

Dear Friends of Simplicity,

This is the Simplicity Matters Earth Institute Monthly Announcement for **April 2009**. It is going out to over **1,770** 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 262 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 88 members. You can also subscribe from our homepage.

The announcement is organized into six sections:

- 1.) Community Event Summary
- 2.) Second Sunday Forum & Baltimore Green Forum
- 3.) Discussion Circle Update
- 4.) Community Events
- 5.) May & June Preview
- 6.) Action Opportunities & Tidbits

Lots of great events coming up in April and May, including an event just for nurses interested in environmental issues on April 30th. SMEI's own Marney Bruce and Lore Rosenthal will be presenting at the Bethesda Library on April 25th.

Thanks to this month's editor, Nicole Killion

***THIRD* SUNDAY FORUM (SPECIAL DATE, TIME AND LOCATION!)**

Sunday, April 19TH, 6:30- 9:00 pm

INTRODUCTION TO THE TRANSITION MOVEMENT

With Larry Change of EcolocityDC <http://ecolocity.ning.com/>

Transition Initiatives are springing up worldwide to prepare people for peak oil and climate change. Concern is mounting about the imminent decline in world oil production and destabilizing if not catastrophic climate change. Participants will be invited to collaborate in formulating plans to reduce oil dependency and build local resilience. Residents of Bethesda and surrounding communities are particularly welcome.

Where: in a private home in Bethesda, within walking distance of the Bethesda and Medical Center metros (Red Line), close Old Georgetown Road and Battery Lane.

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

NEXT MONTH's TOPIC: Rachel Carson, "Silent Spring"

BALTIMORE GREEN FORUM

Sunday, April 26, 4:30-6:30 pm

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: Larry Chang, "Invitation to Transition"

BGF presents an Introduction to Transition facilitated by Larry Chang of EcolocityDC that will address the challenges of peak oil, climate change and economic collapse. Participants will be invited to collaborate in formulating plans to reduce oil dependency and build local resilience. Residents of Baltimore and surrounding communities are welcome.

MD Presbyterian Church, 1105 Providence Road, Towson, 21286

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

A monthly educational forum on climate and environmental issues open to the public, free of charge featuring speakers or videos, always with discussion and fellowship. For questions, to co-sponsor, or to RSVP, contact baltimoregreenforum@gmail.com, 301-345-2234

Co-sponsored by Simplicity Matters Earth Institute, Green City Baltimore, Hooked on Nature, Network of Spiritual Progressives in MD, Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network, Baltimore Climate Action Network, MD League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, Inc., and Parks & People.

Help us publicize this event! Download and post a flier (PDF) in your workplace or neighborhood! Go to <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/forums/baltimore.php>

DISCUSSION CIRCLE UPDATE

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.

IMPORTANT NOTE: From January 1st onwards, discussion circle books will cost \$20 plus s/h. They should be ordered directly from NWEI. For more info, visit <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/circles/order.php>

We have started 14 circles so far in January and February (211 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 unless otherwise noted.

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

Mon, April 20, 7:00-9:00 pm, Ellicott City, Miller Library. (GW) Sessions are Mon 4/27, Tues May 5 & 12, Mon, May 18, & 25. Register on line at www.hclibrary.org /Classes tab or call Miller Library at 410-313-1950.

Thurs , May 7, 7 – 8:30 pm, Columbia, Oliver's Carriage House, (GW) Kittamaquindi. 5401 Leaf Treader Way. Open to the public. Register with F.Miller at 410-531-2303 or fam57@verizon.net

Howard County, Climate Change Initiative of Howard County Committee is actively pursuing many 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

South Baltimore, Old Otterbein UMC (VS), First Session (tentative), Wed, April 15, 6-7:30. Need to contact the church prior to that date, to order/buy a book CS: Gwen gcalhoon@gmail.com

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

Baltimore Ethical Society (tbd), CS: Karen Elliott

Baltimore (tbd) CS: Sister Gabriel

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

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

Parkton/CSA (MF) CS: Rich Louis

PG County

Greenbelt Climate Action Network (VS, GW, or MF) New circle starting in April or May. CS: Lore Rosenthal, lore@simplicity-matters.org

Mt. Rainier (VS), CS: Joe Robbins

Crofton/Bowie (tbd) CS: Greg Jones

Progressive Cheverly (tbd), CS: Kathleen Turczyn

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

Montgomery County

EDE, MF and CSL discussion groups on-going, but if you are interested in any of our topics or would like to start one in your neighborhood, contact Marney, Marney@simplicity-matters.org, 301 652-0492

St. Mary's County

Leonardtown, (MF) Ongoing, but if you are interested in joining another group contact Christina Allen at allensarticles@earthlink.net. 301-862-3421

Washington, DC

Washington, DC, Friends Meeting House, Tues, Feb. 24th, 2111 Florida Ave., NW (Dupont Circle Metro), 7:30 PM, Topic: Mindful Consumption. We will be discussing ideas found in the following: Mindfully Green: A Personal and Spiritual Guide to Whole Earth Thinking by Stephanie Kaza, January 2009 Shambhala Sun, "The Green Path" and The World We Have: A Buddhist Approach to Peace and Ecology by Thich Nhat Hahn. Meeting every other month, open to newcomers. Sponsored by WBPF.org Contact person : Bill Jenkins, worldofmuse@aol.com, (301) 699-8704

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

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

"Circles List"/"Matchmaking"

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

We are in the process of transitioning 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)

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 **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

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sundays, April-May DEEP ECOLOGY/Habitat Restoration, 12-4pm, Germantown, MD. Become part of 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 flora and fauna in your own watershed. 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. Info: Contact Randy Pheobus, NativeGrasslands@aol.com, 301-440-8915. Email for directions and info.

April 1, 5 to 7 p.m. Solutions and Stimulus for the Baltimore Economy: A Town Hall Meeting, Morgan State University, New Communications Building, 5601 Perring Parkway, Share YOUR questions and ideas on supporting jobs, schools and fair housing with community activists and city officials. Broadcast live on the Marc Steiner Show on WEAA, 88.9FM. Green Jobs • Youth Employment • Housing Security • Affordable Housing • Ending Foreclosures • Modernizing Baltimore's Schools. Sponsored by Baltimore Economic Crisis Response Network, Peer 2 Peer, Baltimore ACORN, Campaign for Fresh Air & Clean Politics, Generations for Peace and Democracy

April 1, 6:00 PM, Leon Krier lecture on "The Architectural Tuning of Settlements", University of Maryland, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Lectures are free and open to the public

April 1, Deadline: LEED for Retail Goes to Member Ballot, The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) invites all member organizations' primary USGBC membership contacts to vote on the proposed drafts of LEED for Retail: New Construction 2009 and LEED for Retail: Commercial Interiors 2009. This vote includes the approval of both of the LEED for Retail rating systems, both of which will be incorporated into the full LEED 2009 suite of rating systems. If you are your organization's primary contact, please review the rating system drafts and vote by April 1. If you are not the primary contact, please make sure your primary contact is aware of the ballot and understands that it's important to you that your organization's voice is heard. www.usgbc.org

April 2, 4:00 - 6:00, Follow the Money: A New Direction for Transportation in Maryland, Pier 5 Hotel 711 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, How is Maryland spending its \$610 million in transportation stimulus

funds? What is our national vision for more efficient and effective transportation? Join us as we explore how transportation investments can strengthen Maryland's economy and add lasting value to our communities. Tickets: \$50. Member rate: \$30. <https://www.thedatabank.com/dpg/308/donate.asp?formid=meeting&c=7928362>

Thurs., April 2, *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/#event0831>

Thurs., April 2, *Leafleting with Compassion Over Killing (COK), 5:30pm-6:30pm, 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 at The Vegetable Garden where a 10 percent of your bill will be donated to COK. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0841>

April 2, 5:30 to 7 pm, *Sustainability Series TerraLogos: Green Home Services, Inc., Anne Arundel Community College.* The Sustainability Series offers information, discussions, demonstrations of products, and descriptions of services for students, individuals, and businesses interested in alternative and sustainable energy systems. Admission is free. www.aacc.edu/science

April 2, 6-8pm, *4th annual Who Are You? Youth Media Festival!, Centerstage 700 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD.* Hosted by Donald Manekin, Festival Corporate Sponsorship Chair, Seawall Development, Honoring J. Michael Riley, VP of Community Relations, M&T Bank . With music by John Dean and the Big Hearts Jazz Quartet . Generous donations of Hors D'Oeuvres from Azafrán Café and Desserts from Sacha's. Tickets - \$25 in advance, \$40 at the door (contributions exceeding \$25 are tax-deductible and support Wide Angle's youth media programs) <http://www.wideanglemedia.org/mod/pages/display/47/index.php>

April 3, 8am-10am, *USGBC Balto - Breakfast Roundtable Series – Water Efficiency, UMB BioPark - 801 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD.* A series of 6 events focusing on the details of the LEED rating systems. Mark your calendar for the entire series: Sustainable Sites - Feb 6, 2009 ; Water Efficiency -Apr 3, 2009; Energy and Atmosphere-Jun 5, 2009; Materials and Resources- Aug 7, 2009; Indoor Air Quality - Oct 2, 2009; Innovation in Design- Dec 4, 2009. www.usgbcbbaltimore.eventbrite.com

Fri, April 3, *USGBC Breakfast Roundtable, Water Efficiency, 8am-10am, Sparks, MD.* Networking and light breakfast provided. Discuss with local experts the water efficiency credits and their applications across the rating systems. Location: Fidelity Engineering, 25 Loveton Circle, Sparks, MD 21152. \$15 for members, \$25 for non-members and \$35 at the door – Cash or check only. For more information: <http://usgbcbbaltimore.eventbrite.com> and www.usgbcmaryland.org.

April 3, 2:00 pm, *"Hydrogeology & Groundwater Quality of the Anacostia River Watershed, Washington, DC". UMBC, Technology Research Center 102, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Room 206, Baltimore, MD.* CUERE: Center for Urban Environmental Research and Education Spring 2009 Seminar Series. Cheryl Dieter, US Geological Survey, MD-DE-DC Water Science Center. free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Visitor parking passes for the TRC lot may be purchased for \$4.00 in the CUERE office in TRC 102/105 shortly before seminar. <http://www.umbc.edu/cuere/seminarSeries.html>

Fri, April 3, *Eco/Justice Cafe, 6-10 pm, Washington DC.* Hang out with friends and network with DC Environmental and Social Justice organizations. Featuring music, poetry, open mic, good food, good beer, good people, good cheer, good information ... and good karma. Location: UDC Firebird Inn, Building 39, B-Level, 4200 Connecticut Avenue NW, 20008. For more information: jfl@udc.edu or call 202 545 0869. Directions and details at <http://www.dcsf.org/metnet.html>.

Sat, April 4, 10 am - 4 pm, *Howard County GreenFest & Sustainability Summit, Columbia, MD.* This year's GreenFest will focus on alternative energy, energy efficiency, water conservation, and water reuse. The Sierra Club will sponsor a talk on using rain barrels, and we will be selling rain barrels. Other topics include green buildings, green consumer products, green landscaping, wildlife and environmental education, and children's activities. A shredding event will take place from 10 am – 2 pm in the parking lot. Location: Howard Community College Burrill Galleria, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway. For more information: <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/OES/GreenFest.htm>.

First Annual Howard County Sustainability Summit. We have lined up a series of community leaders who will tell us what they are doing and their vision for the future in relation to Green and Sustainable practices and initiatives. **The Summit is from 11 to 12:30** on the 4th floor of the RCF Building that overlooks the quad.

Sat, April 4, Rock Creek EXTREME Cleanup, 9am-noon, DC & MoCo, MD. Friends of Rock Creek's Environment invites YOU to cleanup trash at 50 RC Park sites. Details @ friendsofrockcreek.org or potomaccleanup.org or Margo @ 301 767 6987.

Sat, April 4, Potomac Cleanup, 9 - noon. Friends of Rock Creek's Environment (FORCE) needs YOU to cleanup trash in Rock Creek Park at fifty DC & Montgomery County sites. We work with the Alice Ferguson Foundation to cover all 33-miles of the Rock Creek watershed in one day for our Rock Creek EXTREME Cleanup. See details and choose one of 50 cleanup sites at friendsofrockcreek.org or potomaccleanup.org. Meet at your choice of a Cleanup Site found at on our Interactive Map at friendsofrockcreek.org.

Sat, April 4, 9-12noon Neighbors of Northwest Branch Stream cleanups in conjunction with Alice Ferguson Foundation at 3 sites on the stream:

Burnt Mills Dam & Rt. 29/Colesville Rd., Silver Spring, contact Sue Buckley, sue_buckley100@yahoo.com
Kemp Mill & Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, contact Anne Ambler, anneambler@verizon.net
W. Hyattsville Metro parking lot adjacent to trail, contact James Graham, iceagewasa@verizon.net

Sat, April 4, 9am – 12 noon, 21st Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup, CCRIC, (Citizens to Conserve & Restore Indian Creek), will be cleaning the beautiful wetland near the Greenbelt Metro. Please meet us in the parking lot behind Giant Foods near the Shell station on Cherrywood Lane in Greenbelt. Look for the green "CCRIC" banner. There will be someone there to direct you to the site entrance. We recommend that you wear boots and old clothes and plan to get dirty. We provide gloves and trash bags. Please come and enjoy this amazing natural area right in our own backyard! Community Service hours available. Contact: Zeld Bell 301-717-6172

Sat, April 4, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM - Cherry Blossom EcoTour. Starts at Starbucks, 200 M St SE, Washington DC (Green line metro - Navy Yard, National Stadium) You will see many innovative environmental projects on this 15 mile Anacostia Watershed bicycle ride. Public attention to environmental issues has heightened and communities want to know what they can do. Will see some Service Projects 'in action' AND Stop at Marvin Gaye Park Heritage Bike Trail Grand Opening FESTIVAL and two OF THE DC AREA CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVALS! Registration required - find at www.WholesnessforHumanity.com half way down page. Bring extra money for food and snacks at these events. Call Greg for more information 202-686-9813.

Sat, April 4, Leafleting with Compassion Over Killing (COK), 12pm-1pm, Washington, D.C. Help COK distribute pro-vegetarian literature and educate the public about the many benefits of a vegetarian diet at the 49th Annual Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival. We'll be handing out literature, including our *Vegetarian Starter Guide* and *Eating Sustainably* brochures, and educating festival-goers on how to transition to a more compassionate diet. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0842>

Sat, April 4. Recycling and Reuse, 1 - 2:30pm. Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road. Lots of info and tips from the Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services and The Battery Council. For more information call 240-777-0970 or go to <http://bethesdagreen.org/bgreen/Calendar/BethesdaGoesGreen/tabid/229/Default.aspx>

Sat, April 4, First Saturday Vegan Potluck 6:30-8:30 PM in Ellicott City near Centennial Park. 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 is best if you can bring your own reusable picnic-ware and feel free to wash up here - - in leu of making trash. There will be iced tea and filtered water to drink. Invite friends and the merely curious. Kids welcome! Contact Bonnie Sorak bsorak@juno.com 410-465-0427 to RSVP and for directions.

Sun, April 05, 11:30 AM - 6:00 PM, Green Building Seminar, Annapolis, MD

Learn the latest information about green initiatives and the benefits sustainability, energy conservation and renewable energy sources can bring to new construction and historic restoration. This day-long seminar will

demonstrate how sensitive design and creative approaches can incorporate green initiatives without sacrificing a structure's fabric or character-defining features. Break out sessions will offer the opportunity for discussion. In addition, vendors will showcase new materials and construction techniques. This seminar is presented to support Historic Annapolis Foundation's commitment to protect, preserve and enhance the built environment. \$60 admission includes lunch <http://www.annapolis.org/index.asp?pageid=112#event166>

Mon, April 6, 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM, An Evening With Ed Begley, Jr., Annapolis, MD

Television personality, Ed Begley, Jr., has always tried to "live simply so others may simply live." In this very special evening, Ed will share more than thirty years of expertise on what works, what doesn't—and what will save you money! Don't miss this opportunity! As many of us are looking for ways to reduce our impact on the planet and live a better, greener life, Ed's tips for environmentally friendly living are timely indeed. <http://www.annapolis.org/index.asp?pageid=112#event166>

Mon, April 6, CSBA Green Gathering, 6:00-8:00 pm, Green Rider, 723 S. Broadway St., Baltimore, MD.

Join us for our green networking event. \$5 entrance fee buys one glass of wine. For more information, contact CSBA at 410-342-1482, info@csballiance.org, 410-342-1482 Directions and details at <http://www.greenriderusa.com/>.

Tues, April 7, Free Veg Lifestyle Class at Whole Foods, 7-8 pm, Mt. Washington, MD

In the café of Whole Foods grocery, Don Robertson, Director of Earthsave Baltimore, will lead "A Menu of Love: The Vegetarian Lifestyle Class". Don will address some of the most common questions, misperceptions, and challenges that arise with regard to a adopting a plant centered diet. Please pre-register at Customer Service by calling 410-532-6700. For more info call Don at 410-252-3043, write Baltimore@earthsave.org, or go to <http://earthsavebaltimore.org/>.

Tues, April 7, EcolocityDC First Tuesday: Food & Farming, 7-9 pm, Washington DC. Urban agriculture is critical to reducing our carbon footprint, localizing production and developing food security. This meeting will discuss the impact of HR 875 and whether group action will be necessary. Location: Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid Street NW. For more information, contact Larry Chang, ecolocitydc@gmail.com, 202 545 0869. Directions and details at <http://ecolocity.ning.com>

Tues, April 7, Greenbelt Climate Action Network: Invitation to Transition, 7:30-9:30 pm, Greenbelt MD

GCAN presents an introduction to Transition by Larry Chang of EcolocityDC that will address the challenges of peak oil, climate change and economic collapse. Participants will be invited to collaborate in formulating plans to reduce oil dependency and build local resilience. Residents of Greenbelt and surrounding communities are welcome. Location: Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt MD. For more information: srkane@gmail.com.

Tue, April 7, 7:30--9pm, Neighbors of the Northwest Branch, Monthly meeting, at White Oak Library, 11701 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, just north of the intersection with US 29 (Colesville Rd.). Program will be on recycling. All are welcome. No charge. Light refreshments.

Wed, April 8, Birchat HaHammah, "Blessing of the Sun". Jewish Holiday that happens every 28 years.

6:15-7:15am, Kayam Farm at Pearlstone • 5425 Mt Gilead Rd Reisterstown, MD

RSVP to casey@pearlstonecenter.org 410-429-4400 x235

6:20 am, Moishe House Silver Spring Maryland, National Mall in Washington DC, near the Lincoln Memorial.

Request Alan or Charles's phone number in your RSVP to find out rain plans. moishehouses@gmail.com

<http://www.moishehouse.org/>

7 AM, Adat Chaim Congregation, 115 Cockeys Mill Rd, Reisterstown, MD 21136

adatchaim18@juno.com or 410-833-7485

7:15am yoga and 8:30am prayer and study, Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, 7727

Persimmon Tree Lane, Bethesda, MD 20817, officeadmin@adatshalom.net or (301)767-3333 or

www.adatshalom.net

7:30 AM, Beth Shalom Congregation 8070 Harriet Tubman Lane, Columbia, Md

Contact Rabbi Susan Grossman for more information: 410-531-5115, bethshalom@beth-shalom.net www.Beth-shalom.net

<http://blessthesun.org/tiki-index.php?page=Local+Event+Listings>

Wed, April 8, Free Vegan Dinner & Screening of "A Delicate Balance," 7pm-9pm, Washington, D.C. Join Compassion Over Killing for a screening of "A Delicate Balance," a new film that explores how our food choices greatly impact our health as well as the world around us. Open to the public and includes a free vegan meal! Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0876>

Sat, April 11, Compassion Over Killing (COK) COK Volunteer & BOCA Victory Celebration Party, 6pm-8pm, Washington, D.C. COK is throwing a party to celebrate and express our appreciation to all of our dedicated volunteers. Come mix and mingle with other area advocates, find out new ways you can get more involved, and share your ideas with us, all while enjoying delicious vegan food and drink. This event is free and open to anyone who has volunteered in the past, is currently a volunteer, or is interested in volunteering in the future. Please RSVP. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/#event0834>

Mon, April 13, Green Building Law 101, 6:45-9pm, Jessup, MD. Green building also has a legal side: what are the risks and responsibilities for various parties seeking certification and the overall implementation of green strategies which introduce new levels for legal interpretation? For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 7:30 pm - "Agenda for a New Economy" in Adelphi MD - David Korten, author of "the Great Turning" wrote an article for TIKKUN magazine, "AN ECONOMY FOR THE 21st CENTURY", available at www.tikkun.org/article.php/20090226000943808. His new book is "Agenda for a New Economy - From Phantom Wealth to Real Wealth". We'll discuss Korten's vision which is locally based, community oriented and devoted to a better life for all, and watch parts of a online video of a talk he gave. At Paint Branch UU Church, 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, Maryland 20783 sponsored by the Network of Spiritual Progressives in MD, www.nspmaryland.org

Tues, April 14, 'The Baltimore Green Jobs Movement', 6:15 -7:45 PM, Downtown Baltimore. ***Jerry Raitzyk***, leading green jobs & environmental justice advocate, describes a surge of new enthusiasm, projects, & funding in Baltimore. Followed by a brief open meeting of www.baltimoreclimate.org. Refreshments. Free. Central branch of the Pratt Library, Poe Room, 400 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 *Join us afterwards for drinks or eats to continue the conversation at a nearby eatery.* Questions: mail [at] baltimoreclimate.org or 410-812-1447. www.baltimoreclimate.org/content/1/2/195.html#raitzyk

Tues, April 14, EcolocityDC 2nd Tuesday: Invitation to Transition, 7-9 pm, Washington DC. Introduction to Transition will address the challenges of peak oil, climate change and economic collapse. Participants will be invited to collaborate in formulating plans to reduce oil dependency and build local resilience. Residents of DC and surrounding communities are welcome. Location: Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid Street NW. For more information: ecolocitydc@gmail.com or call 202 545 0869. Directions and details: <http://www.ecolocity.ning.com>.

Wed, April 14, USGBC Bookclub, 6pm-8pm, Towson, MD. Discuss Thomas Friedman's *Hot, Flat and Crowded*. Location Ukazoo Books, 730 Dulaney Valley Road, Towson, MD 21204. FREE! For more information: <http://usgbcaltimore.eventbrite.com> and www.usgbcmaryland.org.

Tues, April 14, 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/#event0832>

Wed, April 15, Introduction to Solar Energy Systems – Photovoltaics & Solar Hot Water, 7-9 pm, Westminster, MD. Learn the differences between solar residential solar power and solar hot water systems and more. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Fri, April 15, Urban Agriculture Gala, 7-10pm, Baltimore, MD. This celebration, hosted by the Baltimore Urban Agriculture Task Force, will include delicious local food, artwork, and entertainment. \$5 donation

requested. For more information, contact Drew Harris, urbaggala@gmail.com. Directions and details at <http://baltimoreurbanag.org/content/urb-ag-gala>

Thurs, April 16, *Water Stewardship, 6:45-9pm, Jessup, MD.* This class will give an overview of water stewardship history, and look into its future. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Fri, April 17, *South Africa: Wildlife, Culture and Environment, 7:30 pm, Howard County Rec & Parks.* Club member Sue Muller will be giving a presentation on her Sept. 2008 adventure to South Africa. Hear about her encounters with cape buffalo, elephants, baboons, monitor lizards, and various birds. Learn how the poverty, poaching, tourism, and wildlife management are intertwined. Doors open at 7:15. Feel free to bring drinks (no alcohol) and snacks. For information, contact Sue at 301-498-8462, sonicsue@verizon.net.

Sat, April 18, *Greenbelt SpringFest, 10am-2 pm (or 2-6 pm?), Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane, Greenbelt.* Spring into action with amusements, entertainment, refreshments, art projects, games and more. Sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Department. <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/>

Sat, April 18, 12-5, *Earth Day celebration, City of New Carrollton, Beckett Field, 8511 Legation Road*
We're calling it "Living La Vida Verde". Council Member Katrina Dodro at kdodro@new-carrollton.md.us.

Sat, April 18, 3-6 pm "Going Green on a Budget" – How to Help the Environment While Saving Money.
Joe's Movement Emporium, 3309 Bunker Hill Rd, Mt. Rainer, MD. Andy Callahan, 301-858-3340.
<http://www.joesmovement.org/about/calender.html>

Sat, April 18, *Compassion Over Killing (COK) Benefit at Java Green, 10am-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., N.W., Washington D.C., when a portion of your bill will benefit COK. Details at: <http://www.cok.net/events/>

Sat, April 18, *Conference on Connecting Kids to Nature: Using the Outdoors as a Classroom, 9:00 – 3:30, Arlington, VA.* A day of discussion, presentations, exhibits and breakout sessions to enable teachers and parents to learn more about what is currently happening in the area of teaching kids outside. Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Fee (including lunch) is \$30 if pre-registered; \$40 at the door. Child Care available for \$25 per child, pre-registration by 4/15 required. Further details are available at www.arlingtonenvironment.org. For additional information, contact Mary Pike at marypike@cox.net or evenings at 703-960-0577.

Sat, April 18 - *A Walk on the Watery Side! 2:00pm* - Steve Dryden of *Stormwater Partners* and Sara Morse of the *Little Falls Watershed Alliance* will lead walking tours describing the plants and animals of Little Falls Creek and talk about how homeowners can help prevent further damage to the creek, the Potomac and the Bay. Please wear sturdy shoes and plan for a 90 minute walk. For more information call 240-777-0970 or go to <http://bethesdagreen.org/bggreen/Calendar/BethesdaGoesGreen/tabid/229/Default.aspx>

Sat, April 18, *SWEATLODGE and TEACHING in Dayton, MD, led by Rev. LaKotahsie Frazier of southwest Virginia.* The sweatlodge is a spiritual ceremony practiced by Earth-based, indigenous traditions around the world for purification, healing, and connecting with all creatures & all people. **Ceremony begins at 9:30 am; teaching at noon; lodge ~1:30 pm.** Teaching will focus on "Spring... into Abundance and How Abundance can Happen" and "Prayer and Ceremony for Transmuting Planetary Discord into Planetary Harmony." Dayton is 6 miles west of Columbia, MD. Potluck dinner follows. Monetary exchange requested. Rev. LaKotahsie Frazier is also available for private consultations. Contact Robert Fireovid (301-982-0257; bob.fireovid@verizon.net) for more information.

Sat, April 18th, *Clean Energy Open House, 1-4pm in Takoma Park, Md.* Come see solar panels! View electric, biodiesel, and hybrid cars firsthand! Eat solar-baked cookies! Learn how to landscape your yard with native plants! Buy wind power certificates and energy-saving light bulbs! Test drive a tofu-powered lawn mower! And more! The Clean Energy Open House is sponsored by the Chesapeake Climate Action Network and Chesapeake Native Nursery. Free admission to all ages.
Register now! http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/423/t/8191/event/index.jsp?event_KEY=47598

VOLUNTEER AT THE OPEN HOUSE -- Email Jay Tomlinson at jay@chesapeakeclimate.org

Sat, April 18 start date (six weekends), *Permaculture Design Course*, 8:30am–5:30pm daily, Freeland, MD. Permaculture is an ethical and holistic design system for building a sustainable culture. It offers practical ways to meet basic human needs for water, food, waste recycling, energy, shelter, and social connection without harming the environment. Earn your Permaculture design apprentice certification. Six weekends April 18-19; May 9-10; June 6-7; June 27-28; July 25-26; August 1-2. Tuition \$1100. For more information contact Karen Stupski at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/oneday.shtml>.

Sat, April 18, *Introduction to Permaculture*, 8:30am–3:30 pm, Freeland, MD. This workshop will introduce permaculture, a method of designing sustainable human habitats by following nature's patterns. Sliding scale \$60-\$100. For more information contact Karen Stupski at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/oneday.shtml>.

Sat, April 18, 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM *EcoTour of the Jones Falls Watershed* .Starts at 5204 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland Roland Park Country School. This is also a featured bike inspection stop from 9-9:30 AM. Held in conjunction with the Baltimore EcoFestival and Baltimore Green Works. The 15 mile bicycle tour will be led by Peggy Ollerhead, a member of the RPCS Sustainability Task force, and will start and finish at RPCS. The tour will include stops at many innovative environmental projects. This educational event is one in a series of EcoTours of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed designed to highlight restoration efforts and environmental stewardship. The event is free and open to the public, but registration is limited. For more information and to register: <http://www.wholenessforhumanity.com/> Registration is in the middle of the page. Call Greg for more information 202-686-9813

Sat, April 18, 1:00–2:30pm, *The Best Vegetables to Grow in DC*, Historical Society of Washington, Carnegie Library, 801 K Street NW, Washington, DC. A talk on local vegetable growing by Cindy Brown of Green Spring Gardens. Part of the monthly Urban Gardening Talk Series hosted by the Historical Society of Washington (HSW), DC Urban Gardeners, and Washington Gardener Magazine. Fee: \$0/Free. Registration is not required.

For more information: www.WashingtonGardener.com or call 202.638.1649.

Sat, April 18, *Earth Day Concert*, 7- 7:30 pm, Rockville , St. Marks Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road. Performance by the incredible [Robin and Linda Williams](#), favorites on [A Prairie Home Companion](#). Guitar and offering comments on caring for the environment, Dr. Francis S. Collins, the author of the "[Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief](#)." Benefit for [Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light](#).(GWIPLE) More [here](#) and [here](#). Flyer [here](#).

April 18 – 25, Baltimore Green Week (BGW) 2009 Baltimore, MD

a weeklong program comprising of community events, forums, lectures and hands-on activities throughout Baltimore city. Our mission is to further the voice of organizations promoting sustainability. All events are open to the public and free or low cost. We strive to reach out to the diverse communities in and around Baltimore City. <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Sat, April 18, 11-5 p.m. Baltimore Green Week Eco Festival, Druid Hill Park

Kicks off Green Week with local sustainable vendors, yoga, bike rides, music and more! Rain date April 19. <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Sat, April 18; 10 a.m. to noon, Baltimore by Foot - Hollins Market and University of Maryland Biopark – The Old and the New Presented by Baltimore Heritage, Inc. Celebrating 49 years in preservation. What do the 1830's B&O Railroad and the 2009 University of Maryland Biopark have in common? In addition to being located in historic Hollins Market, home of the oldest market building in the city dating to 1838, they both are or were cutting-edge industries and employment magnets attracting new immigrants to Baltimore and the Hollins Market neighborhood. Please join architectural historian Charlie Duff and Biopark leader Jane Shaab as we explore the cutting edge of yesterday and today in the historic Hollins Market neighborhood and Biopark complex. Meet at the east entrance to Hollins Market (26 S. Arlington St.), at the corner of Hollins and South Arlington Streets. Park on the street. <http://www.baltimoreheritage.org/Walking.html>

Sat, April 18; 12 to 4 PM, B-MORE FAIR Community Fair and Human Rights Zone March

Carroll Park, S. Monroe St. and Washington Blvd. Baltimore, MD
Everyone's welcome! <http://b-morefair.blogspot.com/unitedworkers.org>

Sat, April 18; 9am - 6pm, Ecological Building and Living Practices Workshop, 7108 Holly Ave. Takoma Park, MD

Learn to create a nurturing and beautiful home (or add onto or renovate your house) which provides refuge as it places you in harmony with the land. An experiential (playful, reflective) workshop exploring ecological practices through a series of creative exercises and the design of a home for a site. Bill Hutchins, AIA, Founder, Helicon Works Architects billhutchins@earthlink.net 202.332.7949

Sun, April 19, *Green Festival: Celebration of God's Creation*, 2:00 - 6:00pm, New Life United Methodist Church, 4400 Parkside Drive, Baltimore, Md. Featuring: Interactive displays, programs and learning opportunities from churches, organizations, schools in and around Baltimore and the City of Baltimore. All will be focusing on environmental health and justice issues. There will be games, moon bounce and face painting for the children and much much more! Any questions please contact The Rev. Eric King, ([410-488.1600](tel:410-488.1600)/king1906@comcast.net) or Mrs. Sandra Ferguson, ([410-309-3431](tel:410-309-3431)/sferguson@bwcumc.org). Please pass this information on to your family and friends and members of your congregation.

Sun, April 19, *Chesapeake Bioregion Ecosystems*, 8:30-3:30pm, Freeland, MD. Learn about the forest, wetland, and stream ecosystems of the Chesapeake Bioregion, including threats and restoration strategies. Understand how protecting natural ecosystems integrates with Permaculture. Sliding scale \$60-\$100. For more information contact Karen Stupski at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/oneday.shtml>.

Sun, April 19, *Earth Day Celebration* in Leonardtown, 12:30 - 4:30pm, on the Leonardtown Square and at Leonardtown Wharf! Live music and entertainment, kayak and canoe rides, puppet show, face painting, children's crafts, animal rescue groups, conservation information and environmental demonstrations, plants for sale, and more. Call 301-475-9791 for more information

Mon, April 20, Baltimore Green Week - City Day

Follow the trash! Take a tour of local recycling facilities. Afterwards, visit War Memorial Plaza where exhibitors will showcase Baltimore's Sustainability plan by providing practical solutions for their "at home" needs. <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Tues, April 21, 6:30 p.m. Baltimore Green Week - Climate Change Day, Goucher College, Kelly Lecture Hall An in depth discussion of the effects of global warming on, and the health of the Chesapeake Bay. A unique panel discusses the science, policy, and politics of what the global problem has to do with the Chesapeake Bay. <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Tues, April 21, *EcolocityDC 3rd Tuesday Film: The Corporation*, 7-9:30 pm, Washington DC. Exploring the nature and spectacular rise of the dominant institution of our time, The Corporation is transforming audiences and dazzling critics with its insightful and compelling analysis. Taking its status as a legal "person" to the logical conclusion, the film puts the corporation on the psychiatrist's couch to ask "What kind of person is it?" Location: Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid Street NW. For more information: ecolocitydc@gmail.com or call 202 545 0869. Directions and details: <http://www.ecolocity.ning.com>. A long film so come early so we can start on time. Brief discussion if time allows. Suggested donation: \$5.

Tues, April 21, *Needs Based Design*, 6:45-9pm, Jessup, MD. Needs Based Design is a process and common language for helping communities build beyond sustainability and uses a systems-thinking approach to focus on what matters most: us as individuals and the common needs that we share. Needs Based Design can be used to develop projects of all sizes using the IDEA method. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Wed, April 22, 6:00 p.m. Baltimore Green Week - Sustainable Food Day, Baltimore International College, Auditorium. Follow the food from farm to table! Talk to farmers about labeling and what is happening with your local farms. In the evening, join us for a discussion on vegetarianism. We will also be have a cooking demonstration and tasting to try out a new vegetarian dish! <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Wed, April 22nd, 2009; 5:30- 7:30pm. Baltimore Green Drinks, Little Havanas, Federal Hill

Green Drinks Baltimore is on a roll! Last month was only our 3rd gathering and we had over 55 people come out to learn about Baltimore Recycling. APRIL is going to be HUGE! Why? It's EARTH DAY! Every chapter in our area is going to hold a meeting in their cities and we want the Chesapeake Region to host the largest Green Drinks Night ever! In order to do this we all need to have over 1,200 attendees region wide and I'm hoping to break 100 here in Baltimore! Cash Bar, apps will be provided. If you have any questions, would like to be kept updated, or to help us out please email me at teris@SevenSeasEnergy.com.

Wed, April, 22, Green Home Renovations as an Investment, 7:00-9:00 pm, Jessup, MD. This presentation will show how an existing home can be renovated using a green building approach that looks at site development, the building envelope, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and indoor air quality issues. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Wed, April, 22, 7 pm, "Climate Change, Global Warming, and Trends of North American Climate and Weather, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, MD. An illustrated program presented by Dr. Wayne Higgins, expert climatologist & Dir. of the Climate Prediction Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). He is responsible for US official climate forecasts. Church is at 9325 Presbyterian Circle, MD-29 & MD-108. All are invited.

Weds, April 22, USGBC See the Green, 6pm-8pm, Baltimore, MD. Tour Clipper Mill green homes and shops. Location: 2010 Clipper Park Road, Baltimore, MD 21211. FREE! For more information: <http://usgbcaltimore.eventbrite.com> and www.usgbcmaryland.org.

Wed, April 22, Prince George's GreenDrinks, 5:30-7:30pm, The Sideline (880 Capital Center Blvd in the Boulevard At The Capital Centre in Largo, MD). There will be drink specials, a complimentary buffet, and door prizes! A special guest will also be speaking briefly on green jobs in Prince George's County. Come on out after work on Earth Day, mingle with those that share your environmental values, learn about the local green jobs movement, and get a chance to win one of several door prizes. In addition, stick around afterwards for jazz music provided complimentary by a local band. To RSVP, please email Lisa Lincoln at lisa.l.lincoln@gmail.com, or call the Sierra Club office for information on future events at 301-277-7111.

Thurs, April 23, 3-5 p.m., Baltimore Green Week - Green Jobs & Green Building, Morgan State University Student Center. A vital part of any "green" solution is to incorporate them into our economy and business models. Tour new LEED certified building design and rehab projects in Baltimore City, and learn about the importance of new "green" job opportunities. <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Fri, April 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Baltimore Green Week, Sustainable Art Opening & Happy Hour, Towson Art Collective. See how Baltimore's local artist community makes a silk purse out of a sow's ear (and other found and reused objects!) <http://baltimoregreenworks.com>

Fri, Apr 24, Sustainable Community Suppers, 7 pm to 9 pm, Dayton, MD. Fourth Friday, vegetarian potluck, discussion, sharing and speakers to support environmentally conscious living. Location: 5085 Green Bridge Rd, Dayton, MD. For more information & to RSVP, contact Bette Rainbow Hoover bette@justpeacecircles.org 410-531-5610 or Karen sustainablecommunitysuppers@gmail.com 410-489-6651. For directions, go to www.edenvalleycenter.org.

Sat, April 25, Earth Day & Arbor Day (10 am-12 noon)/ Public Works Open House (10 am – 2 pm), Greenbelt, MD 10am-12:00pm, outside of the Greenbelt Youth Center, 99 Centerway: **EARTH DAY AND ARBOR DAY CELEBRATIONS.** Help restore the rain garden, plant native plants, take a tree tour and more. Sponsored by the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability and the Advisory Committee on Trees. 10am-2pm at the Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road: **PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE!** Join in the official opening of the city's newest facility. Enjoy hot dogs and chips, demonstrations, tours and more. <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/>

Sat, April 25, LEED® for Homes Class Series – Class Two: Envelope Strategies, 9-11am, Bethesda, MD.

This class will include an update from the last meeting, a discussion of Energy Star Thermal Bypass Checklist and more. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Sat, April 25, EarthSave Baltimore Veg Dinner Series, 6-9 pm, Owings Mills, MD

featuring a talk on AYURVEDIC MEDICINE by Susan Weis, proprietress of breathe books. Please bring a vegan dish that will serve five times the number of people in your party, plus a \$5 donation (members \$2). Or (with 1 day notice) you may enjoy dinner without bringing food for a \$12 donation (members \$10). For more info call Don at 410-252-3043, write Baltimore@earthsave.org, or go to <http://earthsavebaltimore.org/>.

Sat, April 25 - It's Your Turn! Trees and Taking Action! Noon - 3pm. 12:00pm - Melanie Choukas Bradley will give a slide presentation based on the expanded and updated edition of her newly released book, *CITY OF TREES: The Complete Field Guide to the Trees of Washington, D.C.* **1:00pm** - Little Falls Watershed Alliance LABEL THE WATERSED. Join a volunteer crew to help label storm drains to alert our community to the watershed drainage issues. **2:00pm** - Marney Bruce and Lore Rosenthal of *Simplicity Matters Earth Institute* (www.simplicity-matters.org). Learn how you can engage in stimulating conversation, meaningful community, and consider ways to take action towards creating a more sustainable future. Copies of *Suggested Lifestyle Changes to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint* will be available. For more information call 240-777-0970 or go to <http://bethesdagreen.org/bggreen/Calendar/BethesdaGoesGreen/tabid/229/Default.aspx>

Sat, April 25, 1-4 pm, Permaculture Workshop Series: Rain Barrels, Red Clover Collective in Baltimore, MD. For further workshop descriptions visit <http://redclovercollective.org/>. Each workshop is sliding scale \$10-\$30. Please RSVP – space is limited. For more information or to RSVP contact Karen at 410-357-9523 or karen@heathcote.org or see www.heathcote.org.

Sat, April 25, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Green Building Tour- Sponsored by Historic Annapolis Foundation Annapolis, MD. "Green building" is the new buzz in remodeling and new construction. But what exactly is it? The best way to find out is to tour homes and businesses that incorporate this new technology. From basements to roofs and gutters, there is a lot to see and learn. Join us on this one day tour featuring a hay bale house, geothermal heat, a green roof and so much more. See for yourself how the newest techniques in green building can be efficient and economical without sacrificing style. Tour sites are located in downtown Annapolis and throughout Anne Arundel County. \$20 admission for members and volunteers, \$25 for non-members. Tickets increase to \$35 after April 15. <http://www.annapolis.org/index.asp?pageid=112#event166>

April 25 & 26 The Garden Fair at the historic Sotterley Plantation 9:00 am ~ 4:00 pm, Hollywood, Maryland. Sustainable Homesteading, Demos, Speakers, Exhibits, Plant Sales and more. Admission charged. See http://www.sotterley.com/news_events.htm for directions and more information.

Tues, April 28, Maryland Native Plant Society monthly meeting, 7:30 pm. White Oak Library. Topic: Spring Flowering Native Plants. Join botanist Rod Simmons for a presentation on many of the common and rare, spring-flowering native plants of Maryland. Spring ephemerals - plants of early spring which bloom and largely disappear before the forest canopy substantially leafs out - will be the main focus, although other spring wildflowers will be included as well. Location: Large meeting room. For more information and directions go to www.mdflora.org.

Tues, April 28, How to Build a Raingarden, 7:00-9:00 pm, Jessup, MD. During this class we will explore the principles of outdoor water management practices that help conserve and protect water resources, including techniques used to build a rain garden to capture water run-off. For more information, contact David Woolley-Wilson, info@greenbuildinginstitute.org, 443-733-1234. Directions and details at <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

Tues, April 28, EcolocityDC 4th Tuesday: Community Building: Organizing & Networking, 7-9:30 pm, Washington DC. While it is necessary to organize and network towards our shared goals, a vibrant community is built one relationship at a time. Let us not lose sight of this basic human function. Join us as we get to know and learn from each other, to develop trust, respect and affinities. We'll use a number of tools and techniques to engage and involve everyone in a supportive and safe space. Bring a friend, anyone who is open to taking action and shaping the future which may not be all gloom and doom, if we make the right choices. Location:

Emergence Community Arts Collective, 733 Euclid Street NW. For more information: ecolocitydc@gmail.com or call 202 545 0869. Information: <http://www.ecolocity.ning.com>.

Thursday, April 30, Nursing, Health and the Environment, 1:30-5:30 pm, UMMC, Baltimore, MD

This half day event will cover environmental and occupational health issues relevant to nursing, including a discussion panel and workshops for nurses on or starting a green team. For more information, directions, and details, contact Michaela Lindahl-Ackerman, mlind006@umaryland.edu, 410-706-6460.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY & JUNE

Sun, May 3, Audubon Naturalist Society Nature Fair. Join us at our 40-acre Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase for this fun-filled family event! You'll find hands-on nature activities, local arts and crafts, food and drink, and live entertainment. For time, directions and more information go to <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org/default.asp?page=568>.

Mon, May 4, USGBC Get a Jump on LEED 2009, 5:30pm-8pm, Baltimore, MD. Learn about the implementation timeline for LEED 2009 and a summary of the changes. \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members and \$20 at the door – Cash or check only. For more information: <http://usgbcbaltimore.eventbrite.com> and www.usgbcmaryland.org.

Sun, May 3, Wheel of the Year Mayfest, at 5 PM, Bethesda, MD. Upstairs at River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation's bldg. Directions at www.RRUUC.org. We meet with gratitude for the sustainability of Earth, in the time of flowering, to dance the Maypole dance of life. Please, bring snacks/drinks and your own cup. Helen Popenoe, 301/229-0549

Fri, Sat & Sun, May 8-10, Greenbelt Green Man Festival, 7:30-9:00 (Fri), 10:00-9:00 (Sat), 10:00-5:00 (Sun), Greenbelt, MD. Green Man is an ancient symbol for the Spirit of Nature. Live music, children's activities, arts and crafts, nature based ceremonies, workshops, films, etc. For more information contact joan@cheers.org, 301-775-5368. Directions and details at www.greenbeltgreenmanfestival.org.

Sat, May 9, Water, 8:30-3:30pm, Freeland, MD. Permaculture offers many simple, effective, and environmentally sound strategies for managing water. Learn how to manage storm water, catch rooftop water, and recycle greywater. Sliding scale \$60-\$100. For more information contact Karen Stupski at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/oneday.shtml>.

Sun, May 10, Soil and Nutrient Recycling, 8:30-3:30pm, Freeland, MD. Building healthy soil and creating complete nutrient cycles are essential to Permaculture. Learn how to improve your soil naturally, how to build a compost pile, and how to recycle humanure. Sliding scale \$60-\$100. For more information contact Karen Stupski at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/oneday.shtml>.

Wed, May 13, 'Greening, Meaning, and Authentic Change. A Fulfilling Life that's Also Good for the Earth', 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Towson, MD. Presented by **Julie E. Gabrielli, NCARB, LEED**, founder of www.GOforChange.com, a movement that helps ordinary people contribute to the sustainability of the planet in powerful, life-changing ways. Followed by a brief open meeting of www.baltimoreclimate.org. Refreshments. Free. Towson branch, Baltimore County Public Library: Questions: mail [at] baltimoreclimate.org or 410-812-1447 *Join us afterwards for drinks or eats to continue the conversation at a nearby eatery.* www.baltimoreclimate.org/content/1/2/195.html#julie

Sat, May 16, Spring Cohousing Bus Tour, 9a-6p. starting in NW Washington, DC. Join others on a day long bus tour of six cohousing communities in the DC area. Learn how these innovative communities are reducing the carbon footprint of housing while increasing sustainability. To register, further info & details: www.MidAtlanticCohousing.org or call or email Ann 202 291 7892 zabaldo@earthlink.net

Sat, May 16, Annual Social and Potluck Picnic, 12pm, Howard County. Please join us for a picnic at the Howard County Conservancy to socialize with other members and enjoy our natural treasures. Bring a dish to share, a picnic blanket and meet at noon near the parking lot at 10520 Old Frederick Rd. Woodstock, MD. We may hike after the picnic. Contact Brigitte, 240-506-8976, bfzaidan@gmail.com.

Sun, May 17 – Sun May 24, Community Work Action Week, 6pm Sunday - 12pm Sunday, Freeland, MD.

The Community Work Action is an opportunity to experience sustainable community living through working, playing, and learning together. Work on Permaculture projects while learning how to build community. Heart donations welcome. For more information contact Karen Stupski at education@heathcote.org or 410-357-9523. Details at <http://www.heathcote.org/workaction.shtml>.

Sun, May 17, Green Your Diet Workshop, 2:00-3:30 pm, Owings Mills, MD. Eating green means much more than eating organic or local. Learn how and why plant-based meals are better for the earth than American meat-based meals, and even better than organic/local meat. \$40 per person or 2/\$75. Reg deadline May 13. To register, Mark Rifkin, Registered Dietitian at 410-764-8343 or preventive_nutrition@verizon.net

Sun, June 14, All Our Relations Sacred Gardening Workshop, 10:00am-5:00pm, Blueberry Gardens, Ashton (north of Olney), MD. Earth Mother is calling us to heal ourselves and our relationship to nature. Our gardens are where we can start to cultivate this healing. Come learn Native American approaches and worldviews that will encourage deeper gardening practices honoring nature energies and planetary well-being, plus have some fun. Sliding Scale. Led by Mare Cromwell, sacred gardening specialist, author and apprentice to Cherokee Medicine Woman. To register: www.sacreddogllc.com <<http://www.sacreddogllc.com/>>

ACTION OPPORTUNITIES & TIDBITS

Sunday April 12, 11 am to 7 pm. Shop at Nest and Support the Sierra Club. Nest (Natural Elements Selected Thoughtfully) has one Sunday each month when 10% of their profits are donated to a local organization, and the Sierra Club's day is April 12. Sierra Club members can also request a 10% discount for any other date in April. Nest sells a wide variety of products that are environmentally friendly, including organic and recycled items. Nest is located next to Roots Market in Clarksville, at 5809 Clarksville Square Drive. See their web page at www.nestnaturalhome.com.

Community meetings - Baltimore City proposed Trash and Recycling Pick Up

Baltimore City has proposed changing our trash & recycling schedule to 1 day trash pick-up & 1 day recycling pick-up, all in one week. Now that recycling materials collected has grown to include all plastic #1-#7 & waxed milk cartons, at least 50% of each home's trash is recyclable. Don't know your City district, visit www.mdelect.net to find out. Please cc the following folks if you choose to email:

CouncilPresident@baltimorecity.gov; mayor@baltimorecity.gov; david.scott@baltimorecity.gov Any questions, email laurel77@comcast.net

13th District - April 7, 6:30pm - 8:00pm / Councilman Warren Branch

Warren.Branch@baltimorecity.gov / Herring Run Branch of Enoch Pratt Library - 3801 Erdman Ave

6th and 7th Combined District - April 8, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm / Councilwoman Sharon Middleton &

Councilwoman Belinda Conaway 6th sharon.middleton@baltimorecity.gov 7th

Belinda.Conaway@baltimorecity.gov /Sinai Hospital of Baltimore – Zamoiski Auditorium 2401 W. Belvedere Ave. 21215, 410-601-9000

2nd District - April 14, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm / Councilman Nicholas D'Adamo, Jr

Nicholas.D'Adamo@baltimorecity.gov /Our Lady of Fatima Parish 6400 East Pratt St, 21224

11th District April 21, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm / Councilman William H. Cole william.cole@baltimorecity.gov

/Curran Room - City Hall 4th floor 100 N. Holliday St, 21202

8th District April 28, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm / Councilwoman Helen Holton Helen.Holton@baltimorecity.gov /

Hunting Ridge Presbyterian Fellowship Hall 4640 Edmonson Ave, 21229

12th District - April 29; 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm / Councilman Bernard “Jack” Young

Bernard.Young@baltimorecity.gov / Bluford Drew Jemison (STEM) School – 1130 Caroline Street

Salamander Points--A Daily, Individual Carbon-Counting Website

www.salamanderpoints.com

How much carbon did you put into the atmosphere with that hamburger today? Can you stay under 150 Salipoints / day--or 3 carbon tons / year? Check the blog for news and updates, and use the calculator to determine your daily emissions.

Scooby-Doo Gardening Blog

To learn more about All Our Relations Sacred Gardening, Mare Cromwell, along with her Cherokee teacher is posting on how to approach gardening from a Sacred place on Mare's blog. To follow the evolution of a Medicine Garden in Mare's teacher's backyard on a weekly basis, and get some good giggles, go to <http://marecromwell.wordpress.com/> We're calling it the Scooby-Doo Garden.

Local, Organic Beef & Lamb, Kol Foods

Just in time for Easter...

Lamb, just \$9/lb! (boxes are 9 - 13 lbs), Mixed cuts include: lamb chops (shoulder, loin and rib), leg of lamb, rack of lamb, ground lamb, lamb shank, neck and breast.

Beef, dry aged for two weeks, available at \$9/lb (boxes are approximately 20 lbs)

Mixed cuts include: NY Strip steaks, top loin, t-bone steaks, sirloin steaks & tips, round steaks & roasts, shoulder roast, chuck steak & roast, ribeye steak, brisket, french roast, short rib & prime rib, rump roast, flank steak, ground beef and stew meat.

****NEW**** Extra Lean Ground Beef only, available at \$6.50/lb (boxes are approximately 10 lbs)

TO ORDER: Email your order to susan@kolfoods.com by Thursday, April 2nd.

PICK UP: Monday, April 6, 6:30pm - 7:30pm, Silver Spring, MD (just over the DC border)

We know our meats from beginning to end. Lovingly raised by Julie Bolton of Groff's Content Farm in Rocky Ridge, Maryland and similar local family farms in southeastern Pennsylvania, our lambs are crossbreeds of Katahdin, Dorper and Barbados varieties. Beef is dry-aged for two weeks. All our meat is organically raised, local and grass-fed resulting in delicious, healthy and ethical meat. No hormones, animal bi-products or antibiotics are used. Transported by Julie and her husband, Bob, or Farmer Nate to Baltimore, the animals are slaughtered, and USDA inspected.