



What the Heck is an Arboretum Anyway - and Why is it so Darn Cool?

by Ken Leinbach, Executive Director

Ok, I'll admit it. When Pieter Godfrey discussed the idea of converting the land he wished to donate into a unique ecosystem of trees ... he and I had only a vague notion of what exactly an arboretum was. My instinct in calling it an Arboretum instead of a park was less biologic and more practical - a marketing tool. The name had the panache to attract attention and hopefully the support needed for the ambitious project of tearing down an old factory and reclaiming the worn industrial land into public green space. When the marketing plan started to work, and support started to pour in, it became evident that understanding the term Arboretum was important.

I have sometimes heard an Arboretum defined as a "living museum of trees". Upon further investigation we have learned that while accurate, these "living museums" are as varied as the species that they embark to preserve. Arboreta (cool word in the plural, eh?) differ from natural woodlands as they represent a botanically significant intentional collection of trees. Some "living museums of trees," like that in the nation's capital, attempt to grow individual trees from all over the world. Others, like the Arboretum at Flagstaff, focus on the native plants that thrive in the arid environment of the Colorado plateau. While trees are common to all, arboreta in truth are botanical gardens for all plants, as a tree cannot survive in isolation. They need an ecosystem of support.

This then brings us to the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum. What is it exactly? Over the past six years, with the engagement of thousands of volunteers, experts across the state, a dedicated team on staff and numerous partner organizations an exciting vision has emerged.

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Sustainable Solutions

by Beth Heller, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

Moments before 7am on a cold Tuesday morning, Jaimie Cloud, an education for sustainability expert from New York, and I dashed up the steps of Carmen High School. We were greeted by an enthusiastic math teacher and student and guided to the classroom. There, very professional looking students anxiously prepared to share their projects with us. These students spent the previous three weeks learning about sustainability: economic, ecological and equitable understandings of the world around them. They were charged with researching, analyzing and visualizing a project that improved the sustainability of their school.

One student realized that the plastic wrapped spork (yep - the hybrid of a spoon and fork), napkin and straw distributed in the school's cafeteria created waste. After interviewing students, the kitchen manager and office staff, he could report that: 1) less than 1% of the students used straws, 2) wrapped sporks and napkins were more expensive than unwrapped, 3) the school could save thousands of dollars each year by distributing unwrapped individual napkins and sporks, and that 4) landfills have negative social impacts. If the school replaced the pre-packed set with bulk individual sporks and napkins, each day hundreds fewer plastic wrappings and straws would be sent to landfills, students would have tools they need to eat lunch and the school would save money: a win-win-win solution.

Another student handed us each a Hershey's Kiss and presented equally compelling data on recycling aluminum foil. She and a partner worked on school-wide recycling process improvement strategies. As each student presented, it was clear they had learned and applied science concepts, mathematical applications, data visualization and communications skills.

Our job was to help the students finalize their projects. Mostly we asked questions, rather than giving advice, and came to understand that some of the projects would be implemented, presented to the student body and measured. Data-driven changes to processes would

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Branch Highlights



RIVERSIDE PARK

We are honored to have the *Penokee, Explore the Iron Hills* art exhibit at the Center. This is a collective exploration of the past, present and possible futures for the Penokee Hills through art, history and information that invites you to envision a sustainable future for the area. Come in and view some remarkable art work!



WASHINGTON PARK

It's that time of year again: Earth Day! Please join us on Saturday, April 20th, from 10a - noon as we remove invasive garlic mustard from Washington Park. Then stay for an action-packed day of food, canoeing and fun for the whole family. This free festival is open from noon - 4p.



MENOMONEE VALLEY

As spring approaches, we're ready to get our hands dirty! We hope you'll help improve our outdoor classroom as we get our land stewardship programs up and running. And, drum roll, please... Milwaukee's new park, a 24 acre green space adjacent to the Center, is on track to open this summer!! Stay tuned for details.

Sustainable Solutions

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help the school become more economically, ecologically and socially responsible. We left feeling inspired and hopeful.

"Unsustainable Solution" was the headliner of the Business Journal three days later. Not a hopeful message. While the topic was not ecological in focus, it resonated with my Tuesday morning experience. The article explained that manufacturers were turning to expensive solutions, such as overtime pay, to fill the skills gaps left by an untrained workforce. I couldn't help thinking that the students who had presented on Tuesday had the skills to fill those gaps. With a little experience and training, they could even improve the manufacturing processes. Toward the end of the article, Kurt Bauer, Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce president, called for a stronger connection to high school students to build a career pipeline that includes manufacturing options. Not a bad idea. But shouldn't the learning start even earlier?

I was still reflecting on my experience at Carmen and our place in a career pipeline when I arrived a few days later at a Rotary lunch. A very good friend, David, approached me. He is the kind of rare good friend who is honest, always, and not afraid to share. So when he explained that he had feedback about the Center, I knew that what came next would be valuable, even if I didn't want to hear it. I was right.

David volunteers as a reading coach at Brown Street Academy, a MPS public elementary school and partner of the Urban Ecology Center. After his class came to the Center he asked the students about their experience. "Did you learn something?" he asked.

"Yes," replied a few of the students.

"What did you study?"

"Simple Machines" someone responded.

Ah-ha, David thought, now I can see if they really did learn something. "Tell me about simple machines" he posed.

"An inclined plane is a simple machine." "So is a wheel and axle." "And a wedge," several students reply. "They make work easier..." Students chimed in, excitedly building upon each other's explanations.

David was impressed by the amount of knowledge they retained and how eager they were to share it. Later he chatted with the teacher. She expressed deep appreciation for the Center. She shared that the hands-on application of these science concepts made learning come to life for her students.

Both David and I see the importance of investing in those children. Young students have the capacity to grow into bright high school students, like those at Carmen High, and eventually employees of the businesses vital to our city. It all connects. Learning is the heart of sustaining our city and our economy. Sustainable solutions start with learning, and the learning process is full of hope and promise.

Visit our website to discover the many ways in which you can get involved with the learning process at the Center. We'll help students build skills that will bring hope and inspire confidence in a sustainable future. 🌱



Save the Date!

6th Annual Summer Solstice Soiree and Auction will be June 15, 2013

Plan to join us for a special evening of food, music and fun to benefit the Center's mission. Watch our website for additional information coming soon!

WISH LIST

Our Wish List has moved to our website!

Below are a few items we need. Visit our website for an expanded list.

Riverside Park

- 2 Garmin GPS units (Geocache grade)
- Kids gardening gloves
- Paper shredder (fairly new)
- Potting soil & quality topsoil
- Rain ponchos/jackets- all sizes
- Rolling office chairs with arms
- String trimmer and scythes

Washington Park

- Chopping knives
- Functioning aquarium pumps and filters
- Hand gardening shears
- Kickballs and soccer balls
- Kids' work gloves
- Power washer
- Vegetable garden seeds
- Watering wand

Menomonee Valley

- Blenders
- 5-gallon buckets with handles
- Leaf rakes
- Bow rakes
- Bird feathers
- Native Wisconsin animal mounts/pelts
- Set of rubber animal tracks and scat
- Ceramic magnets

Credits:



Carijean Buhk
Editor

The Urban Ecology Center Newsletter is created and distributed through a team effort by the following people: Carijean Buhk, Ginger Duiven, Demetria Dunn, Judy Krause, Jeff McAvoy, Pat Mueller and Shirley Spelt.

Contributing writers: Terrance Davis, Jamie Ferschinger, Beth Heller, Glenna Holstein and Ken Leinbach.

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



*A rendering of what the future oak savanna will look like after years of growth.
Rendering by Amanda Kingsbury.*

The Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum

This project is becoming a reality thanks to the support of the Rotary Club of Milwaukee, Pieter Godfrey, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, The River Revitalization Foundation, Wisconsin DNR, Milwaukee County Parks, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee River Greenway Coalition and many more donors and volunteers.

40
acres
total

This includes Riverside Park and donated land spanning from bluff to bank along the Milwaukee River and along the Oak Leaf Trail from Locust St. to North Ave.



September 2012 saw the demolition of vacant buildings on Arboretum site.

2,200
new trees

In the Arboretum we will have **72 species** in all, this includes the 28 species already in Riverside Park.



over
34,000
shrubs & plants

With wildflowers shrubs and more, the Arboretum will be a highly biologically diverse urban habitat!



In the fall of 2012, bulldozers and diggers began sculpting the new berms for the oak savanna.



10,000
volunteer hours

That's a lot of time, and we're not done yet! There's even more to do! Check out our Volunteer Opportunities listing for ways you can help!

If you'd like to support programs like these, consider volunteering or making a donation. Learn how at www.urbanecologycenter.org



Becoming

by Glenna Holstein, Branch Manager - Menomonee Valley

I am not a parent, so I can't claim to know what the highs and lows of parenthood might be, but I imagine one of the most incredible experiences must be to witness the transition from not being into being: to have in your life, all of a sudden, a wonderful living thing that wasn't there at all before.

I got to experience that a little bit the other day at the Menomonee Valley branch. It was a Saturday, a day I don't typically work, and I was just stopping by to show off the place to some friends who were visiting. We opened the front door and it was like stepping into another world. The energy in the building was palpable—giggles wafted toward us from a birthday party in the Community Room, the volunteer on the phone at the reception desk smiled and waved as we entered and cheerful greetings came at us from every direction—from every staff, Outdoor

Leader and Young Scientist in the building!

I showed my friends the highlights of the building, of course, but what delighted us the most was observing what was going on. Community Program staff Lainet and John were getting ready to take our Young Scientists Club skiing. Omar, our Visitor Services Assistant, was facilitating a birthday party rental and helping a family borrow snowshoes. And our High School Outdoor Leader interns were doing... everything! Tomás was covering the reception desk, Gabby and Andrea were engaging some of the kids who had stopped by and Richard and Patrick were confidently showing my friends around the animal room as they fed and watered the animals. Oh, and remember Marcel, the young man from my story in September who heard about the animal room that would soon be coming and decided he

wanted to work here? Guess who was in that very animal room proudly showing me how well he could handle our 5-foot bull snake?

As I stood amid this swirl of activity, I felt a profound sense of awe. What I was experiencing seemed nearly impossible a year ago. This physical place did not exist and a year ago not a single one of the people working on that Saturday was an employee of the Center. Reflecting on the last few months, I realize that I have gotten to witness quite a miraculous event: something going from nonexistent to truly being. And, though it's not exactly like a new child, there is something pretty darn magical about this "wonderful living thing that wasn't there at all before". I hope each of you will come experience this place as it comes into its own. 🌱



Every Drop Counts

by Jamie Ferschinger, Branch Manager - Riverside Park

When I was in college I took a year-long course titled Water 211. Before taking the class, I had a fairly average depth of knowledge and relationship with water: I consumed water, I used water, and I knew the basics about water. But beyond that, I didn't give it much additional thought. Upon completion of the class my deep, and somewhat nerdy, fascination with water had blossomed. Water is truly amazing! Second to no other molecule, in my book.

In our everyday lives water is pretty ubiquitous; we live on the shores of Lake Michigan, there is a faucet in every house and public building, and we live in a humid continental climate. We are extremely lucky! This reality is not true throughout the world. Water is an extremely precious resource that is easy to take for granted when it is at your finger tips. So, here

are some reminders of the wonders of water and reasons to not take it for granted.

All life depends on water and we cannot create nor destroy it; there is the same amount on the planet today as there was when dinosaurs were here. And while we cannot affect the quantity of water on the planet, we can affect the quality and the distribution of it.

Water covers about 70% of the earth's surface. However, only about 3% of that water is fresh water, and about 0.014% of that water is readily available to us. Accessibility to fresh, safe drinking water is a privilege that is not shared by everyone throughout our country and the world.

The five enormous Great Lakes hold one fifth of the world's fresh water. Lake Michigan is

the second largest Great Lake by volume. Lake Michigan is in our backyard, it is where we get our drinking water, it is where we recreate, it is what affects our local climate, and its shore is where we watch the sun rise. It is a resource that we all use and enjoy, and it is our responsibility to be stewards of it.

So, let's protect it! You can do things at your own home and in your community. There are a number of resources in Milwaukee for people to refer to when trying to make water-wise decisions. Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful (KGMB), Milwaukee Water Council, and UWM School of Fresh Water Sciences are a few examples. There is also a new online resource called H2O Score designed to help people "make smart, voluntary conservation

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MARCH & APRIL

Quick Guide

An abbreviated listing of what's happening at the Urban Ecology Center. Find full descriptions and register online at www.urbanecologycenter.org/calendar



EARTH DAY FESTIVALS

Saturday, April 20 | Noon - 4PM

For everyone / Free - donations appreciated

AT ALL THREE BRANCHES!

Riverside Park

Enjoy fun outdoor activities, discovery hikes, rock climbing, making crafts, learning basic tai chi, getting a bite to eat from a local food vendor, and listening to a Korean drum performance.

Washington Park

Join us early for Weed Out at 10am, then explore nature in our park with an afternoon of canoeing, food, volunteering and fun activities for all!

Menomonee Valley

Celebrate nature in our neighborhood with an afternoon of outdoor exploration, crafts, food, volunteering and fun for the whole family!

Earth Day Festival for Afternoon Nappers

Bring your children, ages 5 and younger, to this fun Earth Day "festival" made just for them. Activities include a craft, hike, stories and more! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please register, space is limited.

(RP) Sat., Apr., 20 | 10:30 AM - noon

For children ages 5 and under accompanied by an adult

Free - donations appreciated

Earth Day Photo Phenology

Join us for a special meeting of this club as we celebrate Earth Day! Get out your cameras and watch the Valley change through the seasons and through the years! This club meets each month to take photographs and draw pictures of the natural area around the Center. We hope to create a picture record to help us understand the way the Valley is changing and the factors at play. Bring a camera if you can, but no photography experience is necessary -- we will learn as we go!

(MV) Sat., Apr., 20 | 2:00 - 3:30 PM

For adults, teens and families | Free - donations appreciated



11th Annual Local Farmer Open House

Get a share of the harvest! Meet local farmers and learn how you can buy directly from a farmer through Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). If you are new to CSAs or have been subscribing for years, this event is for you. Attend workshops and stay for lunch! Food available to purchase.

(RP) Saturday, March 9 | 11AM - 4PM | Free!

This events guide gives you a "snapshot" view of the programs and events happening at the Urban Ecology Center's three branches. Full descriptions and details can be found on our website at www.urbanecologycenter.org/calendar

ABOUT THE Quick Guide

As our online tools improve, we strive to rely less on paper based communications. This "quick guide" is meant to inform you about the programs happening at the Urban Ecology Center's three branches and give you a brief description and any essential information you may need for them. Full details and registration forms can be found on our website at: www.urbanecologycenter.org/calendar

RIVERSIDE PARK



So many fantastic programs in this newsletter, I hardly know what to highlight! Bird banding is back! Join us in the field on **Tuesdays in late April**. Sip

coffee at **Sustainable Coffee Tastings on Saturday March 16th and April 6th**. For lil' ones, look for **Spring Kindernature on April 13th**. Learn to graft a tree. Make maple syrup and more! You all are going to be busy!

— *Jamie Ferschinger*
Branch Manager - Riverside Park

WASHINGTON PARK



Who likes pancakes? I do! Join us during the **first four Saturdays in March** to learn how to **collect and make maple syrup**. We will take a stroll through

Washington Park as we learn about this age old tradition. Samples of the finished product are also included! **On April 6th we will have a Pancake Breakfast** featuring the syrup we've made this spring. Sweet!!!

— *Willie Karidis*,
Branch Manager - Washington Park

MENOMONEE VALLEY



There are lots of new ways to get involved at Menomonee Valley! Join us every week for **Work Outside Wednesdays** or our **Youth Project Crew**, both

new this month, or come learn the basics of sustainable growing at the **Permaculture Workshop on March 2nd**. Come learn about the **H2Oscore program on March 11th and 23rd** to improve your water conservation at home! And join us for our very first **Earth Day Celebration in the Valley on April 20th!**

— *Glenna Holstein*,
Branch Manager - Menomonee Valley

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

Pancake Breakfast

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

Thank you to Outpost Natural Food Co-Op for donating the pancakes and fruit. Yum!

(WP) Saturday, April | 10:30am - noon

For everyone | Adults: \$6 (Nonmembers - \$9); Children: \$4 (Nonmembers - \$7)

The Kids Outdoor Adventure Book Family Nature Party

To celebrate the release of their new book, *The Kids Outdoor Adventure Book: 448 Great Things To Do In Nature Before You Grow Up*, Milwaukee authors Stacy Tornio and Ken Keffer are hosting a Family Nature Party. Stations include seed-starting, trail mix making, a bubble station, face painting (small fee required) and a scavenger hunt. Book signing starts at 2pm.

(RP) Sat., Apr., 13 | 1 - 4pm

For families | Free - donations appreciated



THIRD ANNUAL

GREEN BIRDING CHALLENGE

Save the Date!

This year's Challenge is
Saturday, May 11!

Spring is just around the corner. Time to plan your next birding adventure!

Get out your hiking shoes, dust off your bikes, clean up your binoculars and fluff up your seat cushions! **The 3rd Annual Green Birding Challenge** is set for **Saturday, May 11th**. More information for this fun, healthy and fossil-free challenge will be coming soon.

Get weekly emails about
our programs!

THE
WEEKLY
GUIDE

Our Main email Newsletter
list of events for the coming week



THE
WEEKLY
R&R

Research & Restoration News
native plant and animal of the month

Sign up on our website
www.urbanecologycenter.org

MARCH

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Quick Guide

Girl Scouts at the Center

Sweet and Sappy

Discover the magic and simplicity of maple syrup production. Learn to recognize maple trees, extract sap and reduce it into a delicious treat.

(WP) Sat., Mar. 2 | 9a - noon
For Brownies, grades 2-3 | Please visit www.gswise.org to register

Where's the Water?

Explore vibrant wetlands created to protect the Menomonee River from storm water flooding.

(MV) Sat., Apr. 27 | 9am - noon
For Brownies, grades 2-3 | Please visit www.gswise.org to register

Introduction to Maple Sugaring

Participate in the classic Wisconsin winter activity of collecting maple sap and boiling it down into syrup. Samples included! Dress to be outside.

(WP) Sats., Mar. 9, 16 & 23 | 10 - 11:30am
For adults and accompanied children
Adults: \$6 (Nonmembers - \$9);
Children: \$4 (Nonmembers - \$6)

Honey Soap Making

Join Kat Theisen to learn how to make your own soap using organic, local sunflower oil and honey. This hands-on class will focus on the basics of cold process soap making.

(MV) Sat., Mar. 9 | 2 - 4pm
For adults and families with children ages 8 and up | \$20 (Nonmembers - \$25)

Animal Feeding

Help feed the Center's resident turtles, snakes and fish.

(RP) **(WP)** & **(MV)** Every Sat. | 1pm
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

From Tap to Drain

Celebrate National Fix a Leak Week! Join Cora Lee-Palmer from the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District on a interactive journey through the process of treating drinking water and wastewater.

(RP) Thu., Mar. 14 | 5 - 6pm
For families | Adults: \$6 (Nonmembers: \$9), Children \$4 (Nonmembers: \$7)

Young Scientists Club Sweet Maple Sugaring!

Come learn how to make real maple syrup and then sample the results!

(RP) Sat., Mar. 16 | 1 - 4pm
For Young Scientists and their families from all three locations | Free - donations appreciated

Animal Talk: How Animals Communicate Through Sound, Sight and Smell

Discover the ways animals communicate and what they tell each other.

(RP) Mon., Mar. 18 | 4 - 5pm
For families with children in grades 1-4 | Adults: \$6 (Nonmembers - \$9), Children: \$4 (Nonmembers - \$7)

Music of Nature

Join our Young Scientists as we team with a professional musician from Present Music to compose an original song. Bring instruments or make your own!

(WP) Tue., Mar. 19 & Thu., Mar. 21 | 4:15 - 5:15pm
Children ages 7 - 12, under 7 must be accompanied by an adult | Free - donations appreciated

Food Fridays

Join our Young Scientists in our Learning Gardens and help us cook tasty meals with the harvest!

(WP) Every Fri. | 4 - 6pm
For kids ages 7-12 years old | Free for Young Scientist Club members (Nonmembers: \$5 suggested donation)

From Sap to Syrup!

Maple Sugaring Program

Follow the flow from sap to syrup as we learn all about the maple sugaring process. Registration recommended.

(RP) Sats., Mar. 23, 30 & Apr. 6 | 10a - noon
For families and children | Adults: \$10 (Nonmembers - \$12), Children: \$8 (Nonmembers - \$10)

Let's Make Some Rainbow Eggs

Get creative using dyes made from foods, spices and other natural sources to color hard-boiled eggs. You'll learn some amazing things about eggs as we go. Two eggs per person provided. Registration required.

(RP) Sun., Mar. 24 | 2 - 3pm
For families | \$5 per person (Nonmembers - \$7 per person)

Signs of Spring Hike

Join us as we emerge from winter and search for the first signs of spring in the Menomonee Valley. We'll be on the lookout for birds returning home, plants budding and animal tracks!

(MV) Sat., Mar. 30 | 10 - 11:30am
For families and children | Free - donations appreciated

Camping 101

Learn all the essentials for planning a canoeing or backpacking trip. Plus, learn how our equipment lending program can outfit your getaway.

(MV) Wed., Apr. 3 | 5 - 6:30pm
For adults and families with children 10 and up | \$5 (Nonmembers - \$10)

Early Bloomers:

Wildflower Search

Learn about some of the early blooming flowers of Wisconsin as we search through Riverside Park to see what's growing!

(RP) Sun., Apr. 7 | 1:30 - 3pm
For families and children | Adults: \$6 (Nonmembers - \$9), Children: \$4 (Nonmembers - \$7)

Kindernature:

Spring Discovery

Discover the wonders of spring! Have fun exploring nature together through self-led, spring-themed activity stations both indoors and outdoors.

(RP) Sat., Apr. 13 | 9:30 - 11am
For children ages 3-5 accompanied by an adult | \$5 (Nonmembers - \$7)

Science Station Exploration!

Drop in to discover the world of Biology, Physics and Chemistry. Do hands-on experiments at every station, touch live animals and have fun!

(MV) Sat., Apr. 13 | 10am - noon
For families and children | Free - donations appreciated

Young Scientists Club

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.

(RP) Every Mon - Thu | 4 - 5:30pm
For ages 5 through 12 | \$10 annual fee (Plus suggested daily donation - \$5)
Space is limited to 12 participants, please register ahead of time

(WP) Every Tue - Fri. | 4 - 6pm
and Every Sat | 1 - 4pm
For kids ages 7-12 years old
\$10 annual membership

(MV) Every Tue. & Thu. | 4 - 6pm
and Every Sat. | 1 - 4pm
For ages 5-12 | \$10 annual membership

Science Saturdays and Sundays

Discover the world of science through self-led interactive activities and crafts. The theme for March and April is: ENERGY.

(RP) Drop in program
Every Sat. | 10am - 4pm
Every Sun. | 1 - 4pm
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

Some programs fill quickly!
Register today to save your spot!



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) 964-8505

3 **IN PERSON:**
Just stop by!

(RP) = Riverside Park
1500 E. Park Pl.

(WP) = Washington Park
1859 N. 40th St.

(MV) = Menomonee Valley
3700 W. Pierce St.



= Accessible for persons with disabilities
Please call 2 weeks ahead of time

Quick Guide

World Water Day and Fix a Leak Week Programs

Count Every Drop: Water Conservation at Home

Join H2Oscore and Milwaukee Plumbing and Piping and learn how the pros conduct a home water audit and fix simple leaks. Find out how H2Oscore online dashboards can help you save money.

(RP) Mon., Mar. 11 | 5 - 7pm
For adults and teens | \$7
(Nonmembers - \$10)

What is your H2Oscore?

H2Oscore.com provides everyone who pays a water bill in Milwaukee with an online display of their home's water use. Learn how to use this free service and start conserving!

(MV) Sat., Mar. 23 | 10 - 11am
For adults | Free - donations appreciated

Edible Gardening for Sustainability Series Cospnsored by Victory Garden Initiative

Come and gain a sustainable perspective on growing food.

Growing Greens and Succession Planting

(WP) Sat., Mar. 9 | 9am - noon

Pruning, Training and Grafting Fruit and Nut Trees

(WP) Sat., Apr. 13 | 9am - noon

For adults | \$110 for the series or \$18 per courses | To register visit victorygardeninitiative.org

Research Lecture Series presented by BMO Harris

Disparities in Neighborhood Access to Food and the Implications for Health Outcomes

Join us as we learn about neighborhoods lacking healthful and nutritious foods, referred to as "food deserts", and how this lack affects personal health. Speaker: Renee Walker, DrPH, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health.

(RP) Tue., Mar. 12 | 7 - 8:30pm
For adults | \$5 (Nonmembers: \$10)

Learning to Speak the Language of Science

Think statistics aren't important because they can be spun in different directions? The truth is there's a strong framework of rules behind data analysis and interpretation. Learn some of these rules that will help you speak better science! Speaker: Tim Vargo, Manager of Research and Citizen Science, Urban Ecology Center.

(RP) Tue., Apr. 9 | 7 - 8:30pm
For adults | \$5
(Nonmembers - \$10)

Introduction to Permaculture Workshop

Learn permaculture basics in this workshop offered by UWSP Global Environmental Management Education Center. Please bring a sack lunch. For more visit <http://www4.uwsp.edu/cnr/gem/>.

(MV) Sat., Mar. 2 | 10am - 3pm
For adults | \$40 (Nonmembers: \$50)

Getting a Grip on Home Energy Use

Professional energy auditor from E3 Efficient Energy Evaluations, LLC., Kent Borden will explore ways you can reduce natural gas and electricity usage, save money, and improve the comfort levels of your home. Center members have the chance to win a free home energy audit!

(WP) Wed., Mar. 13 | 7 - 8:30pm
For adults | \$5 (Nonmembers: \$10)

Grafting Fruit Trees

In this class you'll graft and take home two semi-dwarf trees of your choice (apple, pear or plum). Root stocks and scion wood provided. Additional materials available for a fee. Bring a sharp knife or there will be some available. Registration required by March 14.

(RP) Sat., Mar. 16 | Noon - 2pm
For adults | \$18 (Nonmembers: \$20)

Scion Wood Exchange

Join fellow fruit tree enthusiasts as we swap stories and trade scion wood from various trees. Bring as many types of cuttings as you wish. This event will immediately follow our grafting class.

(RP) Sat., Mar. 16 | 2 - 4pm
For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

Sustainable Coffee Tasting

Join coffee experts as you taste locally roasted coffee from around the world. Learn about the growing regions, sustainable farming practices, coffee notes, aromas and more!

(RP) Sat., Mar. 16 &
April 6 | 10 - 11am
For adults | \$6 (Nonmembers - \$8)

From Beak to Tail:

All About the Life of Birds

Join Tim Vargo, Manager of Research and Citizen Science, for an in-depth look into the wonders of bird ecology, conservation and behavior.

(MV) Tue., Mar. 26 | 5 - 6:30pm
(WP) Thu., Apr. 25 | 5:30 - 7pm
For adults | \$5 (Nonmembers - \$10)

Cranes of Bosque del Apache Trip Information Session

Have you ever watched thousands of cranes fly overhead as the sun sets? Experience that and more as we travel to Bosque del Apache Wildlife preserve in New Mexico this November. Come to this informational session and learn more about this exciting excursion!

(MV) Thu., Mar. 28 | 6 - 7pm
For adults | Free - donations appreciated

Bird Banding Workshop

Would you like to learn how to band birds? Learn banding basics, protocols and history in this workshop. Dress for the weather.

(RP) Tue., Apr. 9 | 8 - 11am
For adults | Free - donations appreciated

Garden Mentor Training Cospnsored by

Victory Garden Initiative

Experience the joy of mentoring a new gardener this year. Mentors will be matched with their mentee in May.

(WP) Wed., April 10 | 6 - 8pm or
Sat., Apr. 27 | 10am - noon
For adults | Free - donations appreciated | To register, please visit www.victorygardeninitiative.org

Frog and Toad Survey

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

(WP) Thu., Apr. 11 | 7:15 - 11:15pm
For adults | Free - donations appreciated (Nonmembers - \$5)

Some programs fill quickly!
Register today to save your spot!



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) 964-8505

3 **IN PERSON:**
Just stop by!

(RP) = Riverside Park
1500 E. Park Pl.

(WP) = Washington Park
1859 N. 40th St.

(MV) = Menomonee Valley
3700 W. Pierce St.



= Accessible for persons with disabilities
Please call 2 weeks ahead of time

Quick Guide

Grafting Workshop

Cosponsored by
Victory Garden Initiative

Practice various types of graft on real trees out in the community! Each student will receive a small root-stock tree to take home.

(WP) Sat., Apr. 13 | 12:30 - 3:30pm
For adults | \$18 | To register, please visit www.victorygardeninitiative.org

Cooking Circle:

Let's Make Risotto!

In this hands-on class you'll learn the basics of making the perfect risotto using the right rice, fresh local vegetables and Wisconsin cheese. Get ideas about how to creatively adapt this dish from season to season -- even turning it into a dessert course! Recipes will be provided. Bring an apron and containers to take leftovers home. Registration required by April 12.

(RP) Mon., Apr. 15 | 6 - 8:30pm
For adults | \$25 (Nonmembers - \$30)

Spring Bird Banding

Get your day off to a great start! Help us band birds as they make their way through Riverside Park during their spring migration. Work with other volunteers and researcher, Jennifer Callaghan, at these Spring Bird Banding sessions. No experience is needed.

(RP) Tues., Apr. 16, 23 & Wed., Apr. 24
Tue., Apr. 30 | 5:30a. - Noon
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

ART AT THE CENTER

Art Opening: Penokee, Explore the Iron Hills

This exhibit is comprised of 20 artists from the Penokee area exploring their relationship to the Hills. A recent proposal to mine iron in the Penokee Range of Northern WI has stimulated discussion bringing attention to this beautiful corner of the state. Their goal is to encourage citizens to explore the heritage and future of the area. Refreshments will be served. Artist presentation at 6pm. Exhibit runs through June.

(RP) Mon., Apr., 8 | 5 - 7pm
For everyone | Free - donations appreciated

URBAN ADVENTURES

Milwaukee Magnificent Waters Series

Watercourse Rehabilitation on the Kinnickinnic River

Join us for a hike along the Kinnickinnic River near Baran Park to view the recently completed watercourse rehabilitation project. Meet at Riverside Park.

(RP) Sat., Mar. 30 | 9:30 - 11:30am
For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated
(Nonmembers - \$5)

New Perspectives of an Urban Waterway

The Milwaukee River is a prominent feature of the city's landscape. Enjoy a stroll along the Riverwalk and discover the river from environmental, historical and social perspectives. Meet at Riverside Park.

(RP) Mon., Apr. 15 | 4:30 - 6pm
For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated (Nonmembers - \$5)

River Clean-up by Canoe

Help us clean-up trash in the Kinnickinnic River by canoe! You can explore an urban waterway, practice your canoeing skills and improve the aesthetic quality of the river all at the same time! Transportation provided from the Riverside Park branch.

(RP) Sat., Apr. 27 |
9:30am - 12:30pm
For adults and families with children ages 10 and up | Free - donations appreciated

HOMESCHOOL SERIES

Phenology Fun!

Join us as we have Fun With Phenology! Seasons change and bring new opportunities for outdoor learning and exploration. Phenology is the study of these changes. In this two-month Homeschool series, we explore different ways humans and animals alike adapt and grow in spring.

For homeschoolers | \$5
(Nonmembers - \$7)

Tue., Mar. 5 | 2 - 3:30pm

Maple Sugaring at Washington Park
(WP) Tue., Mar 12 | 2 - 3:30pm

Phenology in the Menomonee Valley
(MV) Tue., Mar. 19 | 2 - 3:30pm

Wildflowers of Spring in Riverside Park
(RP) Tue., Apr. 9 | 2 - 3:30pm

Vegetable Garden Preparation in Washington Park

(WP) Tue., April 23 | 2 - 3:30pm



Open Climb

The warmer weather is back and so is Open Climb! Stop in after work or school and enjoy climbing our three story rock wall. All equipment is provided and trained belayers are on hand to assist. Registration required.

(RP) Every Sun. in Apr. | 2 - 4pm
For adults, teens, and families | Adults: \$10 (Nonmembers - \$12); Children: \$8 (Nonmembers - \$10)

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Quick Guide

Volunteer Orientation

Come find out how you can contribute your time and talents here!

- (RP) Fri., Mar. 1 | 3 - 4:30pm
- (RP) Tue., Mar. 12 | 5:30 - 7pm
- (RP) Sat., Mar. 23 | 10:30am - noon
- (RP) Wed., Apr. 3 | 5:30 - 7pm
- (RP) Sat., Apr. 13 | 10:30am - noon
- (RP) Fri., Apr. 26 | 3 - 4:30pm

- (WP) Sat., Mar. 9 | 10:30 - 11:30am
- (WP) Wed., Mar. 13 | 4:30 - 5:30pm
- (WP) Thu., Mar. 28 | 5:30 - 6:30pm
- (WP) Thu., Apr. 11 | 4:30 - 5:30pm
- (WP) Tue., Apr. 23 | 3:30 - 4:30pm

- (MV) Fri., Mar. 8 | 3 - 4:30pm
 - (MV) Wed., Mar. 20 | 5:30 - 7pm
 - (MV) Sat., Apr. 13 | 10:30am - noon
 - (MV) Wed., Apr. 24 | 5:30 - 7pm
- For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

Menomonee Valley Teen Volunteer Orientation

Looking to make new friends and learn new skills? Find out how you can contribute your time and talents here!

- (MV) Sat., Mar. 2 | 10:30am - noon
- For teens | Free

Volunteer Belayer Training

Interested in volunteering to help with our rock climbing programs? Attend our volunteer belayer training to learn climbing wall procedure and safety.

- (RP) Tue., Mar. 26 | 6 - 8:00pm
 - or Sat., Mar. 30 | 1 - 3pm
- For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

Global Youth Service Day at Washington Park

Come on down for National Youth Service Day! Clean up the park and meet some new friends!

- (WP) Sat., Apr. 27 | 1 - 4pm
- For youth ages 7-16 | Free - donations appreciated | Drop in program, no registration required

Menomonee Valley Work Outside Wednesday

Green up your thumbs while keeping our gardens looking great and welcoming to wildlife.

- (MV) Every Wed. | 1 - 3pm
- For adults, families and teens | Free - donations appreciated

Burdock Brigade

Help us restore our parks by removing exotic invasive plants and propagating and planting native species.

- (WP) Every Thu. | 4 - 5:30pm

- (RP) Every Tue. | 9 - 11am
 - (RP) 1st & 3rd Sat. of the month | 9:30 - 11am
- For adults, families, and teens
Free - donations appreciated

Volunteer Papermaking

Feeling creative? Join other Center volunteers and learn the art of recycled papermaking to create beautiful gifts for our Center's supporters.

- (RP) Every Thu. | 4 - 6pm
- For adults and teens | Free - donations appreciated

Forestry Fridays

Help us improve the health of our forests in Riverside Park and the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum.

- (RP) Every Fri. | 2 - 4pm
- For adults, families and teens
Free - donations appreciated

Youth Project Crew

Are you handy with tools? Do you have an eye for design? Come lend a hand and learn new skills with other teens as we take on projects ranging from minor equipment repairs to helping with larger installations!

- (MV) Every Fri. | 4:30 - 6pm
- For teens, ages 13-17 | Free - donations appreciated

Volunteer Park Ranger Crew

Dress for the weather and join other volunteers as we walk along the trail and through the park picking up trash, pulling invasive species and noting any maintenance needs.

- (MV) Sat., Mar. 9 or 16 | 10am - noon
 - (MV) Every Thu., starting Mar. 21 | 10am - noon
 - (WP) Every Sat. | 10 - 11am
 - (RP) Every 2nd, 4th & 5th Sat. of the month | 9:30 - 11am
- For everyone, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult
Free - donations appreciated

INTEREST GROUPS

Victory Garden Initiative Eat and Meet

- (WP) Tue., Mar. 5 & Apr. 2
- 6:30 - 8pm

Photo Club

- (RP) Thu., Mar. 7 & Apr. 4
- 6:30 - 8:30pm

New Urban Friends

- (RP) Mon., Mar. 11 | 7 - 9pm

Friends of Real Food: *Potluck Dinner and Program*

Fatuma Emmad, Local Farmer and Good Food Advocate

- (RP) Wed., Mar. 13 | 6 - 8pm

UWM Sustainability Projects: Good Food, Gardens, Composting & More!

- (RP) Wed., Apr. 10 | 6 - 8pm


Urban Echo Poets

- (RP) Thu., Mar. 14 & Apr. 11
- 7 - 8:30pm

Urban Stargazers

- (RP) Thu., Mar. 14 & Apr. 11
- 7 - 8:30pm

Transition Milwaukee:

All City Hub Meeting 

- (RP) Mon., Mar. 25 & Apr. 22 | 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Early Morning Birdwalks

- (MV) Every Tue. | 8am
- (WP) Every Wed. | 8am
- (RP) Every Thu. | 8am



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What the Heck is an Arboretum Anyway?

continued from page 1

The Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum, which will open in September, will be a 40 acre tract of urban nature uniquely managed as an outdoor classroom, research site and public sanctuary free for everyone to enjoy. The National Forest Service has already dedicated this land as a Children's Forest, meaning that the unique needs of children are considered in every step of design. For example, in our Arboretum there will be "Imaginature areas" scattered throughout the acreage — special places intended for children to "discover and play" be it a well placed hollow log, or a tree enhanced for safe climbing.

Collectively this land will harbor representative samples of every tree indigenous to Southeastern Wisconsin (there are 28 species in Riverside Park, soon we will have 72!), as well as a vast number of native plants and an impressive array of Wisconsin ecosystems.

Some of the land within the 40 acre boundary already exist as a mature forest, like that of Riverside Park. Other portions have trees, but are not currently managed with intention. The riparian land along the East Bank Trail as well as stretches of the Oak Leaf Trail near the Center fall into this category.

Perhaps the most interesting and exciting portion of the project is completely being built from scratch. This section of newly sculpted hills, where a factory and brickyard stood just six months ago, will be the gateway to the Arboretum. Visitors will park and enter through the 20 foot high stone archway being built between two long earthen berms hiding the magic within. A paved pathway designed to accommodate all people, including those in a wheel chair, will wind through these hills to the river. While the rest of the Arboretum will be closed canopy woodland (think Wisconsin woods with tall mature trees close together), this "new land" will be a re-creation of one of the most endangered ecosystems in the United States - the oak savanna.

At the time of European settlement oak

savannas covered most of the lower half of Wisconsin (including parts of Milwaukee). Today less than 0.02% of the original ecosystem exists. Oak savannas amounted to about 50,000,000 acres in a mostly continuous band stretching along the eastern edge of the Great Plains from Texas (through Wisconsin) into southern Canada. Now there is hardly a trace left.

How is this possible? Where did it go?

To know where it went you first have to know what it is. An oak savanna ecosystem is essentially a very open forest — large trees (not just oaks) growing individually or in clusters amidst an impressive diversity of under-story plants. As described from in the 1800s:

"When the county was first settled there was no underbrush or small timber such as now exists. The timbered lands were open, the trees standing so far apart that hunters could see the deer at distances from one to five hundred yards." — Joseph Mudd, 1888

"...clumps of oaks of centuries' growth, tall grass, with seed stalks from six to ten feet high, tall and slender reeds waving in a gentle breeze, the whole presenting a magnificence of park scenery, complete from the hand of Nature." — George Flower, 1817

The oak savannah is one of the most biologically diverse and beautiful of the Midwest ecosystems. Its diversity derives from being a composite of woodland plants, prairie plants as well as a few plants that are unique to the savanna like the giant yellow hyssop, purple milkweed, cream gentian and yellow pimpernel to name a few. Something is always flowering in a savanna and they teem with insect, bird and wildlife. This evolving and active ecosystem with well shaped mature trees (as they grow in full sun) dotting the landscape is pleasing to the eye and the soul.

As to where they went to — oak savannas were in the meteorological area of the country that we sometimes call tornado ally. Lightning

storms in this section of the US produced frequent fires that only fire-resistant mature hardwood trees like oaks could survive. Native Americans would start fires as well to keep these lands open for game. In the spaces between these massive trees were grasses and prairie plants which, thanks to their deep roots, could regenerate after large fires. This unique open forest survived as a stable ecosystem for tens of thousands of years in a symbiotic relationship, oddly enough, with wild fires. When settlers arrived on the scene two things happened. First, it was discovered that these deep rooted plants over millennia had created incredible top soil making for some of the best farming in the country. Second, people like to put out fires. In an amazingly short time frame with human suppression of fires and prolific cultivation the oak savanna quickly followed the buffalo to almost total extinction.

Our savanna, while small, will take time to develop into maturity (50 to 100 years in truth) but will be beautiful to watch evolve. From day one it will offer a multitude of wild flowers with sweeping vistas of the Milwaukee River Valley unlike anywhere else in the seven mile urban river corridor.

In total the Arboretum will boast over 2,200 new trees within its 40 acre boundary. Most of these will be planted outside of the six acre savanna in the areas managed for closed canopy woods. In the savanna, however, we will be planting 35 of our largest trees to give the ecosystem a good head start. Large means trees that are 15 to 20 feet tall with trunk diameters of four to five inches. At first they will seem small to the landscape, but in full sun they will soon grow into enormous, spreading, magnificent representatives of their species. It will truly be a gem in Milwaukee for generations to come.

So, are you excited? We certainly are! Want to get involved? There are so many ways! Come volunteer! We have weekly stewardship drop in times. Donate a tree. Watch progress from our tower and check out our website for more details! 🌱



From Behind the Reception Desk

by Terrance Davis, Visitor Services Assistant

Having started my new position as the Visitor Services Assistant in November, I have been fortunate to observe the daily branch activities here in Washington Park. My conclusion... The Washington Park Urban Ecology Center fills me with happiness each day! There are so many things that fill me with joy, and I certainly had a huge smile on my face when I was asked to write this article for the Urban Ecology Center's newsletter. But nothing prompts a smile faster than the smile of another person. It's contagious. Just ask my friends and co-workers at the Urban Ecology Center; they will confirm that I keep a smile on my face all the time. There are so many people to thank for this: members, volunteers, visitors, staff and donors; they all play a role in making Washington Park, a wonderful place to be.

From behind the reception desk I have the privilege of interacting with everyone who walks through our doors. When an Urban Ecology Center member or program participant returns a pair of skis with an awesome story to share about his adventure, I can't wait to hear about it. I love the fact that we offer people of the community recreational and learning

opportunities they may otherwise not have.

I take great pride in knowing I helped to physically build the new Wisconsin Native Animal Room at Washington Park. When children walk in, they just light up. It's great! The feeling it generates in me is something I will remember and be proud of for the rest of my life.

It's safe to say that I am happy when the people of the community are happy.

Growing up in the neighborhood is the connection to how and why I feel this way about the area and the people who occupy it. It's where I come from; so naturally I want to see the area do well.

To be able to meet and greet so many people and share in their memories of good times, as well as being a member, friend and employee of the Urban Ecology Center is an opportunity that will definitely make an impact in my life for years to come. So come on over to the Urban Ecology Center at Washington Park and get your share of the happiness! 🌿



Memorable Moments

by Beth Heller, Senior Director of Education and Strategic Planning

Memorable moments: As I've, ahem, matured, I've noticed that memory is a tricky thing. Sometimes I remember things from years ago as though they happened just moments ago. Sometimes things that happened yesterday are as foggy as if they happened years ago. Today, I'm excited to share something that happened years ago, but I can recall it as if it just happened. I was driving down a very dry, dusty road with my best friend Molly. We pulled over to get our bearings on a map of the Bosque Del Apache area of New Mexico. As the sound of the car tires crunching the hard earth subsided, we slowly realized we didn't need the map. A distant rumbling called us to our destination. We followed the sound. A few miles later, the crisp, prehistoric roar of thousands of cranes filled our ears and our heads so fully that we almost needed ear plugs. Their wild calls resonated in our lungs, bones and hearts. I'll never forget the awe brought by these graceful, amazing birds gathered en masse. I'm delighted that the Urban Ecology Center is offering that experience for you this November. You are sure to remember it! Attend the orientation on Thursday, March 28th for details! 🌿

Every Drop Counts

continued from page 4

decisions with personalized, clear, and secure water use information (H2O Score).” Using this tool, residents can monitor and compare their household water consumption over time relative to other people in their neighborhood, and they receive incentives for

achieving and maintaining low H2O Scores.

We want to help you conserve water. Join us in March and April at both Riverside Park and Menomonee Valley for workshops and presentations about what you can do

in your own home. Every drop counts, so let's work together to make a difference and protect this precious resource, and my favorite molecule, fresh water! 🌿

Thank You to Our Donors

We thank all of you who have become members, renewed your membership, given a gift membership or made a donation to our mission. Our list of supporters has grown so large that we can no longer print it in the newsletter. The list can instead be found on our website at www.urbanecologycenter.org/donorlist. Many thanks to the local foundations, corporations and individuals who have donated to the Center within the last two months.

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, over 2700 members and many in-kind donors the Center serves over 80,000 people per year.

To make a contribution, please see page 14 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
jferschinger@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.,
Milwaukee, WI 53208)
(414) 344-5460 Fax: (414) 344-5462
wkaridis@urbanecologycenter.org

Hours of operation:
Tuesday - Friday: 4 - 7pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm

Menomonee Valley

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

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

www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org

Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

Join our community Today!

Membership

Did you know you can give a donation, join or renew your membership securely online? Visit www.urbanecologycenter.org and click either "donations" or "membership"

Renew or begin your membership, choose one:

Individual (\$25) includes guest Family (\$35) Student (\$12)

Financial assistance is available. Please call the Center at (414) 964-8505 and ask to speak to someone on our membership team for details.

Give a gift membership:

Individual (\$25) includes guest Family (\$35) Student (\$12)

Recipient Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Eve. _____

Email _____

Send the announcement card to Me Gift recipient

Occasion _____ Deliver by _____

Donation (in addition to membership)

Please accept my gift to support:

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

Total Enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

My neighborhood park is

Riverside Washington Menomonee 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 _____

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

EARTH DAY FESTIVALS

Saturday, April 20
Noon - 4PM



AT ALL THREE BRANCHES!

*Come celebrate nature
in your neighborhood*

Free - donations appreciated

FSC logo

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EVERY DROP COUNTS

by Jamie Ferschinger

FROM BEHIND THE RECEPTION DESK

By Terrance Davis, Visitor Services Assistant

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

By Beth Heller

SEE FOR YOURSELF!

2,200
new trees
& more than
34,000
shrubs & plants

will be planted in
The Milwaukee
Rotary
Centennial
Arboretum,
making it
a highly
biologically
diverse urban
habitat

Learn more about this
exciting project on page 1

