

Dear Friends of Simplicity,

This is the Simplicity Matters Earth Institute Monthly Announcement for **September 2012**. It is going out to over **1,590 people**. If you do not want to receive this once-a-month email in the future, simply hit "reply" and ask to be removed.

Please also remember that if you prefer not to read this announcement in email form, you can always access it on the web at www.simplicity-matters.org/announcements/ or as a PDF at <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/events/2012/2012-09.pdf>.

In case you are not aware, **SMEI is now on Facebook! Please "like" us:** <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Simplicity-Matters-Earth-Institute/130611396993657> Please start posting articles, thoughts, and questions there, to start some online dialogue. Consider it the SMEI "blog"!

We also have a Yahoogroup, called "DCMetroSimplifiers," with about 270 members, if you want to be involved during the month in an "interactive dialogue." You can subscribe from our "Online Convos" tab of our website or directly at <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/online>.

For our friends in Baltimore, there is also a YahooGroup called "Green City Baltimore," with similar interactive opportunities and about 95 members. You also can subscribe from our "Online Convos" tab of our website or directly at <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/online>.

This announcement is organized into six sections:
Second Sunday Forum, Baltimore Green Forum
Discussion Circle Update
Community Events
October Preview & Beyond
Action Opportunities & Tidbits

Don't forget the DC Green Festival September 29 – 30, Washington DC (map)
With stages scheduled and speakers confirmed, DC Green Festival is growing from the ground up.
Details below.

Thanks to this month's editor, **Betty Wells**.

SECOND SUNDAY FORUM

Sun., Sept. 9, 6:30 pm–8:30 pm A reprise of one of the most popular (and important) films we have shown! Feel free to bring snacks to share.

A Farm for the Future <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00hs8zp>

In this beautifully filmed BBC documentary, wildlife film maker Rebecca Hosking investigates how to transform her family's farm in Devon into a low energy farm for the future. As she explores ways of farming without using fossil fuel, Rebecca learns that it is actually nature that holds the key to farming in a low-energy future.

Our events are always free and open to all. Please join us!

Where: in a private home in Bethesda, within walking distance of the Medical Center metro (Red Line), close to I-495 and Wisconsin Avenue.

To RSVP (required): Call Marney at (301) 652-0492 or e-mail forum@simplicity-matters.org . Please include your phone number in your message.

The **October Forum** will be on the third Sunday, 10/21 and we will be showing **A Community of Gardeners**.

The Baltimore Green Forum

**The Baltimore Green Forum
Sunday, September 23, 2012
4-6:30 pm**

(the fourth Sunday of the month)
MD Presbyterian Church,
1105 Providence Road, Towson, 21286
www.mpchurch.org/About.htm

TOPIC: **Fracking**, with Miranda Carter from Food & Water Watch (details to follow)

For updated info, visit www.baltimoregreenforum.org OR <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/forums/baltimore> or contact baltimoregreenforum@gmail.com, 301-345-2234

DISCUSSION CIRCLE UPDATE

NWEI Discussion Guides: (PBF) Powering a Bright Future, (HFC) Hungry for Change, (WOH) World of Health, (SSW) Sustainable Systems at Work; (RE) Reconnecting with Earth; (GW) Global Warming: Changing CO2urse; (CSL) Choices for Sustainable Living; (DSOP) Discovering a Sense of Place; (HCHP) Healthy Children-Healthy Planet; (MF) Menu for the Future; (VS) Voluntary Simplicity. **Other guides:** (LBP) "Simplicity Lessons" by Linda Breen Pierce; (LCD) "Low Carbon Diet" by David Gershon; (YMOYL) Your Money or Your Life, (CSC) Common Security Club/Resilience Circle, (WOE) World on the Edge by Lester Brown, (SE) Sacred Economics by Charles Eisenstein

IMPORTANT NOTE: Starting in April NWEI discussion circle guides went up to \$23 plus s/h (except SSW, which cost \$35). They should be ordered directly from NWEI. For more info, visit <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/circles/order.php>

So far this year, we have started 7 circles (273 total circles since 2002!). The topics have varied between Choices for Sustainable Living, Common Security Club, World on the Edge, World of Health, and Hungry for Change **There are two new circles scheduled this month, both in Howard County, marked with an asterisk (*)**

Below, you will also see listed some of the "potential" circles in the works for later this fall More will be added as plans become more certain.

Our circles have become so widespread that **we are now breaking them down by county**. Please scroll down to see what is starting up near where you live. **For more info**, you may contact Lore at lore@simplicity-matters.org unless otherwise noted.

Frederick & Washington County

UU Church of Frederick (tbd) Contact Marney at marney@simplicity-matters.org for details

Carroll County

Westminster "Regroup" Contact CirclesCarroll@Simplicity-Matters.org to join the group for discussions and to watch videos. CS: Carole Flood

Howard County

* **Sandy Spring Friends** (VS) Intro: Sun, Sept 9, 10 am, CS: Charlie Goedeke, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

* **Emmanuel United Methodist Church**, Laurel, (VS), Intro: Thurs, Sept 13, 7 pm, CS: Liz Feighner, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Kittamaqundi Community Church, Olivers Carriage House (CSC) Oct/Nov (tbd) CS: Florence Miller hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Robinson Nature Center (tbd) CS: Peggy Clark, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Harpers Choice Village Center (tbd), CS: Susie Jordan, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Climate Change Initiative of Howard County (CCIHC) Committee is actively pursuing other potential venues. Details to follow. Visit www.hococlimatechange.org or email hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Harford County

None currently scheduled to begin

Baltimore City/County

Baltimore "Matchmaker" Circle (tbd), CS: Lore Rosenthal, lore@simplicity-matters.org

Prince Georges County

Greenbelt (CSC, WOE, and/or SE) Fall 2012 (tbd) CS: Lore Rosenthal

College Park (VS or MF) Fall 2012 (tbd) CS: Carol Nezzo

Paint Branch UU Church (VS), Will start as soon as there is a critical mass. CS: Raman Pathik

Paint Branch UU Church (CSC), Will start as soon as there is a critical mass CS: Marj Donn

Montgomery County

Hungry for Change Discussion Circle, (will start as soon as there is a critical mass). A six-week discussion circle using the Northwest Earth Institute's curriculum, **Hungry for Change: Food, Ethics and Sustainability**. Contact Marney marneyb@earthlink.net (301) 652-0492 for more information. Learn more about this curriculum at http://www.nwei.org/discussion_courses/course-offerings/hungry-for-change-food-ethics-and-sustainability

Takoma Park (CSC) CS: Bruce Baker, email lore@simplicity-matters.org, if interested.

Washington, DC,

Dupont Circle (CSC) CS: Rob Thomason, email lore@simplicity-matters.org, if interested.

Adams Morgan (CSC) CS: Laura Gubisch, email lore@simplicity-matters.org, if interested.

We have just learned of a new group in DC also starting circles. Visit www.janyocommunity.com or <http://thejanyocommunity.wordpress.com/course/> to learn more.

Washington, DC, Join the folks of the **Washington Buddhist Peace Fellowship** to discuss diet, climate change and how our spiritual practices relate to and illuminate these issues. Please see our web site www.wbpf.org for more information (events calendar). Contact person: Bill Jenkins, worldofmuse@aol.com, (301) 699-8704

Tenleytown or on Red Line (All Topics). There is interest but we need more people. If you are interested in joining a discussion group please let me know. Marney@simplicity-matters.org, (301) 652-0492

"Circles List"/"Matchmaking"

This spring, SMEI will continue "matching" and/or "pointing" people into circles. In neighborhoods where circles are already forming, we will point you in the direction of a circle nearby. In those areas where there is not a circle already being planned, we will "match" people into home-based groups.

We have transitioned to a regional structure for the state. Please use the emails below for more information about circles starting in your county.

SMEI Regional Coordinators:

Baltimore City/Baltimore Co.: CirclesBalto@simplicity-matters.org (Lore Rosenthal)

Carroll Co.: CirclesCarroll@simplicity-matters.org (Marney Bruce)

Frederick & Washington Co.: CirclesFredWashCo@simplicity-matters.org (Lena Rotenberg)

Howard Co.: CirclesHoCo@simplicity-matters.org (Lore Rosenthal).

See also **Climate Change Initiative of Howard County** (CCIHC) www.hococlimatechange.org

Montgomery Co.: CirclesMontgomery@simplicity-matters.org (Marney Bruce)

Prince Georges Co.: CirclesPG@simplicity-matters.org (Lore Rosenthal)

Washington DC: CirclesDC@simplicity-matters.org (Marney Bruce)

Elsewhere in Maryland or Jefferson Co., WV: Circles@simplicity-matters.org or 301-432-8721 (Lena Rotenberg)

For a list of our **most popular NWEI-published discussion topics**, visit

<http://www.simplicity-matters.org/volunteers/forms/7guides.pdf>

If you are **starting your own circle** and would like to have your blurb posted here and on our website, please email it to Lena@simplicity-matters.org

For more info. about our discussion circles, visit our Discussion Circles page, <http://www.simplicitymatters.org/circles>, or email Lore at lore@simplicity-matters.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tues, Sept 4, Design Conversations, 6 – 8:30pm, Windup Space, 10 W North Ave Baltimore MD (map)

The Design Conversations are a monthly series of events loosely curated by a group of volunteers, focusing on rotating topics that are timely and engaging. These events are always free, always at the Windup Space, and now on the first TUESDAY of every month! Design Conversations are encouraged by the generous support of D:center Baltimore and Baltimore Community Foundation. Cash bar, AV hookup available for spontaneous presentations! dcenterbaltimore.tumblr.com; twitter.com/dcenterbmore; facebook.com/groups/dcenterbaltimore; www.dcenterbaltimore.com/

Wed, Sept 5, 12noon-2 pm, Small Business Round Table, Bus Boys and Poets (5th & K), 1025 5th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001. Special small business meeting next week with Stacy Mitchell, author of the recent book Big-Box Swindle: The True Cost of Mega-Retailers and the Fight for America's Independent Businesses. There will also be some of our own small business owners discussing what kind of impact Walmart will be having on the small businesses in D.C. and what we can do to fight against them. For more information contact Dyana at Dyana@dcjwj.org

Thurs, Sept 6, Bethesda Green Happy Hour @ Ri-Ra Irish Pub, 5-8 pm, Bethesda, MD: Enjoy casual conversation and networking, meet members of the Bethesda Green Business Incubator and DC Net Impact, and enjoy complimentary appetizers at discount drinks, Ri-Ra Irish Pub, 4931 Elm Street, Bethesda, MD 20814. Suggested contribution: \$5 - \$10 at the door. Contact: Dave Heffernan, dvheffernan@bethesdagreen.org, 301-767-7222. More info and RSVP via Bethesda Green Meetup.

Thurs, Sept 6, GE's Lighting Revolution Tour, 10am – 2pm, Grainger 8820 Citation Rd. Baltimore MD (map)

Don't miss your chance to experience GE's Lighting Revolution Tour for free when it hits your city. You'll learn about and experience GE's latest innovations in energy efficiency, application lighting, and legislation preparation. gelightingrevolutiontour.com/schedule/

Thurs, Sept 6, Discover the Night Sky, 8:30 – 9:30pm, Irvine Nature Center. 11201 Garrison Forest Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117 (map) The most amazing thing you see all week just might be through a telescope. Bring your friends and family to this informal gathering at Irvine to explore and learn about the past, present and future of our night sky, and how it might be changed forever if we don't care to preserve it. Join hobby astronomer Alex Gorstan at sunset (weather permitting) at the Irvine for stories, lessons and observation. We will meet in front of the building and walk down the access road to the meadows. We suggest bringing a flashlight and dressing warmly. Feel free to bring your own telescope or binoculars as well! This is an informal program, so feel free to stay for 5 minutes or until the telescope is packed away. explorenature.org/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=month.calendar&Itemid=98&year=2012&month=06

Sat, Sept 8, Friends of Brookside Gardens Plant Sale, 10-3pm, Wheaton, MD Sponsored by Friends of Brookside Gardens Outside the Visitors Center, Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, MD 20902. Details: www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside.

Sat, Sept 8, Patterson Park Audubon - Garden Volunteer, 9– 10:30am, Patterson Park (map)

Volunteer with Audubon's garden team · Meet at the Audubon pollinator garden, just west of the boat lake in Patterson Park. Flex your green thumbs while helping us take care of native plant gardens in Patterson Park. We need volunteers to make sure they remain healthy habitats for the park's birds, bees, and butterflies. Practice gardening techniques, learn identification skills, and spend a nice morning outdoors with friends and family. We're happy to sign off community service hours for helpful students. Patterson Park Audubon Center 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. pattersonpark.audubon.org

Sun, Sept 9, Nature Art Workshop, Gwynns Falls/ Leakin Park 1920 Eagle Drive Baltimore MD 21207. Nature Art in the park – The Nature of Change is the second annual summer-long series of exhibitions, workshops & other family-friendly Nature Art Events in an ongoing collaborative project bringing together site-specific works built from natural materials, in the forests of Baltimore City's Parks. natureartinthepark.wordpress.com/

Sun, Sept 9, 5-7 p.m. FREE Screening, A Chemical Reaction, Busboys & Poets in the Arts District Hyattsville, 5331 Baltimore Ave, Hyattsville, MD 20781. 301.779. 2787 (ARTS)
RSVP: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/270206>. The award-winning documentary film, A Chemical Reaction, tells the inspirational story of one of the most successful community action initiatives in North American history - led by one woman whose tenacity and persuasive arguments championed the effort to ban synthetic lawn & garden chemicals for an entire Canadian province!

Tues & Thurs Sept 11- Sept 25, Volunteer Naturalist Training, 9:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m., Owings Mills, MD This 5-session course will teach you how to lead educational field trips for school groups. For more information contact Irvine Nature Center at info@explorenature.org or 443)738-9200 <http://explorenature.org/about-irvine/directions>

Tues, Sept 11, Cradle to Cradle (C2C) Webinar, 3pm – 4pm

Cradle to Cradle (C2C): Evaluating and Selecting Products for Human Health and Environmental Sustainability With increased focus on healthy and safe products in the built environment, the question now becomes according to what standard? With restricted substance lists changing frequently and LEED standards for materials evolving, it can be difficult for manufacturers to stay ahead of product redesign and difficult for specifiers to select the best materials for human health and environmental sustainability. Rather than focusing on how industry can incrementally become "less bad," this session will re-define the problem and present a model for doing "more good". We will review a set of design principles based on the Cradle to Cradle philosophy to help businesses create products that are safe for people and the environment. Participants will learn how to use these principles for evaluating and selecting materials. This rethinking of how we design, manufacture, use and reuse materials will spur a new era of innovation and raise the standard material selection. www.c2ccertified.org/index.php/aia_continuing_education

Wed, Sept 12, Greenbelt Climate Action Network, 7-9:15 pm, (*new location*) Springhill Lake Recreation Center, "The Clubhouse", 6101 Cherrywood Lane. "What the Frack!". Info on hydrofracturing and various MD organizations working on state legislation. For more info, contact Lore, lore@simplicity-matters.org, 301-345-2234.

Thurs, Sept 13, 7:30-11:00 am, Healthy Buildings/Healthy Hospitals: The Human + Financial Return on Investment, 750 East Pratt Street, Sky Lobby, Baltimore, MD, 21202. Program Includes: Case studies based on Maryland Hospital's sustainable building strategies Findings from the Maryland Environmental Health Network The Healthier Hospital Initiative (HHI)- a collaborative challenge to improving environmental health and sustainability in the health care sector The potential for Green Building rating systems to facilitate change New Information about the USGBC's emphasis on materials and the impact on health
www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=520680&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Thurs, Sept 13, Lunchtime Rally to Stop Mountaintop Removal, Lafayette Park, DC Stop by on your lunch break to support EarthJustice's Mountain Heroes project. Mountaintop Removal is a form of strip mining in which explosives are used to blast off the tops of mountains in order to reach the coal seams that lie underneath, polluting our air and water, with harmful health effects for the communities below. Contact Josef at program@gwipl.org to receive more details as they are determined.

Thurs, Sept 13, 6-8 pm, Bike Show! Opening Reception, MAP – 8 Market Place suite 100 within Power Plant Live! complex. Maryland Art Place (MAP) is pleased to announce its kick-off exhibition of the fall, Bike Show. September 13–October 27, 2012. Co-hosted by Bike Maryland, the exhibition's intention is centered on the relationship between people and their bicycles. As Baltimore's ever-growing cycling community evolves and develops, MAP would like to showcase those artists and individuals who've embraced the bike culture. www.mdartplace.org/exhibitions/upcoming.html

Thurs, Sept 13, 6:30-8:00 pm, Author Event, Jeff Clements, Busboys and Poets, 14th & V | Langston Room | Corporations Are Not People: Why They Have More Rights Than You Do and What You Can Do About It, <http://www.busboysandpoets.com/events/event/author-event-jeff-clements>

Fri, Sept 14, Submission Deadline - EPA's Clean Water Act 40th Anniversary Video Project

As a part of EPA's CWA 40th Anniversary celebration, the Agency is hosting a video project asking Americans everywhere to send in a 15-second video clip explaining the important role that water plays in their lives. EPA will feature selected video clips on its website and "Water Is Worth It" Facebook page as part of its anniversary celebration. So grab

your friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, classmates, and pets and join in. Each video should include the phrase "Water is worth it..." but the rest is up to you! water.epa.gov/action/cleanwater40c/video-project.cfm

Fri, Sept 14, Audubon's Urban Bird Watching, 8 – 9:30am, Patterson Park (map)

Join Audubon for an urban bird watching walk · Free · No need to register · Meet at the fountain in the northwest corner of Patterson Park. More than 175 bird species visit Patterson Park each year! This is the best month to find fall migrants returning to their wintering grounds. We have binoculars to lend you – just drop us an email. Stroll and search for winged friends! Patterson Park Audubon Center 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. pattersonpark.audubon.org

Sat, Sept 15, The Heritage Harvest Festival, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m, Charlottesville, VA The premiere home arts festival on Monticello's West Lawn. www.heritageharvestfestival.com

Sat, Sept 15, 2-5 pm, 2nd Annual Urban Farm and Food Fair, Real Food Farm, 2701 Saint Lo Drive, Baltimore MD.

The event will feature our city's urban farms, local food vendors, and fun family activities. This event is brought to you by: Slow Food Baltimore, PNC Bank, Civic Works' Real Food Farm, and the Farm Alliance of Baltimore City. Download the poster to help spread the word. www.farmalliancebaltimore.org/foodfair/

Sat-Sun, Sept 15-16, 8:30am-5:30 pm, Home-Scale Permaculture Design Course- Session 1, 2002 Cromwell Bridge Road, Baltimore, MD 21234. Permaculture, a term originated by Australian ecologists, Bill Mollison and David Holmgren, means permanent culture. Using both ancient and modern knowledge, this design methodology mimics universal patterns found in nature to create healthy human communities. Guided by ethical behavior, Permaculture is both theory and practice. It is a system of designing ecologically inspired landscapes that integrate food production with energy, shelter and water. Later sessions run Oct, Nov, March, April, May. www.heathcote.org/cms/content/home-scale-permaculture-design-course

Mon, Sept 17, Reel & Meal at the New Deal, "Cry of the Mountain" - documentary play about mountaintop removal in Appalachia, written and performed by Adelind Horan. Discussion will also include Chris Hill of the Sierra Club. New Deal Cafe, Greenbelt, MD 6:30 vegan buffet dinner (\$13), 7:00 film (free)

Mon, Sept 17, 6-9 pm, GBI: Intro to Permaculture Discussion, Green Building Institute 7761 Waterloo Road (Rte. 175) Jessup, MD 20794. Intro to Permaculture Discussion w/ Wine & Cheese! GBI Members \$25, Non Members \$45 September 17 and 18-25, 2012, Wayne Weiseman a well re-known Permaculture Expert is offering a Design Certification Class September 18-25, 2012 with an Introduction to Permaculture Discussion on the evening of Sept 17. Email: info@greenbuildinginstitute.org; Phone: 443-733-1234; www.greenbuildinginstitute.org

Sept 18-26, GBI Permaculture Class, Green Building Institute 7761 Waterloo Road (Rte. 175) Jessup, MD 20794. (SEE ABOVE) www.greenbuildinginstitute.org

Wed, Sept 19, Carey Creed Concert to Benefit IPL's Work, 7:30-8:30 pm, Takoma Park, MD Carey Creed concert to celebrate new CD "Small Braveries" (careycreed.com). Carey Creed has a beautiful voice... join us for an easy mix of acoustic grooves, hand-clapping blues, early Joni Mitchell sensibilities, a shot of humor, and straight up folk. A portion of proceeds from CD sales will benefit Interfaith Power & Light's work. Takoma Park Community Center Aud, 7500 Maple Ave. For more information, contact Josef at program@gwipl.org

Thurs, Sept 20, Gardening 101-Session 1: Local Resources, 2-3pm, Wheaton, MD New Lecture Series: Gardening 101- Local Edition Whether you are new to the area, new to gardening or just looking to increase your local gardening knowledge, this lecture series is for you. Kathy Jentz, Editor/Publisher, Washington Gardener Magazine, will lead you through the basics and share the success secrets of veteran local gardeners. You'll learn from the experiences of others what to do and not to do to avoid costly mistakes in your own garden. Session 1: Local Resources Course number 213114 Thurs, Sept 20, 2:00-3:00pm Fee: \$18, FOBG: \$15; registration required Visitors Center Adult Classroom, Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, MD 20902. Visit www.BrooksideLearning.org.

Thurs, Sept 20, USGBC MD Annual Membership Meeting and Networking Event!, 5:30 – 8:30pm, Oregon Ridge Park, Concert Stage, 13555 Beaver Dam Rd. Cockeysville, MD 21030 (map) Please join us On the Concert Stage at Oregon Ridge Park We are a varied group with different backgrounds and daily applications, but all with one common draw...green building of course! In a complimentary night dedicated to you, our members, come together to meet fellow members and green building enthusiasts from all over Maryland with great food, spirits, and a chance to connect with board members, committee chairs and the volunteers that make it all happen. This event is a great chance to get your company out there. Various sponsorship levels are available. Please contact Mary Pulcinella 443-416-5848. www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=520224&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Fri, Sept 21, PARK(ing) Day is an annual worldwide event where artists, designers and citizens transform metered parking spots into temporary public parks. parkingday.org/ Participate and Share with USGBC MD! USGBC Maryland invites you to participate in its first ever PARK(ing) DAY event. Turn a 10' x 20' vehicle parking space into a park for people. Send USGBC MD pictures and/or videos of the designed, implemented and used space from throughout PARK(ing) Day, September 21st, and we will post them to our website. Everything that we receive will be looked at by a panel of judges (categories listed below)* and fun prizes will be awarded!
www.usgbcmd.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=1378685

Fri Sept 21-Sat Sept 22, Fall Family Campout, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 a.m., Owings Mills, MD Pitch a tent at Irvine, head out for a night hike with us, do some stargazing, then enjoy a campfire snack before bed. In the morning, we'll listen to the sounds of the forest waking up and share a light breakfast. For more information contact Irvine Nature Center at info@explorenature.org or (443)738-9200 <http://explorenature.org/about-irvine/directions>

Fri, Sept 21, Conference on Children's Health and the Environment, 8am – 5pm, University of Maryland-Baltimore, SMC Campus Center, 621 W. Lombard Street 21211 (map) The Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health & the Environment (MACCHE) 10th Annual Conference on Children's Health and the Environment The Mid-Atlantic Center is based at Children's National Medical Center and is one of ten Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units. MACCHE serves Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and Washington, DC. Part of the mission of MACCHE is to educate the health professional community on children's environmental health and the annual conference is central to that mission. This year's conference will focus on: · Lead · Hydraulic Fracturing · Heavy Metals in Donor Blood · Climate Change · Organic Foods www.childrensnational.org/MACCHE/conference/default.aspx

Sat, Sept 22, 12-5 pm, Blue Water Baltimore 5th Annual Trash Bash, Nick's Fish House, 2600 Insulator Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21230. The event provides a fun and exciting opportunity to meet like-minded friends while supporting environmental restoration All proceeds will benefit Blue Water Baltimore, enabling us to continue creating clean streams and healthy harbor. Tickets: \$60 in advance \$65 at the door www.bluewaterbaltimore.org/trash-bash/

Sat, Sept 22; Larry's RideSpring Meadow Farms in Baltimore County, MD. The 3rd annual Larry's Ride and Run event is sure to be fun and challenging as bicyclists explore Baltimore County's beautiful yet hilly landscape! Choose from 15, 35, or 63 mile bicycle routes or join in the run! Afterward, come back to the farm for a celebration that includes barbeque, kid's events, music, a farmer's market and much more. Larry's Ride is a Bike Maryland fund raising event to raise awareness of bicyclists and bicycle safety issues. On April 6th, 2010, Larry Bensky was tragically killed while riding his bike near Falls Road in Baltimore County. This event was created by his wife, Tami Bensky, and a group of Larry's friends to remember and honor Larry's life while bringing attention to the need for increased driver awareness on our roads. All are welcome to join in this great ride that supports this great cause. Register online at: <http://bikemd.org/page.php?id=494>

Sat, Sept 22, Global Frackdown, at 10am, Baltimore, MD Fracking for has poses a direct and immediate threat to our drinking water, our health and our communities. But the oil and gas industry is ramping up it's PR machine to try and convince the public and decision makers that fracking is safe. It's time to fight back in our own communities with a Global Frackdown! We will meet at Delegate Maggie McIntosh's office in Baltimore, next to the Waverly Farmers Market (32nd St. and Barclay St.) to stage a tug of war - Marylanders v. the oil & gas industry - who will Delegate McIntosh side with? We will also talk with folks about fracking and collect photo petitions that we can send to Delegate McIntosh.
www.globalfrackdown.org. Miranda Carter, mcarter@fwwatch.org, 202-683-4957

Sun, Sept 23, Fall Wild Edibles, 2:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m., Owings Mills, MD What better way to celebrate autumn than with a wild edible feast! After a short presentation and some tasty wild treats we will take a hike through Irvine in search of these yummy delicacies. For more information contact Irvine Nature Center at info@explorenature.org or (443)738-9200 <http://explorenature.org/about-irvine/directions>

Sun, Sept 23, 10am-5pm, Spoutwood Farm Proudly Presents the 8th Annual Mother Earth Hands-On Harvest Fair, 4255 Pierceville Rd, Glen Rock, PA 17327 717-235-6610 spoutwood@comcast.net www.spoutwood.org

Mon- Wed, Sept 24 – 26, 2012 GreenGov Symposium – Leading By Example, Marriott Wardman Park Hotel Washington, DC (map) The 2012 GreenGov Symposium – Leading By Example will bring together leaders from government, the private sector, state and local governments, non-profits and academia. This forum will facilitate critical engagement and identify strategic opportunities to make Federal operations more efficient and effective, grow clean energy industries, and curb pollution by incorporating sustainable practices into the Federal Government's operations. www.greengov2012.org/speakers.html

Tues, Sept 25, Gardener Book Club, 6:00-7:30 PM, Washington, DC MLK Library (near Metro Center and Gallery Place). Our first book will be: *Founding Gardeners: The Revolutionary Generation, Nature, and the Shaping of the American Nation* by Andrea Wulf. So mark your calendars, grab a copy of the book, start reading, and RSVP today to "WG Book Club" at WashingtonGardener@rcn.com.

Wed, Sept 26, Discover the Night Sky, 7:30p.m.- 9:00p.m., Owings Mills, MD Bring your friends and family to this informal gathering (weather permitting) at the Irvine for stories, lessons and observation. Feel free to bring your own telescope or binoculars as well! For more information contact Irvine Nature Center at info@explorenature.org or (443)738-9200 <http://explorenature.org/about-irvine/directions>

Wed, Sept 26, Washington DC Green Business Academy, 9am – 4pm, The Resources & Conservation Center 1400 16th Street NW (first floor) Washington, DC 2003 (map) Green For All and University of Phoenix will host the Washington DC Green Business Academy on Wednesday, September 26, 2012. Do you want to learn what it takes to succeed in the DC Metro Area green economy? Do you want to know how to structure your green business to gain more access to capital? The DC Green Business Academy will convene business leaders, business support organizations, and capital providers to help you grow your green business. greenforall.org/programs/business-engagement-strategies/business-academy/dc/

Thurs, Sept 27, 6-9 pm, Civic Works' "Network: Green" Baltimore MD. Are you passionate about making Baltimore a more sustainable city? Do you want the opportunity to mix with other like-minded Baltimoreans? Join Civic Works' Green Projects for our networking series, Network: Green! Grab an organic drink and chat it up with all of Baltimore's sustainability minded movers and shakers. Encouraged donation of \$5-\$20. All proceeds from events benefit Civic Works' Green Projects. For more information, please contact eallen@baltimoregreencareers.org or visit GreenPartyforaPurpose.Org

Thurs, Sept 27, 7 pm, screening of Unwasted: The Future of Business on Earth, College Park City Hall. City Council Chambers, Upper Floor, City of College Park Municipal Building, 4500 Knox Road. Unwasted is a documentary that describes the steps taken by Seattle towards Zero Waste. Co-sponsored by Community Research, Committee for a Better Environment, and Reel & Meal. For info contact Susan Barnett, susbarn@earthlink.net or Suchitra Balachandran, cp_woods@yahoo.com.

Fri-Sun, Sept 28-30: Women's Congress for Future Generations* – MidAtlantic, Shepherd Springs Center, Washington County, MD. Activate Your Role as Ancestor. Design a Declaration of Rights for Future Generations. Beautiful rural Western MD; Locally grown organic food; *Men are welcome as Sacred Witnesses. Fee: \$160, staying on-site; \$90, if staying off-site. Limited scholarships available. SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS, WCFMGIDATLANTIC.WORDPRESS.COM

Fri, Sept 28, Patterson Park Audubon - Tiny Tot Safari, 10– 11am, Patterson Park (map)

Join Audubon for a Tiny Tot Safari · Ages 2 – 5 with an adult · \$5 suggested donation per child · Please register at least 2 days before the program · Meet on the northeast side of the boat lake in Patterson Park. Tiny Tots Safaris are an hour of fun and education with our youngest nature lovers! This month, we will learn about animals' homes. Patterson Park provides the perfect habitat for many creatures, supplying them with food, water, shelter, and plenty of space! Join Audubon to discover how many animals call Patterson Park home. How many habitats will we find to explore? Patterson Park Audubon Center 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. pattersonpark.audubon.org

Sat, Sept 29, Patterson Park Audubon - Urban bird & Tiny Tot Safari, 8 – 11am, Patterson Park Audubon Center (map) 8:00 – 9:30 AM: Join Audubon for an urban bird watching walk · Free · No need to register · Meet at the fountain in the northwest corner of Patterson Park. More than 175 bird species visit Patterson Park each year! Join us to find summer feathered friends, under the guidance of Audubon Maryland-DC's Director of Bird Conservation. We have binoculars to lend you – just drop us an email. Stroll and search for winged friends! 10:00 – 11:00 AM: Join Audubon for a Tiny Tot Safari · Ages 2 – 5 with an adult · \$5 suggested donation per child · Please register at least 2 days before the program · Meet on the northeast side of the boat lake in Patterson Park. Tiny Tots Safaris are an hour of fun and education with our youngest nature lovers! This month, we will learn about animals' homes. Patterson Park provides the perfect habitat for many creatures, supplying them with food, water, shelter, and plenty of space! Join Audubon to discover how many animals call Patterson Park home. How many habitats will we find to explore? 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. pattersonpark.audubon.org

Sat, Sept 29, CCAN's 10th Birthday Bash, 1 – 4pm, Rock Creek Park. Picnic Area #10 (map)

Join us on September 29th, 2012 as we celebrate CCAN's 10th birthday! We're having a picnic in Rock Creek Park to celebrate ten years of climate activism in the DC region. Sign up for more information, and we'll keep you updated on all the details. WHO: CCAN's staff, past and present, board members, volunteers, and supporters like YOU! WHERE: Rock

Creek Park. Picnic Area #10. The picnic area is located on Beach Drive about .25 mile north of Sherrill Drive. Enter at Joyce Drive on the eastern side of the park then turn right on Beach Drive and travel about 1.5 miles north. Here's a map. Rain date is Sunday. TICKETS: FREE! But we'd appreciate it if you'd consider giving us a gift in honor of our 10th birthday. salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/423/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=75495

DC Green Festival September 29 – 30, Washington DC (map)

With stages scheduled and speakers confirmed, DC Green Festival is growing from the ground up. The Washington DC Convention Center is the place to be to celebrate solutions for people and planet September 29-30! Visit the Speaker Directory and get to know Washington DC Green Festival's visionary speakers. Then head to the Schedules page for a sneak peek of talks to expect and schedules to note when your favorite speakers will take the stage!

www.greenfestivals.org/wdc/updates/

Sun, Sept 30; Tour du Port Baltimore City's Canton Waterfront Park; Five completely NEW Tour du Port routes have been developed. All routes include the Aquarium rest stop and enter Fort McHenry for an option of a walking tour! Experience Baltimore's premier bicycle tour, Tour du Port! Routes range from 12 to 65 miles and travel through historic neighborhoods, charming port areas and beautiful city and state parks throughout Baltimore City, Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties .After the ride, enjoy a celebration including live music, exhibitors, lunch, and more! Register online at: <http://bikemd.org/page.php?id=495>

Sun, Sept 30, 7 pm, ANNOUNCING the first in the Washington Ethical Society's 2012-2013 environmental movie series: The Earth Ethics Committee will host the showing of The Last Mountain in the WES library. This will be followed by a group discussion. This movie focuses on how the mining and burning of coal is at the epicenter of America's struggle to balance its energy needs with environmental concerns. Nowhere is that concern greater than in Coal River Valley, West Virginia, where a small but passionate group of ordinary citizens are trying to stop Big Coal corporations from continuing what they view as the devastating practice of Mountain Top Removal. The Washington Ethical Society's address is 7750 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington DC. For further information contact Linda Silversmith (linsil@usermail.com / 301-641-9508)

OCTOBER PREVIEW & BEYOND

Thurs, Oct 11 Bethesda Green Gala @ 2000 Tower Oaks Blvd, 6-9 pm, Rockville, MD: Enjoy an evening of inspiration, celebration, and community recognition of local green champions. Open bar with local beer and wine, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and presentation of the Bethesda Magazine Green Award Winners. Fund-raising event at the Platinum LEED certified Tower Building, 2000 Tower Oaks Blvd, Rockville, MD. Tickets: \$100. Contact: Dave Heffernan, dvheffernan@bethesdagreen.org, 301-767-7222. More info at www.bethesdagreen.org.

ACTION OPPORTUNITIES & TIDBITS

Registration opens- Campus Rain Works Challenge Sept 4

The U.S. EPA's Office of Water is pleased to announce the Campus Rain Works Challenge for undergraduate and graduate students. Student teams are invited to create an innovative green infrastructure design for a site on their campus showing how managing stormwater at its source can benefit the campus community and the environment. Winning teams will earn a cash prize, as well as research funds for their faculty advisor to conduct research on green infrastructure. water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/crw_challenge.cfm

Vote for a great idea in Baltimore – Deadline Sept 6th

Michael Uhl is working on this project in Reservoir Hill, including passive house design, a vacant lot rehab, permaculture replanting, and vertical growing. You can vote for his idea until Sept 6th here:

<http://awesomefood.maker.good.is/projects/urbanark> (must create a user name and password, but can unsubscribe immediately).

Green Thumb Challenge Garden Grant Deadline, Sept 30

Gardening Grant! Join GEF and Gardener's Supply Company by taking part in the Green Thumb Challenge! All participants are encouraged to enter to win a \$5,000 gardening grant. This award has been designed to support the continued sustainability of an exceptional youth garden program. Grant applications are due by September 30, 2012. Check out GEF's gardening resources to make your garden the best that it can be!

www.greeneducationfoundation.org/greenthumbchallengesub/green-thumb-challenge-winners.html

