

Dear Friends of Simplicity,

This is the Simplicity Matters Earth Institute Monthly Announcement for **July 2008**. It is going out to over **1,565 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/

We also have a YahooGroup, called "DCMetroSimplifiers," with about 254 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 83 members. You can also subscribe from our homepage.

This announcement is organized into five sections:

- Second Sunday Forum (Bethesda) & Baltimore Green Forum
- Discussion Circle Update
- Community Events
- August Preview
- Action Opportunities & Tidbits

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

SECOND SUNDAY FORUM

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: None! We're taking a break until September. Have a wonderful summer,

BALTIMORE GREEN FORUM

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: None! We are also taking a break until September. More info to follow in the August SMEI Announcement.

DISCUSSION CIRCLE UPDATE

Please note the following abbreviations for Northwest Earth Institute guides: (CO2) Global Warming; Changing CO2urse; (CSL) Choices for Sustainable Living; (DSOP) Discovering a Sense of Place; (EDE) Exploring Deep Ecology; (HCHP) Healthy Children-Healthy Planet; (GiC)

Globalization and Its Critics; (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.

We have started 18 circles so far in 2008. All but two of them have been completed:

Frederick, Ten Thousand Joys (CO2), CS: Hillary Banachowski

Middletown (MF). CS: Susan Kelican

So far, there is one Discussion Circle set to start this summer.

Howard County "Matchmaker" Circle (CO2 or LCD) **Intro Meeting:** Monday, July 7, 7-9 pm. Barnes and Nobles, Long Gate Shopping Center, Rt 29 & Rt 103. (4300 Montgomery Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-203-9001). **First Session:** July 14 or 21. Future (biweekly) sessions will take place in a private home of one or more of the participants. RSVP to hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Active plans are underway to get a circle started this summer in:

Greenbelt, details TBD

Takoma Park/Silver Spring, details TBD

The following groups are hoping to get started later this year, details forthcoming (contact Lore at lore@simplicity-matters.org unless otherwise noted):

Washington, DC, Washington Ethical Society (MF), CS: WES staff

Silver Spring, UU Congregation of Silver Spring (CO2), CS: Paula Cote

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

Baltimore, St. Vincent De Paul (CO2), CS: Sylvia Eastman

Baltimore, Towson (TBD), CS: Patsy Allen

Washington, DC (MF), CS: Harold Stone

Gaithersburg (EDE) circle forming in the fall. Contact Chris/Wendy to learn more. Chris, mdhiker2@yahoo.com or Wendy, 301-864-2474

Frederick (CSL) fall circle. Intro meeting Tuesday, 9/16, 7-9. CS: Susan Kelican, skelican1@comcast.net

Frederick (HCHP) fall circle, Intro meeting, Monday 10/6 at the Common Market, 7-8:30. CS: Erin Kline

Frederick (MF) fall circle, Intro meeting (tentative), Thursday 10/16 at the UUCF, 7-8:30. CS: Sandi Smith-Gill

Bethesda, Cabin John (TBD) CS: Marney Bruce

Parkton (HCHP) CS: Rich Louis

Carbon Neutrality Project, Greenbelt (LCD) CS: Steve Kane sr.kane@verizon.net

Light Street Presbyterian (regroup) Topic: TBD

Paint Branch UU Congregation, Adelphi (regroup) Topic: TBD

Goddard Space Flight Center (regroup) Topic: TBD CS: Theresa Held/Michael Hartman

Sign Language Circle (discussion of "Sustainability" and/or "Earth-based Spirituality", in American Sign Language) CS: Roberta Merrill, location: TBD

Howard County, Climate Change Initiative of Howard County Committee is actively pursuing 15 potential venues. Details to follow. Visit www.hococlimatechange.org or email hococlimatechange@gmail.com

Howard County "Matchmaker" (Topic: TBD) CS: Lore Rosenthal, hococlimatechange@gmail.com

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

Rockville/Bethesda "Matchmaker" (Topic: TBD) CS: Marney Bruce, marney@simplicity-matters.org

Silver Spring/Takoma Park "Matchmaker" (Topic: TBD) CS: Lore Rosenthal lore@simplicity-matters.org

Greenbelt "Matchmaker" (Topic: TBD) CS: Lore Rosenthal lore@simplicity-matters.org

NW DC "Matchmaker" (Topic: TBD) CS: Marney Bruce, marney@simplicity-matters.org

Frederick Co and Washington Co "Matchmaker" (Topic: TBD) CS: Lena Rotenberg,
lena@simplicity-matters.org

Lore's "Circles List"/"Matchmaking"

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

Baltimore/ Columbia/ Greenbelt/ Takoma Park/ Silver Spring/ Rockville/ Bethesda/ Germantown/ NW-DC

NOTE: If a circle does not seem to be starting in your area quite as fast as you had hoped, perhaps you want to email Lore and offer her some assistance? She would be happy to give you a small task to lighten her load and ensure that the circle you want will come together.

For a list of **all of our NWEI-published discussion topics**, visit
<http://www.simplicity-matters.org/circles/text-based/7guides.pdf>

In any given month, many circles are forming. Please check frequently at www.simplicity-matters.org/join_a_circle.htm to see what is currently available. (If you are starting your own circle and would like to have your blurb posted on that page, please email it to Lena@simplicity-matters.org)

For more info. about our discussion circles, visit our Frequently Asked Questions page,
www.simplicity-matters.org/faq.htm, or email Lore at lore@simplicity-matters.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tues, July 1, Public Lecture: A Practical Guide to Household Energy Efficiency, 7 to 8:30 pm, Towson, MD. Presented by Jeffrey Blankman engineer & solar energy systems expert, emphasizing general cost-effective steps, with info on home solar energy. Following this 45 minute presentation/discussion will be a brief open meeting of BCAN: Baltimore Climate Action Network (www.baltimoreclimate.org); a chapter of www.chesapeakeclimate.org in which we will discuss ideas about supporting local & state level sustainability and legislative initiatives. G.B.M.C. Conference Center (Greater Baltimore Medical Center) Questions: mail@baltimoreclimate.org or 410-812-1447 Parking is \$1 - \$2. Directions: <http://www.baltimoreclimate.org/content/1/2/56.html>

Thurs, July 3, Compassion Over Killing (COK) Benefit at the Vegetable Garden, 11:30am-10pm, Rockville, Md. You're invited to join COK at the monthly funding day when D.C.'s vegan favorite donates 10 percent of your bill to COK. Vegetable Garden is located at 11618 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. Details at <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0016>

Thurs, July 3, Leafleting with Compassion Over Killing (COK) followed by dinner at the Vegetable Garden, 5pm-6pm, Washington, D.C. Join COK in distributing pro-vegetarian information at all four exits of the Metro Center Metro station (on the red line). Leafleting will be followed by dinner at the Vegetable Garden, where 10 percent of your bill will be donated to COK. For more information contact info@cok.net or 301-891-2458.

Fri, July 4, Re-envisioning the Birth of our Nation as a Center of Freedom and Hope, 1-4pm, Germantown MD in a Large Pavilion on Dayspring Farm. A Picnic and Program, Celebrating all that is good and beautiful about America--- Affirming: our interdependence with all of the world's peoples, our visions for world peace, our care and concern for our earth and

climate change. Free - bring food to share - all welcome. See flier [here](#) and info at www.nspmaryland.org.
RSVP nspmaryland@gmail.com, or 443-803-8546.

Sat, July 5, Moderate 7 mile hike, 9:30, Patapsco Valley State Park, Hilton area. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:30 off at the parking lot just inside the park entrance on the right, off Hilton Avenue. Call James Perschy, 410-964-1902, jameshike@verizon.net.

Sat, July 5, First Saturday Vegan Potluck, 6:30-8:30 PM in Ellicott City near Centennial Park. "Backyard Barbecue" theme. Please bring a vegan dish to share (store bought is fine) for the number in your party plus 6. Please RSVP via e-mail. We will have basic table service available (for a small fee), so it's better if you can bring your own reusable picnic-ware and feel free to wash up here - - instead of making waste for the landfill. There will be iced tea and filtered water to drink. Invite friends and the merely curious. Kids welcome! Contact Bonnie Sorak bsorak@juno. 410-465-0427 to RSVP and for directions.

Mon, July 7, Free Vegetarian Food & Presentation by Author Erin Williams, 7pm, Pikesville, Md. Come meet Erin Williams of The Humane Society of the U.S., co-author of the newly-released *Why Animals Matter: The Case for Animal Protection*, and learn about how our everyday dietary choices affect animals and the environment. This free event will be held at the Pikesville Library at 1301 Reisterstown Rd., Pikesville, Md. For more information contact info@cok.net or 301-891-2458.

Tues, July 8, Agricultural Reserve fundraiser 10 am - 8 pm. All Montgomery County Whole Foods Markets will be donating 5% of their revenue to the Montgomery Countryside Alliance. There are three ways you can help: spread the word, shop at one of the stores on Tuesday, or volunteer. Volunteers work in shifts and get to talk to shoppers about the importance of local farms and agricultural land. For more information contact Chad@ruralmontgomery.org.

Sat, July 12, Splash in the Middle Patuxent, in Columbia 10am. Cool down with a leisurely 2 hour walk in the middle of the river, through the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area. Learn how this area was protected from development when Columbia was formed. Wear old sneakers, and be prepared to get wet. Optional restaurant lunch afterwards, so bring a change of clothes. Meet at 10:00, 0.8 mile south of Rt. 108 on Trotter Road, at the gravel parking lot on the left (east). Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Thurs, July 12, Grassroots Meeting with Delegate Tom Hucker, 10am-12pm, Takoma Park, Md. Join Compassion Over Killing (COK) and The Humane Society of the U.S. for an exciting opportunity to meet one of Maryland's most animal-friendly legislators! Meeting will be held at the Spring Park Pavilion, 7008 Poplar Ave., Takoma Park, Md. Details at https://community.hsus.org/humane/events/meeting_TakomaParkMD_July12/details.tcl?rk=C1qiEkp1gqeNxEV

Sat, July 12, Awakening the Dreamer Symposium, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Washington, DC. Through group interactions, inspiring video clips and presentations, the Symposium will explore how we can help bring forth an environmentally sustainable, socially just, and spiritually fulfilling human presence on the Earth. Additional information and registration at www.awakeningthedreamer.org or contact Mary Pike at marypike@cox.net or 703-960-0577.

Sat, July 12, Festival of the Song, 11 AM to 9 PM, Greenbelt's Roosevelt Center. Free. All day music festival will be held in Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt MD. Eight talented song writers will present their music at this free outdoors concert. In case of rain, event will be moved into the recently reopened New Deal Cafe in Roosevelt Center (113 Centerway), Greenbelt. Children's program starts at 11 AM. Friends of New Deal Cafe Arts, Chris Logan, email: loganc@joimail.com , and www.newdealcafe.com

Sat, July 12, Potomac Conservancy Annual Picnic, 4 'til 8 pm at Carderock Pavilion in Cabin John, MD. Bring family and friends and join us for food, fun and live entertainment by the Potomac River on a summer evening! Admission is free, but please bring a potluck dish. For more information and directions go to <http://www.potomac.org/site/annual-picnic/#directions>

Sat, July 12, Screening of the documentary "Raw for Life," 6-9 pm, Owings Mills, MD. EarthSave Baltimore's Veg Dinner Series is about the raw food vegan diet, at the Learning Center of Your Prescription for Health, 10210 S. Dolfield Road Owings Mills, MD. Please bring a vegan dish that will serve five times the number of people in your party, plus a \$5 donation. Or (with 2 days notice) you may enjoy dinner without bringing food for a \$12 donation. Write Baltimore@earthsave.org, or go to <http://earthsavebaltimore.org/>.

Sat-Mon, July 12-14, Dolly Sods Backpack, WV. Moderate 26+ mile backpack through Dolly Sods North and Wilderness Area in Monongahela National Forest. This wild area looks more like the Canadian Shield than a typical area forest. We will explore some seldom visited trails on the first day. Challenging stream crossings might require a change of footwear. Register with Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Sat July 12 & 19 and Sun July 27, Cohousing Orientation and Site Tour in Clarksburg, MD! , 3:00-5:00 p.m. Meet a new cohousing community forming for adults 50+. Get in on the ground floor of this green and sustainable way to live! Meet at Mayorga Coffee, 23207 Stringtown Rd, Clarksburg, MD 20871(East of intersection Stringtown Rd. & Rt. 355.) Info: ann.zabaldo@gmail.com; 703 663 3911. Please call or email to confirm date/time. **FREE**

Tues, July 15, Introduction to Geothermal Energy Systems, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Jessup, MD. This class provides a basic overview of geothermal energy systems. For more information, contact Leslye Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org

Wed, July 16, RENEWAL: An Interfaith Call to Action, 7:30-9:30 pm, Washington, DC. Join with the community and view highlights of this film captures the breadth and vitality of America's religious- environmental movement, and shows how individuals and communities driven by their spiritual and religious convictions are being called to re-examine what it means to be human and how we live on this planet. Get ready to take action at the film showing. For more information, contact Allison, allison@gwipl.org, 202-885-8684. Directions and details at <http://dcgreenmuslims.blogspot.com/2008/06/renewal-film-save-date.html>

Wed, July 16, National (Veggie) Hot Dog Day Feed-In, 12pm-1pm, Washington, D.C. Join Compassion Over Killing (COK) as we offer free vegetarian hot dogs, to celebrate National (Veggie) Hot Dog Day, at the Farragut North Metro station (on the red line). For more information contact info@cok.net or 301-891-2458.

Sat, July 19, Compassion Over Killing (COK) Benefit at Java Green, 11am-6pm, Washington, D.C. Support COK while enjoying delicious cruelty-free fare and socializing with other activists! Please join us at Java Green, located at 1020 19th St., NW, Washington D.C. A portion of your bill will benefit COK. Details at <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0015>.

Fri, July 19 to Mon, July 21, Taking Action for Animals, Arlington, VA. Join Compassion Over Killing (COK) at this national conference designed to motivate, inspire and teach animal advocates. Don't miss COK's executive director, Erica Meier as one of the presenters. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City at 2799 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. Details at <http://takingactionforanimals.com/>.

Sat, July 19, Native Traditions and Energy 101: The Ancient Traditions of the Cherokee, 10am-4pm, Ellicott City, MD. A seminar on Native truths regarding energy, how to use smudging techniques, protect your energy during these challenging times, and gain a better understanding of energy. Infinity More Healing Center, Oella Ave, Ellicott City, MD 21043. To register contact Infinity More at Infinitymore@comcast.net or Jenii Hisha at jeniw@comcast.net. Cost is \$200.

Sat, July 19, Maryland Native Plant Society Catoclin Chapter meeting, 10 am till noon. 123 Challedon Drive, Walkersville, Md At Jim and Teresa Gallion's Gardens you'll see turf reduction, pond, native plantings and non invasive non natives. This event is a good chance to learn about native plants used in the home garden and meet your fellow MNPS members. Contact: Jim Gallion, 301-898-0678 or jimbo21793@aol.com (Marney says this garden is not to be missed if you are in the area).

Sat, July 19, McKeldin area, Patapsco State Park, 9am. Moderate 4 mile hike along the Patapsco River, past McKeldin Falls. Optional restaurant lunch after the hike. Meet at the Bagel Bin off Rt. 40 in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center, for a 9:00 departure. Call James Perschy, 410-964-1902, jameshike@verizon.net.

Sat. July 19, Howard County Butterfly Count. 9am to 3pm. Find and identify butterflies at various locations around county. No experience necessary. Contact Sue Muller for details, 301-498-8462, sonicsue@verizon.net.

Sat, July 19, Eco-friendly party in the park hosted by the Green Building Institute, 12 pm to 5 pm, Howard County, Maryland. Live music, food, drink and ideas. TICKETS REQUIRED. For more information contact info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org. Location: Alpha Ridge Park Pavilion, 11699 Old Frederick Road.

Sat, July 19, Forgive for Good: A Workshop with Dr. Frederic Lusking, 9:15 am to 3:30 pm (doors open at 9 am), Lutherville, MD. A rare opportunity to work with world-renowned forgiveness expert, Dr. Fred Luskin. Tickets: \$60 All major credit cards accepted. Location: Towson Unitarian Church, 1710 Dulaney Valley Rd, Lutherville, 21093. For more information or to purchase a ticket, contact Iris at 410-318-8877 or www.ccccl.org/forgiveprogram.

Tues, July 22, 2008, Composting at Home, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Jessup, MD. All about composting for your backyard garden & your health. For more information, contact Leslye Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org

Thur-Sun, July 24-27: Loyalsock Trail Backpack, World's End State Park, PA. This is a 4 day, 2 part trip; do one or both parts. Part 1 is a 17 to 20 mile backpack on the Loyalsock Trail and Link Trail. We will either camp on the shores of a highland pond or along Loyalsock Creek. Second night, car camp at World's End. Part 2 will be an overnight backpack using the Loyalsock Trail and World's End Trail, of similar distance to the first part. Camp above a waterfall on Ketchum Creek. The next day, hike back and return home. Register with Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Fri, Jul 25, Sustainable Community Suppers, 6 pm to 9 pm, Dayton, MD. Fourth Friday, vegetarian potluck. Special Event: Canning tomatoes; bring your tomatoes, jars and a desire to share and learn. Discussion, sharing and events to support environmentally conscious living. Summer Topic: Sustainable Food Choices. Location: 5085 Green Bridge Rd, Dayton, MD. For more information & to RSVP, contact Karen at 410-489-6651 or sustainablecommunitysuppers@gmail.com. For directions, go to www.edenvalleycenter.org.

Sat and Sun, July 26 & 27, Tubing on the Potomac, Little Orleans, MD. Looking for a weekend summer adventure relatively close to home but far enough out to escape the suburban jungle? Join us for tubing, camping, and kayaking with the Sierra Club. \$125 includes all food, transport, and gear (just bring sleeping bag and personal items). For more information, contact Alex Hirtle, at 301-952-5349 or at ajhirtle@co.pg.md.us.

Sun, July 27, Splash in the Middle Patuxent, in Savage Park, 9:30am. Cool down with a leisurely 3 hour walk in the middle of the river, from Murray Hill Road to Savage Park. Discover clams and other wildlife. Wear old sneakers, and be prepared to get wet. Due to hidden slippery rocks in the river, this hike is not appropriate for people with bad ankles/knees/back. Bring a snack and water, and a change of clothes for an optional restaurant lunch after the hike. Meet at 9:30 at the Savage Park Wincopin Trail parking lot, off Vollmerhausen Road, a quarter mile east of the bridge over I-95. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Mon, Jul 28, Awakening Minds Bimonthly Book Group, 7:30 pm, Clarksville, MD. Focuses on ecology, social change and green living. *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard. Location: Great Sage Restaurant, 5809 Clarksville Square Drive, Clarksville, MD 21029. For information contact Anastasia at 443-535-0212 or Karen at ownbeyk@yahoo.com.

Mon, July 28, Feed-in with Compassion Over Killing (COK), 6pm-7pm, Washington, D.C. Encourage people to explore a vegetarian diet by giving out free delicious vegetarian food at "Screen on the Green" on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. For more information contact info@cok.net or 301-891-2458.

Tues, July 29, Maryland Native Plant Society monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, Wheaton Regional Library. Habitat Value of Natives: More than Fashionable Flowers. Join us for a presentation on the choices homeowners and gardeners have in drawing from our region's natural plant diversity, with an aim towards conservation and restoration. For directions and more information: www.mdflora.org

Wed, July 30, Introduction to Renewable Energy Systems, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Jessup, MD. This class provides a broad overview of the major renewable technologies, including solar, wind, wave, geothermal, general bio fuels and hydro-power. For more information, contact Leslye Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at www.greenbuildinginstitute.org

August Preview

Coming in August! Betsy Morris, principal, Planning for Sustainable Communities, a Berkeley, CA consulting company, will conduct a workshop on "**Cohousing Communities for 'Boomers & Beyond!'**" Date & time: TBD. To be placed on notification list contact Ann Zabaldo at: ann.zabaldo@cohousingcollaborative.com or 703 663 3911.

Tues, Aug 12, Public Lecture: 'Connecting To Sustainability: Practical Examples of Sustainable Living', 7 – 8:30 pm, Towson, MD

Including society's inter-connectedness through our goals of sustainable living & environmental, financial and social responsibility, presented by **Rex Wright**: Chair of the Baltimore Regional Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, recent past Chair of the Baltimore County Commission on Environmental Quality, engineer & expert in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and construction management. Following this 45 minute presentation/discussion will be a brief open meeting of BCAN: Baltimore Climate Action Network (www.baltimoreclimate.org); a chapter of www.chesapeakeclimate.org) in which we will discuss ideas about supporting local & state level sustainability and legislative initiatives. Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1710 Dulaney Valley Road, Lutherville, MD 21093-9705. www.towsonuuc.org - Questions:

mail@baltimoreclimate.org or 410-812-1447 Directions:
<http://www.baltimoreclimate.org/content/1/2/56.html> and scroll down.

Sat, Aug 23, Native Plant Seminar/Sale, 9:30am-4:30pm, Owings Mills, MD. You're invited to our 17th Annual Native Plant Seminar & Sale. The seminar features three dynamic speakers as well as post-seminar workshops. Throughout the day our Native Plant Sale, featuring thirteen native nurseries, is open to the general public. Location: our brand new "green" facility, 11201 Garrison Forest Rd, Owings Mills. Seminar fee is \$70, members \$60 (workshops \$25).
www.explorenature.org. Contact Julie Shumway, 410-484-2413 x 25 or shumwayj@explorenature.org. Downloadable registration form and directions at <http://www.explorenature.org/experience-irvine/special-events/native-plant-seminar-sale.html>

Action Opportunities and Tidbits

Recycling in Montgomery County: As of July 1, single-family homes in Montgomery County will be able to recycle all plastic bottles, containers and lids, jars, pails, buckets, and food-grade plastic tubs. Items previously not allowed---yogurt/sour cream/deli containers, peanut butter/mayonnaise jars, ice cream/margarine tubs, plastic beverage cups, flowerpots, kitty litter containers, and detergent tubs---will now be recyclable, beginning in July. For more information call 240-777-6410.

Want to work for sustainable transportation? As energy prices soar, as the perils of climate change become clearer by the day, and as Maryland struggles to invest in transit, schools, public health and other priorities, Governor O'Malley remains intent on wasting more than \$3 billion on the Intercounty Connector. The Campaign to Stop the ICC will shortly have a new website with current information, fact sheets, and action you can take. A link to the new site will be posted at <http://www.savecommunities.org>. Please stay tuned. To volunteer to help stop the ICC, write to stoptheicc@igc.org.

Join a Nature Circle this summer and share the wonder! Nature circles are always forming. We meet for an hour and a half once a week for four weeks in a location convenient to everyone. Call Mary Hardcastle at 410-484-2595 or e-mail mary@hookedonnature.org. Visit www.hookedonnature.org to read about Nature Circles.

Free Permaculture DC/NVA/MD Discussion Group Join us to share ideas and ethics like cooperation not competition, maximizing valuable connections, working with nature, learning from nature, least work for greatest possible effect, caring for our community and taking care of our needs and products, less waste/less haste, slowing down for higher quality lifestyle.... and much more! Please only join us if you have a genuine interest in changing your life and your nation... from the inside out. Please join at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pccap>
permaculturecapital@bigfoot.com

Grassfed, local, organic beef and lamb is available in bulk prices in Silver Spring! Lovingly raised by Julie Bolton of Groff's Content Farm in Rocky Ridge, Maryland, and similar local family farms in southern Pennsylvania, our animals are organic, local and grassfed resulting in ethical, delicious, lean meat. No hormones, animal byproducts or antibiotics are used. \$9 per pound and beef boxes, which you could split, are 22 to 25 pounds. For details on beef boxes, which include a mix of cuts, go to: www.kolfoods.com/goodforkfoods. To order, email: devora@kolfoods.com

Corn Heat Coop forming in Baltimore City in Fall 2008. Affordable net-zero carbon home heat using corn/grain/pellets. Works with your existing furnace-boiler only as back-up. Fuel-buying coop will be modeled after SaveOurSky.com, Tacoma Park. Learn more by joining the listgroup at BaltiCornHeat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com, or contact Frank Lee at TechEdTeacher@usa.net.

