

# 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*

**June 2006**

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

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Evanston Office of Sustainable Development

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## Calendar

**June 2**

### **An Inconvenient Truth**

Evanston CineArts 6

Century Centre, Chicago

Renaissance Place, Highland Park

<http://www.climatecrisis.net/findatheater/>

**June 9**

### **An Inconvenient Truth**

Esquire Theatre

<http://www.climatecrisis.net/findatheater/>

**June 15, 7:30 pm**

### **Evanston's Transportation Future**

Location: Evanston City Hall, Room 3650

Contact: Rick Martin, 847-492-1467 or [martin101@comcast.net](mailto:martin101@comcast.net)

**June 22, 7 – 9 pm**

### **Global Warming Group**

Location: Lake Street Church

Contact: Andrea Orcutt, [orcutt@ameritech.net](mailto:orcutt@ameritech.net)

## Network Updates

July 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>

### **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/](http://www.nacce.org/)

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](mailto:help@greenhousenet.org)

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

## Special Announcements!

### City of Evanston Receives Grant from Julie Hamos for an Office of Sustainable Development

The momentum of the April Sustainability forum continues. As a result of citizen action, the City of Evanston received a grant from Julie Hamos in the amount of \$75,000 to develop an office for sustainable practices. The Network will provide updates about this exciting development.

### Take Part in Evanston's Water Group

The group will begin taking action to address and develop a water conservation plan for Evanston. Key components identified at the April sustainable forum are:

- Conduct a water lifecycle analysis
- Examine ordinances and seek ways to remove barriers to sustainable practices
- Propose new ordinances
- Develop educational program(s) appropriate for all ages.

Many concerns were voiced during the water breakout session. The action items noted above are steps to address the lack of fostering water conservation practices (i.e., home, work, recreation, and city offices).

We invite you to join us to implement wise land and water use practices for cleaner water. Please contact Gina Lettiere at [AmazonPaganQueen@yahoo.com](mailto:AmazonPaganQueen@yahoo.com) or 847-424-0724 to get involved.

## Network Updates

### Evanston Food Policy Council

(Submitted by Debbie Hillman)

Contact the following Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) groups to bring fresh, locally grown produce to Evanston during the growing season:

#### **Home Grown Wisconsin**

[www.homegrownwisconsin.com](http://www.homegrownwisconsin.com)

608/333-1227

organic vegetables/fruits, prepared foods, egg option

\$500 for 20 weeks/\$275 for 10 weeks

#### **Sweet Earth Organic Farm**

[www.sweetearthorganicfarm.com](http://www.sweetearthorganicfarm.com)

608/875-6026

organic vegetables

\$485 full share or \$375 part share

## Network Updates

### Growing Home

www.growinghomeinc.org  
312/435-8601  
organic vegetables/fruits/herbs  
\$460 for 20 weeks

### Plow Creek Farm

[farm@plowcreek.org](mailto:farm@plowcreek.org)  
815/646-4862  
sustainable vegetables/fruits  
\$428 for 22 weeks

### Fresh Picks

[www.freshpicks.com](http://www.freshpicks.com)  
Year-round, will deliver vegetables, fruits, meats, & eggs

### The Land Connection

[terra@mtco.com](mailto:terra@mtco.com)  
847/338-9849  
organic vegetables/fruits/herbs with egg option & meat  
by special order  
\$575 for 23 weeks

### Angelic Organics

www.angelicorganics.com  
815/389-2746  
organic vegetables  
\$370/12 weeks (only 12-week option available - 20-week option sold out)

## Recycling and Waste Management:

(Submitted by Sally Ennis)

Group had a meeting with Asst. City Clerk and Keep Evanston Beautiful (KEB) to begin working on the three action items developed at the April Sustainability forum. The items are:

1. Hire someone to oversee the work of the various network members and coordinate information.
2. Make garbage fees visible to taxpayers in place of lumping into tax bill and make recycling free.
3. Do a financial analysis of increased recycling benefits to the City and residents.

KEB estimates that 50% of what ends up in landfills from Evanston residents is recyclable. Julia Carroll is open to changing fee structure so recycling is free. Recycling group will assist Julia on how to best implement methods that would increase recycling.

It was recommended that the City hire a consultant and develop a report on several identified topics related to waste management and recycling in Evanston. It is also recommended to review other municipalities' policies.

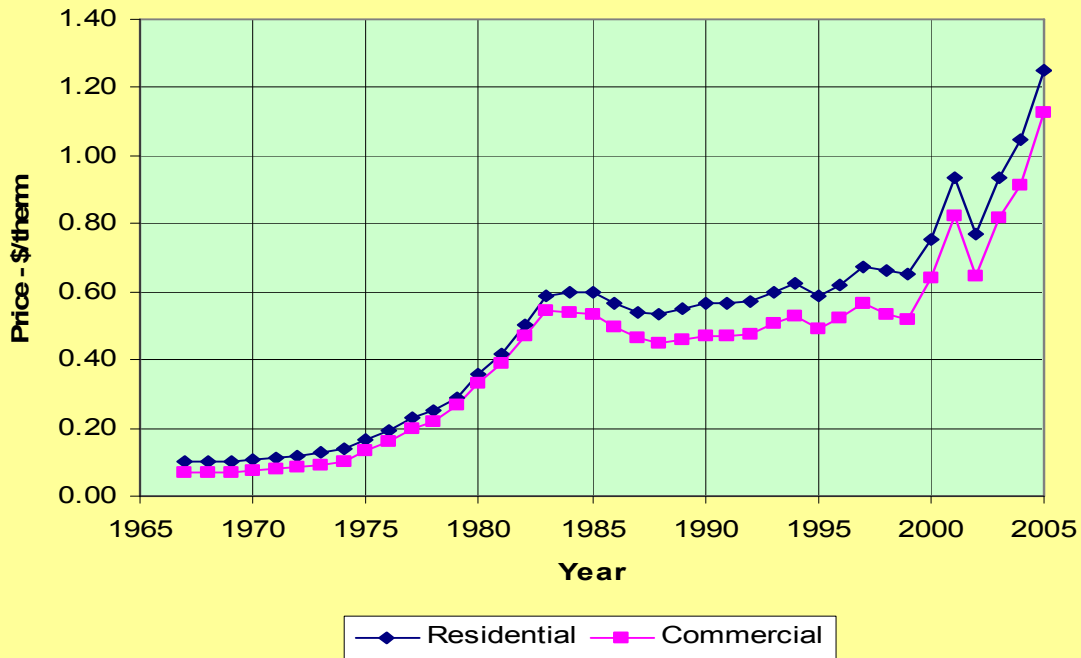
## Evanston's Energy Future

(Submitted by Len Sciarra and Joel Freeman)

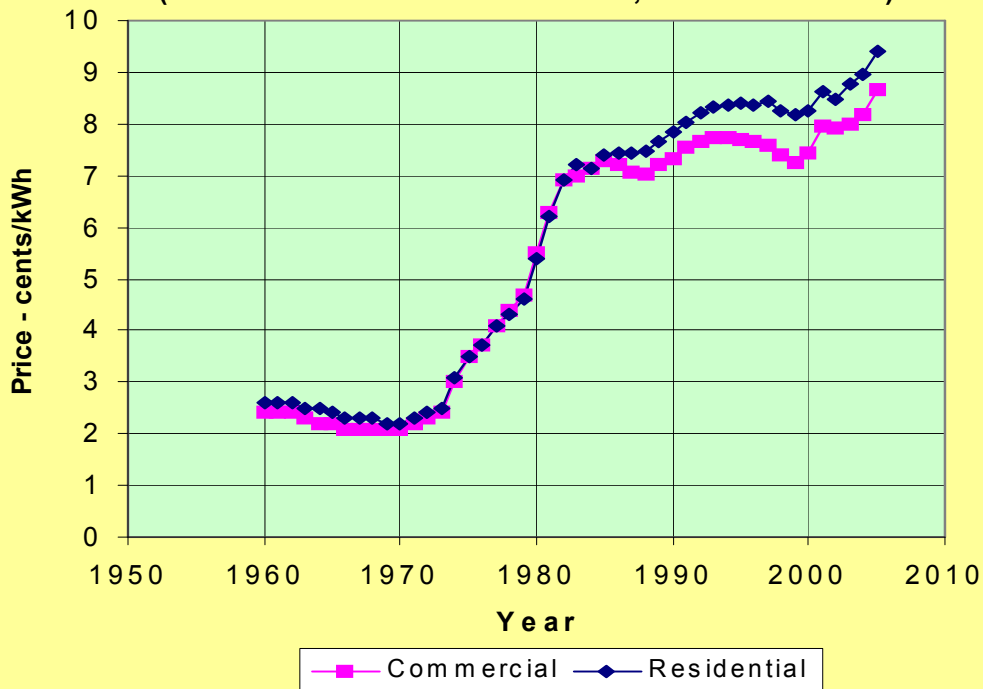
The following graphs are from the Energy Information Agency (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy. 2005 prices are used as the reference. Things that make you go "hmmmm." The cost of energy is taking a bigger bite out of our income. The seven-year rate freeze for electricity is due to expire at the end of 2006. For residential customers, ComEd's rates were frozen at a level 20% below the prevailing rates in 1997. One way to get ready for another upward tick in on those graphs is to use less energy. Another is to use our energy more efficiently. That's good for everyone.

## Network Updates

**Figure 2 National Average Natural Gas Prices**  
(2005 DOE EIA - Res. = 1.25, Comm. = 1.13)



**Figure 3 National Average Electricity Prices**  
(2005 DOE EIA - Res. = 9.42, Comm. = 8.68)



## Network Updates

### Network Steering Committee

#### Earth Month 2006 and 2007

The 2006 Earth Month events successes were recapped. The successes are contributed to announcements of events were widely publicized, an expert in city sustainable programs as speaker, and Julia Carroll having already begun the early processes to address action items identified at forum.

The committee members discussed plans for the 2007 forum and global warming is the topic being considered as primary focus.

#### **Other updates are briefly noted below:**

The following updates provided at the May Network Steering Committee meeting.

#### City Government Structure

Steering committee members discussed relevance of city's structure to its ability to address/implement sustainable measures.

- In 1991 Evanston had an 18 member city council.
- Same year, city council reduced to nine members as a reaction to city tax problems.
- Fall 2000, League of Women Voters began a study to identify the necessary size of city council in order to benefit Evanston citizens.
- Related to city council size is reviewing ward maps and if wards are compatible with number of voters.
- Further review and follow up need to be conducted to address topic.
- A few committee members, League of Voters and non-Network people to follow up.

#### Books, Study Guides and Film

- Several books are recommended for NEF folks.
- The Great Turning, author David C. Korten – NEF committee is discussing the potential to have author speak at a public meeting in Evanston.
- Beyond the Limits, author Danela Meadows
- Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed, author Jared Diamond
- Going Local (municipal economies)
- Powerdown, author Richard Heinberg
- Northwestern Earth Institute: series of study guides (i.e., simple living, sustainable economics)
- Inconvenient Truth, a global warming film

#### Evanston's Citizens Lighthouse Community Housing Land Trust

- Citizens Lighthouse officially declared a housing group.
- Received two small grants of \$5000 each.
- Inclusionary housing ordinance to be approved in June for a referendum.
- Needs to pass in August to meet State of Illinois September deadline.