



N E W S L E T T E R

Autumnal Equinox 2002

Recycling Saves Energy

One reason recycling is important is because it saves energy. For example, recycling just one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television set for three hours. Less energy use means reduced carbon dioxide emissions. Recycling all of your home's waste, newsprint, cardboard, glass, and metal can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 850 pounds a year.

Also by saving energy, we use less natural resources and fossil fuels. The processing of raw materials makes heavy demands on energy sources. For instance, three percent of America's energy is used for producing packaging products alone.



Recycling paper cuts energy use by 70%, and consumes 60% less water than making new paper. Every pound of steel recycled saves enough energy to light a light bulb for 26 hours. Recycling a ton of glass saves the same as nine gallons of fuel oil. All of these are important to protecting our environment.

Products such as paper, aluminum, glass, plastic, and cardboard can be recycled by households and businesses. Recycling facilities are available at Normal Township Hall, 304 E. Mulberry; University Center, 1101 N. Main; Jewel-Osco, 910 S. Cottage; Kroger, Landmark Plaza; Wal-Mart, 300 Greenbriar; and Normal Public Library, 206 W. College.

An electronics recycling collection is held for computers, monitors, copiers, TVs, VCRs, microwaves, cameras and related equipment. It occurs the 3rd Sunday of each month from 9 am-12 pm at the Public Works Garage at 1301 Warriner Street in Normal.

Recycling can also help keep toxic materials out of landfills. A household hazardous waste collection will be held from 8 am-3 pm on October 5th at the Pekin Mall Parking Lot, 3500 Court St. Call (309)925-5511 for more information.

Win 2003 Honda Civic Hybrid

Purchase a ticket for the Ecology Action Center Earth Day 2003 Raffle to be held April 26, 2003. Tickets are available at Brad Barker Honda, 1062 G.E. Road, Bloomington.; Children's Discovery Museum, 716 E. Empire, Bloomington; Common Ground, 516 N. Main, Bloomington; Ecology Action Center, 202 W. College, Normal; and Garlic Press, 108 W. North Street, Normal. Get your ticket now!! Sales are limited to 550 tickets. Cost is \$50 per ticket. All proceeds support our environmental education programs and new friends will receive a complementary one year membership. Save Gas, Save Money and Support a Great Cause, too.



What's Happening at EAC...

Meet the Interns

Ericka Wills is a junior at Illinois Wesleyan majoring in English and Environmental Studies and minoring in Sociology. Ericka is working on newsletters and with the energy grant programs.

Cortney Scharenberg is a senior at Illinois Wesleyan majoring in Sociology and minoring in Environmental Studies. Cortney is working with the energy grant and after school programs.

Jennifer Kampwerth is a sophomore at Illinois State majoring in Business Management and minoring in accounting. Jennifer is working on the business plan for a grants for the SCRAP store and business materials exchange.

Stephanie Ridings is a sophomore at Illinois State majoring in Finance and minoring in Accounting. Stephanie is working on the SCRAP store and business materials exchange.

Brooke Adelman is a senior at Illinois State majoring in Marketing. Brooke is working on the raffle and membership marketing.

Tammy Graff is a junior at Illinois Wesleyan majoring in Computer Science and Environmental Studies. She is working on the EcoExperience and Energy Schools.

Michelle Mundy is a junior at Illinois Wesleyan majoring in Environmental Studies and International Studies. She is working on the after school programs and America Recycles Day programs.

EAC Picnic

The EAC Member Appreciation Picnic was held September 15, at Davis Lodge, Lake Bloomington. We had over 100 members attended from our organization and the Lake Bloomington Association. After a delicious meal by Chef DeAnna, Amy Walkenbach of the Illinois EPA informed us about what we can do to protect our lake. We look forward to next year!

Eco-Experience

Explorations of our environment through hands-on experiments, games and creative projects for kids age 7-11. Each program is from 2:00-2:30 PM at the Ecology Action Center.

Saturday, September 21 - Endangered Species

Learn about many endangered animals, play fun games, and make your very own endangered animal pet to take home.

Friday October 11 - Fall into Fall

Learn what happens in the fall, make a colorful mosaic, and team up to build a scarecrow that will be displayed outside.

Friday, November 8 - Save the Earth

Games, trivia, and fun activities that promote new and exciting ways to help save the earth!

All Programs are open to the public for a \$1 material fee charge. Please register 3 days before the program. For more information call the Ecology Action Center at 454-3169.



Free Energy Kits

Forms for free energy kits are available at the Ecology Action Center. Included in the kits are energy efficient light bulbs, a showerhead, a faucet sprayer, a window kit, weather stripping, and outlet insulation.

Fairs! Fairs! Fairs!!!

Many wonderful volunteers make it possible for the Ecology Action Center to get out in the community and make new friends. We enjoyed the Sugar Creek Arts Festival, introduced the to-be-raffled Honda Civic Hybrid at the Cornfest, Harvest Bloom Festival, and Classic Homes Fair. Thanks to all these folks for making so many public appearances possible.

Mary Williams
Nancy and Joe Armstrong
Brooke Adelman
Cynthia Garrison
Linda Fuller
Janet Beach Davis
Jim McGowan
Don and Bonnie Gore
George and Myra Gordon
Jean Robins
Claire Callahan
Ralph and Louise Bellas
Marilyn Sutherland
Emma Belz
Jane Cheatham
Tracy Pitts
Alicia Sutter
Juergen Schroeer
George and Kris Byrns
And all who pitched in at the picnic!

Normal's Energy Grant to Benefit Area Businesses

As of July 1, the Town of Normal's commitment to economic development and energy conservation deepened due to a two-year Community Energy Program Grant funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce & Community Affairs. Through the Ecology Action Center, the Town of Normal will offer programs for residents, businesses, and students.

The residential program begins with an energy audit and retrofit of the Ecology Action Center, located in a house built in 1865. Its energy makeover will be a dramatic demonstration of the benefits of energy conservation through simple home improvements.

The business program starts with an energy makeover of the Coffeehouse & Deli in downtown Normal. This demonstration project along with targeted workshops over the next two years will help small-to-medium sized businesses improve energy efficiency and reduce utility bills. Rebates will be available to qualified businesses.

The education component includes an Energy School to reach all fifth-graders in Normal, workshops for residents and businesses, tours of the demonstration sites, publications, exhibits, energy fairs, a website, and a speakers bureau.

If your business association or professional chapter would like to schedule a short program on new ways to reduce utility costs, please contact Gretchen Knapp, Community Energy Coordinator, at 454-3169.

Alternative Wind Energy in Illinois



Alternative wind energy is promoted as holding numerous benefits for Illinois. The industry created through the construction of windmills in downstate Illinois holds the promise of creating jobs. Also, renewable wind energy promotes national security by reducing the US dependence on foreign markets for energy.

Illinois based NEG Micon manufactures and installs windmills. They plan on having the state's first windfarm at Princeton running by next year. The farm will encompass 3,000 acres while only having to take 20 acres out of agricultural production.

America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day is November 15th. Local activities to celebrate the day include the Reuse and Recycle Art Contest for students K-12. Art work will be on display at the Normal Community High School auditorium from 6:00-7:30 on the 15th. The projects will also be displayed in a fashion show that night. The winners of the 7-12th grade contest will have their work displayed in the lobby of the McLean County Arts Center from November 20-23.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs and the Illinois America Recycling Association has an America Recycles Day Patch Kit program for grades kindergarten through twelve. The patch kit contains recycling activities that students do to earn a special Illinois Recycles Patch. The patch is different then in the past and now is bright yellow with a blue boarder. A student can still participate in the program even if they have participated before.



Reuse and Recycle Art Contest

Contest open to K-6th

Build your own hats from recycled material. Enter the reuse and recycled art contest sponsored by the Ecology Action Center. We provide a chance for young artists' to show off their talent to the community.

Use any object that you would normally throw away to create your recycled hat. You can use new glue, paint, markers, and ink to create your art piece. Entries will be judged on creative reuse of different discarded objects. Use your imagination!

Contest open to 7th-12th

Build your own shoe(s) and/or hat from any recycled material. Enter the reuse and recycle art contest sponsored by the Ecology Action Center. Use any objects you would normally throw away to create your recycled shoe(s) and/or hat. Entries will be judged in three separate categories: 1) Best Wearable Art 2) Best Artistic Style 3) Best Recycle Message

All projects

All projects must be submitted to the Ecology Action Center no later than 5pm on November 8th. Include your name, grade, school, teacher, and home phone number on your entry. All entries will be displayed at the Normal Community High School auditorium on November 15th from 6:00-7:30pm. At this time, the winners will be announced and prizes will be awarded. Questions? Call us at 454-3169 or visit us next to the Normal Public Library at 202 W. College Ave., Normal.

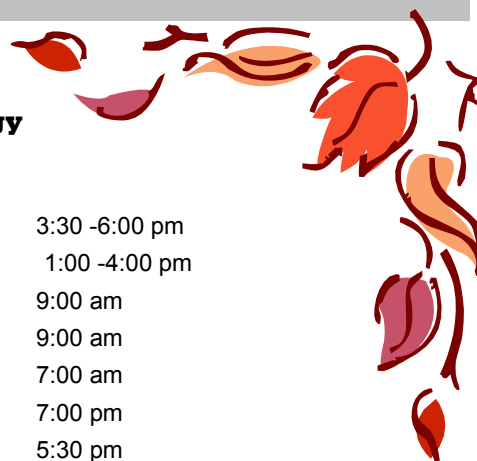
Girl Scouts will earn Recycles Patch

EAC and the Centrillio Girl Scout Council will team up to help Scouts earn the Illinois Recycles Patch on October 19. Lots of activities will be available on that day, so girls can learn about recycling and environmental issues and commit to the environmental service projects required to earn the Illinois Recycles Patch. The patch is sponsored by the US Postal Service, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs and Illinois Recycling.

News from the Network...

Calendar Fall 2002

For more information about these events call the Ecology Action Center at 454-3169



October

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|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Teacher Workshop - Heartland Community College | 3:30 -6:00 pm |
| 4 | NCWHS Parade (Hybrid Car) | 1:00 -4:00 pm |
| 5 | ISU Home coming Parade (Hybrid Car) | 9:00 am |
| | <u>ParkLands</u> prairie seed collection—meet at Pizza Hut Lexington | 9:00 am |
| | <i>JWP Audubon</i> Bird walk at Ewing Park, Bloomington | 7:00 am |
| 8 | <i>JWP Audubon</i> Board Meetings at EAC | 7:00 pm |
| 10 | EcoReaders Book discussion | 5:30 pm |
| | <i>JWP Audubon</i> presents "West Nile Virus and Its Impact on Birds, Animals and Humans" at Bloomington Public Library | 7:00 pm |
| 11 | Eco-Experience Fall into Fall - EAC | 2:00 pm -3:30 pm |
| 19 | <i>JWP Audubon</i> Bird walk at Ewing Park, with children's activities | 7:30 am |
| | Electronics Recycling | 9:00 am -12:00 pm |
| 23 | EAC Board Meeting | 5:00 -6:30 pm |
| 26 | EAC Energy Fair at Lowes | 11:00 am -4:00 pm |
| | <u>ParkLands</u> prairie seed collection—meet at Pizza Hut Lexington | 9:00 am |
| | <i>JWP Audubon</i> Bird walk at Ewing Park, Bloomington | 7:00 am |

November

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 8 | Eco-Experience-Save the Earth - EAC | 2:00 -3:30 pm |
| 12 | <i>JWP Audubon</i> Board Meetings at EAC | 7:00 pm |
| 14 | EcoReaders Book discussion | 5:30 pm |
| | <i>JWP Audubon</i> presents "Rocky Mountain National Park: A park for all Seasons" slide show by Lenore Sabota | 7:00 pm |
| 15 | America Recycles Day in McLean County | 6 -7:30 pm |
| 16 | Electronics Recycling | 9:00 am -12:00 pm |

December

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 4 | EAC Board Meeting | 5:00 -6:30 pm |
| 7 | <u>ParkLands</u> seed cleaning—meet at Springfield Rd. | 9:00 am |
| 8 | EAC Gift Wrapping Fundraiser at Barnes and Noble | 10 am -2 pm |
| 10 | <i>JWP Audubon</i> Board Meetings at EAC | 7:00p m |
| 12 | EcoReaders Book discussion | 5:30p m |

GREENWAYS NEWS

Exciting plans for the design and landscaping of a bike-hike trail from Towanda to McLean along the Historic Rte. 66 Corridor were unveiled by Hanson Engineering for the McLean County Greenways Advisory Committee at its Sept. meeting. The Ecology Action Center has been an active participant in greenways work since its inception in 1997, and made a 9-minute video about it, which you can view or borrow at the Center. On October 25 at Wildlife Prairie Park, Peoria, you may attend a day-long workshop on Greenways and Trails for a modest \$10 registration fee. For information about that interesting day contact IDNR Division of Planning at (217) 782-375 or e-mail greenway@dnrmail.state.il.us We're proud to be part of this nationwide effort to improve habitat for everyone--humans and wildlife alike.



Recycle Ecology Action Center Newsletter by passing it on to someone else after you have read it.



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contact.shtml](http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org/about/contact.shtml)
WEBSITE: www.ecologyactioncenter.org
Made from 100% post-consumer waste

Eco Readers Fall 2002

The book club with hope for the Earth.
Meets second Thursdays at 5:30.

October 10, Ecology Action Center
Sticklewort and Feverfew Led by Bob Sutherland
(the author)

November 14, Barnes and Noble
Love Canal: the Story Continues By Lois Marie Gibbs
Led by Gretchen Knapp

December 12, Barnes and Noble
*Ten Things You Can Do To Reduce Your Toxic Exposures
and Protect Your Health*
By Laurine Brown Led by Ralph and Louise Bellas

February 2003
Refuge By Terry Tempest Williams
Led by Meredith Schroer

We are looking for a discussion leader to choose a book and
lead the January discussion. Call Anne McGowan 828-
0807 if you would like to volunteer.



2003 Honda Hybrid Facts

- No Plug In Electric, Auto- Recharge
- 650 miles travelled on one tank of gas
- Up to 51 miles per gallon
- Meets or Exceeds Low-Emmission Standards
- World's Cleanest-Burning Internal-Combustion Production Vehicle
- SAME FEATURES AS 2003 HONDA CIVIC:
room for 5, ABS brakes, CD player, remote entry
- 8 year/80,000-mile limited warranty

**WIN A CAR AND SUPPORT
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION**

BUY A TICKET TODAY!

Details on page 1