

EarthFest 2007 Challenge: Climate Change Solutions

Plans for EarthFest 2007 are well underway. Be sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, April 22nd at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, because you won't want to miss what we have in store.

This year will mark Earth Day Coalition's 18th annual EarthFest celebration. Each year EarthFest gets bigger and better. This year's addition will be the focus on the theme *Climate Change Solutions*. This growing concern is turning heads at all levels and demanding public attention; Earth Day Coalition wants to make sure it is addressed in Northeast Ohio on Earth Day. Each major exhibit area at EarthFest will have a specific focus related to climate change. The areas of Local and Organic Foods, Clean Fuels, Environmental Science, Green Home Improvement, Children's Activities, Entertainment and Non-Profit Organizations will highlight topics, organizations, and practices of environmental efforts and climate change. Over 130 non-profit organizations, businesses and other groups will be on hand at EarthFest to showcase their work and efforts related to climate change.

In addition to the multitude of exhibitors on hand, this year's Art, Poetry and Essay contest, and kick-off event Walk or Bike for the Earth will also have *Climate Change Solutions* elements. The 2007 Art, Poetry and Essay Contest asks students to investigate *Climate Change Solutions* and show what they have found in a creative way through drawings, poetry and essays. The contest is open to any interested students in grades K-12 from Cuyahoga and surrounding counties. Entry forms are available on the Earth Day Coalition website and must be submitted by March 30th. All winners will be recognized at the EarthFest Welcome Ceremony and winning entries will be on display at EarthFest and during the coming year.

This year's annual Walk or Bike for the Earth will begin with registration from 7:00-8:30 am the morning of EarthFest. The family-friendly route begins at the Hippo Lot behind the Rainforest at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and ends at EarthFest 2007. Walkers and bikers will start promptly on their way at 9:00 am. Walkers will take a 6-mile route, while bikers may chose between a -10, -20 or -30-mile bike ride. Registered participants can have fun while getting great exercise, enjoying great food and snacks and gaining free admission to EarthFest. Special *Climate Change Solutions* stops are also planned throughout the route. Pledges raised

EarthFest continued on page 6...



EarthFest 2007
Sunday, April 22
10:00 am to 5:00 pm at
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Bobcats

The Earth Day 2007 image is the Ohio bobcat. Bobcats range from southern Canada into Mexico but are very rare in Ohio despite being a native cat. You probably haven't seen one recently, but sightings are on the rise.

Bobcats continued on page 6...



Earth Day Coalition will be giving away compact fluorescent light bulbs this year at EarthFest. Over the past few years we have given away almost 5,000 bulbs and we are hoping to give another 5,000 away to 'Do It Right, Change a Light' for *Climate Change Solutions*.

We're asking you to take action and do your part. Earth Day Coalition is kicking off a *Climate Change Solutions* project at EarthFest this year. We're asking EarthFest attendees to pledge to get the carbon out from April 22 to May 22 to make a difference. We'll document your contributions in a 'Green Book' and announce

Seven continued on page 6...

Environmental Profile: Gus and Jan Kious

Jan Kious was inspired by natural building while growing up on her parent's farm in the small town of Winterton, in the heart of the Kwazulu-Natal province of South Africa. Jan recalls watching the African women (whose families lived on the farm) construct their homes first with wattle (mud) and daub (sticks) and then apply a mixture of clay and cow dung (for crack resistance) with their feet to the floor. The same material is used as an exterior plaster. She fondly recalls the home that she grew up in which was constructed of bricks handmade by her grandfather.



Gus Kious "notching" and Jan Kious and her daughter

together over the course of four weekends. When the weather warms up a bit, the bales will be plastered with a compound similar to what was used on the farm. Exterior walls will be finished with a lime plaster for water protection, while interior walls will be colored with clays brought back from Winterton.

Aside from their natural building influences, Jan and Gus Kious see themselves as non-conformists that enjoy living an ethical life in tune with the spirit of humanity. Therefore, they see the distribution of wealth and opportunity as the greatest challenge facing greater

Cleveland. As for fixing it, Jan speaks about the inverse of the 'broken window theory.' For example, planting flowers is a simple act that is contagious for as plants spread, people are inspired by their beauty. Gus adds that it is up to everyone to, "develop, act, and execute on your own plan. Stop waiting for others to do something!"

Going Green

Joining the city of Cleveland, the Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners created an Office of Sustainability on March 6. The Office will review the environmental impact of current operations and coordinate 'green' development across the entire region." Joyce Burke-Jones will serve as the County's sustainability officer. For more details click, <http://planning.co.cuyahoga.oh.us/blog/>

Transitions

Congratulations and best wishes to our former intern, Victoria Avi, as she begins her new job at Entrepreneurs for Sustainability. Her amazing graphic talents and sunny personality will take Victoria far.

A gift and blessing came to Joe Rohan and Sheri Fuchs as they welcomed their new daughter, Ava Rae. Best wishes to this growing family.

Board Members

Congratulations to EDC's 2007 officers:

President: Allan Dreyer
Vice President: Barry Jereb
Secretary: Wendy Jelinek
Treasurer: Helen Zdrojewski

Welcome to our newest Board Member, Mark McClain, from East Cleveland Up. We say goodbye to former board members Renee Benjamin and Gus Katsas, and thank them for their service.

EarthFest Admission

The fee for attendees at EarthFest 2007 is: \$7 for adults, \$4 for children, and, of course children under 2 are free (discounted zoo admission for the day). This entitles you to all the EarthFest activities and displays as well as the entire zoo. Consider joining the Walk or Bike for the Earth where your entry fee includes zoo admission as well as snacks. *Check the flyer in this newsletter for details or call Chris at 2216/281-6468 x227.*



Earth Day Coalition provides education, inspires leadership and encourages action for a healthy environment. Est 1990

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Earth Day Coalition News Staff

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Submissions are welcome.

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President's Message

Around the holidays late last year, everyone was talking about how unseasonably warm it was; was this supposed to be one of the benefits of global warming? Now that Northeast Ohio has our very seasonably cold and snowy weather, we still hear about the serious impact of global warming; not just the severe weather changes, but rising sea levels, glaciers melting, endangering plants and animals.



Is there anything that we as individuals can do about global warming? For many of us, it is a complex issue, not totally understandable, and too big for any one person to make an impact. Yet you can make a difference. There are lots of ideas that can help the environment and also save money. Saving money helps the economy, which counters one of the main reasons the government has refused to act on significant climate change solutions. So, make a commitment to do 7 things in 2007 to cool the globe down; here are some ideas:

Change five light bulbs to compact fluorescent; if every household in the U.S. took this one simple action, more than 1 trillion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions would be omitted.

Compost food and yard waste; this reduces the amount of garbage that is sent to landfills and also reduces greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the transportation of waste to disposal sites produces greenhouse gas emissions from the combustion of the fuel used in the equipment. Using a push mower instead of a power mower to cut your grass also helps the environment; and, you get a nice workout.

Make your next car a Flex Fuel Vehicle (FFV); FFVs can be fueled with a fuel blend containing 85% ethanol or with traditional gasoline. It also helps to keep your car tuned up and the tires properly inflated. And if you have a removable roof rack on your car, it will improve your fuel economy by as much as 5% if you take it off when you aren't using it.

Buy local every chance you get. Things that are produced locally need less transportation to the marketplace; less transportation means less emissions.

Reuse and recycle anything and everything, and buy recycled items like paper for your computer printer.

Keep your thermostat down and add insulation to your house; seal and/or caulk windows and heating vents to prevent loss of heat.

The fact is that it will take many small and large actions by everyone at all levels of society to make a difference. Let policy makers, elected officials, friends, family, and associates know what you are doing, and that you are concerned about global warming.

Clean Cities
Northeast Ohio Clean Fuels Coalition

The Northeast Ohio Clean Fuels Program held its first major event of the year on March 1 at the City Club of Cleveland. The day-long conference was entitled, "ReFueling Northeast Ohio: Clean Fuel Solutions for Air Pollution." This event was targeted at municipal fleet managers as a means of providing an overview of the four primary clean or alternative fuels that can be used as an outright replacement for petroleum based fuels or as a supplement/blend to petrol based fuels.

Pam Davis, Interim Manager of Environmental Planning at NOACA, kicked-off the conference by defining the issues and impacts facing Northeast Ohio for failing to attain Federal attainment status for fine particle pollution. National, state, and regional clean fuels experts addressed this status in regards to their respective area of expertise. The crowd of more than 55 fleet managers were anxious to discuss the varied financial and emission benefits of biodiesel, compressed natural gas, ethanol, and propane fuels. The managers were able to do so as the individual speakers came together to answer questions in a panel.

Lunchtime brought delicious fare from the City Club, as well as a thought provoking presentation by the Cleveland Foundation's BP Fellow of Energy and Environmental Advancement, Richard Steubi, the beneficial role of biofuels in the US and in Northeast Ohio.

The afternoon concluded with a panel of clean fuel fleet managers, vehicle dealers, and fuel retailers answering the audience's questions regarding the feasibility of implementing clean fuels and related infrastructure in municipal fleets. Part two of this conference will take place in the fall of 2007 and will discuss diesel engine retrofits, auxiliary power units, and idle reduction policies.

Presentations from Clean Fuel Solutions for Air Pollution can be found at http://earthdaycoalition.org/programs_cf_info.php

Environmental Justice Forum in Cleveland

Over 80 people joined together on March 13 to help begin the important discussion of an Environmental Justice (EJ) policy for the state of Ohio. Panelists included Lois Gibbs and Ron Davis from the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, Teresa Mills from the Buckeye Environmental Network, Stan Miller from the Cleveland NAACP, Maurice Small and Sandra Smith from CityFresh and Tremont Gardeners, and Kyle Dreyfus Wells from Tremont. Columbus and Cincinnati were sites of earlier meetings; additional forums in other Ohio cities are planned for this year.

Attendees were asked for their input on enforcement, permitting and

community involvement. Information will be gathered at all Ohio meetings to craft a draft EJ policy. You have a chance to join in support of asking Governor Strickland to establish an Ohio Environmental Justice policy that



David Wright introduces the panel at the Cleveland Forum

will protect and give voice to working class, low-income and communities of color unfairly burdened with pollution. Ohio residents can click

www.ohioej.org/action.htm to

sign a postcard online or download and print a postcard, sign it and send it to Ohioans for Health and Environment a Justice. When the draft policy is presented to the Governor, these postcards will show support for a statewide environmental justice policy.

Check our website at www.earthdaycoalition.org for additional EJ information and updates.



Ohio Bans Mercury Products

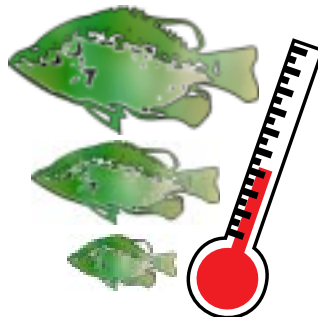
Under House Bill 443 Ohio has a plan to reduce mercury in Ohio's environment. Schools will not be permitted to buy mercury or mercury-added measuring devices for classroom use starting April 6, 2007. Six

months later, Ohio will ban the sale and distribution of mercury-containing thermometers and novelty items. Beginning April 6, 2008, a ban on the sale and reinstallation of mercury-containing thermostats will go into effect.

The law also states that no manufacturer can offer a mercury-containing thermometer or thermostat for sale or distribution in Ohio (with a few exemptions).

In addition, the law bans the sale or distribution of novelty items, such as games, figurines, toys, cards, ornaments, yard statues, candles, jewelry, decorations, footwear and other apparel containing mercury (excludes items that only contain the mercury found in a button-cell battery). Novelty items with button cell batteries will be added to the ban on January 1, 2011.

For more information click www.epa.state.oh.us/pic/nr/2007/february/MercuryBan.html to read the full press release.



Dental Amalgam

If you want to learn more about mercury in dental amalgam fillings, health and environmental concerns with amalgam fillings, and choices you have for filling materials, please check the following fact sheets:

- Connecticut at http://dep.state.ct.us/wst/mercury/fillings_brochure.pdf
- Maine, www.state.me.us/dhs/boh/files/odh/AmalBrochFinal2.doc
- California at www.dbc.ca.gov/pdf/dmfs2004.pdf
- New Hampshire at www.nh.gov/dental/pamphlets.html

Ohio EPA has information on states that have legislation on mercury amalgam use and disposal at www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/mercury/medical.htm.

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Toxic Release Inventory

The Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) is a publicly available Environmental Protection Agency database that reports the amount of chemicals (approximately 650 chemicals in commercial use) companies release to air, land, and water, and waste that is shipped off-site for recycling, treated, or recycled on-site. Now individual facilities report TRI data to the federal EPA every year. TRI is a provision of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA), which was approved by Congress in 1986 to help communities protect public health and the environment from chemical hazards.

In December 2006 the EPA announced plans to raise the threshold for reporting releases of toxics, including bioaccumulative toxics such as lead and mercury under the Toxic Release Inventory. Beginning in 2007, companies could release up to 2,000 pounds of toxins into the community without

detailed reporting, a change from the 500-pound threshold previously in place. Companies would be allowed to use a short reporting form, which does not disclose the pounds of each chemical treated, recycled, transferred on-site or released into air, water, and land.

The TRI program is known as one of our most important community right-to-know resources. The TRI database shows which toxic chemicals are present, and in what amounts, in local communities, states, regions, and the entire nation. EPA compiles the TRI data each year and makes it available through several data access tools, including the TRI Explorer at www.epa.gov/triexplorer and Envirofacts at www.epa.gov/enviro.

Environmental Defense has a TRI-based internet tool called 'Scorecard' where you can get an in-depth pollution report for your county, covering air, water, chemicals, and more at www.scorecard.org. Use these important resources and protect your right to know.

Detect and Protect

Are you concerned about the link between the existence of heavy metals in various media and potential health problems. You can now have soil samples, wood, children's jewelry and lunchboxes, extracted teeth and plastics (including PVC) tested for 26 heavy metals at \$20 per sample.

For more information and to download a copy of the testing order form, go to the "Detect and Protect Project" link at www.ohionetwork.org or call 440-845-1888. A copy of the application can also be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to ONFCI, P.O. Box 29290, Parma, Ohio 44129.



The Student Environmental Congress Annual Conference

Students from fifteen local high schools shared their work and ideas at the 11th Annual Student Environmental Congress on Thursday, March 29 at Trinity Cathedral. Students presented their ideas on issues of global warming, urban heating, green school campuses, Dike 14 Nature Preserve, water quality, energy conservation, air pollution, recycling and stream restoration.

Paul Alsenas, Director of the Cuyahoga County Commissioners, gave the keynote address on *Climate Change Solutions* and the great work NE Ohio is doing be part of the solution to global warming. Although the SEC annual conference is a highlight of the year which the students have spent much time and energy preparing, SEC participants will now focus their energy on educational outreach and community service.



Student Outreach

In their second year participating in the 2007 Student Environmental Congress (SEC) the Home Grown Learners focus on community outreach. Inspired by ENERGY STAR's National



campaign, "Change a Light, Change the World," these students began a local campaign they titled, "Do What's Right, Change a Light," for their 2007 SEC project. They are nearing their goal of giving 500 compact Fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs to Cleveland residents



after just two outreach events. Some two hundred and twenty five CFL bulbs were given out to clients through the Near West Food & Family Service Center and an additional one hundred bulbs at a recent presentation at the Goodrich Gannet Neighborhood Center.

Students take action where it is needed most, in our neighborhoods

Volunteer Profile: Spring Interns

Welcome to the following spring interns at Earth Day Coalition:

Phillip Szabados is working with John McGovern on the Clean Fuels Program. Phillip is a student at Cleveland State, pursuing interests in Language Studies and Environmental Science. He hopes that his gumption and eagerness to learn will be an asset to EDC, and that he also gains some valuable knowledge on clean fuel alternatives.

Megan Murphy is a junior at CSU, majoring in Environmental studies, planning to graduate in fall of 2008. She is working on the Environmental Justice Project to create neighborhood audit profiles and help organize the Environmental Justice policy forum.

Elena Tomorrowitz is a senior at Case Western Reserve University. Previously an Art Education major, she realized that teaching was not for her, so she took up an English major. She is an intern for the Art, Poetry, and Essay contest and is very excited about the big day on April 22. After graduation, she hopes to move to Portland and obtain a career in journalism or creative writing.

Heather Blaha, senior Communication Studies and Public Relations double major at Baldwin-Wallace College, will be graduating in May. She will be helping plan and organize EarthFest 2007. She is looking forward to learning about special event planning and being able to see the results of her hard work.

Tiffany Tarnowski a former art major at Kent State is now enrolled at Hiram College in their Environmental Studies program. Tiffany is the intern for the children's area of EarthFest. She had been hoping to get involved with Earth Day Coalition for a while, and realized that she wants to do work with a purpose. After graduation she hopes to get a job working with the Metroparks, or a non-profit.

Justin Zucker has returned to Earth Day Coalition after recently graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, majoring in Philosophy with an Environmental Studies certificate. He plans on attending Cleveland State University-Marshall Law to pursue a career in Environmental Law. Justin will be working on the Dike 14 Nature Preserve Project, coordinating outreach and planning for the May 5th public event.

Earth Day Coalition Programs

...EarthFest continued from page 1

from the Walk or Bike for the Earth will benefit the programs of Earth Day Coalition and in turn benefit the environment in Northeast Ohio. Prizes will be given to those that raise extra pledges. Registration forms and pledge sheets are available on the Earth Day Coalition website.

Over 600 active volunteers are needed to help make EarthFest 2007 possible. If you are interested in volunteering, please plan to attend the remaining Volunteer Orientation Meeting on Saturday, April 14, 2007: 10 am - 11:30 am at the Carnegie West Branch of the Cleveland Public Library located at 1900 Fulton Road (just north of the intersection of Fulton Road and Lorain Avenue). There is ample free parking on the street or in the lot located at the corner of West. 38th and Bridge Avenue. Please call the office at 216-281-6468 for more information or driving directions.

Visit our website for updates on EarthFest activities, registration forms, volunteer information and official EarthFest 2007 organic t-shirts and posters. We hope to see you on April 22nd!



...Bobcat continued from page 1

The bobcat is a large cat weighing between 10 and 30 pounds with a short, stubby bobbed tail (about 4-6 inches long) and very distinctive ear tufts. Bobcats are crepuscular (mainly active late evening or early morning) and are territorial solitary hunters with a home range of 10 square miles or more. Bobcats like areas with thick undergrowth, mixed forest, brush, or farmland.

In 1997, the ODNR Division of Wildlife began monitoring the presence of bobcats in Ohio, using a combination of field surveys and follow-up investigations of sightings. The bobcat is presently on the Ohio Endangered Species List and is given full protection under Ohio wildlife laws.

You can learn more about the bobcat at our website where you can download ODNR's bobcat map and 2006 annual bobcat report. Or click for Life History Notes at www.dnr.ohio.gov/wildlife/Resources/wildnotes/pub377.htm; cool Wildlife Text Cards at www.dnr.ohio.gov/wildlife/PDF/Bobcat.pdf - 2003-01-17; and Nature Things for Kids (downloadable puzzle, coloring book) at www.dnr.ohio.gov/parks/kidsthings/july04/default.htm.

You can proudly proclaim the return of the Ohio bobcat with an EarthFest 2007 t-shirt or an Earth Day 2007 poster. Order online at www.earthdaycoalition.org or call the office at 216-281-6468. *Information from Wild Ohio Magazine and ODNR-thanks to Dave Swanson.*

...Seven continued from page 1

what Northeast Ohio is doing to reduce Global Warming. All contributions will be put into a drawing for a house full of compact fluorescent light bulbs.

There are seven suggestions in the 'Seven in 2007' project that can be done all during 2007. We are asking you to change your light bulbs to compact fluorescents, drive less, lower the thermostat, recycle, reuse, buy recycled, turn off your appliances, buy and consume local and organic foods, and talk to friends and neighbors about global warming. Try these for one month and then see if you can continue for the rest of 2007. Check our website for a 'Seven in 2007' form and get the carbon out. Or, check out Step It Up at www.stepitup2007.org for a list of activities for the National Day of Climate Action calling on "Congress to Step It Up and "cut carbon by 80% by 2050."

National "Ride for Climate Change"

H.G. Wells wrote that when he sees grown men on bicycles, he doesn't despair for the world. Imagine his reaction to two riders on a cross-country bicycle tour to educate the public and raise attention for global warming, encourage action and promote solutions.

David Kroodsma and Bill Bradlee leave Massachusetts on their tour, which will have an east-to-west northern and a west-to-east, southern leg, on April 21, 2007 and are expected to arrive in Northeast Ohio on May 18th.

For more information, visit their website at www.rideforclimate.com/usa/ ClevelandBikes to check activities for the riders while in town. Locally you can contact Scott Sanders at 216-281-6468 x 228.

Many Thanks!

Earth Day Coalition would like to thank two very special organizations for going the extra mile in 2006 by supporting EDC in two very special ways.

We now have a much needed face-lift which started with a gift from Sherwin-Williams. The Sherwin-Williams Company donated low VOC Harmony Paint to kick-start our office renovations. City Year volunteers prepped and painted the EDC offices fresh shades of blue and green. Thank you Sherwin-Williams and City Year for making this possible with your kind donations and for your continued support of Earth Day Coalition.

Earth Day Coalition was chosen as the beneficiary of the Mind•Body•Spirit Connected Annual Masquerade Ball held last October. The MBSC benefit "Make a Refashion Statement" was a fun-filled unique evening that combined the "reduce, reuse, recycle" lifestyle with holistic health. Attendees were invited to come dressed in recycled, refashioned or organic materials. Recycled centerpieces, eco designs, and silent auction items provided the backdrop for the evening's festivities. Proceeds from the evening benefited Mind•Body•Spirit Connected and Earth Day Coalition. EDC was honored to be recognized and involved in this event and thanks MBSC for their generous support.

Welcome New and Renewing Members

Welcome to the newest members of the Earth Day Coalition and thank you to all who have renewed membership for 2007. We are happy to have you help improve the health, quality of life and environment of the greater Cleveland community.

American Honda Motor Company, Elisa & Gil Aromas, Liza Aromas, Marilyn Ashbaugh, Atlas Architectural Services, Inc., Elaine Lipman Barnes, David Beach, Karl & Cass Beckman, David Bentkowski, David Berenson, Frank Blaizgis, Renee Boronka, Gale Bromelmeier, Dave & Renata Brown, Sr. Helen Ann Brown, Tim & Peggy Brown, Mary Kay Bruner, Judith Carlin, Brandy Carney, CH2M HILL Constructors, Inc., Andrew Charielle, Diane & Bob Chidsey, Kristen Ciofani, Vic & Anne Cizek, Sharon Collins, Councilman Brian and Gayle Cummins, Pamela L. Davis, Jenny Dawes, Jean Doheny, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Donaldson, Debbie & Bill Doty, Allan Dreyer, Dr. Maier & Jane Driver, Andrea Easterday, Bob & Ginny Eckardt, Charity Ewanko, Robert & Roberta Fairchild, Gene Foley, Joan Freeze, Chris Garr, Sr., Mehmet Gencer, Great Lakes Brewing Company, Peter & JoAnne Griesinger, Kathleen Griffin, Warren Grossman, William Gruber, Marietta Gullia, Betty Gump, George & Sue Guthrie, Christine Haldiman-Brock, Anne W. Hammond, Dawn M. Hardy, Holly Harlan, Clark Harvey & Holly Selvaggi, Dave & Justine Helm, Caren Henry-Glatcz, Ann Hirschberg, William & Jane Huffman, Dan Jaffe, Marc & Karen Jaffe, Dr. & Mrs. John G. Janssen, Wendy Jelinek, Barry Jereb, Brian Jereb, Margaret Jereb, William R. Johnson, Gus Katsas, David & Valerie Katz, John Kiczek & Chris Seuffert, Barbara Langhenry, Ruth Langstraat, Benson Lee, Diana Lucas, Dino & Paolo Lustri, Kathleen Mallady, Mike & Peg Mallady, Brenda Malloy, Bernadette & Vince Manzo, Kathleen Marquard, Brenda Marshall, Ken & Barbara Martin, Nicholas Martin, Diane Mather, Diana Mattoni, Herbert Mausser, Linda Mayer-Mack, Lois B. McCreight, Judith & Donald McGovern, John McGovern & Lisa B. Kious, Joseph Meissner, Manuel Mendoza, Mind-Body-Spirit Connected, Jane Mueller, Gary L. Nickerson, Dan Norris, Gayle Norris, Kayla O'Malley, Margaret O'Reilly, Laurine Owens, Brian Parsons, Linda Paul, Susan & Dan Paxson, Christine Weiss Pfeil, Tim Poole, Sue Powers, PrimeLending, Mr. & Mrs. Elton H. Riemer, Arlene Roble, Beth & Tim Roshetko, Mary Lou & Jack Rouru, Dave Rupp, Carol Sabo, Capt. Jeffrey Sanders, John & JoAnne Sanders, Scott Sanders, Liz & Rich Schiferl, Norm Schmidt, Susan Schumacher, Steve Sedam, Linda Sekura, Rebecca Shaffer, Jim Sheehan, Robert Shelden, Margarita Shulman, Sunny Simon, Pamela Simpson, Representative Michael Skindell, Bill & Deb Skowronski, Gail Smith, Nancy King Smith, Patricia B. Smith, Mary Ellen Stasek, Tom

Szilagyi, Brian Stefan-Szittai, Stephanie Strong, Jack & Nancy Tanis, Chris Trepal, Carla Tricarichi, Tracy Udrija, Geri Unger, Sr. Irene Utrup, Judy & Gary Vaccaro, Thea Van Horn, Elvin Vauss, Barbara Von Benken, Judy Wagner, Ruthanne, Rick & Sophie Weinmann, Councilman Jay Westbrook, Carol Weingeist, Betty Weiss, Deborah & Theodore White, Roxanne Whitelight, Dave & Julie Wilt, Alexis Wolin, Sue Wright, Christopher & Rebecca Wunker, Pauline Yee, Helen Zdrojewski and Jan Zorman.

If you are interested in becoming a supporting member of Earth Day Coalition, please call Earth Day Coalition at 216-281-6468, join on-line at www.earthdaycoalition.org or contact us by email at edc@earthdaycoalition.org. Help make 2007 your year of environmental action for *Climate Change Solutions* in Greater Cleveland.

Now is the Perfect Time to Renew or Become a Member of Earth Day Coalition

With EarthFest right around the corner, there are several reasons to make sure your membership with Earth Day Coalition is up to date. Members of EDC will be treated like royalty at EarthFest! Members and major sponsors are the only EarthFest visitors to EarthFest who are invited to the VEP, the Very Environmental Persons, area. Inside the VEP area you will be treated to great healthy snacks from the Web of Life, refreshing drinks, mini massages and aromatherapy. Members will also be eligible to receive a 10% discount when purchasing our beautiful new 2007 EarthFest t-shirts and posters. Look for the Ohio bobcat on our t-shirts and posters in ZooGate Commons. In addition, all new and renewing memberships at \$35 Basic level and higher are still eligible to receive one of our vintage EarthFest posters or T-shirts. All new and

renewing members starting at the \$50 Contributing Member level will also receive a Culture Connection booklet and an Earth Day Coalition membership card. The Culture Connection is a unique coupon book filled with \$5-\$20 discounts from 16 Northeast Ohio cultural organizations including parks, nature centers, museums, theaters and more. You will get discounts for performances, memberships and gift shops (\$202 in savings overall). All coupons are valid through December 31, 2008.

Please send your membership to us right away, so your name appears on the members list on April 22nd. Better yet, please visit our website to sign up online on our secure website. We are looking forward to seeing you, our treasured members and partners in mission, at EarthFest on April 22.

Climate Change Solutions

Congratulations to the Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA is the first major federal agency to purchase green power equal to 100 percent of its estimated annual electricity use nationwide. The EPA is doing its part to foster renewable energy production and develop better renewable technologies.

To learn more about the EPA's mission through sustainable facilities and practices click: www.epa.gov/greeningepa/

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EarthFest 2007 is coming on April 22 - details inside and on our website at www.earthdaycoalition.org. Do your part to cut carbon 80% by 2050!

Bring your used aluminum beverage cans to EarthFest so they can be recycled into new cans. You'll have a chance to win a fabulous aluminum hybrid bicycle.



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Confirm your membership status by viewing the expiration date on the mailing label on your newsletter.

Please renew today if your membership has lapsed.

Inside - EarthFest
Ohio Mercury Ban
Straw bale house

Bring your used aluminum cans to EarthFest



Program Updates

Congrats and Thank You

Congratulations to Dawn Wrench, Director of the Student Environmental Congress, for 10 outstanding years of program success. The Student Congress is the only comprehensive environmental education program serving Northeast Ohio high schools. This dynamic student leadership and service-learning program enhances regional high school student's research skills, problem solving, and verbal and written communication skills while uniting Cleveland Public Schools with schools in surrounding suburban districts in hands-on projects for a cleaner and healthier future. Congratulations and thanks to Dawn for her outstanding program design development, and management!

Additional thanks and congratulations go to Dolores Watson



for 5 years of directing our management team. If you have ever volunteered, interned or received member services you have met Dolores. Her leadership, innovation and investment in EDC as well as her attention to detail are deeply appreciated. Congratulations and many thanks to Dolores!

Cinco de Mayo Migration at the Dike 14 Nature Preserve



Hey Cleveland, get out and explore while enjoying your lakefront this spring!

Although the Dike 14 Nature Preserve is currently closed to the public, you have a unique chance to hike or tour the site by boat on Saturday, May 5 from 7:30 am to 11:00 am. Guided hikes with some of Cleveland's finest interpreters leave every half hour. Please arrive about 15 minutes before the time you would like to hike to sign a waiver and get additional information about this important site in our city. Spring migration will be in full swing and you will have a chance to hear about the amazing birds, animals and plants that call Cleveland's nature preserve their home. The Dike 14 Environmental Education Collaborative is sponsoring the May 5 event.

For more information please call Chris at 216-281-6468 x 227.