

Dear Friends of Simplicity,

This is the Simplicity Matters Earth Institute Monthly Announcement for **October 2013**. It is going out to over **1,575 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/2013/2013-10.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 Yahoo group, 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 Yahoo Group 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
- Earth Forum of Howard County
- Discussion Circle Update
- Community Events
- Action Opportunities & Tidbits

Thanks to this month's editor, **Michael Hartman**.

This weekend is the **Solar Homes Tour**. Check out several weblinks below for the solar homes closest to you. Please also check out **NWEI's Eco-Challenge**, under Action Opportunities and Tidbits.

Apologies for sending this announcement out so late. Our editor finished his part promptly, it was the distribution step that got delayed.

SECOND SUNDAY FORUM

Sunday, October 13

6:30 pm–8:30 pm

Genetic Roulette (DVD)

Evidence points to genetically engineered foods as a major contributor to many of the health problems in humans, pets, livestock, and lab animals that eat genetically modified food. Genetic Roulette raises alarming questions about GMOs, but also answers other questions that many of us have. Why are GMOs banned or restricted in so many other countries? With Monsanto applying strong arm tactics and the USDA ignoring a growing health emergency, we need to know what is really going on. We will watch part of the DVD (to be continued?) and have a lively discussion, as usual.

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](tel:3016520492) or e-mail forum@simplicity-matters.org . Please include your phone number in your message.

The Baltimore Green Forum

Sunday, October 27

Presentation: 4 - 5:30 pm, Optional Breakout Sessions: 5:30 - 6:30pm
MD Presbyterian Church,
1105 Providence Road, Towson, MD 21286
www.mpchurch.org/About.htm

ARMAGEDDON OR AWAKENING?

Peak oil, water wars, collapsing economic systems, corrupt governments, poisoned earth, global warming. Are we on the verge of ending it all for the human species, or a descent into transition that will lead us to an earth where all life is sacred, prosperous and sustaining?

The answer is up to us...

Speaker: Jack Arnold, founding steering committee member of Baltimore Green Forum

For updated program info, contact baltimoregreenforum@gmail.com ,
410-667-4889, or check www.baltimoregreenforum.org

Earth Forum of Howard County

Sunday, October 20, 2013

2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church,

9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia, MD.

"Food for Today and Tomorrow: Exploring the intersection of food, climate change, and sustainability" is the theme for the fifth series of Earth Forums, beginning on October 20.

Dr. Charles Walthall, National Program Leader for Climate Change for the Agricultural Research Service, USDA, will provide an overview and insights into the intriguing and sometimes hidden relationships among food production, water, air, and weather events. He will discuss the impacts of these factors on the food we eat.

Refreshments will be served. Earth Forums are free and open to all. For updated program info, visit our website, www.earthforumhc.org, contact earthforum@firstpreshc.org or call 410-430-3545.

DISCUSSION CIRCLE UPDATE

NEW TOPICS THIS FALL:

Change By Degrees, <http://www.nwei.org/discussion-courses/addressing-climate-challenge/>

Peer Support Group, http://nipspeersupport.org/?page_id=108

Going Green At Home, <http://chears.org/gcan/discussion-circles/>

NWEI Discussion Guides: (CbyD) Change by Degrees: Addressing the Climate Challenge (HFC) Hungry for Change, (WOH) World of Health, (SSW) Sustainable Systems at Work; (RE) Reconnecting with Earth; (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 (PSG) Peer Support Group from National Institute on Peer Support

IMPORTANT NOTE: Effective Oct 1, 2012 NWEI discussion circle guides **went up to \$25 plus s/h** (except a few rare exceptions). 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 12 circles (290 total circles since 2002!). Most recent topics have included Voluntary Simplicity, Moneyless Manifesto, Powering a Bright Future, and Peer Support Group **There are 7 circles in active formation, in Howard Co, Prince Georges County, Montgomery County, and Washington, DC, 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

***Columbia/Ellicott City** "Change by Degrees: Addressing the Climate Challenge" CS: Liz Feighner/Sue Kunkel, for more info email CCIHC.circles@gmail.com.

"Is Sustainability Still Possible" Circle, online (from home)

The Transition Movement group on Goodreads.com will engage in discussion circle of the book "State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?", starting on May 19 and continuing (slowly) through the end of the year. **They are currently on Chapter 13**. You do not need to be available on Sundays, as you can progress at your own pace. For more info see <http://www.transitionhoco.org/goodreads-transition-movement>.

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

Harford County

None currently scheduled to begin

Baltimore City/County

Baltimore "Matchmaker" Circle (tbd, as soon as we get a critical mass), CS: Lore Rosenthal, lore@simplicity-matters.org

Anne Arundel County

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church, Severna Park, MD (tbd), CS: Retta Barkley

Prince Georges County

***Greenbelt, "Going Green at Home"**, A new discussion circle topic for residents of Springhill Lake/Franklin Park. Topics will include: * Use less energy * Food: eating lower on the food chain * Reduce Consumption *Reduce Your Garbage * Green Products in Your Home * Why Bother? Can One Individual Really Make a Difference? CS: Carolyn Lambright-Davis/Lore Rosenthal (looking for 8-12 people)

*** Greenbelt "Climate Change, from Local to Global"**, We are pilot testing a next six-week discussion circle that will include *Climate Science * Life-style Choices * Systemic Change * Policy & Strategic Alternatives * Envisioning a Positive Future * Where Do We Go From Here? CS: Lore Rosenthal (looking for 8-12 people)

***Greenbelt "Peer Support Group"**, This six-week circle for people interested in climate and sustainability will teach the basic tools of peer support, give participants the opportunity to benefit from the process and empower participants to provide support to themselves and others on an ongoing basis after the circle. Dr. Jim Driscoll will come out the first session to model the process. The circle will then continue on it's own for 4 sessions. Jim will return the sixth session to lead the wrap up. CS: Lore Rosenthal (looking for 8-12 people)

College Park/Hyattsville (tbd) Stay tuned, after three successful circles, another is bound to be starting soon! 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

***Choices for Sustainable Living** provides participants a powerful opportunity to explore sustainability more deeply and learn its unique meaning from individual, societal and global perspectives. Choices for Sustainable Living helps you discover new ways of living and with others, make change more possible and powerful. See more at: <http://www.nwei.org/> Beginning 9/23, this class meets every other week thru to 12/16 (9/23; 10/7; 10/21; 11/4; 11/18; 12/2; 12/16) 7:30p to 9p led by Marney Bruce and sponsored by the Environmental Task Force. Location: River Road UU Congregation, Bethesda,

MD <http://www.rruuc.org/religious-education-for-all-ages/adult-religious-education-contemporary-issues/learning-opportunities-signup.html> or contact Marney@simplicity-matters.org

We are putting together circles for fall now. Topics being considered are HFC and CSL. Interested parties need to contact Marneyb@earthlink.net for more information.

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

***Silver Spring (Addressing Climate Change or Peer Support Group)** We are working with Marylanders for Climate Coordination and MC-OFA to tailor a circle to the interests of participants. CS: Lore Rosenthal

Washington, DC,

***Dupont Circle/Adams Morgan/Citizens Climate Lobby** SMEI is teaming up with the National Institute for Peer Support, Ecocity, and the Citizens Climate Lobby to offer several discussion circles. This summer we studied the various components of the DC Sustainability Plan (<http://sustainable-dc.org/>). Plans are in process for a follow up circle. CS: Jim Driscoll Email lore@simplicity-matters.org, if interested.

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

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.

"Circles List"/"Matchmaking"

This fall, 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.simplicitematters.org/circles>, or email Lore at lore@simplicity-matters.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tue, Oct 1, Introduction to High-Performance Building Assemblies Webcast, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Today we demand better thermal performance from our building assemblies than ever. But higher performance comes at a price: Designers and builders must pay attention to hundreds of hidden components. Things like corner joints. Window flashing. Hundreds of beads of sealant and runs of tape. Poorly designed, specified, or installed details in these areas can burden building owners with moisture and mold problems... façades falling to pieces... and drafty interiors that send tenants packing — sometimes, even suing. Building science expert outlines the key principles behind high-performance assembly design. www.buildinggreen.com/

Tue, Oct 1, Design Conversations, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm, Windup Space, 10 W North Ave Baltimore MD

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/

Tue, Oct 1, Oyster Recovery Partnership – Annual Fundraiser, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Baltimore National Aquarium

Shell-ebrate our oyster restoration efforts at the Mermaid Kiss Oyster Fest. Live music, waterfront views, hors d'oeuvres, drinks and fun! Commemorative ORP pint glass for all. Enjoy private access to the renovated Baltimore Aquarium and the new shark exhibit. \$90, \$150 per pair of tickets. Business casual. 21 and over. www.oysterrecovery.org/get-involved/mermaids-kiss-annual-fundraiser/

Wed, Oct 2, GEED- Great Energy Efficiency Day, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm, Washington DC

Over the years, the energy efficiency community has come to rely on the Alliance for its high-caliber, open-admission events headlined by some of the brightest minds working to advance energy efficiency in the public and private sectors. In 2004 the Alliance launched GEED, which has quickly become a “must attend” public discussion on the need for, and benefits of, energy efficiency. Alliance to Save Energy. www.ase.org/node/3881

Wed, Oct 2, Schools: Air Quality and Community, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Gallery CA, 440 East Oliver Street, Baltimore 21202

4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Air Quality in Schools: Practical Solutions for Common Problems While older schools can be upgraded to achieve the latest standards for environmental quality, this work must often be conducted while the building is occupied, increasing the likelihood that students and staff may experience health problems related to air contaminants. www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=760146&EventViewMode=EventDetails

6 p.m. - 8 p.m Schools: The Center of Our Community. Schools in the community, how can they become of the community and for the community? What is a “community school?” Do schools revitalize when communities revitalize or can schools be catalysts for community development? Can learning happen in the community? Can community learn in the school? www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=760154&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Wed, Oct 2, 2013 Evening with the Stars of Energy Efficiency Awards Dinner, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Washington DC

The Evening with the Stars of Energy Efficiency Awards Dinner has been the preeminent showcase for energy efficiency's most industrious advocates and innovators since its inception in 1993. The black tie affair typically draws more than 500 energy leaders from industry, government and academia. www.ase.org/dinner

Thu, Oct 3, Best Management Practices for School IPM, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway Annapolis, MD, 21401

MD Department of Agriculture in collaboration with Northeast IPM Center's School IPM working group and Maryland Children's Environmental Health Coalition invite you to learn to implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) at schools. RSVP, questions contact Edward Crow, edward.crow@maryland.gov, 410-841-5710

Thu, Oct 3, Regionally Adapted Plants Talk, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm, Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, MD

With Kathy Jentz, Editor/Publisher of the Washington Gardener For people who are new to gardening and gardeners who are new to the DC metropolitan area, learn about our local gardening world and resources. Plants that have proven themselves in the Mid-Atlantic climate. Low-maintenance gardening is the goal of many of us in our busy lives and the key is planting the right plants for our local climate. We'll talk about some native plants, of course, but mostly we'll explore the tried and true plants that can take clay soil, deer, and/or periods of drought. Season-by-season, we'll share our favorite plants that excel in our local gardens. Course # 248803 Fee: \$18; FOBG: \$15; registration required Visitors Center Auditorium Walk-ins welcome

Thu, Oct 3, Bethesda Green Gala, Celebrating 5 Years Promoting Sustainable Living, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Bethesda, MD

A evening of inspiration, celebration and recognition of local green champions, highlighted by the presentation of the 2013 Bethesda Magazine Green Awards. Enjoy a seasonal menu from local purveyors, beer and wine, top-notch networking, live entertainment and some special surprises at the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave. Tickets (\$100) available through Brown Paper Tickets, www.brownpapertickets.com/event/433080. Contact Dave Heffernan, dvheffernan@gmail.com, 301-767-7222. For more info about the Gala, go to www.bethesdagreen.org.

Thu, Oct 3, Get Paid to Clean Up Stormwater Runoff and Beautify Your Community, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Laurel-Beltsville Senior Center, 7120 Contee Road, Laurel, MD 20707

Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources will host workshops to provide info on the County's new Rain Check Rebate Program. The program provides rebates to residents and businesses for managing rainwater runoff on their property. Future sessions will be held:

October 9, 6:30-8:30 PM, Accokeek Branch Library, 15773 Livingston Rd, Accokeek, MD 20607

October 22, 7-9 PM, Bladensburg Community Center, 4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg, MD 20710

October 29, 6:30-8:30 PM, Hillcrest Heights Community Center, 2300 Oxon Run Drive, Temple Hills, MD 2074. For more information: <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/StormwaterManagement/RainCheck/Pages/default.aspx>

Fri, Oct 4, 7:30 pm, Gaithersburg, MD. "Chasing Ice", the spectacular video which chronicles the dramatic decline of the Arctic glaciers, will be screened. Duggan Room of St. Rose of Lima Church, 11701 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg. There is no admission charge. The presentation will be followed by a discussion and light refreshments. For further information contact pmcuff@aol.com

Fri-Sun, Oct 4-6, Three Day Intensive Introduction to Urban Agriculture, Edmonston, MD

ECO City Farms and Prince George's Community College are offering an intensive three day certificate course in urban agriculture. This 22 hour hands-on course will provide the sustainable strategies to plan and design an intensive food production system, based on your needs, goals, and growing situation. PGCC will award a continuing education certificate upon completion of all three days. Location: ECO City Farms, 4913 Crittenden Street, Edmonston, Md. 20781

Cost: \$550, includes lunch, snacks and materials.

For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.ecoffshoots.org/front-page/education/pgcc/>

Fri-Sun, Oct 4-6, Train to become a paid presenter for "Climate Change is Elementary", Germantown, MD

<https://www.facebook.com/events/211745955651230/> and <http://www.climatechangeiselementary.com/program.html>

Sat, Oct 5, Civic Works Ricky Myers Day of Service, Baltimore, MD

Ricky Myers was with Civic Works for almost a year, as a crew leader on a summer waterway clean-up project and an assistant supervisor on a neighborhood clean-up program. Ricky was passionate about the environment and the importance of doing hands-on work to make difference in communities. He tragically lost his life in 2003 and our Day of Service honors the impact Ricky had on Baltimore's communities and Civic Works'.

www.civicworks.com/events/day_of_service/

Sat, Oct 5, Baltimore Trash Talk Bottle Exchange, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, Patterson Park and Eastern Ave

Participants will receive five cents for each plastic, glass or aluminum can and bottle returned. The purpose of the collection is to illustrate the benefits of a bottle return in Baltimore City and to reduce the amount of recyclables littering the streets and waterways around Baltimore. Immediately following the collection of materials, all are welcome to participate in creating a stream from the recyclable containers. From 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, local artists and residents will create a temporary exhibit in Patterson Park, photograph the results then send the materials off to be recycled. visit BTT on Facebook or email btt@gmail.com.

Sat, Oct 5, Schools: Saturday Tours, 9:00 am - 10:30 am, Dunbar High School, Washington D.C.

Tours will be held at area schools every Saturday in October. Meet at the school at 9 a.m. (tours will last approximately 1 1/2 hours).

For more information: www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=762944&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Future events:

October 12: George Washington Carver (Towson, MD)

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=762987&EventViewMode=EventDetails

October 19: Waverly Elementary/ Middle School (Baltimore, MD)

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=762998&EventViewMode=EventDetails

October 26: West Towson Elementary (Towson, MD)

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=763002&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Sat, Oct 5, Native Plant Sale, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Bethesda, MD

Chesapeake Natives will hold a fall native plant sale at 8011 Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda., next to the BCC Rescue Squad. Chesapeake Natives propagates plants native to the Chesapeake watershed, and most of the seed we use is from Montgomery, County. Contact Marney at marneyb@earthlink.net for more information.

http://www.chesapeakenatives.org/Chesapeake_Natives/HOME.html.

Sat, Oct 5, 2nd Annual Silver Spring GreenFest, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Silver Spring Civic Center and Veterans Plaza, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Building on last year's success, the festival will feature a full day of inspiring, educational speeches and panel discussions by national and local environmental leaders. It will also include a showcase of green businesses (including solar, wind energy and home energy efficiency companies), solutions to environmental challenges, and fun activities for all ages,

including a game of Catan: Oil Springs, an environmentally-themed board game based on the popular Settlers of Catan. For a full listing of the day's activities (including a full speakers program), please visit the Silver Spring GreenFest website: <http://montgomerycountymd.mygreenmontgomery.org/silver-spring-greenfest>

Sat, Oct 5, Maryland (and DC) Tour of Solar and Green Homes, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm, various locations

The 44-page Maryland Solar Tour Guide is your passport to the homes with descriptions, photos, directions and colorful maps to all the homes. Pick up a copy of the Maryland Tour of Solar and Green Homes at Frederick Area Locations. Cost is \$2.00 per guide. A FREE Downloadable version is also available. www.mdgoesgreen.org/Solar_Tour_2012_Final.pdf solartour.org/md/index.html solartour.org/tours.html ,ALSO <http://solartour.org/download.html>

Sat, Oct 5, Fall Festival, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, Howard County Conservancy, Woodstock, MD

Visit the Conservancy to listen to blue grass music, watch blacksmiths ply their trade, and marvel at the history of this three-century-old farm. Goats, chickens, a terrapin turtle, and a red corn snake will fascinate the youngsters. Our resident Barred Owl will also visit with attendees. Food is available to purchase. **\$10 per car** – carpool with your neighbors! For more information, contact Devon Kosisky, devon.kosisky@hconservancy.org, [410-465-8877](tel:410-465-8877). Directions and details at www.hconservancy.org.

Sat, Oct 5, Audubon's Habitat Volunteer Opportunity, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Patterson Park Audubon Center.

The bird-friendly wetland garden has doubled in size, and the natives are thriving! Now onto weeding and mulching! Join us in maintaining this important urban habitat. We're happy to sign community service hours for helpful students. no need to RSVP for monthly maintenance, unless you'd like to bring a group of helpful volunteers. Tools, gloves, and water provided. 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. pattersonpark.audubon.org/

Sat, Oct 5 & Sun, Oct 6, Howard County's 2nd Annual Green Homes Now Tour, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm, various locations.

See what people are doing to live the "green" life including active and passive solar, aquaponic gardens, geothermal systems, rain gardens, eco-friendly landscaping, and use of recycled materials. The tour is FREE! For more information, email transitionhoco@gmail.com or visit <http://www.transitionhoco.org/committees/energy/green-homes-now-tour>.

Sun, Oct 6, Bulb Fundraiser Sale at Takoma Street Festival, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Takoma Park, MD.

The Takoma Horticultural Club will be selling "direct from Holland" bulbs at their booth at the TP Street Fest. This is the club's only annual fund raiser and club members get a 10% discount on their bulb purchases! Find out more about the Takoma Horticultural Club on our website: www.TakomaHort.org.

Sun, Oct 6, Groundswell Presentation, 12 noon - 12:45 pm, Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church 9601, Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD. 20815

Learn how you can join with your community to save money and switch to clean energy!
Contact: Molly Hauck mollyhauck@verizon.net Call Cedar Lane UU Church for directions: (301) 493-8300

Sun, Oct 6, Baltimore Design School Grand Opening Celebration, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm, 1500 Barclay Street, Baltimore, MD

Join us for cocktails, light fare, music, and informal tours of our state-of-the-art facility. Design competition and silent auction hosted by American Office and Herman Miller. Tickets: \$75; All proceeds will support academic and design programs at BDS. baltimoredesignschool.org/pdf/Grand_Opening_Invite_130918.pdf

Mon, Oct 7, Ecologically-Sustainable Site Development, Baltimore, MD

Ecologically-Sustainable Site Development with Scott C. Scarfone, ASLA, founder of and principal at Oasis Design Group. Part of Baltimore Architecture Month. www.aiabalt.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=6

Mon, Oct 7, Chickadees: Musical Toddler Series at Irvine Nature Center, 7-9 pm, Owings Mills, MD

Inspired by sounds from nature, join us each week for musical adventures along the trails. Birds, frogs, crickets and cicadas are only a few of the creatures that inspire us! Caregivers participate with two- and three-year-olds as we dance, sing and use instruments in addition to meeting live (musical!) animals. Age 2-3 (with adult). \$50 for 3 consecutive programs. For more information, contact Clare at 443-738-9220. Directions, registration and details at www.ExploreNature.org.

Tues, Oct 8 at 7 pm, Home Energy Workshop with Retrofit Baltimore, Cathedral of the Incarnation, 4 East University Parkway, Baltimore RSVP: programassociate@gwipl.org

Wed, Oct 9 – Sat, 12, NAAEE Conference & Research Symposium, Baltimore MD

North American Association for Environmental Education 42nd Annual Conference & 10th Annual Research Symposium. Environmental education (EE) teaches children and adults how to learn about and investigate their environment, and to

make intelligent, informed decisions about how they can take care of it. In schools, EE often reflects state and national learning standards. "Done right," EE not only leads to environmentally literate people, but also helps increase student academic achievement. www.naaee.net/conference

Wed, Oct 9, Walk/Bike to School Day, various locations

www.walkbiketoschool.org/

Wed, Oct 9, Schools: Schoolyards and Community Partners, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Gallery CA, 440 East Oliver Street, Baltimore 21202

4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Sustainable Schoolyards: Your Schoolyard as a Teaching Tool;

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=760159&EventViewMode=EventDetails

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Building a Coalition of Community Partners Around School Improvements;

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=760163&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Wed, Oct 9, Get Paid to Clean Up Stormwater Runoff and Beautify Your Community, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Accokeek Branch Library, 15773 Livingston Rd, Accokeek, MD 20607

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October 29, 6:30-8:30 PM, Hillcrest Heights Community Center, 2300 Oxon Run Drive, Temple Hills, MD 2074. For more information: <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/StormwaterManagement/RainCheck/Pages/default.aspx>

Thu, Oct 10, Sustainable, Efficient Framing Workshop, 8:00 am – 12 noon, Four Points by Sheraton BWI Airport

Free. Hosted by the City of Baltimore, the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory and APA. This four-hour workshop is devoted to educating architects, engineers, builders and code officials about the sustainable benefits of wood construction and advanced framing techniques. Attendees can earn three AIA credits (HSW) or four professional development hours /CEUs.

www.apawood.org/carbonchallenge/baltimore/index.cfm?content=app_carbonchallenge_baltimore_seminars

Thu, Oct 10, Reducing Energy Costs in Maryland Hospitals, 8:00 am – 10 am, MHA PIERSON Conference Center, 6820 Deerpath Rd Elkridge, MD 21075

A Forum for Health Care Providers Results and observations from MD H2E surveys on hospital environmental sustainability and energy benchmarking; Incorporating "high tech" tools and processes with "high touch" employee and staff engagement; Energy management case studies from Maryland hospitals: perspectives and insights from a hospital executive and facilities manager Correlating energy projects to environmental and health benefits. Registration is free but required. Seating is limited. Priority given to health care providers. jplisko@som.umaryland.edu mdh2e.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/MDH2E-August-2013-News-Roundup.pdf

Thu, Oct 10, Increased Transparency...Increased Liability for Designers? Webcast, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Tools like Health Product Declarations (HPDs) and Declare are promoting greater transparency of ingredients and sourcing with building products. While some large architectural firms have embraced HPDs and are joining with other firms and the HPD Collaborative to ask manufacturers to participate in disclosures, some legal departments within these same firms have reservations. www2.buildinggreen.com/increased-transparency-webcast

Thurs, Oct 10, 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm, "Cooperative Child Care Options in Franklin Park"

Beltway Plaza Academy 8 Theaters, 6198 Greenbelt Rd., Greenbelt, MD

Two videos will be shown: "The ABCs of Cooperative Childcare" and "Democracy in the Workplace"

Followed by a discussion led by a panel of local cooperative leaders. The second event is on Oct 12.

Contact for more information: Carolyn Lambright-Davis, clambrightdavis@yahoo.com, 240-705-6438 and

Lois Browne, lbrowne66@msn.com, 301-442-0080

Fri, Oct 11, Audubon Urban Bird Watching Walk, 8:00 am - 9:30 am, Meet at the fountain in the northwest corner of Patterson Park.

Experts from Chesapeake Audubon Society will be on hand to answer questions about our feathered friends. If you would like to borrow binoculars, drop us an email – we have plenty to share! no need to RSVP for this event, just arrive ready to explore! Patterson Park Audubon Center 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. Bird walks occur rain or shine on second Friday (in collaboration Chesapeake Audubon Society) and last Saturday of each month. pattersonpark.audubon.org/

Fri, Oct 11, 9 am, Prince Georges County, Landfill tour, registration required, janiso@erols.com

Ever wonder what happens to your trash after it's picked up? Join Prince George's Sierra Club members on a tour of the county landfill in Upper Marlboro, MD, on Friday, October 11, at 9 am. The tour features a 1-hour program in the center followed by visits to various parts of the landfill, which can take 1-2 hours. You don't have to be a Sierra Club member to register but you must register. A maximum of 28 persons can be accommodated, so please register now by emailing *janis.oppelt@mdsierra.org* . More details about the tour and meeting location will be sent to those who register closer to the date.

Sat, Oct 12, Schools: Saturday Tours, 9:00 am - 10:30 am, George Washington Carver, Towson, MD Tours will be held at area schools every Saturday in October. Meet at the school at 9 a.m. (tours will last approximately 1 1/2 hours). For more information: www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=762987&EventViewMode=EventDetails Future events: October 19: Waverly Elementary/ Middle School (Baltimore, MD) www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=762998&EventViewMode=EventDetails October 26: West Towson Elementary (Towson, MD) www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=763002&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Sat, Oct 12, 10:30 am – 12:00 Noon, “Worker-Owned Cooperatives Create Jobs”, Old Greenbelt P&G Theater, 129 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD. Two videos will be shown: "Democracy in the Workplace" and "How the Worker-owners of Union Cab Govern Themselves". Followed by a discussion led by worker-owners from local worker cooperatives. Contact for more information: Jim Johnson, jim.johnson@dawn.coop, 240-621-0921. A National Co-op Month event co-sponsored by: The Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance, the Greenbelt Cooperative Incubator, and the Democracy at Work Network

Sat, Oct 12, Acorns A Go-Go Groovy Vegan Festival, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm, Greenbelt, MD
FREE. Acorns A Go-Go Groovy Vegan Festival is happenin' in the Roosevelt Center, 131 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD -- rain or shine. Celebrate with vegan food, fabulous live music, vegan vendors - even an acorn expert will demonstrate how to turn acorns into flour then into vegan bread and cookies! It'll be outta sight!! To be a vendor or sponsor, contact Cam MacQueen at acorns.a.go.go@gmail.com. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Acornsagogo/561472760578951>

Sat, Oct 12, Creepy Creatures, 10:00 am, Howard County Conservancy, Woodstock, MD
It's almost Halloween when all sorts of creepy, crawly, and maybe spooky animals are hanging about! Have a wicked good time seeing and learning about these warty, slimy, hairy, scaly, slithery animals with the Conservancy. **FREE.** For more information, contact Devon Kosisky, devon.kosisky@hconservancy.org, [410-465-8877](tel:410-465-8877). Directions and details at www.hconservancy.org.

Sat, Oct. 12 – Sun, Oct 13, PumpkinFest at Irvine Nature Center, Sat, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm, Sun, 12 noon – 4:00 pm, Owings Mills, MD
PumpkinFest is a fun event for families and communities to celebrate the delights of autumn. Each October, hundreds of families gather at Irvine to enjoy a wholesome day of music, food and fun. Hayrides, alpacas, jugglers, face painting and more! \$15 per child. All activities are included. Free for adults and children under 2 years old. For more information, contact Clare at 443-738-9220. Directions, tickets and details at www.ExploreNature.org.

Sun, Oct 13, Docs in the Park, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park (Eagle Drive entrance off Windsor Mill Road)
Doctors across the country have recognized that spending time outdoors can help reduce stress, asthma and ADHD in children. Staying active in nature can also help prevent childhood obesity. Docs in the Park connects physicians with families in city parks to encourage spending time in nature. Beyond the benefits of regular physical activity, spending time outside offers additional benefits for the whole family. Come out for a day of free games, nature activities, healthy food demonstrations and fun! Meet with our pediatricians to learn more about living a healthy, outdoor lifestyle. For more information, contact bmoredocsinthepark@gmail.com. Directions and details at <https://www.facebook.com/docsinthepark> or bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/SpecialPrograms/Docsinthepark.aspx

Mon, Tue, Oct 14, Faith and Environment: Learning What We Can From the Concepts of Sabbath. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Camp Wright, Stevensville, Kent Island, Maryland
Sponsored by Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake, Chester Valley Ministers Association, Episcopal Diocese of Easton, Interfaith Power and Light of Maryland DC and Northern Virginia. All are welcome to gather as people of faith and anyone else interested in protecting and preserving creation. This year's theme "Faith and Environment: Learning What We Can from the Concepts of Sabbath" will explore how the theology of Sabbath informs our stewardship of the Earth. Presentations from three different denominational perspectives will consider work and Sabbath and how these concepts connect to our experience of nature and our stewardship of it. The afternoon activities, including some outdoor time at Camp Wright, will focus on our practical response. For all the details and registration go to <http://www.interfaithchesapeake.org>

Tue, Oct 15 – Thu, Oct 17, IGSHPA Geothermal Installer Certification Training, Baltimore MD

Offered in partnership with the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA). Those who pass the open book exam become IGSHPA Accredited and NATE Certified geothermal heat pump installers. Course also includes a hands on pipe fusion training and certificate. This course is required to access some government incentives, some product distributors require it of their dealers, and some engineers restrict bid lists to IGSHPA Certified installers. www.heatspring.com/courses/igshpa-geothermal-installer-certification-training--baltimore

Tue, Oct 15, How to Create A Community-Based Solar Installation, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, 804 Larch Avenue, Takoma Park, MD

Hosted by Montgomery County Green Party, David Brosch presents a talk on organizing community-based solar projects in MD. Also known as "solar crowd-sourcing," it involves a group of residents setting up a solar power array on a host building such as a church, and making a financial return selling electricity to the host building and to Pepco. This is one of the newest, easiest way to increase solar use without the high initial costs for an individual, as well as reduce your community's carbon footprint and make a profitable investment. David has guided two projects to completion in our area, on church roofs funded by local residents in an LLC. Dave initiated the effort to pass a virtual net metering bill in the Maryland General Assembly, and continues to work for solar legislation that will make it easier for more Maryland residents to go solar in a wide variety of ways. For more information, contact Mary Rooker, (301) 891-1288, or at greentyrtle@gmail.com. Directions and details at www.montgomerycountygreenparty.org

Tues, Oct 15, Greenbelt Climate Action Network, 7-9:15 pm, Room 114, Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Drive. Guest speakers will be Leslie Morrison from Chesapeake Climate Action Network and Vidal Hines from the Sierra Club, discussing their fall priorities and campaigns. For more info, contact Lore, lore@simplicity-matters.org, 301-345-2234

Tue, Oct 15 – Wed, Oct 16, Maryland Clean Energy Summit 2013, Marriott Inn & Conference Center 3501 University Boulevard, East Hyattsville MD 20783

Solving the Distributed Energy Puzzle: Microgrids & Other Smart Solutions Be Part of the Solution! What is distributed energy and how does it related to a microgrid? Are microgrids the same as smart grids? Why is this relevant to the new energy paradigm? What will your role be? This two-day forum will address the challenges of identifying, integrating, and assembling the various pieces of the puzzle needed to advance distributed energy solutions. www.mcecs Summit.org/

Wed, Oct 16, Cities in the Age of Climate Change, Resilience, Sustainability and Livability, Baltimore, MD

Cities in the Age of Climate Change, Resilience, Sustainability and Livability: a lecture by Susannah Drake, dlandstudio, New York. Part of Baltimore Architecture Month. www.aiabalt.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=6

Wed, Oct 16, World Food Day, various locations

World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945. The day is celebrated widely by many other organizations concerned with food security, including the World Food Program. www.worldfoodayusa.org/

Wed, Oct 16,, Schools: Learning in Digital Age and Historic Schools, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm; Gallery CA, 440 East Oliver Street, Baltimore 21202

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Design for Learning in the Digital Age In this panel discussion we will consider the role of design beyond considerations of connectivity and flexibility. As designers of learning spaces what are our responsibilities to educators and students? How can Architecture best respond to the challenges and opportunities of the Digital Age? www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=760166&EventViewMode=EventDetails

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Adapting Historic Schools for 21st Century Learning This presentation will describe how to evaluate and leverage existing resources and overcome obstacles in existing school sites and buildings to create schools that are truly the centers of our communities.

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=760170&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Thu, Oct 17, Local Gardening 102 Tall, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm, Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, MD

Description: With Kathy Jentz, Editor/Publisher of the Washington Gardener For people who are new to gardening and gardeners who are new to the DC metropolitan area, learn about our local gardening world and resources. So you've been gardening for a few years, but still feel like there are some holes in your gardening knowledge that you'd like answers to? This class is for you. We'll take it to the next level and talk about local gardening challenges like poor landscape drainage, gardening on a slope, dealing with deer, planting in clay soil, and more. We'll examine case studies of local gardeners who have conquered these common garden challenges Course # 248804 Fee: \$18; FOBG: \$15; registration required Visitors Center Auditorium Walk-ins welcome. Details at: <http://www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside/xperience.shtm>

Thu, Oct 17, Baltimore Outdoor Sierrans Social at Birroteca- hosted by Shel, 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm, 1520 Clipper Rd Baltimore, MD 21211

Birroteca apparently is loosely translated to mean 'a good place to get some wine.' There's also some pretty good food and beer there, so come celebrate the start of fall with us in this cozy old millhouse near Clipper Mill!

<http://www.bmorebirroteca.com/> Please RSVP to shel shelobel@hotmail.com.
<https://www.facebook.com/Birroteca?fref=ts>

Fri, Oct 18 thru Sun Oct 20, Baltimore Outdoor Sierrans Cabin Trip Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Cabin
Spend the weekend in a rustic Potomac Appalachian Trail Club cabin in a beautiful spot hiking (day hikes) and enjoying the fall colors with friends. These are hike-in (about 1/2 mile) cabins with bunks and cooking supplies (pots,pans,cups), and a woodstove and firepit , but no running water or electricity. Cost will be \$ 10-20 per person and you'll need to bring your own food, campstove, water (or a filtration device), sleeping bag . Location TBD, but likely off of Skyline Drive in Virginia. Space is limited. Please check your calendar and rsvp to shel - shelobel@hotmail.com.

Fri, Oct 18, Irvine Day Off Camp: Professional Development, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, Irvine Nature Center 1201 Garrison Forest Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

No school - no plans? Explore outdoors with us instead! Expect trail walks, nature games, crafts, stories, animal encounters and more. Children should wear nature-friendly clothing and bring a lunch. Ages 5-9. \$65 members, \$75 non-members. (after care available until 6 p.m. for additional fee) explorenature.org/index.php

Fri, Oct 18, Bikemore Happy Hour, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Location varies monthly

Bikemore is Baltimore's bicycle advocacy organization. www.facebook.com/bikemorebaltimore bikemore.net/

Fri, Oct 18 and Sat, Oct 19, Audubon's Tiny Tots, Sat, 11:00 am – 12 noon and Sun, 10:00 am – 11:00 am, Meet on the northeast side of the boat lake in Patterson Park.

Ages 2-5 with an adult · \$5 suggested donation per child · Please register at least 2 days before the program. Tiny Tots is an early childhood environmental education program where kids make a craft, play a game, and read a story around a nature theme. This month, learn about Patterson Park's winged mammals. Join Audubon to discover Patterson Park as an outdoor classroom. ppaudubon@gmail.com or 410.558.2473. pattersonpark.audubon.org/

Fri, Oct 18 – Sun, Oct 20, Maryland Sierra Club Jamboree, Fri 5:00 pm – Sun 3:00 pm, Lions Camp Merrick, Nanjemoy, MD

The Chapter Jamboree is a great chance to learn about environmental issues and solutions, meet new friends, and enjoy the outdoors.

Join us for all or part of the weekend. Participation for the full weekend including meals and lodging is \$75; various discounts are available. For more information and to register check this web page:

<http://maryland2.sierraclub.org/features/register-now-2013-jamboree>

If you have questions, contact Laurel Imlay at the Sierra Club office at 301-277-7111 or laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org

Sat, Oct 19, Schools: Saturday Tours, 9:00 am - 10:30 am Waverly Elementary/ Middle School (Baltimore, MD)

Tours will be held at area schools every Saturday in October. Meet at the school at 9 a.m. (tours will last approximately 1 1/2 hours). For more information: www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=762998&EventViewMode=EventDetails Future event:

October 26: West Towson Elementary (Towson, MD)

www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=763002&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Sat, Oct 19, Audubon's Tiny Tots, 10:00 am – 11:00 am, Meet on the northeast side of the boat lake in Patterson Park.

Ages 2-5 with an adult · \$5 suggested donation per child · Please register at least 2 days before the program. Tiny Tots is an early childhood environmental education program where kids make a craft, play a game, and read a story around a nature theme. This month, learn about Patterson Park's winged mammals. Join Audubon to discover Patterson Park as an outdoor classroom. ppaudubon@gmail.com or 410.558.2473. pattersonpark.audubon.org/

Sat, Oct 19, 11 am – 11 pm, Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival, Greenbelt, MD

Details here on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1400336790190104/>

Sat, Oct 19 & Sun, Oct 20, Permaculture Design Course, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, Sherwood House at Cromwell Valley Park, 2002 Cromwell Bridge Road, Baltimore, MD 21234

Weekend topics are Water Harvesting, Nutrient Recycling, Soil & Gardening - Practice site analysis, make an A-frame level, construct a swale, build a hugelculter bed, create a Water Budget, visit an urban edible landscape; enjoy a Saturday evening potluck & skill share. Future classes: Nov. 16-17, 2013: Urban Permaculture, Social & Economic Permaculture Mar. 8-9, 2014: Renewable Energy, Natural Building Apr. 5-6, 2014: Grains, Aquaculture, Forest Gardening, Guilds, Animals May 3-4, 2014: Forest Garden Installation, Final Design Presentations & Certificate Awards

www.heathcote.org/cms/content/home-scale-permaculture-design-course

Mon, Oct 21, Exploring the Urban Jungle Talk, 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm, Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, MD Washington Post columnist Patterson Clark talks on Natural History at Your Doorstep. Silver Spring Garden Club's monthly meeting. Open to all. Free. For more information, contact Kathy Jentz, Washington Gardener Magazine, 301-588-6894, WGardenermag@aol.com. Directions at www.brooksidegardens.org

Tue, Oct 22, Baltimore City Sustainability Commission Meetings, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Department of Planning, 8th Fl, 417 E. Fayette St. Baltimore MD

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability holds regular monthly meetings usually on the fourth Tuesday of every month. All meetings are open to the public. The Commission is made up of 21 members representing environmental groups, community organizations, labor unions, public health and environmental justice interests, and private industry. www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/AgenciesDepartments/Planning/OfficeofSustainability.aspx

Tue, Oct 22, AIA COTE Monthly Meeting / Living Building Challenge Collaborative, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, AIA Gallery 11 1/2 West Chase Street Baltimore, Maryland

AIABaltimore COTE and USGBC MD are delighted to invite you to the first “unmeeting” of the Baltimore Living Building Challenge Collaborative. We are starting a local Collaborative and will be bringing you opportunities to learn about the Living Building Challenge TM petals, work on local projects, and hear about Living Building success stories all over the world. Meet local champions and ambassadors, become one yourself, and learn how to design and build Living Buildings in Baltimore. RSVP baltimoreCOTE@gmail.com www.aiabalt.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=50

Tue, Oct 22, Get Paid to Clean Up Stormwater Runoff and Beautify Your Community, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Bladensburg Community Center, 4500 57th Avenue, Bladensburg, MD 20710

Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources will host workshops to provide info on the County's new Rain Check Rebate Program. The program provides rebates to residents and businesses for managing rainwater runoff on their property. Future sessions will be held:

October 29, 6:30-8:30 PM, Hillcrest Heights Community Center, 2300 Oxon Run Drive, Temple Hills, MD 2074. For more information: <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/StormwaterManagement/RainCheck/Pages/default.aspx>

Tue, Oct 22 – Wed, Oct 23, Climate Reality - 24 Hours of Reality, Online

Join us as we travel around the world, identifying the costs of carbon pollution and the solution that can change the course of our future. The Climate Reality Project is bringing the facts about the climate crisis into the mainstream and engaging the public in conversation about how to solve it. We help citizens around the world reject the lies and take meaningful steps to bring about change. www.24hoursofreality.org/ climaterealityproject.org/

Wed, Oct 23, BGE Smart Energy Savers Program® Lighting Technology Seminar, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm, Towson, MD

Learn about the latest lighting technologies and the state of the industry. In this comprehensive session, we will discuss LED technologies, the latest high-performance fluorescent systems, controls, lighting codes and standards, and the ENERGY STAR and Design Lights Consortium Qualifying Products Lists. 9 - 11:30 AM Session 1: Essentials of Energy-Efficient Lighting 1 - 3:30 PM Session 2: Future of the Lighting Industry www.bgesmartenergy.com/business/calendar

Wed, Oct 23, Annual USGBC MD Member Meeting, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Howard County Conservancy, 10520 Old Frederick Rd., Woodstock, MD 21163

We are a varied group with one common draw – green building of course! In a complimentary night dedicated to our current members, sponsors and future members, we thank you for your support. Come together to meet fellow members and green building enthusiasts with great food, spirits, and a chance to connect with board members, committee chairs and the volunteers that make it all happen. www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=608266&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Wed, Oct 23, Community Greening Celebration and Baltimore Ecosystem Study Open House, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Vollmer Center at Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, MD 21209

Join the Parks & People Foundation for its 18th Annual Community Greening Celebration and Baltimore Ecosystem Study Open House. celebrate the work of all of the wonderful greeners in Baltimore. A festive evening filled with: Food from local favorite, Meet 27, drinks, Awards reception, Demonstrations, interactive displays, Live music, Silent auction and more! This event is free and open to the public. www.parksandpeople.org/support/special-events/community-greening-celebration/

Thu, Oct 24, IECC and IGCC Seminar, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Doubletree Hotel Columbia 5485 Twin Knolls Road Columbia, Maryland 21045

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) & International Green Construction Code (IgCC) Registration 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Morning Session 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Lunch (On your own) 12:00 - 1:15 p.m. Afternoon Session 1:15 - 5:00 p.m. HalfMoon Seminars at (715) 835-5900, www.halfmoonseminars.com

Thu, Oct 24, Climate Reality Presentation, 7:00 pm, Howard County Conservancy, MD

The impacts of climate change extend beyond environmental change, affecting social, political and economic arenas. Sara Via and Linda Reed will discuss the latest evidence of climate change, how it is affecting Marylanders, its connection to human activities, and its link to the increase in weather-related disasters in globally. FREE For more information, contact Devon Kosisky, info@hcconservancy.org, 410-465-8877. Directions and details at www.hcconservancy.org

Fri, Oct 25 – Sat, Oct 26, TEDx MidAtlantic

Theme for 2013 — “Start Now.” We all possess the power to initiate change, in ways both small and large. Regardless of our situation or current challenges we can each start now. We can start with what we have, what we know, our human network, and with the knowledge gained from experience. We can begin with the lessons of the wise, and the optimism and fresh perspective of the young. We can start with simple gestures of kindness. We can start with clarity of purpose. We can start with a new outlook. tedxmidatlantic.com/

Fri, Oct 25, Baltimore Bike Party, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm, Meet at the Washington Monument in Mt. Vernon Baltimore

Come ride and party through the great streets of Baltimore City with all your friends the last Friday of every month! We stay together as a group and follow a pre-determined route through the city. The ride is a slow pace (~6-10mph) designed to keep everyone of all biking abilities together! We are all here to have a good time. Have a friend(s) with a bike? Bring them along! Don't have any friends? Come make some! baltimorebikeparty.com

Sat, Oct 26, Audubon Urban Bird Watching Walk, 8:00 am - 9:30 am, Meet at the fountain in the northwest corner of Patterson Park.

Experts from Chesapeake Audubon Society will be on hand to answer questions about our feathered friends. If you would like to borrow binoculars, drop us an email – we have plenty to share! no need to RSVP for this event, just arrive ready to explore! Patterson Park Audubon Center 410.558.2473 or ppaudubon@gmail.com. Bird walks occur rain or shine on second Friday (in collaboration with Chesapeake Audubon Society) and last Saturday of each month. pattersonpark.audubon.org/

Sat, Oct 26, OWN It Summit for Millenials, 9:00 am – 4 pm, Irvine Nature Center, Owings Mills, MD

Are you between 16 and 28 years of age? Do you want to be part of a Millennial-led movement that is working to champion outdoor issues on campuses and in communities across the country? If the answer to these questions is YES, then you should check out the OWN It Summit Baltimore. Young people will come together for a day-long, youth-led Summit to connect with each other, identify top outdoor issues, brainstorm solutions and get resources to bring those ideas to life. (Lunch included!) Volunteering in the afternoon. For more information or to apply, contact Beth at gillb@explorenature.org. Directions and details at www.explorenature.org/experience-irvine/own-it-summit

Sat, Oct 26, Schools: Saturday Tours, 9:00 am - 10:30 am, : West Towson Elementary (Towson, MD)

Tours will be held at area schools every Saturday in October. Meet at the school at 9 a.m. (tours will last approximately 1 1/2 hours). For more information: www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=763002&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Sat, Oct 26, Irvine Junior Naturalists, 9:30 am - 12:00 noon, Irvine Nature Center, 11201 Garrison Forest Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Is your child at home on our trails? Junior Naturalists is a great way for them to make friends with other nature nuts and spend time outdoors. Activities include hiking, arts and crafts, keeping a nature journal, and being part of citizen science projects. Junior Naturalists learn to work as a team to explore, respect and protect nature! Different age groups explore outdoors together and receive age appropriate Nature Journals. Ages 5-6 and 7-9. www.explorenature.org/

Sun, Oct 27, Baltimore Green Map Passport Sunday, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Conservatory, Druid Hill Park

BGM, Rawlings Conservatory and Friends of Druid Hill Park are collaborating on a series of Passport Tours, opportunities to explore the park with a guide. Meet at the Conservatory and choose among North, Mid- Park or Lake Loop tour destinations. When you get all 16 stickers, not only will you be much more knowledgeable and familiar with the park, but you will be eligible for rewards contributed by many great supporters. Each event is a FUN-raiser for Baltimore Green Map's next project, the revision and reprinting of the Jones Falls Trail Green Map. \$5/person, family rates available. rsvp@baltogreenmap.org or just show up! baltogreenmap.org/

Sun, Oct 27 at 10:10 am, Home Energy Workshop with LEAP-VA, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 5533 North 16th St, Arlington, RSVP: program@gwipl.org

Mon, Oct 28, Patapsco River Valley and the Industrial Revolution, 7:00 pm, Elkridge, MD

Architectural historian and author Henry Sharp presents his research showing that industrialization in the Elkridge-Ellicott City watershed began earlier and with a greater variety of forms and processes than in other areas commonly viewed as

birthplaces of the Industrial Revolution. \$10/family, \$5/person For more information, contact Devon Kosisky, info@hcconservancy.org, 410-465-8877. Directions and details at www.hcconservancy.org

Tue, Oct 29, 2013 Environmental Leadership Awards, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Annapolis

Please join the Maryland League of Conservation Voters and our sponsors as we honor: Governor Martin O'Malley 2013 Climate Visionary Award Delegate Maggie McIntosh 2013 Legislator of the Year Dru Schmidt- Perkins 2013 John V. Kabler Award Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will begin at 6pm and dinner and the program will begin at 7pm. Questions? Contact Karen Polet Doory at kdoory@mdlcv.org www.mdlcv.org/

Tue, Oct 29, Get Paid to Clean Up Stormwater Runoff and Beautify Your Community, 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Hillcrest Heights Community Center, 2300 Oxon Run Drive, Temple Hills, MD 2074

Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources will host workshops to provide info on the County's new Rain Check Rebate Program. The program provides rebates to residents and businesses for managing rainwater runoff on their property. For more information:

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/StormwaterManagement/RainCheck/Pages/default.aspx>

Tues, Oct 29, 6:30-8:30 pm, Bike Maryland is hosting a FREE Bike Friendly Business and community workshop in Hyattsville at the Hyattsville Branch Library. REGISTER at <http://bit.ly/17RvNDt>

Thu, Oct 31, Design Excellence in K-12 School Facilities Exhibit: Last Day, AIA Baltimore 11 1/2 W. Chase St. MD 21201

A showcase of 35 recent Maryland K-12 projects that exemplify innovation and sustainability. Open to the Public, Free Admission Exhibition runs from September 5 – October 31, 2013. Visit during office hours: M-Th 8am-6pm; Hosted by AIA Baltimore Women in Architecture www.baltimorearchitecturemonth.com/event/k-12-school-facilities/

NOVEMBER PREVIEW & BEYOND

Sat, Nov 2, Project Feederwatch Training at Irvine Nature Center, 10:00 am - 12 noon, Owings Mills, MD

Project FeederWatch is a citizen science project in which YOU can collect data to send to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It's fun and easy way to be part of this long running conservation project. Participate as part of Irvine's volunteer team or record data from your own backyard bird feeders. Ages 7 & up (with adult). Free! For more information, contact Clare at 443-738-9220. Directions and details at www.ExploreNature.org.

Sat, Nov. 2, SCHOOL FOOD FORUM: "Creating a Vision of Fresh, Real Food in Montgomery County Public Schools," 9:30am - 2pm at Lutheran Church of St. Andrew, 15300 New Hampshire Ave in Silver Spring, MD 20905. First ever school food forum in Montgomery County, **Keynote speaker is nationally known school food reformer Tony Geraci**, former Food Director at Baltimore City Schools and subject of movie "Cafeteria Man." **Additional speakers include Marla Caplon, Director of MCPS Food and Nutrition Services.** Registration includes delicious, nutritious locally-sourced lunch. (Scholarships are available.) Hosted by Real Food For Kids - Montgomery and Montgomery Victory Gardens. For more info and registration go to www.realfoodforkidsmontgomery.org or call [301-202-4812](tel:301-202-4812).

Thu, Nov 7, Coyotes & Coronas at Irvine Nature Center, 6:30 pm - 9 ;00 pm, Owings Mills, MD

Join your friends at Irvine Nature Center as we learn about a relative newcomer to Maryland: the coyote. First documented in Maryland in 1972, coyotes are now found throughout the State – even at Irvine! Find out more about their behavior and natural history as well as the impact these mammals are having on the Maryland's ecosystems. \$30. For more information, contact Clare at 443-738-9220. Directions, tickets and details at www.ExploreNature.org.

Sat, Nov 9, Your Health and Our Changing Climate, 9:00 am – 12 noon - noon, Howard Community College, Columbia, MD

Speakers include Drs. Cindy Parker and Steve Shapiro, authors of Climate Chaos: Your Health at Risk; What You Can Do to Protect Yourself and Your Family. Others will speak about the health effects of climate change on children, the elderly and other vulnerable populations. Speakers from government agencies and local organizations will discuss the community resources available to face the challenges ahead. For more information: <http://www.transitionhoco.org/committees/health>

Sat, Nov 9, 2013. Docs in the Park at Herring Run Park! 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, Baltimore, MD.

Come out for a day of free games, nature activities, healthy food demonstrations and fun! Meet with our pediatricians to learn more about living a healthy, outdoor lifestyle. For more information, contact bmoredocsinthepark@gmail.com. Directions and details at <https://www.facebook.com/docsinthepark>.

Sun, Nov 10 at 10 am, Home Energy Workshop with Retrofit Baltimore, Har Sinai Congregation, 2905 Walnut Ave, Owings Mills, RSVP: programassociate@gwipl.org

Wed, Nov 13 at 5 pm, Home Energy Workshop with LEAP-VA, Church of the Covenant, 2666 N. Military Rd, Arlington
RSVP: program@gwipl.org

Sun, Nov. 17, Food and Spirituality Workshop, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Takoma Park, MD

When we are out of synch with our proper dietary place in the food chain, we violate Nature's design and damage our relationships to plants, to other animals, to other humans, our ecosystem, and more. How can we know our proper place, and what possible consequences might we consider? \$30-50, Sliding Scale. Contact Mary "Tyrle" Rooker, tyrtle@ShamanicSpring.com, (301) 891-1288. Directions and details at <http://www.shamanicspring.com/Workshops.htm>

Sun, Dec. 1, Wetiko: Collective Insanity Meets Conscious Living, 1:15 pm - 5:00 pm, Takoma Park, MD

What aspects of everyday life might we change once we awaken from the insanity of Western consumption norms into conscious living? Designed for those interested in our environment and green lifestyles, simplicity, or dietary changes. \$35-75, Sliding Scale. Contact Mary "Tyrle" Rooker, tyrtle@ShamanicSpring.com, (301) 891-1288. Directions and details at <http://www.shamanicspring.com/Workshops.htm>

ACTION OPPORTUNITIES & TIDBITS

Tue, Oct 1, 2013 Children's Month

On this 84th annual celebration of Child Health Day, HRSA reminds you of maternal and child health programs that help children lead healthy lives everyday. mchb.hrsa.gov/childhealthday/ ; EPA is celebrating Children's Health Month! EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment requires us to continue to pay special attention to the vulnerabilities of children, and especially to children living in disadvantaged communities.

yosemite.epa.gov/ochnp/ochpweb.nsf/content/chm-home.htm; Baltimore October Kids Month
www.kidslovedowntownbaltimore.com/index.htm

Thu, Oct 3, 2013 People and Planet Award Submission Deadline

Green America rewarding green businesses nationwide for their contributions to a just and sustainable economy. awards to honor green businesses that take extraordinary steps to help you green your travel. www.greenamerica.org/green-business-people-and-planet-award/index-nominating-form.cfm

Tue, October 8, 15, 22, 29; LEED BD&C Exam Prep: Session 1-4, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

BD+C: Building Design and Construction. Prepare your entire team over the course of four weeks for the LEED Building Design and Construction exam — at one low price! Included are four 2-hour training sessions (eight hours total) plus preparation materials: Session 1 — October 8: Introduction/Sustainable Sites Session 2 — October 15: Water Efficiency/Energy & Atmosphere Session 3 — October 22: Materials & Resources Session 4 — October 29: Indoor Environmental Quality/Innovation and Regional Priority . constructionpronet.com/Calendar.aspx

Thu, October 10, 17, 24, 31; LEED Green Associate Exam Preparation Session 1-4, 1:00pm – 2:30pm

WPL Publishing Co., Inc., in conjunction with Green Building Services, announces a valuable interactive training program: Session 1 – October 10: Green Building and LEED Overview Session 2 – October 17: Sustainable Sites and Water Session 3 – October 24: Energy and Energy-Related Indoor and Environmental Quality Session 4 – October 31: Materials, Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) and Innovation constructionpronet.com/Calendar.aspx

Increased Transparency...Increased Liability for Designers? Webcast

Fri, Oct 11, USGBC MD Board of Directors Nomination Deadline

Due by the close of business. Self-nominations are encouraged and the slate of candidates will be presented to the general membership for a vote.

www.usgbcmd.org/Resources/Documents/USGBC%20MD%202014%20Board%20Director%20Nomination%20Packet.pdf

Tue, Oct 15 – Thu, Oct 17, IGSHPA Geothermal Installer Certification Training, Baltimore MD

Offered in partnership with the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA). Those who pass the open book exam become IGSHPA Accredited and NATE Certified geothermal heat pump installers. Course also includes a hands on pipe fusion training and certificate. This course is required to access some government incentives, some product distributors require it of their dealers, and some engineers restrict bid lists to IGSHPA Certified installers.

www.heatspring.com/courses/igshpa-geothermal-installer-certification-training--baltimore

Tue, Oct 15 – Wed, Oct 30, The EcoChallenge

Hosted by Northwest Earth Institute, is an opportunity to change your life for good. For two weeks, we challenge you to change one habit for Earth. You choose your challenge, we connect you with other EcoChallengers, and collectively we prove that small actions create real change. Register now - you can participate as an individual or you can create a team. Learn more and sign up at www.ecochallenge.org

Sun, Oct 20, The Edgeless School Exhibit: Last Day

The Edgeless School Exhibit: Design for Learning inspires us to imagine what our schools can be like and how we can best address developments in education, culture, society and healthy learning environments. It challenges us to see how our own communities can benefit from improved facilities. Case studies of healthy and high performance schools recently constructed throughout the country highlight innovation in learning environments. Multi-media components of the exhibit share K-12 educational philosophy of the past, present, and new directions. September 20 - October 20: Exhibit Open to the Public (Admission and Events are Free!) October 2, 9, 16: Extended exhibit hours and interactive workshops for youth and adults October 5, 12, 19, 26: Morning tours of recently renovated schools
www.usgbcmd.org/calendar?eventId=735285&EventViewMode=EventDetails

Thu, Oct 24, Food Day

Food Day is a nationwide celebration and a movement for healthy, affordable, and sustainable food. www.foodday.org/