | Register online

Celebrate the Winter Solstice with a guided, candlelit walk through Riverside Park! Enjoy seasonal poetry along the way. Then, warm up inside by the fire with cider, snacks and music!



WINTERFEST

January 26 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Washington Park All ages welcome | Free!

Join us for arts, crafts, homemade pie and guided nature walks. If we have snow, we'll skate on the lagoon and go sledding!

URBAN CANDLELIGHT HIKE

February 23 | 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Menomonee Valley All ages | Register online

Enjoy warm refreshments and hike or snowshoe among candles that transform Three Bridges Park into a beautiful urban oasis.



Give the gift of a lifetime. Learn more about planned giving!

There are so many ways you can give to UEC. Get in touch at (414) 964-8505 or giving@urbanecologycenter.org



Riverside Park

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

Washington Park

1859 N. 40th Street Milwaukee, WI 53208 (414) 344-5460

Menomonee Valley

3700 W. Pierce Street Milwaukee, WI 53215 (414) 431-2940

URBANECOLOGYCENTER.ORG