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CGE NEWS

June 2019

Environment Scores Big Wins in Illinois Legislature

Great news from Springfield - the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) reports that this has been one of the most successful sessions ever for environmental issues. There were big wins across multiple sectors – energy, conservation, sustainable agriculture, water, waste, and toxics. So many, in fact, that we don't have the space to talk about them all here. But they include the Coal Ash Pollution Prevention Act (SB9), Solar and EV Ready Construction (HB2652), Promoting Soil Health (HB2737), a study of the threat of microplastics in water (SB1392), and a bill requiring the state to develop a comprehensive plan to address solid waste (HB3068). For more details, [visit the IEC website](#).

Global Water Dance Comes to Evanston

On June 15, more than 170 communities around the world will be “dancing for safe water, for everyone, everywhere.” Evanston is taking part, and you are invited to join this free event that brings together dancers and drummers to raise awareness of global freshwater needs, and find out about local water issues in our own water-abundant region. For details, [visit the Facebook page](#).

When: Saturday, June 15, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Arrington Lakefront Lagoon



Grow More Than You Need? Edible Evanston Can Donate It For You!

Starting this month you can feed your extra home-grown produce to those in need. In South Evanston gardeners can drop off produce they grew at the Ridgeville Community House Garden (Ridge at Seward) on Sunday afternoons; in North and Central Evanston, gardeners can donate their home-grown produce at McCormick Community Gardens or at Twiggs Community Gardens. Just look for the signs to find the coolers and drop in your produce. Edible Evanston will take it from there and donate it to a food pantry. For details, contact foodsharing@edibleevanston.org

When: Pickups start June 14 in North Evanston and June 16 and 18 in South Evanston and run through October 12.

Care for the Soil and It Will Care for the Plants

The soil is a living system and the single most important thing for plant health. Learn more about its complexity and how to care for it so it will

Permaculture Principle 6, PRODUCE NO WASTE. [Register Here.](#)

When: Saturday, June 15th, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Eggleston Park Food Forest (2100 Hartrey Ave.)

Natural Habitat Evanston (NHE) Update

The *June Tree Walk* will take place in Harbert Park on Sunday, June 9th at 2:00 p.m. Meet at the intersection of McDaniel and Lee Streets. The walk will be led by Harbert Park steward and Natural Habitat Evanston co-lead Allison Sloan.

In other NHE news, NHE members have begun propagating native wildflowers and grasses from seed to share with the public. If you are interested in joining the propagation team by growing a couple of trays of native seeds, trying your hand at shrubs or trees, or dividing and potting up your successful natives to share, send an email to Habitat@naturalhabitatevanston.org.



Evanston RoundTable Helping to Get the Word Out on Sustainability

The Evanston RoundTable has kindly dedicated a regular full page of article space in its *Art of Living* section to help educate the public on the many sustainable lifestyle changes needed if Evanston is to meet the goals of its Climate Action and Resilience Plan. Articles to date have covered spring garden cleanup to protect pollinators, pesticide use,

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programs, food waste, and NRE's Community Habitat Certification efforts. [See a recent article here.](#) If you're interested in submitting an article, contact allisonlynnslan@gmail.com.

We'll Say It Again: Don't Be Fooled by Misleading Offers - Stick With Electricity Aggregation

As most of our readers know, for the last several years Evanston has had 100% renewable electricity through Dynegy, as part of the City's Community Choice Electricity Aggregation program. You don't have to do anything to be enrolled in it. However, [the City reports](#) that some residents continue to receive misleading solicitations from electricity suppliers offering to "correct their bill," or claiming to be the City's chosen electricity supplier. As a reminder, no representatives of the City of Evanston, the City's electricity supplier, or ComEd will visit or call customers to request their account numbers, electric bills, or any other personal information. Click here for detail on [the City's electricity aggregation program](#).



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