

Ecology on Tap

Join Imago and fellow Cincinnatians for a casual and exciting after-work discussion on creating a Sustainable Cincinnati. Using readings from the Northwest Institute Discussion Course called "Choices for Sustainable Living" we will look at ways to make our homes and community more Earth-friendly. Topics include food choices, sustainable communities, buying choices/sources, and deepening our sense of interconnectedness. Bring your ideas, your energy, and get ready to vision a green Queen City at Dan Korman's Park + Vine, 1202 Main St.

The 4-part series, exploring "applied ecology," takes place every-other Wednesday, September 21, October 5, October 19 and November 2, 6:30 to 8:00 PM. The cost is \$40 (or \$10 a session) and includes the use of the book "Choices for Sustainable Living" (with great readings). Each session will be enriched with short films and additional materials. Optional field trips to innovative businesses and sites will be offered separately to enhance the learning experience of the series. Beer and wine will be available for a donation, as well as coffee, tea and food from Park + Vine to purchase.

To register contact Imago at 513-921-5124 or just drop by.

Backyard Habitat Certification

To encourage Eco-Villagers to apply for the National Wildlife Federation's "Backyard Habitat Certification", ERUEV will pay \$10 of any member's \$20 application fee. Why are we seeking certification for the larger community? To increase awareness of the wonderful assets many of us already have that make Enright a welcoming home for many creatures besides humans.

What is good for a migrating songbird may not be good for a squirrel or salamander, so variety is one key. Food, shelter and water come in many forms, so that native plants' flowers and seeds may bring butterflies, hummingbirds and small mammals, while a rock pile is a happy home for small snakes and lizards, which in turn eat mice and are eaten by hawks. Even a small patch of bare ground can be a place for songbirds to take dust baths and solitary bees to create burrows.

Look at your area and try to imagine it from an animal's perspective. Where are there nuts, berries or other fruits? Is there a dead tree (back where it won't fall on anyone or anything!), where woodpeckers can drill to find insects or an owl make a nest? What insects might invade that brush pile, only to be eaten by hungry birds in the winter? See with animal eyes and you'll notice many features you've ignored. Of course, adding a bird feeder and other human-made artifacts can also help our animal friends at a time when they are under a lot of stress from habitat loss.

Please contact Eileen Schenk or Nancy Sullivan for more information.

Second Sunday Salad Supper at Six

September 11th - Second Sunday Salad Supper at Six at the home of Ken Reidel, 660 Enright Avenue. For August and September, we will switch from soups to salads, so bring your own BOWL and join your friends and neighbors for a light dinner and some interesting conversation. See you there!

Bike to Pedal for Progress (see attached) from Price Hill. Community Earth Alliance along with Imago will host this bike ride leaving at 12:15 from the Imago Earth Center. Come join us for this bike ride and to support action against climate change.



Enright Ridge Eco-Village CSA head farmer Charles Griffin (far right) conducted a compost workshop for CSA members. Nine people were in attendance, including (from left to right) Jim Schenk, Michelle Savoti, Bill Cahalan, and Deborah Jordan.

August Board Minutes

Financials

Bookkeeper is cutting checks, paying bills, etc., under Jeff's direction.

Jeff, Deborah and Nancy have met to review procedures for mail, billing, filing, etc.

Housing

Need to recruit additional members for committee and develop a checklist for housing-related issues.

Concern there is not a point person for renting apartments and approving leases.

Communications

Jim reported that all street ambassadors but one selected.

Website updates should go to Erin.

Newsletter articles to Jim by first of month; Kim Marcum is now producing the Ridgerunner.

Idea for a book of references for contractors- submit recommendations.

August monthly tour will include houses for sale

Jim announced Block Watch Organizational Meeting on the 30th.

Jim working on Welcome Wagon with coupons.

Farm Project

Nancy reported on current status of CSA- 50 paid shares, including some prorated for joining mid-season.

CMHA property still not available. Consequently renting land at Ritter Farm again, have irrigation water this year. Looks excellent.

Dave Hill Americorps time up, Dave Rudimiller is rejoining at half time.

EGG

We hope to get neighborhood certified by National Wildlife Federation as a Habitat. Several households have already received NWF certification.

Idea of having a friendly competition, temperature showing # members.

All paid Eco-Village members can ask for \$10 toward the \$20 registration fee.

Membership Committee

Ken reported they raised just over \$1000 on Eco-Jam, wants to do craft event in November.

Soup/Salad Supper- use ambassadors to make personal contact, invite.

Stationery- Michael Frazier designed- how can we get them printed?

Currently have 30 paid members.

ERUEV Board meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Earth Center. Members are welcome to attend. Next meeting: Sept. 15th

Would You Like a Free Tree? Cincinnati Park Board Fall Releaf Program 2011

To qualify:

1. Property must be within Cincinnati city limits.
2. Trees must be planted within 30 ft. of the right-of-way or visible from the street. No planting between the street and sidewalk or in backyards.
3. Plant the right tree in the right place. Please consider the mature size of the tree. Be aware of any obstructions from wires, utilities, or other structures.

Forestry staff will inspect each planting location before approving tree requests, and will inspect locations after planting to ensure guidelines are followed. Applications are processed on a first-come first-served basis. If you are awarded a tree, you will receive notification by October 7th.

Choices of trees: Pagoda Dogwood, Japanese Tree Lilac, Katsura, Yellowwood, Sun Valley Maple, Kentucky Coffee Tree, Pecan or Norway Spruce.

For further information go to:

<http://www.cincyparks.com/about-us/newsroom/2011-fall-releaf-program-get-your-free-trees.shtml>. If you have any questions, please call Phil Hucke or Doug Fritsch at 861-9070 ext. 21



Girls from a Women's Connection summer program learn about farming. The Farm Project was also visited by several student groups from the Price Hill Rec Center Math Camp.

Blockwatches Formed in Eco-Villages

What does it take to deter crime in your neighborhood? Twenty-three residents of Enright and McPherson Eco-Villages came to the Imago Earth Center August 30 to learn more about Block Watch, which has been very successful deterring crime in West Price Hill. The premise behind the program is that active surveillance can send lawbreakers elsewhere by creating an inhospitable environment.

Police community liaison officer Jennifer Dawson and Laura Hamilton (known locally as the Block Watch Queen) met with residents to describe how to establish this effective networking system. Ms. Hamilton explained that a Block Watch captain communicates concerns, suspicious activities, etc., rapidly and anonymously with immediate neighbors, those in nearby Block Watches and Citizens on Patrol groups, as well as the police, reaching 400-500 people within less than 24 hours.



Officer Jennifer Dawson explains residents' roles in keeping their streets safe.

Attendees received a list of appropriate city administration numbers to call for different violations or concerns as well as pointers on how to avoid being a crime victim. The group also discussed ideas including surveillance cameras and “good guy loitering” tactics on “problem” corners where suspicious activity regularly occurs.

At the conclusion of the meeting, two Enright residents, Suellyn Shupe and Frank Rottenburger, and McPherson residents Billy Poff and Amanda Phirman volunteered to become Block Watch captains for their respective streets.

Living in Nature

It's the end of August, and I have been paying more attention to our garden soil. The tomatoes have almost finished. The broccoli and strawberries are long since done. A lot has been taken from the ground for our food, and it's time to give back.

I was talking to an economist friend a few days ago. He didn't think composting, especially compost toilets, will catch on in a widespread way unless there are financial incentives for the extra work involved. Only people like me, well informed and highly motivated, will do it otherwise, he said. I told him renewing the soil with animal (including human) manure and crop rotation is a very old practice.

Why did people do this when it didn't and doesn't pay directly? I think it just feels good to contribute to the health of what supports and sustains our own health and existence—the soil, and the natural community of life as a whole. This is part of living a grounded life.

I am enjoying the new shoots of buckwheat and winter peas which will hold and build our humus. I like carrying the kitchen bucket and manure bucket to the compost piles, and especially like spreading the finished compost. It is the least I can do in return for the gifts of yet another growing season.

Bill Cahalan

Communications Committee

Our purpose is to promote the Enright Ridge Urban Eco-Village (ERUEV), invigorating the sense of community and increasing the knowledge and practice of sustainable living internally to Enright Avenue residents and members of the Eco-Village, and externally to the Greater Cincinnati Community. Our main focus is to help the community develop within the Eco-Village itself. Members of the committee are: Jim Schenk, chair, Mark Dandurand, Erin DeWitt, Michael Frazier, Deborah Jordan, Kim Marcum, Josh Miller, Michelle Savoti, Eileen Schenk, Nancy Sullivan, and Sharon Wilson. **Monthly meeting 3rd Sunday at 6 pm.**

ENRIGHT RIDGE URBAN ECO-VILLAGE MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Membership year: January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

Associate \$10 Single \$15 Household \$25 Sustaining \$500

Amount attached: \$ _____



**It's Back For the 10th Time
and
This Will Be the Best One Yet!**

**Saturday, September 10
2:00 - 11:00 pm**

Imago's 10th Annual **Music in the Woods** is right around the corner! This final celebration of summer features local food and drink vendors, great music, and a silent auction.

New this year: the event has been extended earlier into the afternoon and will include kid-friendly entertainment, eco-art activities, and scheduled nature hikes! So, bring the whole family! **Music in the Woods** is veg-friendly and, as always, benefits a good cause.

Check www.imagoearth.org or call 513.921.5124 for more information!

Butterflies!

Suellyn Shupe recently spent a week at the Highland Nature Center studying butterflies. Since returning, she has spotted many different species on the street, from the common buckeye to monarchs to different swallowtail butterflies. You can look for them, too, at several raingardens along the street, notably Jennifer Belisle's. Nancy Sullivan's property has been designated a "Monarch Waystation," providing important food for migrating monarchs.

If you are interested in learning more about these fascinating creatures, catch Suellyn as she and dog Shadow scout the street. Nancy will be netting and tagging monarchs during their annual migration south to Mexico; call her if you want to participate.



This unique caterpillar will become a beautiful Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly.

August Tour of the Eco-Villages

The August 27th tour included three of the houses for sale in the eco-villages. Attendees were impressed with these beautiful houses. The tour of the houses was intertwined with a tour of the McPherson Eco-Village, The Eco-Village CSA Greenhouse, and the Enright Eco-Village. After two hours of walking, touring, and talking, the tour returned to the Imago Earth Center where people dispersed, tired but excited over what they saw.

The next tour of the eco-villages will take place on Saturday, September 24th.

Eco-Village Ambassadors

The following people have agreed to be ambassadors in the eco-village. They will be delivering the newsletter, notices, surveys, etc. to the people around them.

- Angelia Harvey – 500 Enright
- Michael Waddell and Katie – 522 Enright
- Tim McDonald – 554 Enright
- Deborah Jordan – 601 Enright
- Dan Divelbiss and Megan Suttman – 611 Enright
- Michelle Savoti – 636 Enright
- Brad and Suzanne Smith - 674 Enright
- Sharon Wilson – 686 Enright
- Tara Sturgill – 3647 W 8th St.
- Jay Byrd – 753 McPherson