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CGE NEWS

September 2021

Meet Our New Executive Director!



CGE is delighted to welcome Joey Feinstein as our first Executive Director. Joey grew up in Evanston and attended ETHS. He went on to earn an MBA in Sustainable Management and subsequently founded Climate Cycle, a nonprofit with the mission of inspiring students to green our world. He has funded and managed 12 solar installations and over 50 additional environmental projects in Chicago Public Schools. In addition to presenting to more than 100,000 Chicago Public School students

on sustainability, he's delivered over 100 non-school presentations to audiences at the European Union, Evanston Rotary Club, and Motorola. Through all these professional efforts, the common thread for Joey has been galvanizing people to take action for a greener, more equitable future. CGE is excited to work with him as he helps us make that future happen. You can reach Joey at

greeneretown@gmail.com

Will You Support Our North Shore Century Fundraiser?

fundraising team participating in this year's North Shore Century bike ride on **Sunday, Sept. 19** – and we'd like you to be a part of it. You can join our team of riders who are raising money that will go toward helping create a more livable planet for all. Or you can simply contribute to our CGE team. Whatever you choose, simply [visit our page](#) for details and directions on how to donate or participate.

We're especially excited – and grateful - because, thanks to an anonymous donor, *the first \$10,000 raised in donations will be matched dollar for dollar!*



Environmental Justice Evanston Wins NU Grant to Help Map Inequity

[Environmental Justice Evanston \(EJE\)](#) was recently honored with a highly competitive grant from Northwestern University's [Racial Equity and Community Partnership Program](#) incubator program. The grant supports EJE's partnership with the City to develop a Geographic Information Mapping System (GIS) that identifies areas of environmental inequity, a critical component of EJE's work to eradicate environmental injustices in Evanston. Across the country, [GIS systems have already helped map out](#) redlining areas, historical lynchings, school segregation, and police violence. The program includes five training modules that will be held this fall. If you have questions for EJE or about the system, please contact them at ej@greenerivanston.org

Sharing of Community Success Stories at the Next Go Green Illinois Meeting

Join the next Go Green Illinois meeting on September 14 and hear how other groups are making progress on issues like establishing or strengthening ordinances and guidelines for sidewalks, tree protection, dark sky-compliant

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group's successes during the extended community sharing segment.

Please contact [Go Green Illinois](#) in advance if you would like to share a success story or a challenge relevant to other communities.

When: Tuesday, September 14, from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

[Register here.](#)

Noise Pollution, Air Pollution, and Disrupted Wildlife Habitats: All This and More From Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

Evanston's Climate Action Plan calls for the City to "Phase out the use of gas- and propane-powered leaf blowers" (p. 19). Yet starting to do so has proven difficult, as has enforcement of seasonal restrictions on blowers. As reported in a [recent Evanston Roundtable article](#), the discussion continues to rage on at City forums. Council member Revelle had tabled the discussion in June to allow for input from landscaping companies and residents. The issue will be brought up for discussion again at this month's council meeting on Sept. 27. Read CGE's statement against gas-powered leaf blowers [here](#).

Join This Month's GreenBuilt Home Tours

Every year, Greenbuilt Home tours educate homeowners on green projects they can accomplish in their own homes to decrease their environmental footprint and save on their energy bills. This year's tours are being held virtually throughout the fall, with two this month on Sept. 8 and 15. They cover such topics as how to make an all-electric home, minor renovations, and how to prioritize home sustainability projects. The sessions will feature both homeowners and professionals who will offer a variety of perspectives and answer your questions.

When: Wednesday, September 18 and Wednesday, September 15. Both webinars will be from 4-5 p.m.

[Register here.](#)



Last Two Community Solar Webinars are This Month!

[Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m.](#)

[Monday, September 13th at 12:00 p.m.](#)



LAST CHANCE!

COMMUNITY SOLAR IN ILLINOIS

Trajectory Energy Partners will be hosting their **LAST 2 WEBINARS!** Join either of these webinars for your last chance to learn about community solar and what it means for you.

Through the partnership with Citizens' Greener Evanston, Trajectory will donate \$75 to the Evanston Community Foundation's Now! Fund! for every subscription through 9/15!

7 pm **Thursday, Sept 9** | 12 pm **Monday, Sept 13**

To register for the webinar visit

trajectoryenergy.com/communitysolar



Your Input Needed on Church St. and Chicago Ave. Projects

Two major Evanston projects are in the works that will have a major impact on transportation here. Both are still in the first phase and you can still let the City know what you want them to address. The [Chicago Ave. project](#) has among its goals:

- Create a Complete Street for multimodal Transportation including walking and biking
- Improve safety for all users
- Focus on transit access areas for CTA, Metra, Pace, and the Northwestern Shuttle

Among the objectives of [the Church St. project](#): improving pedestrian safety, filling a gap in the bicycle network between Dodge Ave. and the west city limits, and filling the gap in the trail network between Dempster and Church, with the goal of improving safety and mobility for people walking and riding bikes within these corridors.

In both cases you can provide your input via the drop-down menu at the bottom of the respective City pages.

2021 Illinois Solar Tour

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experience of owning, maintaining, and living with renewable energy. **The solar tours will take place on Saturday, September 25th from 10 AM to 3 PM, in a hybrid format.** The hybrid format this year means that some sites will be available for in-person tours or outside viewing, some sites will offer video tours, and some sites will provide both! [Check out the eight Chicago tour sites here.](#) [Register to attend a tour.](#)

Natural Habitat Happenings

Volunteers are currently planting trees in the 2nd and 5th wards. Want to donate for future plantings? \$90 covers the cost of a tree, \$25 for a shrub. Please contact leslieshad@gmail.com

[Monday, Sept. 20, 10:00 a.m. - noon: Isabella Woods workday.](#) Want to check out the woods? Contact Habitat@NaturalHabitatEvanston.org

[Monday, September 20 4:00-6:00 p.m.](#) - Winter sowing. Bring seeds to share! Space is limited to eight people, so [register soon!](#) The location will be shared via email the week before the event. This is an in-person event, in a backyard. Please plan to be masked.



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