

Dear Friends of Simplicity,

This is the Simplicity Matters Earth Institute Monthly Announcement for **December 2008**. It is going out to over **1,680 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/](http://www.simplicity-matters.org/announcements/)

We also have a YahooGroup, called "DCMetroSimplifiers," with about 258 members, if you want to be involved during the month in an "interactive dialogue." You can subscribe from our homepage, [www.simplicity-matters.org](http://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 87 members. You can also subscribe from our homepage.

This announcement is organized into five sections:

- Second Sunday Forum (**\*special time\***) and Baltimore Green Forum
- Discussion Circle Update
- Community Events
- January Preview
- Action Opportunities & Tidbits (**\*lots of new info\***)

Lots of signs that the "tide is turning": 2 synagogues in Howard County (Oseh Shalom and Beth Shalom) now have Green Committees. . . Baltimore County (Dec 2), Baltimore City (Dec 3), Howard County, Prince George's County, and Montgomery County each have Boards or Commissions or Working Groups on Sustainability . . . and at least four other organizations are starting monthly "green forums" (CSBA's Green Gathering on Dec 1, Ecolocity DC on Dec 2, Greenbelt CAN on Dec 10, and DC Green Drinks)

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

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## **SECOND SUNDAY FORUM followed by Winter Solstice Celebration**

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**Sunday, December 14, 5:00 to 8:00 pm \*Special Time\***

***This month's topic: DVD featuring Van Jones, author of [The Green Collar Economy](http://www.vanjones.net)***

Join us for an electrifying Van Jones address on building a green economy, using justice, equality and ingenuity to transform our society. A conversation about the video will follow.

Stay on and participate in the centuries-old tradition of driving the dark away, as the year's longest night approaches. Let's keep the light and our lights alive and glowing! **Come celebrate the Winter Solstice** (this year, actually on Dec. 21) and enjoy yummy food and beverages!

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

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

**Help us publicize this event!** Download and post a flier (PDF, 228 KB) in your workplace or neighborhood! Go to [www.simplicity-matters.org](http://www.simplicity-matters.org).

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## BALTIMORE GREEN FORUM

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

**SAVE THE DATE:** Sunday, January 25, 4:30-6:30 pm. Screening of the video, **The Next Industrial Revolution**. <http://thenextindustrialrevolution.org/>

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## DISCUSSION CIRCLE UPDATE

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**Please note the following abbreviations for Northwest Earth Institute guides:** (GW) 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 17 circles so far this fall (197 in total since 2002!)**

**Plans have become so numerous 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](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org) unless otherwise noted.

### Frederick & Washington County

**Frederick City North, private home, (HCHP) Intro Meeting:** Mon, Jan 12, 2009, 7-8:30 PM.

**First session:** Mon Jan 26. Focus on saving money. CS: Erin, [emkline@verizon.net](mailto:emkline@verizon.net) or Lena 301-432-8721

### **Intro meetings with dates not set yet**

**Shepherdstown,** fall circle, topic TBD. CS: Rob Glenn

**Frederick, UUCF (MF)** spring circle, Intro meeting TBD. CS: Sandi Smith-Gill

### Carroll County

**Westminster "Regroup"** (EDE) Contact [CirclesCarroll@Simplicity-Matters.org](mailto:CirclesCarroll@Simplicity-Matters.org) to join the group and purchase a book. CS: Carole Flood

### Howard County

**Columbia, First Presbyterian Church (GW).** **Intro Meeting:** Wed. Jan. 14, 7pm, **First Session:** Wed, Jan 21, 7-9 pm, This Climate Change Discussion Circle will help you calculate your Carbon Footprint and explore how you can be part of the solution. **Register with Caroline Smith** at secretary@firstpreshc.org, 410-730-3545.

**Private home in Columbia/Ellicott City. Menu for the Future.** Group to consider the key elements affecting the production, transportation and consumption of food and its effect on the environment. Sessions held in Private homes in Columbia/Ellicott City. **Intro Meeting: postponed until January.** To join this circle, contact Mitch, 410-313-9033, [mkrasnopoler@gmail.com](mailto:mkrasnopoler@gmail.com).

**Jessup, The Green Building Institute (GW).** **Intro Meeting:** Wed. Jan. 21, 7 pm, **First Session:** Wed. Feb 4, 7 pm, This Climate Change Circle to open to all. The Circle will meet at the Enviro-Center. To register or for further information, **contact Margo Duesterhaus**, [margommd@gmail.com](mailto:margommd@gmail.com)

**Ellicott City, Miller Library (GW)** **Intro Meeting:** Mon. April 20, 7 pm, **First Session:** Mon. April 27, 7 pm. Help make Howard County Green as you reduce your carbon footprint. Cosponsored by the Howard County Library. **Register on line at [www.hclibrary.org](http://www.hclibrary.org) /Classes tab** or call Miller Library at 410-313-1950.

**Howard County, Climate Change Initiative of Howard County** Committee is actively pursuing many other potential venues. Details to follow. Visit [www.hococlimatechange.org](http://www.hococlimatechange.org) or email [hococlimatechange@gmail.com](mailto:hococlimatechange@gmail.com)

### Harford County

**Deer Creek Friends Meeting** (tbd), CS: Jill Sostrin

### Baltimore City/County

**Baltimore, Towson Area (VS)** Day of Week: TBD, beginning week of Jan 11 or 25. For details contact Lore, [lore@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org)

**Baltimore, Towson Area (MF)** Mondays, beginning Jan 12 or Jan 26. For details contact Lore, [lore@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org)

**Baltimore region (DSOP)** 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](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org)

**Baltimore, Towson Unitarian Church** (tbd) CS: Marilyn Carlisle

**Baltimore, Private home in NE Balto** (tbd) CS: Dana Shaw

**Baltimore, SW Baltimore** (tbd), CS: Patsy Allen

**Baltimore, Old Otterbein UMC** (tbd), CS: June Risely

**Parkton/CSA** (MF) CS: Rich Louis

### PG County

**College Park, private home** (EDE or DSOP), Intro Meeting: TBD. CS: Wendy Child, [wenchild@aol.com](mailto:wenchild@aol.com), 301-864-2474. Contact Wendy to let her know you are interested.

**Greenbelt** (VS), private home. Circle to begin in January. Let us know which night of the week you prefer. CS: Lore, [lore@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org)

**Bowie** (MF) details TBD CS: Susan Slyter

**Accokeek** (MF) spring circle, Intro meeting: TBD. CS: Linsey Shelton

### Montgomery County

**Rockville (EDE)** Several people are very interested in joining this wonderful discussion group, and some are in the Rockville area. **But others would have to travel.** We need a place to meet close to a metro stop! CS: Marney Bruce, [Marney@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:Marney@simplicity-matters.org), 301 652-0492

**Carderock/Cabin John** Lots of interest and a group will be getting together in the new year. Topic TBD. CS: Diane Karlik, [dianekarlik@verizon.net](mailto:dianekarlik@verizon.net)

**Bethesda (MF) Intro Meeting:** Wed, Feb 25 (time TBD) CS: Marney Bruce, [marney@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:marney@simplicity-matters.org), 301 652-0492  
**Silver Spring, UU Congregation of Silver Spring (GW),** details: TBD. CS: Paula Cote

Washington, DC

**Washington, DC, Capitol Hill (VS) Intro Meeting:** Thur, Dec 18, 7 pm. CS: (Pope Barrow) & Marney Bruce, [marney@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:marney@simplicity-matters.org), 301 652-0492

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

**Washington, DC (tbd), Workplace Circle.** CS: Sean O'Brien

**"Circles List"/"Matchmaking"**

This winter, 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. Current "matchmaker" neighborhoods include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For a list of **all of our NWEI-published discussion topics**, visit <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/volunteers/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](mailto:Lena@simplicity-matters.org)

For more info. about our discussion circles, visit our Discussion Circles page, <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/circles/index.php>, or email Lore at [lore@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org)

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

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**Sun, Dec-Jan, Deep Ecology in Action, 10 am- 2 pm, Germantown, MD.** Preserve Biodiversity in your local watershed. Come help with the Seneca Habitat Restoration Project at 16800 block of Black Rock Road so that you can learn skills to preserve the native plants and life in your own community. ID of native grasses and forbs, removal of non-natives, scouting the watershed, planting native flora. Discover the important dynamic between native flora and native fauna. We work until the ground freezes. Info: Contact Randy Pheobus, [NativeGrasslands@aol.com](mailto:NativeGrasslands@aol.com), 301-440-8915. Email for directions and info.

**Mon, Dec. 1, CSBA Green Gathering at bluehouse's new location, 6-8 PM, Kenilworth Mall, Lutherville, MD.** Come join the Chesapeake Sustainable Business Alliance at bluehouse's new location in Kenilworth Mall, Lutherville, MD for CSBA's Green Gathering. See the new 33 foot green wall. Cost \$5 for a glass of wine and food. Please contact CSBA at 410-342-1482 for more information. For more information please go to [www.csballiance.org](http://www.csballiance.org).

**Tues, Dec 2, Forum on the newly formed Baltimore County's Sustainability Network, 7 to 9 pm, Towson.** Baltimore County's Office of Sustainability and the Maryland Sierra Club with jointly host a public forum on the mission and objectives of the County's newly formed Sustainability Network. This informational session will be held at Towson Unitarian Universalist Church located at 1710 Dulaney Valley Road. RSVP: [alana.wase@mdsierra.org](mailto:alana.wase@mdsierra.org) with "Green Baltimore" as the header

**Tues, Dec 2, Ecolocity DC, Transition Culture: From Oil Dependency to Local Resilience, 7-9 pm, Washington, DC**

Please join us at one of our weekly meetings on Tuesdays, 7:00 pm at Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid Street NW, Washington DC 20001. This is also where our initial garden project is located, served by the 70 bus and about 6 blocks from Columbia Heights and Georgia Avenue Stations respectively. There's a lot more material you can read on our Ning site (Intentional community, permaculture, urban farming, local food, clean energy, biotecture, recycling, freecycle, voluntary simplicity). We welcome your input in whatever role or level you're comfortable with. Larry Chang, Convenor, <http://ecolocity.ning.com>

**Wed, Dec 3, Join Mayor Dixon for the Presentation of the Draft Baltimore Sustainability Plan, 6:00pm, Baltimore, MD**

The Draft Plan represents the culmination of six months of work and input from over 1,000 citizens across the City of Baltimore. There will be an opportunity to comment on the draft and ask questions about additional concerns you may have. Frederick Douglas High School; 2301 Gwynns Falls Parkway; Baltimore, MD 21217  
[www.baltimorecity.gov/sustainability](http://www.baltimorecity.gov/sustainability)

**Thurs, Dec. 4, 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. The Vegetable Garden is located at 11618 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. Details at <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0623>

**Thurs, Dec. 4, Leafleting with Compassion Over Killing (COK), 5pm-6pm, Washington, D.C.** Help COK distribute pro-vegetarian literature and educate the public about the many benefits of a vegetarian diet. After leafleting join us for dinner at The Vegetable Garden where 10 percent of your bill will be donated to COK. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0617>

**Fri, Dec 5, Polar Bears, "Where's the Ice?", 7:30 pm at HCRP, 7120 Oakland Mills Rd., Columbia, MD 21046-1677.** Sierra Club member Sue Muller will be giving an encore presentation on her Nov. 2006 adventure to Churchill, Manitoba in search of polar bears. Learn how global warming is affecting these magnificent creatures. Followed by a discussion of global warming and how every person can make a difference every day. Contact Sue Muller, 301-498-8462, [sonicsue@verizon.net](mailto:sonicsue@verizon.net).

**Dec 5-14, DC Alternative Gifts Week** - Holiday shoppers will find a meaningful substitute to shopping at the mall this season at one of the 8 alternative gift fairs and markets in our region during Alternative Gifts Week. With events in DC, MD and VA, you're sure to find a convenient location. While each event offers the opportunity to support goods and services for people in need, each event is also unique - some locations feature live music, kids' activities and/or the opportunity to speak directly with representatives from charities. Visit [www.aggw.org](http://www.aggw.org) for more details. Or contact J. McCray at [jbmccray@hotmail.com](mailto:jbmccray@hotmail.com) for more information.

**Sat, Dec 6, Green Roofs for Sustainable Landscapes, 9 am 11 pm, Jessup, MD.** Class will cover aesthetic and ecological benefits, design and systems, plant selection and maintenance. Cost \$55 (\$40 Institute members). For more information, contact Leslye Wilson, [info@greenbuildinginstitute.org](mailto:info@greenbuildinginstitute.org), 443-733-1234. Directions and details at [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org) to 7761 Waterloo Road, Jessup MD 20794.

**Sat, Dec 6, Peace Meal: Making Peacemakers From Rebirth to Adulthood with Royan Miller, 1 - 3 pm, Bethesda, MD.** Ms. Miller is a labor and post partum doula with almost 15 years experience, specializing in sleep issues and multiples. Her skills stem primarily from experience and observation, although also has studied physical therapy and nursing. Her aim is to help parents to prepare from the start for new babies to develop a household of peace. Program includes interfaith prayers and song, sharing and questions, and a hot vegetarian lunch. FREE. Please RSVP: [shantiyoga2@earthlink.net](mailto:shantiyoga2@earthlink.net), 301 654 4899x9. 4209 East West Hwy, Chevy Chase MD 20815. Parking avail.; Red-line Bethesda. [www.schooloflife.org](http://www.schooloflife.org)

**Tues, Dec. 9, Compassion Over Killing (COK) Benefit at Sticky Fingers Bakery, 7am-7pm, Washington, D.C.** Join us for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or dessert, at the award-winning Sticky Fingers Bakery, and a portion of your bill will be automatically donated towards our efforts to help farmed animals. Sticky Fingers is located at 1370 Park Rd., N.W., Washington D.C. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0626>

**Tues, Dec 9, Ecolocity DC, Food & Farming: Urban Gardening, 7-9 pm, Wash DC**  
Urban gardening is critical to reducing our carbon footprint, localizing agriculture and developing food security.

Please join us at one of our weekly meetings on Tuesdays, 7:00 pm at Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid Street NW, Washington DC 20001. This is also where our initial garden project is located, served by the 70 bus and about 6 blocks from Columbia Heights and Georgia Avenue Stations respectively. There's a lot more material you can read on our Ning site (Intentional community, permaculture, urban farming, local food, clean energy, biotecture, recycling, freecycle, voluntary simplicity). We welcome your input in whatever role or level you're comfortable with. Larry Chang, Convenor, <http://ecolocity.ning.com>

**Wed, Dec 10, Ecolocity DC, Brookland: Transition to a Sustainable Community, Wash DC, 7-9 pm**  
[DCTV Building \(Brooks Mansion\)](#) "The end of the Age of Cheap Oil is rapidly coming upon us, and life will radically change, whether we want it or not." – Rob Hopkins, co-founder of Transition Network Is Brookland ready for Peak Oil? There's a lot more material you can read on our Ning site (Intentional community, permaculture, urban farming, local food, clean energy, biotecture, recycling, freecycle, voluntary simplicity). We welcome your input in whatever role or level you're comfortable with. Larry Chang, Convenor, <http://ecolocity.ning.com>

**Wed, Dec 10, Greenbelt Climate Action Network, Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd. Greenbelt, MD, 7:30-9:30 pm**  
This month's topic will be a Legislative Preview of Global Warming legislation due to be introduced in Annapolis and Washington, DC. This is an exciting time for change as the Legislature and Congress get ready to reconvene in January. For more info, contact Steve Kane, [sr.kane@verizon.net](mailto:sr.kane@verizon.net)

**Thurs, Dec 11, Cheryl Charles to speak at Roland Park Country School, Baltimore, MD, 7:30 pm**  
Roland Park Country School is pleased to announce that Cheryl Charles will present the Sarah Crane Cohen Visiting Scholar in the Humanities lecture on Thursday, December 11th at 7:30pm in the Sinex Theater. The lecture is free and open to the public. Cheryl Charles is President and Co-Founder, along with author Richard Louv, of the Children & Nature Network, a non-profit organization dedicated to building a movement to reconnect children and nature. Cheryl is concerned about the growing disconnect between children and nature, the indicators of what Richard Louv calls "nature deficit disorder" in his new book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*. She is also interested in the scientific as well as common-sense evidence of the benefits to children from direct experience with nature on a daily basis in their lives.

**Sat, Dec. 13, Compassion Over Killing (COK) Annual Holiday Fundraising Party 7pm,**

**Washington, D.C.** Join COK in celebrating another year of compassionate action for animals while enjoying delicious vegan food and drink as well as a fabulous animal-friendly silent auction. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/feat/dec13party/>

**Sat, Dec. 13, Rain Barrel Workshop, 10 -12 pm at Cromwell Valley Park, Talmar greenhouse, Baltimore, MD.** Learn how to build your own rain barrel. Collect rain water in your barrel and save well water, save money and reduce rainwater runoff that can carry pollutants to our streams and bay all at the same time! Use rain water for watering gardens, lawns and composts or for washing your car or tools. Workshop is free if you just want to learn more, but builders cost is \$60 for barrel and kit. Contact Peggy Perry, Program Director for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, at [little-owl@msn.com](mailto:little-owl@msn.com) or 410-668-0118.

**Sun, Dec. 14, Electronics Recycling Day, 12 - 4 PM, Walt Whitman High School, 7100 Whittier Blvd, Bethesda, MD,** Electronics Recycling Day in the parking lot of Walt Whitman High School. The county will have trucks and staff to remove electronics from residents' cars as they drive through the parking lot.. For more information go to <http://www.bethesdagreen.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Calendar.eventDetail&eventID=8>

**Mon, Dec 15, "Reel & Meal at the New Deal" monthly environmental movie, featuring Story of Stuff and images by Chris Jordan, Greenbelt, MD, 7:00 pm**  
Join us for our monthly film and discussion. This month's theme is CONSUMPTION featuring the "Story of Stuff" <http://www.storyofstuff.com/> and images by renowned photographer Chris Jordan's photographic essay, entitled "Running the Numbers". <http://www.chrisjordan.com/> Movie takes place at the New Deal Café, 113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt. Movie is free. An optional vegan buffet dinner is available at 6:30 pm. For more info, contact Steve Kane, [sr.kane@verizon.net](mailto:sr.kane@verizon.net) .

**Mon, Dec 15, An Evening of Chocolate - 2008 GWIPL Awards, 7pm, Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, Bethesda, MD.** Featuring a sacred eco-building tour of Adat Shalom led by two local environmental champions, Rabbi Fred Scherlinder Dobb and Mike Tidwell And a yummy Chocolate Reception for more information visit: <http://www.gwipl.org/> or call Allison at 202-885-8684

**Tues, Dec. 16, MD Native Plant Society Annual Holiday Social, 7:00 pm White Oak Library large meeting room, Silver Spring, MD.** Please share the images or stories of your local or distant adventures experienced within the last year. Bring a PowerPoint presentation (on a disc or portable drive) or slides to share or photos to display to the group. A slide projector (Vivitar) and carousels will be available. As it is our annual business meeting, our 2008 election results will be announced. Please bring holiday cookies to share. Beverages will be provided. For more information and directions go to [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org).

**Sat, Dec. 20, 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 19<sup>th</sup> St., N.W., Washington D.C. A portion of your bill will benefit COK. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0632>

**Sun., Dec. 21, Feed-In with Compassion Over Killing (COK), 12pm-1pm, Washington, D.C.** Help us encourage people to explore a vegetarian diet by giving out free delicious vegetarian food at the Dupont Circle Farmer's Market. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0633>

**Sun, Dec. 21, Winter Solstice Celebration, 5 PM, River Road Unitarian Church, Bethesda, MD** Directions at [www.RRUUC.org](http://www.RRUUC.org) Use outside stairs to go up to Fireside Room. All over age 10, welcome. Please, bring light refreshments to share. Through mythic imagination, we will envision the troubles of the old year gone and our hopes coming to fruition with the returning sunshine.

**Sun, Dec. 21, MD Native Plant Society Winter Solstice Walk at Chapman Forest, 11 am - 3 pm, Charles County.** Led by Rod Simmons. For more information and directions go to <http://www.mdflora.org/events/trips.html>

**Sun, Dec 28 Kilowatt Ours on TV, WETA, 6 pm.** If you have never seen the movie, here is your chance, in the comfort of your own home. [www.kilowattours.org](http://www.kilowattours.org)

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## Looking ahead to January

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The Howard County Legacy Leadership Institute on the Environment (HoLLIE) is recruiting its first class of Legacy Leaders for intensive environmental training to prepare for substantive volunteer roles. **Beginning January 27, we will hold six weeks of classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, followed by a mentored field placement of about 150 hours from March to August 2009.** Though the program is targeted at Howard County residents age 50+, younger people as well as residents of other counties are also invited. **For more information, or to get an application, please contact Coordinators Dr. Barbara Schmeckpeper, 410-381-5279 or Cathy Hudson, 410-796-7232.** Both can be reached at [HocoLLIE@gmail.com](mailto:HocoLLIE@gmail.com)

**Sat, Jan. 24, Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream Symposium, 1-5:30, Arlington, VA.** 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. For more details, please visit [www.awakeningthedreamer.org](http://www.awakeningthedreamer.org) or contact Mary Pike at [marypike@cox.net](mailto:marypike@cox.net) or 703-960-0577.

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## Action Opportunities and Tidbits

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**Individual Carbon Counter Website:** [www.salamanderpoints.com](http://www.salamanderpoints.com) Salamander Points count your daily carbon emissions, so you can change your decisions to PREVENT carbon obesity. Check the site for lesson plans, a blog, hints and tips, and to learn how to become even more "Carbon Sexy!"

**Monthly Networking.** Did you know that in Baltimore, CSBA hosts a monthly **Green Gathering** on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 6-8 pm <http://www.csballiance.org/pages/cal.html> , and in DC there is **Green Drinks**, <http://greendrinksdc.com/>

All over the area, folks are working together to make it easier for us to buy and play locally. Check out three great resources, CNAD's **Buying Wisely, DC Local Buying Guide** [http://www.newdream.org/buyingwisely/DC\\_Local\\_Buying\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.newdream.org/buyingwisely/DC_Local_Buying_Guide.pdf) , CSBA's **Buy Local Baltimore** <http://www.buylocalbaltimore.com/> and Janet Felsten's **Baltimore Green Map of the Jones Falls Watershed**. <http://www.baltogreenmap.org/> All three exist both as online resources and as touchable books or maps.

**Planning a special occasion, such as a Wedding or Bar Mitzvah?** Check out the Jews United for Justice **Green and Just Celebrations Guide** [http://www.jufj.org/green\\_just\\_celebrations](http://www.jufj.org/green_just_celebrations) , available for free as a PDF or \$5 in hard copy. Lots of tips apply to all denominations, not just Jews.

**Eco-Partners Green Building Network** Are you a green building professional interested in connecting with other local providers of green building products and services? Eco-Partners is a network of DC-area independent businesses specializing in eco-friendly residential & commercial design, construction, renovation, interiors, landscaping, maintenance and related businesses.

We offer our clients the best in environmentally-sustainable products and services within a network of skilled and talented Eco-Partners. Please contact Robin Buck for info on upcoming meetings. robin\_buck\_design at verizon dot net.

Are you interested in **summer employment opportunities**, making a difference in the lives of youth while **working in communities and parks this summer**? The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is currently accepting applications for Commuting Crew Leader positions for our 2009 Conservation Crew Programs. Program Dates: 5-7 weeks, late June to Mid-August, depending on location. For more information and to apply: apply online at [www.thesca.org](http://www.thesca.org) <http://www.thesca.org/> in the seasonal employment section or email [communityprograms@thesca.org](mailto:communityprograms@thesca.org) <mailto:communityprograms@thesca.org> or call 703-524-2441. Positions are available at these program sites: Washington, DC, Pittsburgh, PA, Houston, TX, Dallas, TX, Stamford, CT, Detroit, MI, Jacksonville, FL, Seattle, WA, Newark, NJ, Oakland, CA, Clinton, NJ, Milwaukee, WI, Baltimore, MD, Chicago, IL, Boston, MA.