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CGE NEWS
Citizens' Greener Evanston Sustainability Newsletter
September 2016

Evanston's Energy Benchmarking Ordinance – We're Almost There!



Commercial and residential buildings are the largest single contributor to greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in our community. To help address this, the City has developed an energy and water benchmarking ordinance, which requires property owners to report their buildings' energy and water usage and allows them to compare their buildings with similar buildings throughout the country.

The ordinance has been introduced to the City Council. A final vote will take place at the Council meeting on Monday, September 26, and supporters are encouraged to attend to ensure the ordinance is passed.

[Get details on the benchmarking ordinance here.](#)

**Next Green Drinks on September 28
Addresses Food Waste in Evanston**

The EPA estimates that at least 30 percent of food in the U.S. goes uneaten. Evanston alone produces an estimate 270 tons of food waste each week. All that uneaten food rots in landfills, if it decomposes it releases a portion of greenhouse gas emissions. Find out what some Evanston groups are doing to address this major issue in our own community, and come with your questions.

Panelists:

- **Devon Reid, CGE and Plates Over Waste**, an Evanston citizens' group focused on food waste.
- **Erinne Howard, Collective Resources**, a composting service that seeks to reduce landfill waste, improve soil, air, and water quality.
- **Tim Sonder, Edible Evanston**, a food-sharing program focused on providing those in need with locally grown food.

When: Wednesday, Sept. 28, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Where: The Celtic Knot, 626 Church St. (in the back)

CGE Welcomes Sara Digs to Its Weatherization Program



CGE's weatherization program continues to build momentum in our community. We are excited to welcome Sara Digs to the program. She brings her skills in case management, technology integration, and grant writing to the effort. A third-generation Evanstonian, Sara has a background in education and property management and worked as Evanston's Housing Commissioner.

Sara reminds us that the Old Farmers' Almanac, which has an 80% accuracy rating, predicts a strong winter in North America. So if you're thinking of weatherizing your home or workplace, now's the time to get started! To contact Sara or get more information, email buildings@greenerevanston.org or visit the [Weatherization page on Facebook](#).

Celebrate Harvest Season at Orchard Fest on October 1

Edible Evanston invites you to their second annual Orchard Fest, a family-oriented event with tours of the orchard, an observational bee-hive, discussions of their planned conversion to a permaculture orchard, and, of course, cider and great conversation.

When: Saturday, October 1, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: The orchard is in Eggerton Park, north of McCormick Blvd, south of Payne St., and west of Bridge St.

For more information about the Orchard Fest, check Edible Evanston's website. Have questions or something you wish to contribute (music, song, food, games)?

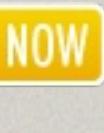
[Send an email to outreach@edibleevanston.org.](mailto:outreach@edibleevanston.org)

Want to Help Improve Public Transportation?

Pace and CTA are inviting residents of Evanston, Skokie, and Wilmette to an open house to discuss the [Pace/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan](#). The Open Houses will include an introduction to the study and an overview of market analysis and survey results. The public is invited to provide input and feedback on ways to improve public transit in the study area.

The open houses will take place on Tuesday, October 4 and Wednesday, Oct. 5. See below for details.

Open Houses	
Tuesday, October 4, 2016 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm	Wednesday, October 5, 2016  4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Chicago Public Library, Roger Park Branch Community Room 6907 N. Clark Street Chicago IL 60626 Served by Pace routes 210, 290	Lincolnwood Community Center 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue Lincolnwood, IL 60712 Served by CTA routes 210, 290

DONATE NOW  **Citizens' Greener Evanston works to make Evanston a more sustainable community - environmentally, economically and socially and to address climate change by dramatically reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.**

greenerevanston.org

Contact us at info@greenerevanston.org

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