

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's Global Warming Initiative***

Network *for Evanston's Future*

GENERATION *to* GENERATION
Creating a Sustainable Community

July 2007

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

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Organic Lawn Care

Calendar

July 3, 7:00 pm

Citizens' Lighthouse Community Land Trust

Location: 2100 Ridge Avenue room 2404

Contact: Wilfred Gadsden, Ex. Dir., office@citizenslighthouse.org,
847-772-6702

July 4, 12:30 pm

Join The Talking Farm at Evanston's 4th of July Parade

Location: Sector 8, Hastings Ave. at Bent Park (between Central & Harrison Streets)

See **Around Town** for more details.

Network Updates

- July 12, 7:00 pm** **Evanston Downtown Planning – Open to the Public**
Locations: Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave., and Fleetwood/Jourdain, 1655 Foster St.
- See **Around Town** for more details.*
- July 13, 7:30 – 9:30 pm** **Evanston Energy Future Meeting**
Location: Café Mud, 1936 Maple Ave., Evanston
Contact: Joel Freeman, JSF@grummanbutkus.com
- July 14, Noon to 4:30 pm** **The Talking Farm Fundraising Event
Permaculture Fundraiser with Bill Wilson of Midwest Permaculture**
Location: Friends Evanston Meeting House, 1010 Greenleaf St.
Contact: Linda Kruhmin, info@thetalkingfarm.org, 847-651-1197
- See **Around Town** for more details.*
- July 17, 10:00 – 11:30 am** **How LEED-ND and Conservation Design will Transform Our
Communities Conference**
Location: Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Rd., Des Plaines
Contact: Pam Lee, 312-863-6011, plee@metroplanning.org
- See **Around Town** for more details.*
- August 13, 7:30 – 9:30 pm** **Evanston Energy Future**
Location: Café Mud, 1936 Maple Ave., Evanston
Contact: Joel Freeman, JSF@grummanbutkus.com

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

Network Updates

Citizens' Lighthouse Community Land Trust

(Submitted by Betty Ester)

The Citizens' Lighthouse Community Land Trust is going before both the Planning & Development Committee and the City Council on June 25, 2007. By the time this newsletter is published, we expect to have been approved for a grant to purchase a three-bedroom, one-bathroom house in southwest Evanston.

The house is 'on slab' but includes a utility room. It also features a spacious yard and two-car garage. It's located on a cul-de-sac in a quiet neighborhood of single-family homes. The house will be renovated as needed (including an updated kitchen) and freshly painted. All appliances are included. We anticipate having the home ready for occupancy by August, 2007.

An eligible family would consist of 3-6 members and should expect to pay a mortgage amount of \$160,000 - \$170,000. It will be necessary for any interested party to participate in a homebuyers training program prior to purchase. Preference will be given to those who live or work in Evanston.

Please share this information with anyone you feel might be interested in such an exciting purchase opportunity.

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We would be happy to discuss our program and home with you in detail. To make an appointment, please contact Wilfred Gadsden directly at office@citizenslighthouse.org, or call 847-772-6702.

Wilfred Gadsden, Executive Director
Citizens' Lighthouse Community Land Trust

The regular meeting of the Citizens' Lighthouse Community Land Trust is the first Tuesday night of each month at 7:00 p.m., 2100 Ridge Avenue room 2404. Our next meeting is July 3, 2007. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Around Town

ACTION ALERTS

Red Alert on Public Transportation

Now is the time to write a letter in support of funding for CTA, Metra and Pace transit services. Without an immediate \$226 million to support public transportation, northeastern Illinois faces increased road congestion and air pollution due to fare hikes and service cuts as commuters will be forced to travel by car. Additionally, the fare hikes and service cuts will disproportionately affect senior citizens, people with disabilities and others that really upon the services to commute to/from work, conduct errands, etc.

If you have not already done so, please IMMEDIATELY write to:

Governor Rod. R. Blagojevich, 207 Statehouse, Springfield IL 62706

Michael J. Madigan, Speaker of the House, 300 Capitol building, Springfield 62706

Senator Emil Jones, Jr., President of the Senate, 327 Capitol Building, Springfield 62706

Personal letters, in your own words, not email, are most effective. Major points to stress:

1. Building a coordinated solvent public transportation system will strengthen Illinois, now and in the future, when reducing global warming will be our way of life.
2. Support for the bills introduced by Rep. Julie Hamos which would create a sensibly financed coordinated public transit system, that strengthens the authority of the RTA over the CTA, PACE and Metra.
3. Support for increased taxes that are spent on developing needed and well run public transit. These are good investments for our future.

For updates, visit <http://www.juliehamos.org/>.

Message provided by Evanston's Transportation Future.

2007 Farm Bill

The 2007 Farm Bill which is up for review brings an opportunity to create farm policies that are fair, just, and good for farmers at home and abroad, people in rural communities and the environment.

There has been an important development in Congress's work on the Farm Bill, and it is not a good one. The House Commodity Subcommittee has written a draft of the commodity crops subsidies section of the 2007 bill, but their draft does not provide needed reform.

The text approved by the House Commodity Subcommittee for the 2007 Farm Bill moves U.S. farm policy from bad to worse. By reinstating the 2002 Farm Bill commodity title, the committee has signaled a disregard for struggling farmers in the United States. As written, the current commodity structure fails to address farmers who are receiving little or no benefit from current farm programs. The subcommittee's legislation also does nothing to address fairness in global trade or the negative impacts of U.S. farm subsidies abroad. The subcommittee bill makes matters worse by reinstating additional subsidies for cotton farmers that were ruled illegal by the World

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Trade Organization (WTO). The inclusion of these programs in the 2007 Farm Bill would leave the U.S. vulnerable to further challenges by other countries.

Call your representative and encourage her/him to pursue a commodity title in the House Agriculture Committee that:

- + provides more targeted and equitable support for U.S. farmers
- + strengthens rural America through fair treatment of small and mid-size farmers
- + eliminates programs that negatively impact farmers in developing countries working to earn their way out of poverty
- + protects U.S. farm policy against further reprimand from the WTO

Dial toll free 1-800-826-3688 and you will be connected you to the Capitol switchboard, where you can ask to be connected to your representative's office.

Visit <http://capwiz.com/pcusa/dbq/officials/> to look up your representative.

Join The Talking Farm at Evanston's 4th of July Parade July 4, 12:30 pm

Bring family, friends, your neighbors, and lots of kids!! Here is your chance to walk in the region's most popular parade. The Talking Farm will begin assembling at 12:30 pm and the parade begins at 2 pm. Everyone is invited to bring the following items to help decorate the Farm's show: overalls, plaid shirts, straw hats, wheelbarrows, wagons, carts, rakes, hoes, pitchforks, shovels, and other creative items that your imagination thinks appropriate. Fill wheelbarrows, wagons, or carts with plants, vegetables; paint your favorite veggie on your faces are just some examples of demonstrating support for locally grown produce and a sustainable community. The Talking Farm representatives will make signs and have extra on hand.

Please meet at: Sector 8, Hastings Ave. at Bent Park (between Central & Harrison Streets)

Evanston Downtown Planning – Open to the Public July 12, 7:00 pm

City of Evanston invites residents to attend a public debate on downtown planning. This is an opportunity for the city planners to hear from Evanstonians that green building design, pedestrian mobility, reduction of vehicle congestion and clean air are vital to creating a sustainable community. Attend the debate.

Meeting to take place at two locations: Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave.; and Fleetwood/Jourdain, 1655 Foster St.

The Talking Farm Fundraising Event Permaculture Fundraiser with Bill Wilson of Midwest Permaculture July 14, Noon to 4:30 pm

A fundraising event for The Talking Farm includes an organic lunch. Permaculture is a creative and artful way of living, where wastes become resources, productivity and yields increase, work is minimized, people and nature are all preserved and the environment is restored and even enhanced - all by thoughtful planning and a respectful approach to life.

Bill Wilson of Midwest Permaculture will facilitate a class on permaculture. For more information on Midwest Permaculture, please visit www.midwestpermaculture.com.

\$35 pre-paid, \$45 at the door. For more info, please contact: Linda Kruhmin, Treasurer, info@thetalkingfarm.org, 847-651-1197.

How LEED-ND and Conservation Design will Transform Our Communities Conference July 17, 10:00 – 11:30 am

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The Campaign for Sensible Growth and Northwest Municipal Conference present a stimulating conversation with leaders in real estate development, architecture, and land-use planning about how LEED-ND, neighborhood-scale green development, has raised the bar on development standards, why the market wants it, and what your community can do to get these projects done.

In May, the Illinois General Assembly became the first in the nation to pass legislation promoting communities meeting LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) certification, marking a shift away from costly, energy-hungry, land-use patterns, toward truly sustainable neighborhoods.

Location: Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road in Des Plaines. For more information contact Pam Lee, 312-863-6011, plee@metroplanning.org and visit, <http://www.metroplanning.org/index.asp>.

Treat Your Lawn to Organics

Greenwise Organic Lawn Care is a local business committed to reduce, reuse, recycle, and carbon sequestering. Greenwise does not pollute or use chemicals. They take pride in the fact that they use only 100% food grade organic materials in order to create a lush, green, and *healthy* lawn and landscape for their clients. You and your family can be free of toxic chemicals or pesticides on your property, and no carbon footprint for the trouble. Greenwise takes extra steps to be stewards of the land -- their vehicles run on vegetable oil.

Greenwise uses alfalfa, corn gluten, and worm fecal matter to create a safe haven for children and pets to play in while building healthy soils and lawns. To learn more about Greenwise Organic Lawn Care and their commitment to work for the lawn just as much as for those who enjoy it, visit <http://www.iamgreenwise.com/>.