

Evanston's Future!

Electronic Newsletter of

*Evanston's Energy Future
Evanston's Transportation Future
Evanston Interreligious Sustainability Circle
Evanston's Affordable Housing Future
Citizens Lighthouse Community Land Trust
Evanston Food Policy Council
Evanston Climate Change Campaign
Evanston's Water Group*

July 2006

Network for Evanston's Future groups welcome new members, at any time and at any level of interest or participation.

Web Address: www.evanstonfuture.org

Editors: Gina Lettiere, amazonpaganqueen@yahoo.com

and Joel Freeman, freemansmaller@mindspring.com

Web Manager: Ross Vagnieres ross@rvdstudio.com

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- July 4, 12:30 – 3:30 pm** **Evanston Fourth of July Parade – Environmental Group**
Location: Marcy and Central, Evanston,
Contact: Mardi Klevs at klevs@sbcglobal.net, 847-475-8255
Join the parade, if you can! Kids and families welcome; look for group 77.
- July 5, 7 – 9 pm** **Urban Farm Meeting, Evanston Food Policy Council**
Location: Home of Debbie Hillman, 1118 Sherman, Evanston
Contact: DLHillman@sbcglobal.net, 847-328-7175
A planning session for fall community meeting
- July 6, 7 – 9 pm** **Evanston Food Policy Council Meeting**
Location: Home of Linda Kruhmin, 1422 Greenwood, Evanston
Contact: DLHillman@sbcglobal.net, 847-328-7175
- July 7th to 9th** **Legalizing the Rights of Earth and Community**
A conference program for "Challenging the Corporate State and Claiming Our Rights and the Rights of Nature"
Location: Gettysburg College, PA
For details, visit; www.nacce.org/

Network Updates

- July 9, 4 pm** **Network for Evanston's Future Summer Pot Luck**
Location: Friends Meeting House, 1010 Greenleaf
RSVP to: Gina Lettiere, AmazonPaganQueen@yahoo.com, 847-424-0724
- July 12, 7:30 – 9:30 pm** **Evanston's Energy Future**
Location: Home of Elizabeth Kinney, 1024 Brummel St.
Contact: Elizabeth, 847-866-9430 or Joel Freeman, 847-869-0955
- July 14 to 16** **Global Warming Midwest Weekend Retreat**
Location: Hilltop Conference Center, Spring Green, WI
Contact: Matthew Follet, 262-442-7588 or help@greenhousenet.org
- July 17, 7:30 am** **Evanston's Transportation Future**
Location: Cafe Mozart, 600 Davis
Contact: Rick Martin, 847-492-1467 or martin101@comcast.net
- July 25, 7:30 – 9 pm** **Evanston's Water Group**
Location: To Be Determined
Contact: Gina Lettiere, AmazonPaganQueen@yahoo.com, 847-424-0724
- July 26, 7 – 9 pm** **Urban Farm Meeting, Evanston Food Policy Council**
Location: Home of Debbie Hillman, 1118 Sherman
Contact: DLHillman@sbcglobal.net, 847-328-7175
A planning session for fall community meeting
- July 27, 7 - 9 pm** **NEF's Climate Change Campaign**
Location: Lake Street Church, Lake and Chicago Avenues, Evanston
Contact: Andrea Orcutt at orcutt@ameritech.net , 847-475-2262;
Linda Kruhmin@crwhyn1@hotmail.com, 847-475-2289
- August 3, 7 – 9 pm** **Evanston Food Policy Council Meeting**
Location: Home of Linda Kruhmin, 1422 Greenwood, Evanston
Contact: DLHillman@sbcglobal.net, 847-328-7175
- August 13, 3 - 5 pm** **Evanston Interreligious Sustainability Circle**
Location: Friends Meeting House, 1010 Greenleaf, Evanston
Contact: Steve Perkins, steve@cnt.org or 773-269-4055

Visit www.evanstonfuture.org and click on [Calendar of Events](#) for upcoming meetings and activities.

Special Announcement!

Join us for the Network for Evanston's Future Summer Pot Luck on Sunday, **July 9th at 4 pm** to celebrate accomplishments to create a sustainable vision for Evanston. We will gather at the Friends Meeting House, 1010 Greenleaf in Evanston. Contributions to be divided by last name initial:

A – I Main Course

J – R Side dish (veggie, fruit, salad)

S – Z Dessert

Please **bring family members, enough to feed 8 people** and in the spirit of **SUSTAINABILITY**, please bring your **own dishes, glasses and silverware**. The Network will provide drinks.

Network Updates

Evanston Food Policy Council

(Submitted by Debbie Hillman)

Please note that the July and August meetings will be held at Linda's home due to conflicts at the Unitarian Church. We hope to be back at the church in September.

The following are among the topics to be discussed at our next REGULAR meeting (July 6, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, 1422 Greenwood).

-- Film screenings, in collaboration with ReelTime: "The Real Life of farmer John" and "Unnatural Selection"

-- Urban Farm and Community Support Meeting (see details below)

-- Legislative issues on the state level: We are continuing to educate ourselves and hone a portfolio of goals and policy recommendations to present to our state legislators. The long-range goal is to encourage our URBAN legislators to support a broad range of sustainable agriculture and food system initiatives. Thanks to Nicolai Schousboe (of NEF and the Democratic Party of Evanston) for helping us brainstorm a strategy.

-- Illinois Farmer-Consumer Coalition. At the June meeting, we heard presentations on (1) water quality and water enforcement, and (2) how county in Iowa is encouraging more organic farming by giving property tax relief for transitioning and requiring county institutions to buy local/organic food. IFCC is looking to replicate such a program in Illinois. Any volunteer counties?

-- Global warming and the "dining capital of the North Shore". As part of the Global Warming group's plans for a next earth month event, the EFPC has offered to identify ways that Evanston's restaurant sector can alter their business practices to cut down on global emissions. Contact: Debbie Hillman, 847/328-7175, DLHillman@sbcglobal.net

Evanston Food Policy Council Announces new Co-Convener

As of this month, Linda Kruhmin has agreed to be Co-convener of the food group, replacing Catherine Buntin, co-founder of EFPC. Thank you, Catherine, for starting a long and rich personal journey as well as bringing the Network's energy and concern to such a central element of life, FOOD. -- Debbie (the other co-convener)

Urban Farm Community Support Meeting: Planning Sessions

Evanston Food Policy Council, in conjunction with Beth Emet Social Action Committee, is planning a community information/support meeting on an urban farm in Evanston. We are also looking for other organizational partners.

Our most basic vision involves growing diversified organic vegetables and fruits on 2-3 acres (you'd be amazed how much food can be grown on that small amount of land), including a job training component. Food sales would be to the public at large, in addition to possible contract growing (e.g., to Evanston's diversified restaurant industry).

The community information meeting is scheduled for September (exact date to be determined) and will be held at Dawes Elementary School to view the Edible Garden there. Planning is well underway, but extra hands are always needed -- for publicity, developing a full vision, site design (no we do not have any land yet, but we can always imagine).

Network Updates

Two planning meetings are scheduled for July: Wednesday July 5 and Wed. July 26, both 7:00 - 9:00 PM, at 1118 Sherman (home of Debbie Hillman). All are welcome, come ready to work. Contact: Debbie Hillman, 847/328-7175.

Network's Climate Change Campaign

(Submitted by Linda Kruhmin)

The Climate Change Campaign had a packed meeting, both with people and ideas on June 22nd. The next meeting will take place on July 27th (see Calendar). Among the items we will discuss are:

- results of the Evanston sector analysis
- a preliminary exploration of the campaign
- potential co-sponsors
- identifying timelines for 2007 Earth Month event
- how to work with Evanston Environment Board on the Kyoto Treaty presentation to City Council

To get a copy of complete minutes of the June 22nd meeting, to participate in the sector analysis, or other information, please contact:

- Andrea Orcutt at orcutt@ameritech.net , 847-475-2262
- Linda Kruhmin@crwhyn1@hotmail.com, 847-475-2289

Take Part in Evanston's Water Group

For those who are interested in water issues related to Evanston, make room on your calendar for the evening of July 25. For more information and meeting location, contact Gina Lettiere at 847-424-0724 or email at AmazonPaganQueen@yahoo.com.

Evanston's Transportation Future

(Submitted by Alex Sproul)

Recent activity has centered on bus signs for Evanston. As a result of ETF efforts, Pace has installed a number of additional bus signs in Evanston, although not all that ETF has recommended is currently implemented pursuant to our detailed survey of the entire city. Pace has taken these additional needs under advisement.

CTA has indicated that it is totally occupied with signage and other matters related to the new Pink Line, which has necessitated rerouting west side bus service. This is a major project, but indications are that when it is completed this summer, CTA will then proceed to improve Evanston signage. It contemplates signed bus stops every eighth of a mile, which would make flag stops unnecessary. CTA indicates that flag stops are unique to Evanston, creating training problems for drivers, among other difficulties. ETF members have cited CTA buses passing them up. The issue of flag stops versus completely signed bus stops will be discussed further at ETF's July 17 meeting.

Meanwhile, plans for the Chicago Avenue streetscape are proceeding, and the City has indicated that it will be receptive to a new sign design for bus stops, integrating expanded information for all operators on a single, attractive sign system. Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) funding for 50% of the city's bike plan has been approved. Presumably the city will come up with the other 50%, and implementation will proceed.

Next ETF meeting: Monday, 7:30am, Cafe Mozart, 600 Davis.

Network Updates

Evanston's Energy Future

(Submitted by Joel Freeman)

The next meeting of Evanston's Energy Future will be July 12 and will be devoted primarily to drafting a preliminary ordinance for green building design in Evanston. The starting point will be ordinances already enacted by other municipalities. Although design and construction of "green" buildings is moving toward the mainstream, a future-oriented public policy is lagging. Come lend a hand with your ideas and some examples for a "cut-and-paste" session. Location: Home of Elizabeth Kinney, 1024 Brummel St., 7:30 – 9:30 pm. For more information, contact Elizabeth at 847-866-9430 or Joel Freeman at 847-869-0955.

EEF member Nathan Kipnis, AIA is principal of Nathan Kipnis Architects, Inc., based in Evanston. Nate will be presenting a portion of the Green City Summer Institute at Northwestern University, August 9-11 to introduce the important issues surrounding sustainability in an urban environment. This three-day program explores Chicago as one of America's greenest cities by building green, improving energy efficiency, promoting alternative fuels, recycling waste, and conserving and improving water quality. This urban environmental initiative can be seen through architecture, landscape, urban farming, transportation, walkable communities and infield redevelopment. Events take place at the Ford Engineering Design Center which is a LEED certified (Silver) building on the Evanston campus. A portion of each day devoted to site visits in and around Chicago. Register online at <http://www.scs.northwestern.edu/summernu/programs/greencity.cfm> or call 847-491-5250.

A new world for electricity customers is around the corner. The Illinois Auction for electricity will be held on September 5, 2006. This auction will become the pricing basis for electric energy supply for most residential customers and most small business customers in ComEd territory and for most utility customers in Illinois. Other retail electric suppliers, thus far, have not made competitive pricing offers to smaller electricity users. Therefore, ComEd will continue to be the electricity supplier for these customers. As part of the deregulation and restructuring plan for the Illinois electric power industry, ComEd will procure power through this new auction process and those costs will be passed through without markup. (ComEd will continue to generate revenue on delivery of that power at a profit regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission.) Pricing from this process will go into effect next January and remain in effect through May 2008 when results of the subsequent electric power auction become effective. Many say that electricity prices will increase dramatically. In response, ComEd has proposed limits to the annual increases for the three years through 2009. Any deferred income would be recovered over the following three years 2010 through 2012. Somebody asked the question, "Why didn't the Illinois Commerce Commission help spare Illinois customers the brunt of increased natural gas costs and gasoline fuel costs?" Hmmm, should they?