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# CGE NEWS

August 2022

## We're Riding Toward Our Goal – and You're Invited

CGE is in the middle of an unprecedented transformation that will help propel our efforts on environmental justice and climate action to a whole new level. To help us get there, we're pleased to announce that we have a fundraising team participating in this year's [North Shore Century bike ride](#) on **Sunday, Sept. 18** – and we'd like you to be a part of it. Like to bike? We invite you to join our team of riders who are raising money that will go toward helping create a more livable planet for all. Can't ride but want to contribute to our CGE team? You can do that, too. Whatever you choose, simply [visit our page](#) for background on the race and easy directions on how to donate or participate.



Any questions feel free to contact us at [info@greenerevanston.org](mailto:info@greenerevanston.org)

**Are you ready? We are!**

## Do You Want a Say in How Evanston Spends Its

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[Participatory budgeting \(PB\)](#) is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. It gives us, Evanston residents, real power over real money. Our Council has set aside roughly \$3 million in federal ARPA funds for the participatory budgeting process. To kick it off, the City will host a [Participatory Budgeting Town Hall](#) this Thursday, August 4. During the Town Hall, residents will learn about participatory budgeting and how to be involved in the process. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

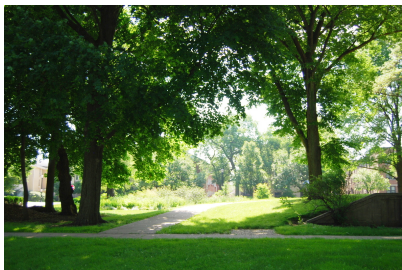
**When:** Thursday, August 4, 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** Parasol Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor), Evanston Civic Center

## The City of Evanston is Seeking a Qualified Arborist

This is an important position in helping to manage Evanston's green infrastructure. Could that be you? Do you know anyone who might be a good fit? If so, share this or, [please apply here](#).

**NOTE:** you will need to scroll way down the page to see the job!



## September 30 is Fast Approaching if You're Interested in Low-Cost Solar

[Grow Solar Chicagoland](#) makes solar more affordable and easier to attain for Chicagoland residents through community education and volume purchasing. The more residents who participate, the lower the cost. But the program closes on Friday, September 30. To take advantage of the program, you can attend a free Solar Power Hour presentation. [Webinars take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays monthly through September.](#) [Check this page to find a convenient date and time for you.](#) This is the third year that Cook County is co-sponsoring this program, which is run by the [Midwest Renewable Energy Association](#) and [Citizens Utility Board](#).



## Experience Guerilla Gardening at Its Finest

[CGE's Natural Habitat program](#) is pleased to be partnering with The Climate Initiative (TCI) to help you create your own seed bombs and to learn about native plants and invasive species common in our area. This one-hour event is for educators and for those aged 13 to 23. It's a fun, simple activity and after you've made your seed bombs, you'll be asked to throw them into neglected places that need some native vegetation. [Find out more and register here.](#)

**When:** Thursday, August 11, 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Evanston Main Library, Community Room

## Urban Agriculture Volunteers Needed!

Between August 8 and October 31, Evanston's Ridgeville Park District needs youth and adult volunteers to help grow produce for the Hillside Food Pantry. You can volunteer on a regular schedule for two or more hours a week between those dates or for a shorter period.

- Volunteers are also welcome to take fresh produce home.
- Come on out to enjoy relaxing garden time, & learn to grow food with other friendly folks!
- You don't have to be an expert!

Contact Katharine Egan, Ridgeville Park District's Urban Agriculture Supervisor: [katharinee@gmail.com](mailto:katharinee@gmail.com) or (224) 392-2275.



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## THOSE IN NEED.

If you've grown too many vegetables this summer, there are a number of convenient ways to get your extra produce to food-insecure households.

- CGE's Edible Evanston has drop-off sites on both the north and south sides of Evanston. See their exact location and schedules [here](#).
- The front desk at the [Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center](#) on Tuesdays from 4-6pm or Wednesdays between 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Their crew will wash and bundle it to share with families at their popular Free Farmstand 2:30-5:30 on Wednesdays.
- [C & W Market and Ice Cream Parlor](#) on Church St. between 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Fridays. The wonderful folks at C & W distribute food to 120 families on Saturday mornings.
- [Evanston Community Fridges](#) - there are currently four community fridges in these places:
  - 1335 Dodge, at Childcare Network of Evanston
  - 1601 Payne Street, at Soul & Smoke
  - 619 West Howard, at the Palm House
  - 717 Custer Avenue, at Kombucha Brava

Thank you for helping to reduce food waste while addressing food insecurity in Evanston. Every effort matters.



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Our mailing address is:

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