



Thinking Ahead to 2022 ... and beyond!

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

Perhaps you have seen the recent headlines?

Urban Ecology Center offers tax saving expansion at Washington Park — Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 25, 2018

Urban Ecology Center plans \$12 million expansion at Washington Park site — Milwaukee BizTimes, May 29, 2018

Yes it's true, with emphasis on the words "offers" and "plans."

We have aspirations to do big things in Washington Park and yes, if approved, our plans could save taxpayers upward of \$1.8 million while expanding our award-winning programming. This vision could potentially grow our service base of schools within the neighborhood from 18 to 33 urban schools, expand our adult and community programs, expand our native restoration area from 8 to 20 acres and become a community icon for the neighborhood for generations to come. It's exciting! And since it's been in the news, we thought that you, too, should be fully informed. So, here's a little on how this project fits into our larger vision for the future.



Rendering for the new Urban Ecology Center building in Washington Park

This news came out a little earlier than we would usually announce a project of this magnitude. Normally, we would share this after some fundraising had begun and we were ready to kick off a public

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"FiN'tern": A Unique Type of Internship

by Beth Heller, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

Famous Wisconsin conservationist, Aldo Leopold was a hunter and fisherman. Not only did these activities provide him with food, they also connected him deeply to the land. In "The Sand County Almanac" he described how draining and channelizing along the Mississippi River wetlands aimed to bring economic growth to the area, but instead left his boyhood marsh "impoverished." While some may consider fishing a controversial activity, we at the Urban Ecology Center understand that with proper guidance, it can launch a life-long commitment to protecting our local freshwater systems.

With that in mind, we partnered with the DNR to provide an educational approach that focuses on fish ecology and conservation, water habitat protection, and fishing as a source of food. Central to this effort is a "FiN'tern" -- an intern trained in fishing techniques and conservation education. Each year a FiN'tern works with UEC education staff to provide fishing experiences to urban children and families in their local waterways. Every summer since 2005 we have had a FiN'tern on our staff. This year we are happy to share that we will have two FiN'terns, both sponsored by the DNR, working together to create safe and educational fishing opportunities throughout the summer.

According to long-time friend, conservationist and angler education guru, Theresa Stabo, "We started Fishing in the Neighborhood (FiN) to try to move beyond the one-and-done model of fishing clinics and encourage people to form a positive relationship with their local waters. While annual clinics are well-intended and may whet the appetite for more, we realized that people needed more follow-up to gain proficiency in angling skills and FiN'terns, as the interns are affectionately known, provide those opportunities. We hope that these programs will help spark a love affair between people and the bountiful

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Branch Highlights

RIVERSIDE PARK

Who doesn't love the smell of a campfire and toasted s'mores? Combine that with a beer tasting by New Belgium Brewing Company, rock climbing, canoeing, and a giant slingshot and you have **Grown Up Summer Camp**. Be sure to purchase a delicious Peruvian empanada from Triciclo Perú MKE. Don't miss it on July 20th!

WASHINGTON PARK

Did you ever wish you learned to fish? Well here's your opportunity! Take our **Fishing for Dinner Series**, a beginner course specifically designed for adults. With the help of the Wisconsin DNR, Hunger Task Force and Outpost Natural Foods, you'll not only learn how to catch dinner, but also how to clean and prepare it as well!

MENOMONEE VALLEY

Let us put together your child's next **"B'earthday" party!** You bring the cake and we bring the nature play. For \$175 (\$200 nonmembers), you get a program of your choice, dishes, silverware and napkins - we even do the set-up and clean-up! Contact Lainet at Menomonee Valley if you're interested in a party!

Thinking Ahead to 2022 ... and beyond!

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campaign to support the project.

In this case, we have not yet begun fundraising. In fact, we are working on a long term lease of the land from Milwaukee County Parks on which we plan to grow our facility. In anticipation of this lease, we have spent the past year in friendly conversations with the Milwaukee County Park System to negotiate the best way for us to collaborate on this endeavor. The result of these conversations is coming up for a vote of approval by the County Board of Supervisors in July. The agenda for this meeting is public record and because it is such good news, the media picked up the story immediately. Nice to have some good news, don't you think?

Still, as a member and friend, we want you to know that this project has a long way to go until it comes to fruition ... 2022 is the earliest we anticipate being able to open the doors to our new envisioned facility. That said, 2022 will be upon us sooner than we think and I, for one, sure can't wait to see the light in the eyes of the neighborhood kids when it happens!

We began in Washington Park in 2007 as our first experiment in growing to a new branch in Milwaukee. We were invited into the community, but were not sure if it would

take hold. It did! So much so that we were able to expand from an initial one-third of the current building to taking on the whole thing in 2012. Since then, our impact has done nothing but grow. The combination of fast program growth and an overwhelming list of facility needs has led us to determine that right now the highest and best way for us to serve Milwaukee is to first serve this important neighborhood really, really well.

Once complete ... well ... stay tuned as there is more to come!

Note: Often people ask, is there any way to help? The answer is yes! **Please contact your county supervisor before July 26th and let them know, in a positive way, how important it is for the Urban Ecology Center to have a long-term lease for the land on which we will be building our new facility.** Without a long term commitment, we will not be able to raise the millions of dollars needed for the project.

This expansion plan is a first major step in our larger vision to offer nature-based environmental programming to the entire city within the next few decades.

Exciting stuff! 🌱



Saturday, August 25, 2018

The Brewers Community Foundation has selected the Urban Ecology Center as one of only two nonprofits for their 4th annual Hitting 4 the Cycle benefit bike ride!

We thank Milwaukee Brewers Community Foundation for their generosity and encourage you to sign up and ride with us!

Team name: Urban Ecology Center
Team captain: Gillian Spence

The route is 25 miles, starting and ending at Miller Park. Each registrant receives a Club Level ticket to the Brewers vs. Pirates game that evening and an invitation to a tailgate party with complimentary food and beverage.

To learn more and to register visit: brewers.ride-mlb.com

Thank You to Our Contributing Members

Many thanks to the local foundations, corporations and individuals who have donated to the Center. The complete list of contributing members who have given within the last two months can be found on our website at urbanecologycenter.org/thankyoulist.



Registration opens August 1

Sunday, September 9th 2018

9AM - 1PM (Don't worry, the Packers don't play until 7:30pm!)

2.5-mile hike begins and ends at Riverside Park

TO REGISTER TODAY OR FOR MORE INFO VISIT urbanecologycenter.org/hkemke



Credits:



Carijean Buhk
Editor

The Urban Ecology Center Newsletter is created and distributed through a team effort by the following people: Carijean Buhk, Anna Aragon, Judy Krause, Jeff McAvoy, Pat Mueller and Markie Schmidt.

Contributing writers: Beth Heller, Ken Leinbach and Michaela Molter.

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SEE FOR YOURSELF! (No really, see what's happened with your support!)

Your support helps the Urban Ecology Center's Green Career Pipeline program develop urban leaders with the commitment and the capability to move our community towards a more sustainable future.

Our Green Career Pipeline program starts with school field trips and our Young Scientist Club after-school program, then leads to our High School Outdoor Leader program, which provides two years of job training and paid positions throughout the UEC. Afterwards, students can continue along the path with our paid summer intern programs.

This pathway prepares young people for future employment at organizations with an environmental focus, or even here at the UEC!



82% of Young Scientist Club participants surveyed agreed that they learn new things about nature!

FROM OVER 3,154 STUDENT VISITS, AGES 6-12



96%

of UEC's Summer Interns see themselves in a career of environmental work after participating.

FROM 28 COLLEGE-AGED SEASONAL INTERNS

100% of surveyed High School Outdoor Leaders feel confident approaching new challenges after participating.

FROM 17 2-YEAR INTERNS, 9TH & 10TH GRADES

“FiN’tern”: A Unique Type of Internship

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aquatic resources in their communities.”

Theresa has 35 years of experience in the field and through her training program, she ensures that our FiN’terns have the technical skills needed to safely and effectively run programs.

Erick Anderson, Community Program



Plant Defenses

by Michaela Molter, Land Steward

Plants lack an immune system like that of animals. However, plants have developed their own unique defenses to detect bacteria, fungi, insects and vertebrate organism invasions and stop them before mortal damage ensues. Tissue structure and chemistry as well as existing ecological relationships between animals and plants contribute to a plant’s defense and disease resistance. Aside from providing plant strength and rigidity, cell walls, waxy or rubbery films covering leaf and stem tissue, and bark all act as physical barriers to invasion.

Within this same plant tissue, individual living cells also have the ability to respond with inducible defenses. For example, when a leaf-eating insect has been detected, a plant will begin to produce toxic chemicals that if consumed will kill the insect. Production of pathogen-degrading enzymes are also

Coordinator, provides instruction and mentoring in environmental education techniques for groups learning about fishing. He shares, “Fishing was one of the first ways I connected with nature as a kid,” he said. “I see people of all ages fishing in the [Washington Park] lagoon,” he continued, “and we’ve seen, time and time again that fishing [brings] new people

a chemical defense that helps to destroy bacteria and/or fungi, stopping the pathogen from spreading. Some cells of the plant are deliberately shut down and die in an attempt to stop an invader.

Many plant species have cells equipped with what plant pathologists call Crazy Cells, or Idioblasts, which contain chemicals or sharp crystals that damage the mouthparts of insects and other herbivorous animals. Our native stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) produces stinging cells shaped like needles that break off when disturbed. Acorns of our mighty oak trees contain pigmented cells responsible for creating the bitter-tasting tannins that make this plant part undesirable as a food source for many animals.

Additional examples of structural barriers

of all ages into our branch where we can begin building a mentoring relationship with them. I’m proud to be a part of the FiN partnership.”

Join our FiN’terns this summer and discover local fish species and the habitats upon which they depend. This is a public-private partnership that you can experience first-hand! 🌿

include thorns and spines. The spines of the native prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia* sp.) are actually modified leaves or parts of leaves which clearly prevent uninhibited munching of the succulent, fleshy cactus pads. Most structural defense reactions by plants are visible to the human eye and alert us to pests in our garden spaces. The most common structural signs of a pest are leaf curling, holey or chewed-up leaves, and gall production.

Plants certainly defend themselves in much different ways than animals. Plants have no red or white blood cells flowing through their sap. Nor do they have built-up antibodies ready to mount an attack from a specific pathogen or herbivore. Plants do, however, have many unique defenses, both chemical and structural, to detect and destroy invaders. 🌿





Summer Camp isn't just for kids!

Choose your own summer camp adventure with a grown up twist ... beer tasting with **New Belgium Brewing Company!**

Below are some of the evening's activities. Bring some friends (or meet new friends) and set your own schedule for the night!

Campfire cooking • Giant slingshot • Slow ride bike races • Rock climbing • Photo booth • Canoeing • and more!

Also purchase Peruvian empanadas from Triciclo Perú MKE and sign up for raffle prizes.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Family Power Music Presents ♿

Family Power Music Presents is a multi-genre and discipline artistic showcase series spanning every generation, discipline and genre imaginable. Doors open at 6pm with water/coffee and healthy snacks provided.

Sat., Aug. 25 | 7 - 9pm

For everyone | \$12 in advance (\$15 at the door)

Animal Feeding ♿

Watch the turtles, snakes, amphibians, and fish as they are being fed for the week. Bring your questions!

Every Sat. | 1PM | For everyone | Free

URBAN ADVENTURES

Climbing

Open Climb

Enjoy climbing our three story rock wall. All equipment is provided and trained belayers are on hand to assist.

Every Sun. | 2 - 4PM

For adults, teens, and families | \$3 per climb or \$15 for unlimited climbs per person (Nonmembers: \$5 per climb or \$20 for unlimited climbs per person)

Watercraft Lending Orientation ♿

Watercraft Lending Orientation ♿

Contributing members can borrow our canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards for free! To take advantage of this benefit, become a contributing member then take this on land orientation, covering our lending policies and procedures, as well as an overview of the safe use of this equipment. Formerly known as the "Water Safety Course", this orientation is a requirement of our watercraft lending benefit.

Every Tue. | 6 - 7PM

For adults | Free - donations appreciated | Membership required to borrow boats

Canoeing/Kayaking

Meet at the Milwaukee Rowing Club Boathouse (1990 N Commerce St.) unless otherwise noted

Coffee & Canoe

What better way to enjoy your Sunday morning than to sip on coffee and canoe down the Milwaukee River? We'll have beverages and treats to get you fueled up before you canoe.

Sun., Jul. 8, 22, Aug. 5 & 19 | 9 - 11:30AM

For adults | \$20 (Nonmembers: \$25)

River Rhythms Paddle

End your day with a paddle to a River Rhythms concert. Contact Margaret at (414) 964-8505 to register kids under 10 who do not paddle.

Wed., Jul. 11, 18, Aug. 8, 15 & 29 | 6:30 - 10PM

For adults and families | Adults: \$15 (Nonmembers: \$20) Paddling kids: \$7 (Nonmembers: \$9)

Night Kayak: Downtown Milwaukee

Join us as we paddle down river. We'll start with basic techniques and water safety, then hit the water. Equipment provided. Registration required.

Thu., Jul. 12 & Aug. 9 | 7 - 9PM

For adults and teens | \$20 (Nonmembers: \$25)

Full Moon Canoe

With the full moon above and reflected city lights below, paddle down the Milwaukee River. Equipment provided.

Fri., Jul. 27 & Sun., Aug. 26 (ALL

DATES SOLD OUT) | 7:30 - 10PM

For adults and teens | \$20 (Nonmembers: \$25)

Ecology on the Milwaukee River via Canoe

In partnership with Outpost Natural Foods

Spend the morning paddling and discovering the Milwaukee River. The river plays a vital role in our region's watershed. Learn about the river's diverse ecology and Milwaukee's storied history with this important ribbon of water. All from the vantage point of a canoe! We'll meet at the Milwaukee Rowing Club Boathouse and start our paddling journey there. Registration and nonrefundable payment required by 5pm the day before the event.

Sat., Jul. 28 | 8 - 10AM

For adults | \$20 (Nonmembers: \$25)

Fox River Late Night Paddle

Paddle under the moon on the Fox River. We'll launch near Mukwonago and end at Tischigan Lake. Yes, it's late and yes, it's far away, but believe us this experience is worth it! **Meet at Riverside Park.** All equipment and transportation provided. Dress warm and bring a snack. Weather dependent. Registration is required by Thursday, August 2nd at 10am.

Sat., Aug. 4 | 5:30- 10:30PM

For adults | \$45 (Nonmembers: \$50)

Kayak Outing to Village Park

Get out of the city and explore by kayak. Our trip will begin and end at Village Park in Thiensville. Learn basic paddling instruction, water safety, then hit the water. **Meet at Riverside Park.** Equipment provided. Registration required. Weather dependent and bring a lunch.

Sun., Aug. 12 | 9AM - 1PM

For adults and teens | \$25 (Nonmembers: \$30)

All of our branches will be closed for the July 4th holiday.

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1 ONLINE:
www.urbanecologycenter.org

2 BY PHONE:
(414) 964-8505

3 IN PERSON:
1500 E. Park Pl.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Wildlife Field Research

Help us as we search for and monitor different critters in the park. Please register in advance as we may cancel in inclement weather.

Small Mammal Surveys

Help make small mammal discoveries in Riverside Park. For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Set traps

All sessions are 5 - 6PM
Mon., Jul. 2 - Wed., Jul. 4
Mon., Jul. 9 - Wed., Jul. 11
Mon., Jul. 16 - Wed., Jul. 18

Check traps

All session are 6:30 - 7:30AM
Tue., Jul. 3 - Thu., Jul. 5
Tue., Jul. 10 - Thu., Jul. 12
Tue., Jul. 17 - Thu., Jul. 19

Monarch Larva Survey & Pollinator Monitoring

Find and count monarch eggs and caterpillars. We'll also photograph and identify important pollinators.

Thu., Jul. 5 & Aug. 16 | 1 - 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Odonate Monitoring

Help us identify Dragonfly and Damselfly species.

Wed., Jul. 18, Aug. 15 & 21 | 1 - 3PM

For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Monarch Larva Monitoring Survey

Get an up-close view of larval monarch butterflies as we find and count monarch eggs and caterpillars.

Every Thu. Jul. 12 - Aug. 2 & Thu. Aug. 23 | 1 - 2:30PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Evening Survey: Bats and Fireflies

Join as we run acoustic surveys for bats and identify fireflies.

Tue., Jul. 24 | 8:15 - 9:45PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Firefly Monitoring

Joint firefly project with the Milwaukee Public Museum
Whether you call them Fireflies or Lightning Bugs, they are fascinating!

Wed., Jul. 25 & Aug. 15 | 7:30 - 9PM

For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Beetle Survey

Help find which beetles are using our green spaces.

Fri., Jul. 13 | 9 - 11AM
For everyone | Free

Summer Tree Identification - 9 week series

Learn to identify native trees. Register for each class separately. For adults | \$7 per class (Nonmembers: \$10 per class) Land Stewardship volunteers: \$5 per class

The Maples and Ashes

Thu., Jul. 5 | 5 - 7PM

The Walnuts, Hickories, Beech and Sycamore

Thu., Jul. 12 | 5 - 7PM

The Birch Family

Thu., Jul. 19 | 5 - 7PM

The Poplars/Aspens, the Elms

Thu., Jul. 26 | 5 - 7PM

The Rose Family and The Legume Family

Thu., Aug. 2 | 5 - 7PM

The Conifers, Part 1

Thu., Aug. 9 | 5 - 7PM

The Conifers, Part 2

Thu., Aug. 16 | 5 - 7PM

Major WI Plant Families

Take this hands on series with indoor and outdoor identification practice. Parts 3 and 4 of a 5-part series. Attend the entire series or just one time.

For adults | \$10 per class, \$40 for the series (Nonmembers: \$12 per class, \$48 for the series) (Land Stewardship Volunteers \$8 per class, \$32 for the series)

Legume and Mint

Wed., Jul. 11 | 5:30 - 7:30PM

Grasses and Milkweed

Wed., Aug. 8 | 5:30 - 7:30PM

Cool Spots with Caitlin

For adults and kids accompanied by adults | \$10 (Nonmembers: \$15) (2018 Land Stewardship Volunteers: \$5)

Lulu Lake State Natural Area

Sat., Jul. 21 | 8AM - 5PM

Quincy Bluff and Wetlands State Natural Area

Sat., Aug. 18 | 7:30AM - 5:00PM

Home Funerals and Natural Burials

As well as discussing home funerals, we will compare the environmental impact of cremation, embalming, conventional burial and natural burial. You will be better positioned to make more meaningful and environmentally sustainable end-of-life choices.

Mon., Aug. 6 | 6 - 7:30PM

For adults | \$3 (Nonmembers: \$5)

Sustainable Finances and the Gift of Giving

Get positive, professional guidance to help you be wiser with your money. Turn retirement concerns into confidence. Learn how giving back both time and money can help great organizations serve the community!

Mon., Aug. 13 | 6 - 7:30PM

For adults | \$3 (Nonmembers: \$5)

Pickling for Beginners

Learn safe and tested ways to make your own hot-bath canned pickles using a variety of summer vegetables and fruits in this hands-on class. Take-home pickles included. Registration required by Aug. 15.

Wed., Aug. 22 | 6 - 8:30PM

For adults | \$40 (Nonmembers: \$45)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Riverside Park Volunteer Orientation

Come find out how you can contribute your time and talents to the UEC.

Sat., Jul. 7 | 10:30AM - NOON
Tue., Jul. 10 | 5:30 - 7PM
Fri., Jul. 27 | 3 - 4:30PM
Sat., Aug. 11 | 10:30AM - NOON
Tue., Aug. 14 | 5:30 - 7PM
Fri., Aug. 24 | 3 - 4:30PM
For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

ROOT - Riverside Park

Every Tue. | 9 - 11AM & 2 - 4PM
Every Fri. | 2 - 4PM
Sat., Jul. 7 & Aug. 4 | 9:30 - 11AM
For adults and teens | Free

Fixin' Facilities

Every Thu. | 3 - 5PM
For adults and teens | Free

Volunteer Park Rangers

Every Sat. | 11AM - NOON
For adults and teens | Free

INTEREST GROUPS

Ojibwe Language Study Group

Every Mon. | 6 - 8PM

Photo Club

Thu., Jul. 5 & Aug. 2 | 6:30 - 9PM

350.org General Meeting

Tue., Jul. 10 & Aug. 14 | 7 - 8:30PM

Urban Echo Poets

Thu., Jul. 12 | 7 - 8:30PM

Urban Stargazers

Thu., Jul. 12 | 7 - 8:30PM

Community Vegan Potluck

Tue., Jul. 17 & Aug. 7 | 6:30 - 8PM

Faith and Ecology

Tue., Jul. 17 & Aug. 21 | 7 - 8:30PM

Friends of Real Food: Potluck Dinner and Program

Thu., Jul. 19 & Aug. 16 | 6 - 8PM

Early Morning Bird Walk

Every Thu. | 8 - 10:30AM

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

Washington Park Wednesdays

Presented by Washington Park Neighbors

Come with us to the weekly concert series at Washington Park!
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

Nurture the Nature with Urban Ecology Center

Come celebrate the Urban Ecology Center's ten years of great work in the park!
Meet us at the concert and enjoy music, food, kids' games and free open fishing.

Wed., Jul. 18 | 6 - 9PM

Farm to Park with Community Pie

Celebrate sustainable food in the neighborhood. Meet at the concert and enjoy complimentary pie made by our Young Scientists Club kids and Community Pie.

Wed., Aug. 8 | 6 - 9PM

Fishing for Dinner Series

In partnership: Wisconsin DNR, Hunger Task Force and Outpost Natural Foods

It's not too late to reel in dinner. Join us for a multi-session series. Gear provided and no license necessary! Registration required.

For adults | \$20 (Nonmembers: \$25) for the entire series

Fishing techniques and regulations

Wed., Jul. 11 & 18 | 6- 8:30PM

Fishing expedition to Pike Lake State Park

Sat., Jul. 21 | 10am - 2pm

Cooking demonstration at the Hunger Task Force Farm

Wed., July 25 | 6- 8:30PM

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Family Fishing Adventure

Anglers of all ages and skills, come with us on fishing expeditions around Milwaukee. Each month we will visit a different park. Meet at Washington Park. Gear and transportation provided. Fishing license required for ages 16+. Please register in advance.

Sat., Jul. 28 & Aug. 11 |

9:30AM - 12:30PM

For adults and accompanied children ages 4 and up | Adults: \$10 (Nonmembers: \$12) Children: \$8 (Nonmembers: \$10)

"Bee Day" Party

Come learn about the practice of bee keeping and the work done by our Bee Interest Group. Activities include lectures, games and honey-themed snacks.

Sat., Aug. 18 | 10AM - 2PM

For everyone | Free



Wednesday Fishing Club

Guided fishing lessons for kids and families from our DNR Angler Educator. All equipment provided. Fishing licenses required for ages 16 and up.

Every Wed. (from Jul.

11 - Aug. 8) | 4 - 6PM

For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

Animal Feeding

Every Sat. except | 1PM

For everyone | Free

Young Scientists Club

Do you know a child who is interested in science and nature? From hiking to gardening to helping with research to caring for our Center's animals, every day in the Young Scientists Club is a new adventure.

Every Tue. - Fri. (except Jul. 4) |

4:30 - 6:30PM

Every Sat. | 1 - 4PM

For kids ages 7-12 | \$15 annual membership

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Washington Park Volunteer Orientation

Want to spend more time outside? Looking to work alongside ecologically-minded people? Find out how you can contribute your time and talents to UEC.

Fri., Jul. 6 | 5:30 - 6:30PM

Sat., Jul. 21 | 10:30 - 11:30AM

Wed., Aug. 1 | 5:30 - 6:30PM

Sat., Aug. 25 | 10:30 - 11:30AM

For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

ROOT - Washington Park

Ready to remove buckthorn and honeysuckle or help us clean seed? Join us for ROOT (Restoring Our Outdoors Together) in Washington Park as we work to improve natural habitat for native plants and wildlife.

Every Wed. (except Jul. 4) | 9 - 11AM

Every Thu. | 3:30 - 5:30PM

For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free - donations appreciated

Volunteer Park Rangers

Help keep our parks clean, safe and accessible. Dress for the weather and join other volunteers as we walk through the park picking up trash and noting any maintenance needs

Every Sat. | 11AM - NOON

For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

All of our branches will be closed for the July 4th holiday.

3 WAYS TO
REGISTER:

1 ONLINE:
www.urbanecologycenter.org

2 BY PHONE:
(414) 344-5460

3 IN PERSON:
1859 N. 40th St.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Wildlife Field Research

Please register in advance as we may cancel in inclement weather.

Monarch Larva Monitoring Survey

Find and count monarch eggs and caterpillars.

Every Mon. in Jul. & Aug. 13 | 1 - 2:30PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free - donations appreciated

Odonates & Pollinator Monitoring

While we're out looking for Dragonflies and Damselflies, we'll identify important pollinators.

Fri., Jul. 11 | 1 - 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Evening Survey: Bats and Fireflies

Join us as we run acoustic surveys for bats and identify fireflies.

Mon., Jul. 30 | 8:15 - 9:45PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Beetle Survey

If you want to discover a species new to science this just may be your chance. Join UEC Beetle enthusiasts to help find which beetles are using our green spaces.

Fri., Aug. 3 | 9 - 11AM
For everyone | Free

Odonate Monitoring

Help identify Dragonfly and Damselfly species.

Wed., Aug. 1 & 29 | 1- 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Monarch Larva Monitoring Survey & Pollinator Monitoring

While we're out looking for monarch eggs and caterpillars, we'll also photograph and identify important pollinators.

Mon., Aug. 20 | 1 - 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Community Pie

Baking is a great way for you to connect to people of all ages. Learn the basics of crust making or use your skills to help teach others. Our Young Scientists Club and volunteers from Community Pie will prepare pies using locally grown fruit, which will be served at the Washington Park Wednesdays concert on August 9th.

Crust Making

Fri., Aug. 3 | 4 - 6PM
For everyone | Free

Pie Filling

Tue., Aug. 7 | 4 - 6PM
For everyone | Free

Yoga In The Parks

Presented by omTown Yogis

Enjoy guided yoga outside in our beautiful park! All ages and skill levels welcome.

Every Sat. starting Jul. 14 | 9 - 10AM
For adults and accompanied children | Pay what you can (\$10 suggested)

Walk and Talk at Washington Park

Join our Branch Manager and staff to explore both our building and Washington Park - two locations uniquely connected to Milwaukee's past and well positioned to thrive in its future.

Tue., Jul. 17 & Aug. 21 | 4:30 - 5:30PM
For adults | \$5 (Nonmembers: \$10)

"Bee" Aware Interest Group

Connect with community resources, work for bee-positive change, and most of all have fun! Our potential is only limited by our inspiration. This is a new group that will meet regularly throughout the year.

Sat., Jul. 7 & Aug. 4 | 10 - 11:30 AM
For adults | Free

Early Morning Bird Walks

Walk and look for birds and more. Binoculars available.

Every Wed. | 8 - 10:30AM
For adults, teens and families | Free

URBAN ADVENTURES

Watercraft Lending Orientation

Contributing members can borrow our canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards for free! To take advantage of this benefit, become a contributing member, then take this one hour, on land, orientation covering our lending policies and procedures, as well as an overview of the safe use of this equipment. Formerly known as the "Water Safety Course", this orientation is a requirement of our watercraft lending benefit.

Every Sat. | 10 - 10:30AM
For adults | Free - donations appreciated | Membership required to borrow boats

Kayaking for Beginners

The Washington Park Lagoon is a great place to learn the basics of paddling! Learn how to choose the right equipment, boating safety and paddling technique, then practice with guidance from one of our trained educators.

Sat., Jul. 14 | 10:30 - noon
For adults and accompanied children age 6 and up | Adults: \$10 (Nonmembers: \$12)
Children: \$8 (Nonmembers: \$10)

Canoeing for Beginners

The Washington Park Lagoon is a great place to learn the basics of paddling! Learn how to choose the right equipment, boating safety and paddling technique, then practice with guidance from one of our trained educators. Perfect for those who are new to paddling or just want some more practice.

Sat., Jul. 21 | 10:30AM - NOON
Wed., Aug. 1 | 6 - 7:30PM
Sat., Aug. 25 | 10:30AM - NOON
For adults and accompanied children age 6 and up | Adults: \$10 (Nonmembers: \$12)
Children: \$8 (Nonmembers: \$10)



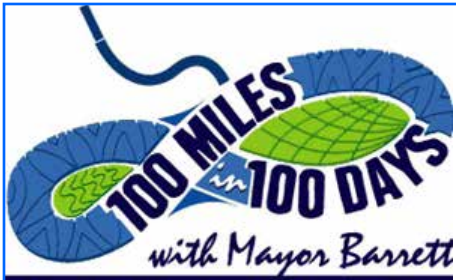
Find full descriptions and details about these programs on our website
www.urbanecologycenter.org/calendar

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1 ONLINE:
www.urbanecologycenter.org

2 BY PHONE:
(414) 344-5460

3 IN PERSON:
1859 N. 40th St.



100 Miles in 100 Days with Mayor Barrett (Three Bridges Park)

Join Mayor Barrett and our Menomonee Valley Branch Manager Glenna Holstein on a walking loop through Three Bridges Park. Come walk a 100 miles in 100 days with the Mayor of Milwaukee! To find other walks throughout the city, or to keep track of your miles, please visit city.milwaukee.gov/Walk100

Tuesday, August 14 | 4:30 - 5:30PM

For adults and families | Free - donations appreciated

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Terrarium Making Workshop

Learn how to make your very own terrarium using recycled jars! You'll build a simple terrarium to take home. All materials provided.

Sat., Aug. 11 | 10 - 11:30AM

For families | Adults: \$6 (Nonmembers: \$9) Children: \$4 (Nonmembers: \$7)

Friday Fishing Club

Come catch the big one on the south side! Guided fishing lessons for kids and families are available from our DNR Angler Educator. All equipment is provided! Fishing licenses required for ages 16 and up.

Every Fri. (through Aug. 3) | 4 - 5:30PM

For everyone | Free

EcoArt Wednesdays

Join us for nature inspired recycled arts and crafts. Take home your very own creation every week!

Every Wed. (except July 4) | 4 - 5:30PM

For families with children age 12 and younger | Free - donations appreciated

Young Scientists Club

Hiking, gardening, helping with research, every day is a new adventure.

Every Tue. & Thu. | 4:30 - 6:30PM

and Every Sat. | 1 - 4PM

For ages 5-12 | \$15 annual membership

Animal Feeding

Every Sat. | 1PM | For everyone | Free

URBAN ADVENTURES

Watercraft Lending Orientation

Contributing members can borrow our canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards for free! To take advantage of this benefit, become a contributing member, then take this one hour, on land, orientation covering our lending policies and procedures, as well as an overview of the safe use of this equipment. Formerly known as the "Water Safety Course", this orientation is a requirement of our watercraft lending benefit.

Every Fri. | 5 - 5:30PM

For adults | Free

Bike Tours

Forest Home and Pilgrim's Rest Cemeteries

See the graves of notable Milwaukee families on this leisurely bike tour through Forest Home and Pilgrim's Rest cemeteries. We'll stop by Milwaukee's first mayor Solomon Juneau, beer barons Blatz, Schlitz and Pabst, and industrialists Bradley and Davidson. This tour travels through trails and side streets. Bring a bike and helmet or borrow ours.

Sat., Jul. 21 | 9:30AM - 12:30PM

For adults and teens | \$10 (Nonmembers: \$15)

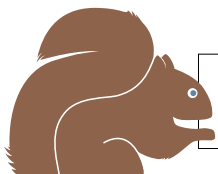
From the Valley to the Lake

Take a leisurely bike tour from our Menomonee Valley branch to the Lake. Trace the Valley's history from a production center renowned for its rail cars to its present day transformation into a national model of sustainable redevelopment. Stops include: Three Bridges Park, the site of the Milwaukee Road Shops, Lakeshore State Park and Purple Door Ice Cream. Bring a bike and helmet or borrow ours.

Sat., Jul. 14 | 9:30AM - 1PM

Sat., Aug. 4 | 9:30AM - 1PM

For adults | \$10 (Nonmembers: \$15)



Find full descriptions and details about these programs on our website

www.urbanecologycenter.org/calendar

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1 ONLINE:
www.urbanecologycenter.org

2 BY PHONE:
(414) 431-2940

3 IN PERSON:
3700 W. Pierce St.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Wildlife Field Research

Please register in advance as we may cancel in inclement weather.

Small Mammal Surveys

Help make small mammal discoveries in Three Bridges Park.
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Set traps

All sessions are 5 - 6PM
Mon., Jul. 2 - Wed., Jul. 4
Mon., Jul. 9 - Wed., Jul. 11
Mon., Jul. 16 - Wed., Jul. 18
Mon., Jul. 30 - Wed., Aug. 1

Check traps

All session are 6:30 - 7:30AM
Tue., Jul. 3 - Thu., Jul. 5
Tue., Jul. 10 - Thu., Jul. 12
Tue., Jul. 17 - Thu., Jul. 19
Tue., Jul. 31 - Thu., Aug. 2



Monarch Larva Monitoring Survey

Get an up-close view of larval monarch butterflies! Find and count monarch eggs and caterpillars. *Photo credit: NCTC Creative Imagery/USFWS.*

For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free - donations appreciated

Tue., Jul. 3 | 1- 2:30PM
Tue., Jul. 10 | 1- 2:30PM
Tue., Jul. 24 | 1- 2:30PM

Tue., Jul. 31 | 1- 2:30PM
Tue., Aug. 14 | 1- 2:30PM
Tue., Aug. 21 | 1- 2:30PM

Odonate Monitoring

Help identify Dragonfly and Damselfly species.

Wed., Jul. 4 & 25 | 1- 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Monarch Larva Monitoring Survey & Pollinator Monitoring

While we're out counting monarch eggs and caterpillars we'll also photograph and identify pollinators.

Tue., Jul. 17 | 1 - 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Evening Survey: Bats and Fireflies

Join our night hike as we run acoustic surveys for bats and identify fireflies.

Mon., Jul. 23 | 8:15 - 9:45PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free - donations appreciated

Odonates & Pollinator Monitoring

While we're out looking for Dragonflies and Damselflies, we'll also photograph and identify important pollinators.

Fri., Aug. 10 | 1 - 3PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free - donations appreciated

Beetle Survey

Find beetles in our green spaces.

Sat., Aug. 18 | 9 - 11AM
For everyone | Free

Snake Surveys

We'll identify individual snakes and estimate the park's population.

Every Tue. in Jul. | 3 - 4:30PM
Every Thu. *through* Aug. 2 | 3 - 4:30PM
For adults, teens and accompanied children | Free

Three Bridges Park Walking Club

Led by Rebeca and Brett Heaton-Juarez, you'll take a lively stroll in Three Bridges Park. Wheels and dog friendly.

Fri., Jul. 13 & Aug. 10 | NOON - 1PM
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

Summer Searching: Birding and Plant ID

Land Steward Jeff Veglahn joins our bird walk as we look for wild onion, Asclepias species, partridge pea, and great St. John's wort in July and asters, goldenrods, prairie dock, cup plant, compass plant in August.

Tue., Jul. 17 & Aug. 14 | 8 - 10AM
For adults and teens | Free

Photo Phenology

Get out your cameras and watch the Valley change over the seasons.

Sat., Jul. 28 & Aug. 25 | 9:30 - 11:30AM
For adults, teens and families | Free

Early Morning Birdwalks

Every Tue. | 8 - 10AM
For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

Walk and Talk at Menomonee Valley

Join our branch manager, Glenna, to explore both our building and Three Bridges Park.

Thu., Aug. 2 | noon - 1PM
For adults | \$5 (Nonmembers: \$10)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Menomonee Valley Volunteer Orientation

Come find out how you can contribute your time and talents to the Urban Ecology Center.

Thu., Jul. 12, 26, Aug. 9 & 23 | 5:30 - 7PM
For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

ROOT Menomonee Valley

Come help us plant, weed and water Three Bridges Park, the green space along the Hank Aaron State Trail, and around the Center.

Every Wed. & Thu. (*except July 4*) | 9 - 11AM
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

Volunteer Park Rangers

Help keep our parks clean, safe and accessible. Dress for the weather and walk through the park picking up trash and noting any maintenance needs.

Every Sat. | 11AM - NOON
For everyone, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult | Free

This newsletter is a publication of the **Urban Ecology Center**, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Thanks to the generous annual contributions of 215 foundations, corporations and organizations, 3300 members and many in-kind donors the Center provides safe parks and programs for over 300,000 people per year.

To make a contribution, please see below for the easy to use form, visit our website at www.urbanecologycenter.org or call the Center at (414) 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.

LOCATIONS & HOURS

Riverside Park

1500 E. Park Place
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211
(414) 964-8505 Fax: (414) 964-1084
mforseth@urbanecologycenter.org

Hours of operation:
Monday - Thursday: 9am - 7pm
Friday & Saturday: 9am - 5pm
Sunday: Noon - 5pm

Washington Park

1859 N. 40th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208
(Mailing address: 4145 W. Lisbon Ave., 53208)
(414) 344-5460 Fax: (414) 344-5462
tevens@urbanecologycenter.org

Hours of operation:
Tuesday - Thursday: Noon - 7pm
Friday: Noon - 6pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm

Menomonee Valley

3700 W. Pierce St.
Milwaukee, WI 53215
(414) 431-2940
gholstein@urbanecologycenter.org

Hours of operation:
Tuesday - Thursday: Noon - 7pm
Friday: Noon - 6pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm

www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org
Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

BECOME A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER

By making your gift, you become a contributing member of the Center. Your support provides learning opportunities for thousands of urban youth each year and allows you to enjoy contributing membership benefits at all three of our branches.

Choose a Contributing Member Level:

- Student** - benefits one college student \$30
- Individual** - member plus one guest \$35
- Family** - two adults, and all children or grandchildren under 18 in a household plus one guest. \$45
- Other** - contributions above \$45 receive family level benefits and can help us:
provide a membership for a family in need (\$90)
provide a Summer Camp scholarship (\$200)
restore urban land with native plants (\$500)
Please enter an amount \$_____

Give a gift membership:

Gift memberships are a great way to connect your friends and family to the natural world.

Recipient Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Occasion _____ Deliver by _____

Membership Type: Individual \$35 Family \$45 Student \$30

Send the announcement card to: Me Gift Recipient Card picked up

Total \$ _____

Name I would like to remain anonymous

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email I prefer to receive my newsletter electronically (no paper newsletter)

Charge my Card Check enclosed (payable to **Urban Ecology Center**)

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ 3-digit code _____

Signature _____

Everyone is welcome! Thanks to generous donors we are able to offer need-based scholarships for memberships. For more information and to apply, please contact our Membership Staff at (414) 964-8505 or drop into one of our Centers and speak with our Visitor Services staff.

My gift is in honor of or in memory of _____

My employer (list below) has a matching gift program _____

I would like information about estate and planned giving

Please return this form to: Urban Ecology Center, 1500 E. Park Place, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

Did you know you can become a contributing member securely online? Visit urbanecologycenter.org and click Join.



Summer Camp isn't just for kids!

Choose your own summer camp adventure with a grown up twist ... beer tasting with **New Belgium Brewing Company!**

Below are some of the evening's activities. Bring some friends (or meet new friends) and set your own schedule for the night!

Campfire cooking • Giant slingshot • Slow ride bike races • Rock climbing • Photo booth • Canoeing • and more!

Also purchase Peruvian empanadas from Triciclo Perú MKE and sign up for raffle prizes.

IN THIS ISSUE

THINKING AHEAD TO 2022 ... AND BEYOND!

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

We have aspirations to do big things in Washington Park and yes, if approved, our plans could save taxpayers upwards of \$1.8 million while expanding our award-winning programming.

"FIN'TERN": A UNIQUE TYPE OF INTERNSHIP

by Beth Heller, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

While some may consider fishing a controversial activity, we at the Urban Ecology Center understand that with proper guidance, it can launch a life-long commitment to protecting our local freshwater systems.

PLANT DEFENSES

by Michaela Molter, Land Steward

Plants lack an immune system like that of animals. However, plants have developed their own unique defenses to detect bacteria, fungi, insects, and vertebrate organism invasion and stop them before mortal damage ensues.

SEE FOR YOURSELF! (NO REALLY, SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED WITH YOUR SUPPORT)

82% of Young Scientist Club participants surveyed agreed that they learn new things about nature!

FROM OVER 3,154 STUDENT VISITS, AGES 6-12

