

Dear Friends of Simplicity,

This is the Simplicity Matters Earth Institute Monthly Announcement for **June 2010**. It is going out to **over 1,885 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 <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/events/2010/2010-06.pdf>

Please note: there will be no announcement in July or August. Our editors are taking a well-deserved break. We have tried to include some events taking place over the summer. We will be back up and running in time for the September Forums in Bethesda, Columbia, and Baltimore.

We also have a YahooGroup, called "DCMetroSimplifiers," with about 269 members, if you want to be involved during the month in an "interactive dialogue." You can subscribe from our homepage, www.simplicity-matters.org.

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

This announcement is organized into five sections:

- Second Sunday Forum, Baltimore Green Forum, Earth Forum of Howard County
- Discussion Circle Update
- Community Events
- July Preview & beyond
- Action Opportunities & Tidbits

Thanks to this month's editor, **Betty Wells**. Enjoy your summer!

SECOND SUNDAY PICNIC in BETHESDA!

Sunday, June 13, 2 pm–6 pm

Instead of having one state-wide picnic this year, we are having regional get-togethers.

Where: at Marney's house in Bethesda, within walking distance of the Medical Center metro (Red Line), close to I-495 and Wisconsin Avenue. Join us in the beautiful wildlife habitat garden, which will have plenty of birds 'n' blooms and hopefully butterflies and hummingbirds, too.

What to bring:

- a dish with a serving utensil, preferably vegetarian (but not required). We invite people to share the name of their dish and something about the ingredients (vegetarian/non-dairy/chicken/ etc.) on an index card or label.
- a drink
- yourself, your loved ones, or anyone who'd like to hang out with us!

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

EARTH FORUM OF HOWARD COUNTY

Earth Forum of Howard County

We will NOT have an Earth Forum this summer. The next forum will be held on October 17.

BALTIMORE GREEN FORUM – PICNIC & CIRCLE REUNION

The Baltimore Green Forum (the fourth Sunday of the month)

Sunday, June 27, 4:30-6:30 pm

MD Presbyterian Church,

1105 Providence Road, Towson, 21286

<http://www.mpchurch.org/About.htm>

TOPIC: Picnic & Circle Reunion, Co-Sponsored by SMEI

We will be celebrating a successful year of Baltimore Green Forum gatherings. Here is a great chance to hang out with folks you have begun to know throughout the year.

This picnic will also serve as a “regional re-union” for Simplicity Matters Earth Institute (SMEI). Meet like-minded folks who have participated in one of more of the 34 discussion circles that have taken place in Baltimore since 2002!

- **bring some food to share.** Please write on a small paper whether it is meat, dairy, vegetarian, or vegan
- **please also bring your own plate, utensils, and cup** as no throw-aways will be provided. We hope to make this a “Zero-waste” gathering.
- if you want to sit outside, please bring a **beach chair or blanket**

RSVPs **not** required. For more info, contact baltimoregreenforum@gmail.com, 301-345-2234

DISCUSSION CIRCLE UPDATE

NWEI Discussion Guides: (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.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Discussion circle books now cost \$20 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 in 2010, we have started 12 circles (236 in total since 2002!). We have no circles currently scheduled for the summer, although some folks are quietly assessing if there might be interest among their neighbors. Below we have listed some of the “potential” circles for the 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.

VIRGINIA

Vienna, VA –No new groups starting right now. For people interested in **future discussion circles in Northern Virginia**, contact Helene Shore at 703-861-6638 or email at Teachhss@aol.com.

Frederick & Washington County

None currently scheduled to begin

Carroll County

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

Howard County

Howard County College (GW), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Margo Duesterhaus, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Snowden Overlook (GW), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Judy Burt, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Snowden Overlook (MF), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Judy Burt, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Glenelg (GW) Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Florence Miller, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

“Matchmaker” Circle (CSL), Intro Mtg: TBD CS: Lore Rosenthal, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

“Matchmaker” Circle (MF), Intro Mtg: TBD CS: Lore Rosenthal, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Howard County, Climate Change Initiative of Howard County (CCIH) 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, MD Presbyterian Church? (CSL), CS: Lore Rosenthal, lore@simplicity-matters.org

Baltimore, Towson Presbyterian Church (MF), CS: Ann Phillips

Baltimore, Light Street Presbyterian (SSW), CS: Retta Barkley

Baltimore, Villa Assumpta (CSL, MF, RE?), CS: Helene Murtha

Baltimore Ethical Society (tbd), CS: Karen Elliott

Baltimore region (DSOP, GW, MF, CSL) As soon as we have 8-12 people who can agree on a night of the week, we will get started. Contact Lore, lore@simplicity-matters.org

PG County

Greenbelt and/or Paint Branch UU (MF), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Lore Rosenthal, contact: lore@simplicity-matters.org

Greenbelt and/or Paint Branch UU (CSL), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Lore Rosenthal, contact: lore@simplicity-matters.org

Greenbelt and/or Paint Branch UU (GW), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Lore Rosenthal, contact: lore@simplicity-matters.org

Greenbelt and/or Paint Branch UU (VS or LBP), Intro Mtg: TBD, CS: Lore Rosenthal, contact: lore@simplicity-matters.org

Paint Branch UU Church (VS), CS: Raman Pathik

Montgomery County

No new circles starting currently. If you want to be informed about future circles starting, please contact marney@simplicity-matters.org.

Washington, DC

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 summer, 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 start using 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

Ongoing events over the summer

Every 2nd Tues, On Purpose Networking for Women Howard County, 5:30 – 8:30 pm, Columbia, MD

The Hawthorn Center. \$20 for 1st & 2nd time guests. Contact Ginny Robertson 410-252-2703 or

ginnyrobertson@comcast.net or www.GinnyRobertson.com

Last Tues, The Maryland Native Plant Society monthly meetings, usually at the White Oak library. Please check www.mdflora.org for these listings and information about chapter meetings. Also read about our field trips in DC, Maryland and Pennsylvania throughout the summer <http://mdflora.org/events/trips.html>.

Every Last Wed, On Purpose Networking for Women Baltimore County, 5:30 – 8:30 pm, Ruxton, MD

The Church of the Good Shepherd. \$20 for 1st & 2nd time guests. Contact Ginny Robertson 410-252-2703 or

ginnyrobertson@comcast.net or www.GinnyRobertson.com

Every 3rd Fri, Connections Over Coffee Baltimore County, 10:00 am – Noon, White Marsh, MD

Mystickal Voyage Coffee Shop. \$20 for 1st & 2nd time guests. Contact Ginny Robertson 410-252-2703 or

ginnyrobertson@comcast.net or www.GinnyRobertson.com

Every Last Fri, Connections Over Coffee Howard County, 10:00 am – Noon, Columbia, MD

Homewood Suites by Marriott, \$20 for 1st & 2nd time guests. Contact Ginny Robertson 410-252-2703 or

ginnyrobertson@comcast.net or www.GinnyRobertson.com

June Events

June 1-2, Washington Regional Green Roofs and Walls Conference and Training, DC

At Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Washington, DC The conference is designed to provide an opportunity for the manufacturers, suppliers and distributors of green roof and green wall systems to network with the consumer – specifically, the government consumer – through an extensive trade show. Conversely, session speakers have been selected to provide the government consumer with technical information on making the case for green roofs/walls; how to make green roofs/walls pay, and how to procure funds for green roofs/walls. <http://wdc.greenroofs.org/>

Tues, June 1, and ongoing. One Less Car's New Baltimore Bicycle Alliance, a week ago 63 people attended a Happy Hour to kick-off the new Alliance. Also, we celebrated that earlier in the day the Governor signed into law 6 pro-bike, pedestrian and smart transit bills. Visit www.onelesscar.org to learn about many upcoming events and join the Alliance.

Tues, June 1, and ongoing. One Less Car's only fundraiser, Baltimore, MD. The annual Tour du Port, Baltimore's Premier Bicycle event, will be held on October 3rd. One Less Car is a non-profit organization 100 volunteers are needed for the day of the event. We are also looking for volunteers now to help organize the event. Please contact Rachel at rachel@onelesscar.org if you can volunteer.

Wed, June 2, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, Design Conversations, The Windup Space 12 W. North Ave Baltimore, MD Streets/Art Part 2. Curator: Ben Stone. First Wednesdays of Month - Design Conversations - organized by members of the Design center group; topics, speakers and content varies per month. Cash bar available. For more info contact Fred Scharmen at sevensixfive@gmail.com or Eric Leshinsky, leshmail@yahoo.com

Thurs, June 3, COK Benefit at The Vegetable Garden, 11:30 am-10:00 pm, Rockville, MD

Join us for delicious animal-friendly food and help COK help animals! For more information, contact Francesca Valente, fvalente@cok.net, 301-891-2458. Directions and details at <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Thurs, June 3 through mid-November, Centennial CSA, Burleigh Manor Middle School, Columbia, MD 21042; 26 weeks of locally grown fruits & vegetables (optional eggs, meat and cheese too!!!) picked at the height of the season. With Martin Farms, each shareholder will be able to place an individual order each week on-line, or opt to receive a farmer selection, depending on what is ripening in the fields. Your crate of produce will come prepared specifically for you. You choose what produce you receive based on what your family likes to eat, and to experiment <http://www.martinherbfarms.com>. Contact Bonnie Sorak at centennialcsa@yahoo.com or 410-465-0427

Fri.-Sun, June 4-6, Social Permaculture Workshop, Freeland, MD. This workshop examines the social, economic, and personal aspects of sustainability. We will explore how permaculture ethics and design principles can be applied to create a culture that is not only in harmony with nature, but more peaceful and equitable. Cost: \$325. For more information, contact Karen at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/cms/content/social-permaculture-worskhop>.

Sat, June 5, 3:30-4:30 PM; and Mon, June 7, 6:30-7:30 PM Free Solar Seminar, Towson, MD

Free seminar on adding a solar electric system to your home or business. Hosted by bluehouse, in the Shops at Kenilworth. For more information or to RSVP, contact Colette Hayward, msscontact@marylandsolarsolutions.com, 443-218-2620. Directions and details at www.marylandsolarsolutions.com

Sat, June 5, First Saturday Vegan Potluck, 7-9 PM, Ellicott City, MD 21042 Near Centennial Park Please bring a vegan dish to share (store bought is fine) for the number in your party plus 8. Please RSVP via e-mail by Monday, May 31st. Bring your own reusable picnic-ware and feel free to wash up here. We will have basic table service available (for a small fee), if you forget. There will be iced tea and filtered water to drink. Kids are welcome! Curious about what vegans eat or want some camaraderie? This is the place for you. Bonnie Sorak, bssorak@yahoo.com, 410-465-0427 Home, 443-799-0349 Cell

Sun, June 6, Eco Israel: Workshops with Environmental Activists and Educators, 11:30am-1:00pm, Washington DCJCC, 16th and Q St, NW. A delegation of environmental activists and educators from Israel will

conduct several interactive workshops to help make your life more green and inform you about environmental challenges facing Israel. Topics include: Israel's carbon footprint, herb gardening, "green" projects for disadvantaged populations and Jewish text study. Israeli snacks will be provided by Israeli Harvest. *Space is Limited: RSVP required. *Register Here! https://secure.ujcfederations.org/ft2/form.html?__id=19740

Mon, June 7, Chesapeake Sustainable Business Alliance (CSBA) Green Mondays, 6 – 9pm, Owings Mills, MD. Join CSBA at Irvine Nature Center to hear Dale Hendricks, founder of Green Light Plants, talk about native plants AND his experience being involved with BALLE (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies). Price includes networking, a light dinner by Bon Appétit Catering, beer and wine. \$20 members, \$30 non members. For more information and to register by Friday, June 4, 2010 go to www.csballiance.org.

Mon, June 7, Solar Hot Water & Electric, 7-9 pm, Arlington, VA Learn about residential solar power and solar hot water systems, the components that are needed, the approximate costs and feasibility for your home or business. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org (Please note that this is one of the three classes that will be held in the Arlington location for this month as a part of our series of classes held in this location. For a full list of our classes held in the Arlington area, please visit: <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org/ArlingtonCountyClasses.htm>)

Mon, June 7, Raingardens and Rain Barrels, 7-9 pm, Silver Spring, MD. This class will outline techniques and strategies to manage water use on two important levels: First is conservation, managing water consumption, saving money at the same time, second is storm water run-off, the main contributor to the decline of health of the Chesapeake Bay. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org (Please note that this is one of the two classes that will be held in the Silver Spring location for this month as a part of our series of classes held in this location. For a full list of our classes held in the Silver Spring area, please visit: <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org/SilverSpring10.htm>)

Mon, June 7, The Mindfulness Center Launches “Mind/Body for Cancer Program”, 10am–12pm, Bethesda, MD, Dr. Deborah Norris presents an overview of this weekly program & the most current research on mind/body/lifestyle practices that make a difference in the outcome, recovery & sustained well-being of people living with cancer. Decades of research provide firm evidence of the importance of mind/body/spirit factors in the treatment of cancer. This program is free. Contributions & payments for other classes at The Mindfulness Center benefit our charitable programming. See TheMindfulnessCenter.com for info & class schedule including yoga, tai chi, meditation, aerobics & more! 301 986-1090

Mon, June 7, COK Benefit with Tofurky Pizzas at Great Sage, 7-10 pm, Clarksville, MD
Feast on an all-you-can-eat buffet-style dinner with the delicious new Tofurkey vegan pizzas, vegan cake from Sticky Fingers Bakery, coconut ice cream, and there will even be a cash bar. For more information, contact Francesca Valente, fvalente@cok.net, 301-891-2458. Directions and details at <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Tues, June 8, COK Benefit Day at Sticky Fingers Bakery, 7 am-8 pm, Washington, DC
Want to satisfy your sweet tooth and help us help animals at the same time? Join us for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or dessert and a portion of your bill will be automatically donated towards our efforts to help farmed animals. For more information, contact Francesca Valente, fvalente@cok.net, 301-891-2458. Directions and details at <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Tues, June 8, Green Remodeling, 7-9 pm, Gambrills, MD In this class, learn about every-day, real-world tips, techniques, and strategies that you can implement right away in your next home remodeling project. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, einfo@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org. (Please note that this is one of the two classes that will be held in the Gambrills location for this month as a part of our series of classes held in this location. For a full list of our classes held in the Gambrills area, please visit: <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org/Gambrillsclasses.htm>)

Wed, June 9, ULI Washington Breakfast Series- Infrastructure– Investment in Our Future, 7:30 – 10:30 AM, DC
At the Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20036. Across the nation, and in the Washington region, public infrastructure is one of our greatest assets, as well as one of our most important

responsibilities. As the system continues to age and reach the limits of its capacity, new ways to maintain and increase the existing infrastructure must be developed. Whether the issue is transportation and mobility or safe drinking water and water quality, all are critical to continued economic growth, protection of the environment, and public health. Decades of underfunding now forces massive catch-up by deficit-constrained federal, state and local governments, who are turning to unique mechanisms and partnerships for future opportunities. http://netforum.uli.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?site=ULIMC&webcode=DCouncilEventInfo&Reg_evt_key=40ce5802-5ec7-4626-a388-07a603177f1a&RegPath=EventRegFees

Wed, June 9, Greenbelt Climate Action Network, 7-9:30 pm. Room 114, Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Drive. We will hear from the city's Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES). We will learn of their accomplishments over the past year since they expanded their mission and hear initial progress on their Sustainability Plan. For info, contact lore@simplicity-matters.org, 301-345-2234.

Wed, June 9, 7 p.m., Novella Carpenter: Farm City, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD Join us for the fifth installment of the Sustainable Speaker Series as we invite Novella Carpenter, author of *Farm City: The Education Of An Urban Farmer* to take the stage. In this utterly enchanting book, food writer Carpenter chronicles with grace and generosity her experiences as an urban farmer. Her way with narrative and details, like the oddly poetic names of chicken and watermelon breeds, gives her memoir an Annie Dillard lyricism, but it's the juxtaposition of the farming life with inner-city grit that elevates it to the realm of the magical. <http://baltimoregreenworks.com/events/sustainable-speaker-series/>

Thurs, June 10, Baltimore Green Drinks, Lucky's Tavern (powerplant) Join Baltimore Green Drinks as we partner with the National Aquarium for a unique opportunity to learn more about the Aquarium's conservation efforts and help raise money for their efforts. A \$10 donation is requested. contact Teris for more information at 410-562-9103 or teris@sevenseasenergy.com

Thur, June 10, DC Environmental Network LUNCHEON: Living City Block in DC, 12-1:30 PM, DC. 1100 15th Street NW, 11th Floor, Washington, DC. How one block within an existing city can lead the paradigm shift towards a new urban landscape, Llew Wells, President & Founder of Living City Block Denver will headline a panel which will discuss how to prove the value of retrofitting existing urban environments in large, defined segments. Reducing vehicle-miles traveled, reducing land consumption, increasing feasibility of transit, increasing choice in housing type and affordability and adding public and civic space are some of the benefits of retrofits. RSVP/INFORMATION REQUESTS to cweiss@dcen.net.

Thurs, June 10, Rock Creek Stream Team Kickoff Meeting, 7-8:30 pm, Washington, DC FORCE--Friends of Rock Creek's Environment--is organizing neighborhood-based stream teams to adopt sections of Rock Creek and its 30 tributaries. Come to one of two Kickoff meetings to learn how you can become involved in efforts to protect this wonderful resource. For more information, contact beth@friendsofrockcreek.org or visit www.friendsofrockcreek.org.

Fri-Mon, June 11-14, "Creating the Caring Society", NSP/Tikkun Conference, DC. Church of the Reformation, 212 E. Capitol St. NE, Washington DC. - Speakers include Bill McKibben founder of Step It Up & 350.org, and author of *Eaarth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet* and David Korten of YES Magazine and author of *Agenda for a New Economy*. www.spiritualprogressives.org/article.php/2010conferences, <http://songsforpeace.home.comcast.net/NSPConfFlyer2010.pdf>

Sat, June 12, 11:30-1:00, dedication of Univ Park Solar Coop, LLC solar project Church of the Brethren, 4413 Tuckerman St, University Park, MD. You can RSVP or just show up. For more info, contact Tom Teichbaum, University Park Community Solar LLC, teichbaum@verizon.net 301-277-3072

Sun, June 13, Rock Creek Stream Team Kickoff Meeting, 4-5:30 pm, Rockville, MD FORCE--Friends of Rock Creek's Environment--is organizing neighborhood-based stream teams to adopt sections of Rock Creek and its 30 tributaries. Come to one of two Kickoff meetings to learn how you can become involved in efforts to protect this wonderful resource. For more information, contact beth@friendsofrockcreek.org or visit www.friendsofrockcreek.org.

Sun, June 13, Table with COK at the Capital Pride Street Festival, 11 am-6 pm, Washington, DC

Help us reach out to tens of thousands of attendees with a message of compassion at one of the largest pride events in the nation. For more information, contact Francesca Valente, fvalente@cok.net, 301-891-2458. Directions and details at <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Tues June 15, or Wed June 16, Chesapeake Natives Workshop, Research Greenhouse Conference Room, University of Maryland, College Park, 8:30-3:30. Join us on either Tues or Wed for a one-day gardening intensive workshop. Using a break out workshop format, Dr. Puttock and his team will help you minimize the removal of native plants "by accident", observe who (insects) is doing all the work in the garden, and learn harvesting and preparing seed for storage. Cost \$40 per day, parking, food, and handouts included. For more information, contact: Linda Blossom, 240-429-9295, volunteer@chesapeakekenatives.org

Fri, June 18, Energy Audits Can Save You Money, 5:30-6:45 pm, Washington, DC

Did you know a home energy audit can save you money and be the first step to making your home more energy efficient? Learn what questions to ask to effectively select an auditor and to get the most out of their services. For more information, contact name, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org

Sat, June 19, COK Benefit at Java Green, 10 am-6pm, Washington, DC

Please join us at the monthly Java Green benefit where a portion of your bill will benefit COK. For more information, contact Francesca Valente, fvalente@cok.net, 301-891-2458. Directions and details at <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Sat, June 19, Permaculture Design Presentations, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, Freeland, MD. Come see the home-scale permaculture course students present the designs they have created for their sites. See examples of permaculture designs for many different sites and clients! Free. For more information, contact Karen at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at www.heathcote.org

Sat, June 19, Workshop on Starting a Common Security Club, 10am - 3:30pm, DC. The Festival Center, 1640 Columbia Rd NW Washington, DC. A Common Security Club is a 5 session group to help communities help themselves in these troubled economic times. This is a train the trains session for facilitators for Common Security Clubs which link the economic and environmental crises to the need for sustainability. http://www.ips-dc.org/events/workshop_economic_worries_hey_join_the_club More Info: <http://commonsecurityclub.org>

June 19 – 20, Chesapeake Green Living Festival , Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds Crownsville. The Chesapeake Green Living Festival is about saving energy, saving water and saving money. It's about all the latest green products and services, about tax credits, rebates and incentives, about green jobs and business opportunities, about recycling, about organic food, about cutting- edge green technology, about conservation, about green building, about hybrid vehicles, about the environment, about wind power and solar energy, about sustainability, about climate change, about reducing our carbon footprint, preserving our resources and improving our health and well being in the Chesapeake region. <http://www.chesapeakegreenlivingfestival.com/index.html>

Sun, June 20, Wheel of the Year Summer Solstice, 5 PM, River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation building (Directions at www.ruuuc.org) Go up the outside stairs in front to the 2nd floor Fireside Room. At this last time we will meet at RRUUC, join our seizing the precious days of longer sunlight before the darker days return. Note: We will meet in a new location for Fall Equinox.

June 20-25, Ornithological Society of MD Birds and Habitats Seminar for Students and Educators.

Washington College, Chestertown, MD. The programs are being offered to teachers and students and will involve classroom and field work. Cost approx. \$350.00 but scholarships are available (see links below). Educators can work with youth in a professional or volunteer capacity. Open to students in grades 8 through 12 in the 2010–11 school year. Applications pairing student/adult from same school/county encouraged. Student brochure: <http://www.mdbirds.org/activities/youth.html>; Educator brochure:

http://www.mdbirds.org/education/birdstudy/Program_Brochure_Teachers_2page.pdf.

Contact radclifg@gmail.com.

Mon, June 21, Reel & Meal series 'Refusing to be Enemies: the Zeitouna Story', 7 pm, Greenbelt, MD

6:30 for optional vegan buffet. 7 pm for free film show at the New Deal Cafe, 113 Centerway (Roosevelt Center)

Refusing to be Enemies: the Zeitouna Story profiles a self-formed group of twelve ordinary women calling themselves "Zeitouna," the Arab word for "olive tree." These six Arabs and six Jews weave an unusual and intimate tapestry of sisterhood. Their journey of personal transformation may pave the way to socio-political transformation and peace. For more on the film see <http://www.refusingtobeenemies.org> Contact: Lucy Duff for Peace & Justice Coalition, Prince George's County justpeacepg@earthlink.net (301) 577-2350

Sat, June 26, Free Cool Cities Campaign, 10am - 4pm in Annapolis MD Cool Cities Campaign moves local governments forward with innovative energy solutions to curb global warming, save tax payer dollars, and create healthier cities. Calvary United Methodist Church, 301 Rowe Boulevard Annapolis MD. Maryland Sierra Club- 301.277.7111 or Alana Wase- alana.wase@mdsierra.org or <http://action.sierraclub.org/coolcities2010>.

Sat, June 26, EarthSave Baltimore Veg Dinner Ed Series, 6-9 pm, in Owings Mills at 10210 S. Dolfield Rd., will feature a potluck & screening of "Reading Food Labels", with Dietitian Jeff Novick. Please bring a dish made without animal products that will serve 5-8, plus a \$5 donation (members \$2). Or with 1-day notice enjoy dinner without bringing food for \$12 donation. Call 410-252-3043, write Baltimore@earthsave.org, or go to <http://earthsavebaltimore.org/>.

Sat, June 26, Spiritual Movie Night 7pm, Eldersburg, MD Center for conscious living will be showing the Buddhist film: Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring-- a journey of life. \$10pp and we supply the popcorn. For more information contact, Iris, reviris@ccccl.org or call 410-318-8877, details and directions at: www.ccccl.org If emailing please put "movie night" in subject line.

July and beyond PREVIEW

Tues, July 6, FREE Meditation Class, 7-8:30pm., Finksburg, MD. The Center for Conscious Living will offer a 6 week class on various types of meditation. We will begin with the basics of breathing for relaxation, based on the CD by Dr Andrew Weil. Attend one or all of the sessions. Please call for additional information or to let us know your intention to attend: contact Iris: reviris@ccccl.org or 410-318-8877 or visit our website: www.ccccl.org If emailing please put "free class" in subject line.

Tues, July 6, Neighbors of Northwest Branch meeting, 7:30 to 9:15pm, at the White Oak Library, 11701 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD, just north of the intersection with US Rt. 29 (Colesville Rd.). Speaker will be Del. Tom Hucker (D-20) who will review stormwater and trash bill secrets from the 2010 Maryland General Assembly session. All are welcome at no charge. There will be light refreshments. For more information, call 301-946-5599 or visit www.neighborsnwb.org .

Wed, July 7, Free Class based on the book, The Infinite Way by Joel Goldsmith. 7-9pm, Finksburg, MD, The Center for Conscious Living will host this 6 week journey into the New Thought ideas of One Life. This class will be facilitated by Edith Sorrell, Goldsmith scholar. Attend one or all of the sessions. Please contact for additional information or let us know your intention to attend, reviris@ccccl.org or 410-318-8877, visit our website for details: www.ccccl.org If emailing, please put "free class" in subject line.

Wed, July 14, Networking & Self-Promotion for the Entrepreneurial Woman with Ginny Robertson, 5:30–8:30 pm Arlington Central Library Arlington VA. Free to all women. Pre-registration required. 410-252-2703 or ginnyrobertson@comcast.net www.GinnyRobertson.com

Sat, July 31, EarthSave Baltimore Veg Dinner Ed Series, 6-9 pm, Owings Mills, at 10210 S. Dolfield Rd. Will feature a potluck & live presentation of "Annual Nutrition Update" by Michael Greger, MD. Please bring a dish made without animal products that will serve 5-8, plus a \$5 donation (members \$2). Or with 1-day notice enjoy dinner without bringing food for \$12 donation. Call 410-252-3043, write Baltimore@earthsave.org, or go to <http://earthsavebaltimore.org/>.

Fri, Aug. 13 to Sun, Aug. 29, Permaculture Design Course, Freeland, MD. Earn your design certificate with Dancing Green during our summer residential immersive! Dancing Green offers the whole permaculture design course curriculum as an immersion in educational experiences of integration, collaboration, consensus, and selfempowerment within the context of land-use design. Cost: \$1,750. Financial aid available. For more information, contact Karen at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at

http://www.livingmandala.com/Living_Mandala/Heathcote_Permaculture_Design_Course_10.html,

Sat, Sept. 11, DC VegFest 2010, 12-6 pm, Washington , DC The DC VegFest is a FREE outdoor festival celebrating the very best of everything vegetarian in and around the nation's capital. For more information, contact Francesca Valente, fvalente@cok.net, 301-891-2458. Directions and details at <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Action Opportunities and Tidbits

Take the Repower at Home Challenge

Repower at Home is building a national movement to engage homeowners in saving energy in our communities. Throughout the summer, organizers are holding community meetings throughout Maryland to empower people to take an active role in reducing energy waste. If you are interested in bringing this program to your community please contact Brenna Muller at Brenna.muller@climateprotect.org or (202) 567-6834.

Consumers who want to eat fresh locally grown produce and other healthy items will be able to find a bountiful selection available at **Baltimore County's Farmers' Markets**. With 13 Farmer's Markets throughout the County, you can buy fresh goods everyday Tuesday through Saturday.

<http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/releases/0524farmers.html>