

# Enviro -News

**February 2019**

**Sponsored by Daemen College's Global & Local Sustainability Program**

## **Newsletter Contents:**

Articles- including events, courses, local news, grants, jobs

Upcoming Activities

Tips for the Environment, "Going Green" by Lesley Haynes

Volunteer Opportunities, Recycling, CSAs and Farms, Organization links

## **Articles:**

### **SPCA Wildlife Department Needs Volunteers**

Do you love animals and can commit to a schedule helping at the Erie County SPCA? The Wildlife Department has an open information session on **February 2** from 11am to noon to describe their opportunities. If interested in volunteering, you will need to attend a required orientation on **February 7** from 6 to 7:30pm OR **Saturday, February 16** from 1 to 2:30pm. You must RSVP for the orientation sessions by calling Barbara Haney at 875- 7360 ext. 220 or email [barbh@yoursPCA.org](mailto:barbh@yoursPCA.org). Volunteers must be 18 or older. Info [here](#).

### **WNY Climate Conversations**

Learn about climate change in our region and how to prepare for it, create space for climate dialogue, and hear from youth that are making a difference. This free public event is on **Saturday, February 9** from 1 to 4pm at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, 1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo in the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Auditorium. The WNY Climate Conversations are an opportunity to discuss climate change and environmental justice with the people in our networks and communities. At the end of these presentations, we hope participants will walk away with some tools and information needed to take action for climate justice and resilience in our Western NY! Registration: <https://wnymasterteachers.wufoo.com/forms/wnyclimateconversations/>

### **Preservation Buffalo Niagara Docent Training**

Do you love historic architecture? Are you passionate about historic preservation? Consider becoming a Preservation Buffalo Niagara Docent! Docents lead our regularly scheduled walking tours as well as special school and community group tours. While a teaching background is not required, a high level of interest and enthusiasm is! Now is your time to join the ranks as PBN will be offering new docent training beginning in February 2018! This year's training will focus on all three of PBN's public tours: Queen City Down us Gu\_ focus on al Qu

### **Winter Wonderland at Reinstein Woods**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), in partnership with Friends of Reinstein Woods, invites the public to celebrate “Winter Wonderland in the Woods” on **Saturday, February 9** from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at [Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve](#). Visitors can discover a variety of outdoor pursuits during the event. Ice-fishing demonstrations will take place throughout the afternoon and visitors will be able to try cross-county skiing in a demonstration area (weather permitting). Snowshoe rentals will also be available for those who wish to explore the trails. The event will take place regardless of snow conditions, and additional activities featuring nature experiences will be added in case of warm weather. Registration is not required for this event. There is no entry fee, but donations to Friends of Reinstein Woods are always welcome. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve is located at 93 Honorine Drive, off of Como Park Boulevard in Cheektowaga.

### **Tales of Mastodons (and Others) from the Hiscock Site**

The public are invited to an illustrated presentation “Tales of the Mastodons from the Hiscock Site” by Dr. Richard Laub on





## **Hawk Creek Wildlife Rehabilitator Training**

Develop a sense of appreciation for the importance of preserving native wildlife. Learn how to lend a helping hand to injured, orphaned, and distressed animals in your community. This course provides 8 hours of instruction from Hawk Creek's own licensed environmental educators and wildlife rehabilitators. Classes are hosted at 1963 Mill Rd. West Falls, NY. Register early – class size is limited! Cost includes 2 classes (a total of 8 hours) which are held **March 9**

## NY Geothermal Renewable Heating and Cooling Conference

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual NY-GEO Renewable Heating & Cooling Conference at the Rivers Casino & Resort in Schenectady, New York will be held on **April 10th & 11th**, 2019! [Register](#) before **January 15th** to get an early bird discount ! Join us for a [fantastic program](#) that will help policy makers, installers, organizers, architects, clean energy activists, contractors, building owners and managers, engineers and more to plug into the renewable heat momentum building in New York and across the northeast! There are [scholarship funds](#) for students and low income individuals, but those funds will run out soon. Email [nygeoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:nygeoinfo@gmail.com) if you will attend but need a scholarship to pay part of your registration.

### **Community Organizations: Do you have a Research Need?**

Are you a community partner **with a research need**? We would love to help connect you to researchers or graduate students who are interested in working to help find local solutions to questions you have or trends you're looking to







## **NYPSC and PSI Receive NY Sea Grant Funding to Reduce Plastic Pollution in the Buffalo Niagara Region**

New York Public Service Commission (NYPSC) and Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) received funding from the NY Sea Grant to help restaurants, residents, and tourists in the Buffalo Niagara region make smart foodware choices by



## **Geothermal Heating and Cooling, Domestic Hot Water: No Money Down**

GroundUp: Geothermal Alliance of Western New York is leading the charge to bring Geothermal Heating and Cooling into every home in Western New York with its new \$128/month and \$0 money down financing option. This offer is for any qualifying homeowner looking to build a new home or replace their existing heating and cooling system in their current home, and usually covers houses up to 4,000 sqf with good insulation. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has up to \$15 million available through June 2019 for the installation of ground source heat pump systems for residences, businesses and institutions. Rebates are available to qualified installers for two years or until all funds have been exhausted. The rebate will be deducted from the total cost of the system, thereby passing the savings along directly to consumers. To learn more contact <https://www.groundupgeo.org/contact>.

## **Farm to School Lunch Funding Increased**

Farm-to-School programs across New York have received \$1.5 million awards. The funding has been awarded to 18 projects and educational organizations that serve students in Kindergarten through Grade 12, and will benefit over 420,000 students. The award funding will be used to hire Farm-to-School coordinators; train food service staff; provide nutrition education in classrooms and cafeterias; purchase equipment to support food preparation; and support the purchase of more local farm products, such as fruits and vegetables, nuts, and herbs, used in school lunches. The program increases the

## **Calling all NY State School Teachers and After School Program Leaders!**

The New York Connect Kids to Parks Field Trip Grant Program will refund up to \$1,000 of field trip costs per classroom, per trip to DEC or State Parks land. Grants are available on a first come, first served basis. Grants refund field trip costs including transportation, program fees, entry fees, and/or pavilion fees, but cannot reimburse chaperones who travel separately.. Learn more at [Connect Kids to Parks Field Trip Grant Program](#) and [view the application online](#). If you have questions, please call (518) 474-6736.

### **Olive Pits Could Help Replace Plastic**

Turkish scientists may have created a product that could replace disposable plastic, from a renewable source, olive pits. According to researchers, just one kilogram of this bioplastic, which is already being used in electronics and food packaging, reduces carbon dioxide emissions by six kilograms. If implemented on a larger scale, the innovation could significantly help in the fight against plastic pollution. [info](#)

### **Bendable Concrete: Pothole and Earthquake Solution?**

Engineered Cementitious Composite, ECC for short, or simply "bendable concrete" was originally developed in the early 1990s by Dr. Victor Li, a civil and environmental engineering professor. While currently four times more expensive than regular concrete, ECC has 300 times more deformation capacity and more than two times the flexural strength. The increased cost is due to the micro silica sand used and polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) fiber. A team at Louisiana State University has found more reasonably priced and locally-sourced materials that can provide the same benefits at a fraction of the price by using fine sand from the Mississippi River rather than micro silica. They have also used PVA fiber that lacks the usual oil-based coating and locally available fly ash rather than conventional concrete, keeping costs 2.5 times



[STEM Teaching tools](#)-free tools from site maintained by US government.

[Free Water Curriculum by UgMO](#)- water conservation curriculum for K-12 students and sponsors the students implementing those initiatives. Available to any interested student, class, club or school who wants to explore water conservation at their school.

[An Incredible Journey](#) children's book introduces elementary schoolers to the salmon life cycle and concepts such as ecosystems, keystone species, salmon culture, and stewardship. The book concludes with six case studies about kids who are making a difference on salmon-related issues.

[World Climate Simulation](#) is a NSF-funded, research-based program gives educators a way to provide learners with an enjoyable meaningful experience and to make a difference in the real world.

[Orangutan Gang](#)-Lesson includes an introductory video, PowerPoint presentation, discussion, informative article and corresponding short-answer questions, and homework including online research and an activity with the goal of helping students realize just how much palm oil they use in their everyday lives.

[New GPS-STEM Lessons](#)-Engage formal and informal students in real-world applications of STEM concepts inspired by GPS.

[Soil Story Curriculum](#)-Kiss the Ground's middle school curriculum aims to foster a deeper understanding of the vital role soil plays for the planet and to inspire a new generation of people to better engage with the environment and their communities.

[The Blossoms, the Birds and the Bees: a pollination investigation for Pre-K - Grade 2](#)-This playful lesson plan includes



[Project GRACE](#)- To prepare youth in economically disadvantaged communities for the prospect of careers in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) through Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

[FoodSpan](#) is a free, downloadable curriculum that provides high school students with a deep understanding of critical food system issues, empowers them to make healthy and responsible food choices, and encourages them to become advocates for food system change.

[Climate Change and the Water Cycle: Four Big Questions Answered](#)-Free e-book. Dramatic changes to our planet like glaciers calving into the sea and record-setting temperatures make front page headlines around the world. But while other disruptions caused by the climate crisis – such as the transformation of our planet’s water cycle – are a little less



[Greening STEM](#) -infographics, toolkits, activity guides, and video resources contain free educational material in popular environmental topic areas that incorporate elements of STEM. Many of the activities and resources include project-based learning, service-learning, and citizen science components.

[Flipside Science](#) is a youth-powered series that tackles complex environmental topics and empowers viewers to make a difference. This engaging and upbeat collection of videos, hosted by California Academy of Sciences youth, explores how local communities are addressing environmental problems.

[Sustainability in Schools Simulation Game](#)- The Education for Sustainability program has designed a simulation game to

## Contests and Awards

[President's Environmental Youth Award](#) recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship projects by K-12 youth, promoting awareness of our nation's natural resources and encouraging positive community involvement. Winners of this year's awards will be invited to a ceremony in Washington, D.C. in mid-2019, and have their project mentioned on EPA's website. EPA will select up to two winners in each of EPA's 10 Regions – one regional winner for Grades K-5 and one regional winner for Grades 6-12. All student projects must be sponsored by at least one adult over the age of 21. Applications are due **February 1, 2019**.

The [Shell Science Lab Challenge](#) recognizes outstanding **middle and high school programs** for their exemplary approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources.

Teachers of grades 6–12 in the US and Canada are asked to submit innovative, replicable strategies that deliver quality lab experiences with limited equipment and resources. In turn, participating teachers can receive additional tools, resources, and rich professional development opportunities needed to support high-quality science teaching and strengthen their existing capabilities. Deadline: **February 4, 2019**.

[Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Science Competition](#) encourages K-12 students to imagine what technology might be like in the future while experiencing scientific process and discovery in an engaging, hands-on way. Let's empower the next generation of inventors, scientists and leaders. Deadline: **February 8, 2019**.

[Transforming our Tomorrow: a New Clean Energy Vision](#)-Prizes \$3000-\$1500. UB Sustainability is searching for students from across New York State to present their revolutionary ideas that will create a more sustainable world through clean energy. Students that have completed a project or program, or have an idea for a new policy or invention, can apply to compete for a cash prize at University at Buffalo's Transforming our Tomorrow. Initial submission doesn't need to be a polished idea. Deadline: **February 8, 2019**.

[Eco-Hero Awards](#) - Action For Nature will honor the work of young people between the ages of 8 and 16 all over the globe who are taking action to solve the world's tough environmental problems with a cash prize, certificate of achievement, and public recognition. Deadline: **February 28**

[Environmental Excellence Award Applications](#)-If you represent a municipal government or non-profit organization in Erie County that has recently completed a project that has environmental benefits, the Erie County Environmental Management Council (EMC) invites you to nominate your project for consideration in the 2019 Environmental Excellence Awards Program. Projects could be in the areas of Planning & Design, Land Use and Zoning, Natural Resource Protection, Air and Water Quality, Ecosystem Health, Energy and Transportation, Agriculture and Forestry, Solid Waste Management, Contaminated Sites, Community Action & Education, Climate Change or any other related subject area. Applications are due by **March 15, 2019**.

[UL Innovative Education Award](#) Eligible 501(c)(3) organizations in the United States and Canada can apply to win up to \$100,000 for using innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) curricula to help K-12 students solve real-world environmental problems. Applicants for the ULIEA should offer programs that promote learning through STEM priorities, engage all people in civic and social responsibility, and find solutions to environmental challenges. ULIEA's mission is to invest in and support youth engagement in local environmental issues and their communities and encourages youth interest in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics. Deadline: **March 12, 2019**.

[Con X Tech Prize](#) provides \$3,500 to create your first prototype, helping you bring your bold conservation idea to life. And, with 20 of these prizes awarded, yours has a great chance to win. Even better – one of these 20 finalists will win \$20,000 to catapult their idea to the next level. The only question is: What will you build? Deadline: **March 13, 2019**.

[The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes](#) - celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from across the U.S. and Canada. Each year, the Prize honors 25 young leaders ages 8 to 18. Fifteen top winners receive \$10,000 to support their ser

## Grant and Scholarship Opportunities

[Capacity Building Grants](#) from the state Environmental Protection Fund to implement and administer a capacity building grants program. This new grant opportunity is designed to assist environmental justice focused community-based organizations to develop administrative, technical and programmatic capacity and expand services protecting public health and the environment. Deadline: **February 1, 2019, 3 p.m. EST.**

[Healthy Watersheds Consortium](#)-The goal of the Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program is to accelerate strategic protection of hea

[NY Sea Grant's Biennial Research Call for 2020-2021](#) invites Pre-Proposals for Research to generate and provide valid scientific information that will further the sustainable development, use, protection, conservation, and management of our coastal resources. The research must clearly be driven by stakeholder identified research needs and must provide enhanced opportunities for NYSG to 'make a difference' and have an impact on addressing important coastal issues. Deadline: **Monday, February 25, 2019.**

[The New York Water Environment Association Scholarships](#) include a \$10,000 (Major) Environmental Career Scholarship, \$5,000 (Major) Nicholas J. Bartilucci Environmental Scholarship, \$2,500 Scholarship and the N.G. Kaul Memorial Scholarship. Deadline for all: **February 28, 2019.**

[Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus Spark funding](#) invites community members and organizations to apply for grant funding for projects that help strengthen neighborhoods adjacent to Campus. Deadline is **February 28.**

[Funding for Municipal Food Scraps Reduction, Food Donation, and Food Scraps Recycling](#) - to support municipal projects to reduce wasted food, donate wholesome food and recycle food scraps. Deadline: **March 1, 2019.**

[Annie's Sustainable Agriculture Scholarships](#) supports students working to shape the future of the food system through the lens of three regenerative agriculture principles: Building soil health, fostering aboveground biodiversity, and promoting resilient farm communities. Deadline: **March 15, 2019.**

[NYSAR<sup>3</sup> College Council grants](#), co-sponsored by the NYS Pollution Prevention Institute and NYSAR<sup>3</sup>, provide up to \$10,000 for projects that focus on source reduction, reuse, or recycling at New York universities and colleges. Each College Council member institution can apply for project funding up to \$5,000. Deadline: **March 15.**

[Learning to Give Mini-Grants for Service-Learning](#)-The Learning to Give mini-grants range from \$250 to \$500 with a simple application process and priority given to those who use social media to share their plans, discuss



[KEEN Effect](#) is committed to inspiring responsible outdoor participation to help preserve the places we all play. Through the KEEN Effect, \$10,000 grants are awarded to nonprofit organizations around the world who are dedicated to responsible outdoor participation. Projects must increase responsible outdoor participation as a way to work towards building a strong community. **Deadline: Ongoing.**

[Everyday Young Hero Award](#)-Everyday Young Heroes are young people, ages 5-25, who are improving their communities through service to others and making significant progress in achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each week, YSA selects one young person to receive this honor and receive \$250 grants to continue and expand their project. **Deadline: Rolling**

[The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation](#) is dedicated to planting fruitful trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming, strengthen communities, and improve the surrounding air, soil, and water. FTPF programs strategically donate orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations. **Deadline: Rolling.**

[Doris Duke Environment Program Grants](#)-For

[Technical Assistance Grant Information](#)-The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is continuously accepting applications for Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs). TAGs are a citizen participation tool available to eligible community groups to increase public awareness and understanding of remedial activities taking place in their community. Eligible community groups may apply to receive grants for up to \$50,000 per site.

[Home Depot Community Impact Grants](#)-Grants, up to \$5,000, are available to non-profit organizations and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are given in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services.

[The Pollination Project](#) seeks to unleash goodness and expand compassion all over the world. We make daily seed grants to inspiring social change-makers who are committed to a world that works for all. We support passionate, committed people with an early-stage social change vision.

[SCA Excelsior Conservation Corps](#)-Seeking applicants between the ages of 18 and 25 to work on infrastructure and sustainability, invasive species removal, trail construction, and other environmental conservation-related projects.

[Aquarium of Niagara Internships](#)-







**Monday, February 4**

**GObike Volunteer Night**-6 pm at 640 Ellicott Street. Check out the great video above on how fun it is to be a volunteer! [RSVP here.](#)

**Tuesday, February 5**

**Center for the Study of Art, Architecture, History, & Nature (C-SAAHN) Lecture Series**-Noon to 1pm at Downtown Buffalo & Erià B

## Thursday, February 7

**Wellness Walks**-10:00am - 12:00pm. Drop by Tiff Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. Please call 716-825-6397 to confirm walk will be taking place. Open to all, \$2 donation per person is appreciated.

**Adventures in Buffalo History**-This speaker series features different Explore Buffalo docents presenting lectures on a wide variety of topics. Each session will have two different lectures. All sessions are from 7-9 PM on Thursday evenings at First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo on Symphony Circle. Admission per session: \$10. [Explorer Pass](#) Holders: Free. Topic: The Library in Erie County: A Short History & Overview of the Current Library System, The Village of Depew: Chauncey Depew, Railroads, and F.L. Olmsted. [Register.](#)

**Making Elderberry Syrup**- 6:30 - 8:30pm, Community Education Program at Buffalo Seminary, 205 Bidwell Pkwy, Buffalo. Cost: \$24 includes 4 oz bottle of elderberry syrup, recipe, samples and emailed powerpoint presentation. Optional Lab fee: \$8.50 elderberry syrup kit (makes approximately 2.5 cups syrup). Elderberry is a locally abundant herb that has traditionally been used for its immune boosting properties. Research has confirmed its antiviral nature, and its potential support in avoiding cold and flu. In this workshop, Community Herbalist Sarah Sorci of Sweet Flag Herbs will discuss identification and harvest, properties, and uses of elderberry syrup. Participants will learn about a few of Sarah's favorite ingredient additions, like rosehips and astragalus root. Sarah will demonstrate the preparation of elderberry syrup, and each participant will take home a 4 oz bottle made with local raw honey. Elderberry syrup is safe for adults and children over the age of 1 year. To register, contact Elizabeth Coffey at [lcoffey@buffaloseminary.org](mailto:lcoffey@buffaloseminary.org) or (716) 885-6780 Ext. 202.

**Genesee County Master Gardeners Talk**-free from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Cornell Cooperative Extension office, 420 E. Main St, Batavia. Take your lunch. Registration is not required. [“Seed Starting Basics”](#) Starting your own seeds is a great way to get a jump on the growing season. It also gives you access to hundreds of specialty varieties that you won't find at your local nursery. The presentation will demystify seed starting at home with easy-to-follow instructions and insightful tips for both novice and experienced gardeners.

**Orchard Park Garden Club**- 1 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church, 4369 S. Buffalo St., Orchard Park. Sign-ups begin at 1 p.m. with refreshments at 1:30 p.m. and the program at 2 p.m. Mark Carra, Naturalist in Residence at Beaver Meadow Nature Center, will present a talk on pollinators.

**SPCA Wildlife Dept. Volunteer Orientation**-RSVP mandatory. 6 to 7:30pm. To reserve a spot, call Barbara Haney at 875-



**Growing your Own Produce: Planning, Designing and Framework for our Climate Zone-** 11:30 a.m. at the [Massachusetts Avenue Project](#) (MAP), 387 Massachusetts Ave., Buffalo. You will learn what to do in your garden, month by month, to successfully grow your own produce. From small container gardens to larger backyards, This class is catered to you and the group of beginning gardeners who will join you in learning how to grow your own produce. [Register here](#) per class or the whole series.

**Snowshoe & Yoga at the Stella Niagara Preserve-**10 am-1 pm. Please join WNY Land Conservancy at the Stella Niagara Preserve for a fun event with Spencer Jones. Enjoy a snowshoe walk on paths around Stella's wintry meadow and listen to the sounds of the mighty Niagara River as it flows along the shore. The walk will be followed by a grounding and invigorating vinyasa yoga class inside the cozy Stella Niagara Center for Renewal. No yoga experience is required—

**Monday, February 11**

**Concord Garden Club Meeting-** 10:30 a.m. at the Concord Senior Center, 40 Commerce Dr., Springville.  
Linda Sipiga will talk about home greenhouses and starting seedlings.

**Tuesday, February 12**

**Toddler Time: Nature's Valentine** – 10 to 11:15am at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center. Bring your little ones and join us in an outdoor excursion to look for heart shapes in nature! Afterwards, we'll make a simple craft and warm up indoors with a snack! If the weather is not cooperative, we'll work inside the Nature Center! Pre-registration is required. \$3 per child. Ages 2-4. \* Please note change in date from 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Please call 585-457-3228 to register.

**Kenmore Garden Club-** 10am in Kenmore United Methodist Church, 32 Landers Rd., Kenmore. John Ruck, owner of Earth Steward, will present a lecture demonstration on how to save our trees and keep them healthy.

**Wednesday, February 13**

**Wild Wednesday**-4:30 to 5:30pm. Together, kids and their parents or caregivers can enjoy a fun hour-long outdoor activity. For children in grades K through 5. No registration required. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, Depew.

**Senior Stroll**-10am. Experience nature at your own pace, and enjoy a leisurely guided walk through the woods. For adults only. Registration required; call 716-683-5959. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, Depew.



**Wellness Walks**-10:00am - 12:00pm. Drop by Tiff Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. Please call 716-825-6397 to confirm walk will be taking place. Open to all, \$2 donation per person is appreciated.

**WNY Stormwater Coalition Meeting**-2 to 3:30pm at Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Rd., Cheektowaga.

**Western NY Forest Pest Taskforce (WEABTF)** -9:00 am at Erie County Emergency Service Training Center, /P <</MO



**Fix a Bike Flat-**Learn the ins and outs of fixing a flat. Includes hands on instruction on tube patching and tube and tire removal and reinstallation. We will also discuss different types of punctures as well as flat prevention. All classes are held at the GObike Community Workshop (98 Colvin Ave) on Sundays from 6pm-8pm. Cost for classes is \$10 plus any needed supplies & most classes are limited to 10 people. Please RSVP to adam@gobikebuffalo.org at least TWO days prior to class if you plan to attend.

**Winter Tree I.D.-** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at [Knox Farm State Park](#). Identifying tree species in winter can be an exciting challenge. Hone your skills and learn to identify trees based on shape, bark, and twigs. *For information & registration call (716) 549-1050.*

**Gardening Workshop: Seed Starting -** 2pm. Urban Roots, 482 Rhode Island, Buffalo. Required pre-registration-716-783-9653 or [heather@grassrootsgardens.org](mailto:heather@grassrootsgardens.org)

**Valentine Snowshoe Brunch at Bond Lake-**11:00 am - 2:30 pm. This has been a much talked about favorite winter activity for everyone. If you haven't attended our brunch and hike you must this year! This exciting Sunday morning/afternoon adventure is a new twist to a normal "restaurant" Sunday morning brunch. Come and join us out at Bond Lake for a Dutch Oven Brunch. We plan to serve hot fresh baked goodies, mountain main breakfast (vegetarian mountain man breakfast will also be served), tea, coffee and hot chocolate. After you have had plenty to eat come and join us for an early afternoon snowshoe adventure through the park. If mother nature does not provide us with snow we will spend the afternoon hiking. Brunch will be served at 11:00 AM. If you have snowshoes the cost will be \$25.00 (this includes your brunch and guided hike). If you do not have snowshoes and need to rent [contact us](#) (direct link). Snowshoe rental with poles is \$10.00pp. Reservations are a must. If you have never snowshoed this is the time to come out and try it. Trails are easy to hike. Instructors and NYS Licensed Guides will accompany you on this hike. For further information [contact us](#).

### **Monday, February 18**

**National Battery Day-**Recycle batteries responsibly. See the Tips for Environment below events for links.

### **Tuesday, February 19**

**Full Moon Snowshoe Walk-**7pm. Join a guided snowshoe walk al0000hTQ 0 1 364(s)7(n)9(o)-8(w)13(s)7(h)9(o)-8(e)8(

**2019 Greenhouse School**-9:30 AM - 4:00 PM at CCE-Erie at 21 South Grove Street • East Aurora, NY 14052 (located in the Print Shop Building on the Roycroft campus). Workshop registration includes coffee, snacks and lunch. Sponsorship of program breaks and lunch has been provided by Syngenta and Ball Horticultural. Learn what is new in management of pests in commercial greenhouses from NYS IDM specialists, Cornell industry personnel and regional pesticide specialists. [View & print full agenda here.](#) [Registration](#)

**Wednesday, February 20**

**Learn to Cross-Country Ski**-10am. Learn the basics of cross-country skiing before going on a short guided ski

**Adventures in Buffalo History**-This speaker series features different Explore Buffalo docents presenting lectures on a wide variety of topics. Each session will have two different lectures. All sessions are from 7-9 PM on Thursday evenings at First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo on Symphony Circle. Admission per session: \$10. [Explorer Pass](#) Holders: Free. Topic: **Antislavery Conventions in Buffalo and Banking in Buffalo.** [Register.](#)

**Wellness Walks**-10:00am - 12:00pm. Drop by Tiff Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. Please call 716-825-6397 to confirm walk will be taking place. Open to all, \$2 donation per person is appreciated.

**"How I Built It" Buffalo River Small Business Panel**- 6 to 7:30pm at Lakeward Spirits at The Barrel Factory – 65 Vandalia Street, Buffalo, NY 14204. Join Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Erie County, and Buffalo River RAP for the Buffalo River Speaker Series. Get to know the Buffalo River Small Business Community at this event. Speakers include representatives from Elevator Alley Kayak, Undergrounds Cafe, and other local businesses! [REGISTER FOR FREE](#)



## Monday, February 25

**Japanese Stiltgrass Update**-6:00 – 7:30pm at 101 King St, East Aurora, NY 14052. Japanese stiltgrass, an early detection priority invasive species, was found in the Village of East Aurora and reported to WNY PRISM in 2017. In response, WNY PRISM partnered with the Village of East Aurora and Town of Aurora to start an education campaign to raise awareness of this species and the threat it poses. In 2018, WNY PRISM mailed over 2500 post cards to residents surrounding the known infestation and conducted site surveys looking for Japanese stiltgrass. This presentation will provide background on Japanese stiltgrass, an update on outreach and survey efforts, information on best management practices, and include a discussion about next steps. Please join us!

## Tuesday, February 26

**Show and Share for Environmental Educators**-9:30am to 3:30pm. Demonstrate your hands-on environmental/outdoor education (EE/OE) activity, resources, and written lesson plan with workshop participants. Each "share time" is up to 15 minutes in length. Genesee County Park & Forest, 11095 Bethany Center Rd., East Bethany, 14054. To register contact Kimberly at [kadriaansesn@sciencebuff.org](mailto:kadriaansesn@sciencebuff.org). Register by Feb. 6. Free event. Sponsored by the New York State Outdoor Education Association [www.NYSOEA.org](http://www.NYSOEA.org). To share an activity, please submit to [kadriaansen@sciencebuff.org](mailto:kadriaansen@sciencebuff.org) your activity lesson plan and resource files to be shared, BEFORE Wednesday, February 20. Be sure to specify if any particular materials are needed the day of, if you have a time preference, and whether the activity will be shared inside or outside. Each activity will be shared within a 15 minute time frame (think "speed-dating"/ or a delicious "flight" of multiple activities). After the workshop, lesson plan PDF's will be posted on NYSOEA.org under "Member Resources". Although it is preferred that participants share an activity and attend the whole workshop, neither are required. Please bring your own bag lunch if attending the whole event. Light refreshments will be offered; please feel free to bring something to share!

**Center for the Study of Art, Architecture, History, & Nature (C-SAAHN) Lecture Series**-Noon to 1pm at Downtown Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, Ring of Knowledge area (past Fable's Café). Free and open to the public. For speaker and topic, visit <http://imaginelifelonglearning.com/category/lecture-series/library/>

**Sierra Club Monthly Meeting**-7:00-9:00 PM, Daemen College, 4380 Main Street Amherst, Research and Information Commons (Library) Room 101. All are welcome.

**Little Tykes Mini Nature Camp**-Tiff Nature Preserve, 9:30-11:30am, \$7 per child with adult\* | Ages 3-5 [register](#). Enjoy a morning of fun and exploration in our early childhood classroom. Storytime, crafts, outdoor investigation and more help to foster the nature explorer in your child. A different theme each month. Kid-friendly snacks provided! *Advance registration required.*

**Tuesday Evening Snowshoe Hike**-6-8pm, Tuesday evening hikes are free. 6

**Architecture Talk: Mustafa Faruki**-6 pm - 7:30 pm at Hayes 403, UB South Campus. "IF". Mustafa will speak about some of the projects currently installed in the lobby of Hayes Hall. This exhibition also includes UB architecture student work that has emerged from his seminar in connection with the 2018-19 Reyner Banham Fellowship.

**Gyotaku and Other Nature Prints: Adult Workshop**-Buffalo Science Museum from 6 to 7:30pm. Experiment with different nature print-making processes, including a version of gyotaku, printing fish. In this workshop, participants learn the history behind various printing processes and can try a few of their own. \$15. [Register](#)



## Sunday, March 3

**Western NY Iris Society-** meets at 1:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Library, 5466 Broadway, Lancaster. The territory that the Western New York Iris Society covers has expanded to include all of Western New York and Ontario. A 45-minute presentation will be given on various classes of irises that grow in our area. There will also be general gardening tips and a social time following the presentations. For this meeting, Annette will speak on Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) and Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Iris. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call Marilee Farry, president, at 716-668-1789.

**Bowl-a-Rama: Massachusetts Avenue Project Fundraiser-** We need your help raising \$10K to support urban agriculture and youth development. So, gather a team of five and join us for an afternoon of bowling for MAP! [CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#), [Kenmore Lanes](#) from 1:30-4pm (bowling begins at 2pm). [Tickets can be purchased at this link](#). The cost of the event is \$25 per bowler or \$100 for a team of up to 5 people.

### Tips for the Environment:

1. **Get Charged Up for National Battery Day which is February 18-** Visit [batteries](#) to learn about different types. Rechargeable batteries (including those in power tools and cell phones) can be dropped off at a number of stores (find a site [here](#)). There are currently no drop-off sites for single use batteries, but you can [purchase](#) a collection box or support a [store](#) or organization that has purchased one to ship these batteries.
2. **Repurposing bed sheets-**of course you can use them as rags, but here are a few other options depending on their condition. [Reusing bedsheets](#)

**Remember the 4 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair**

**Take the time:** In the evening when it is dark, turn off all lights and take a walk around your house as if you were a detective finding clues. Make note of all those little red (sometimes comes in other colors) dots that are innocently glowing in the dark. Plug all components of a computer or home entertainment system into a **power strip**. Turn off the power strip with a single switch when electronics and appliances are not in use. Anything plugged into the strip is truly turned off.

**Do you really need everything that is plugged in?** In my kitchen there was a clock on the stove, on the microwave, the coffee maker and another one on the wall. Four clocks in all! Just how many did I need to tell me the time in one room? I kept the one on the stove top connected and now I disconnect the others when not in use. I moved the wall clock to another room.

**Let's talk about saving energy and money:** The average U.S. household spends more than \$200 annually to power devices while they are "off". Microwave ovens, computers and TVs even when turned off continue to use energy. Like a leaky faucet, they are responsible for a tremendous amount of waste. In fact, 40% of the energy used to power consumer electronics is consumed when the devices are not in use. The typical American household has 27 appliances that are always on.

Make it a **routine** to shut off lights and electrical appliances whenever you leave a room. Put timers on lamps that will turn off lamps at the same time on a daily basis. Timers like these can be found in hardware stores and they can be plugged into your lamp.

Bottom line is: switch off anything that uses electricity when it is not in use.

"Together we can make a difference"

Lesley Haynes – [lesleyhaynes14@yahoo.com](mailto:lesleyhaynes14@yahoo.com)

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## Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities Available

Volunteer opportunities are available at local organizations for a one-time commitment for several hours to a regularly scheduled donation of your time. Websites are listed later in the newsletter.

**Aquarium of Niagara-** Scuba-certified volunteers needed to clean the sea lion exhibit (without animals) once monthly. Other opportunities exist for education, exhibit maintenance and other tasks.

**AWARE** (Association for Wild Animal Rehabilitation and Education) - Volunteers needed for fundraising, grant writing, capturing and transporting animals to us or the veterinarians, public relations, construction of cages, begging for donations of materials and food (for the animals, not us) and for helping at our educational programs.

**Buffalo Audubon-** Volunteers wanted for Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, and For the Birds Niagara! Help with tour leading, office work, programming, grounds keeping and general maintenance. Every Wednesday 10am-2pm is Volunteer Day at Beaver Meadow. No need to register, but bring a lunch. Call (800) 377-1520 for details.

**Buffalo Carshare-** This new non-profit has brought car-sharing to Buffalo. Volunteers are needed for office help and promotion. Contact them at <http://www.buffalocarshare.org/volunteer.html>.

**Buffalo Central Terminal-** Many different opportunities for people interested in helping to preserve this unique building- people with basic carpentry and repair skills, and those with plumbing or electrical skills, to work inside the building, as well as those interested in staffing events, assisting with fundraising, marketing, operating our gift shop, and other tasks. For info, check <http://buffalocentralterminal.org/you-can-help/volunteer-with-the-ctrc/>.

**Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens-** Docents needed. Training is provided. Tours and hands-on lessons are scheduled in advance, so you may sign up for those that fit your schedule. Other opportunities to help are available too. For info, contact [khammer@buffalogardens.com](mailto:khammer@buffalogardens.com)

**Buffalo Junior Solar Sprint**-If you are interested in helping run the JSS Buffalo event or are interested in finding out more about the Leadership committee, please contact [jssbuffalo@yahoo.com](mailto:jssbuffalo@yahoo.com).

**Buffalo Museum of Science** has volunteer and internship opportunities available for teens, college students and adults. For information, contact Monika McFoy, Director of Community Programs, at 896-5200, ext. 343.

**Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper**- <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/programs/volunteer/> for opportunities.

**Buffalo ReUse** can use volunteers for many things. To help, contact them at [volunteer@buffaloreuse.org](mailto:volunteer@buffaloreuse.org).

**Clean Air Coalition of WNY**-Help with mailings, phone calls, canvassing and Photovoice (documenting environmental challenges). To help, contact at 852-3813 or [www.cacwny.org](http://www.cacwny.org).

**Excalibur**, a private, non-profit all volunteer, charitable organization seeks competent anglers and captains to help provide free boating and fishing opportunities on Lake Erie for disabled and disadvantaged persons using the organizations new vessel. Contact Director Jim Catalano at [jim@excaliburl.org](mailto:jim@excaliburl.org) or visit <http://excaliburl.org>

**Garden Walk Buffalo** helps to rejuvenate neighborhoods, helps make our neighborhoods more walkable, and has an incredible impact on Buffalo's image outside the region. For info, email [GardenWalkBuffalo@yahoo.com](mailto:GardenWalkBuffalo@yahoo.com).

**Go Bike Buffalo**- If you're interested or want more information, [info@gobikebuffalo.org](mailto:info@gobikebuffalo.org)

**Habitat for Humanity** needs volunteers to help impact lives of families in the city of Buffalo by building simple, decent homes. Call 204-0740 or [volunteer@habitatbuffalo.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatbuffalo.org)

**Hawk Creek Wildlife Center** is seeking volunteers for who w0.15byorganhaQ EMC /P <</MCID 26>> BDC q0.00000912 0 61



NY Sport Fishing- <http://www.fishny.com/>  
Erie Canal Trailway- [www.ptny.org/bikecanal](http://www.ptny.org/bikecanal)  
Niagara Watershed Alliance- <http://www.had-e-nuff.com/id6.html>  
Rochester Roots-<http://www.rochesterroots.org/>  
New York Times Green Energy & Environment-<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/>  
We Love Outdoors-<http://www.weloveoutdoors.com/>  
WNY Chapter/American Chemical Society- <http://wny.sites.acs.org/>  
Fishing Outdoors- <http://www.huntfishnyoutdoors.com/events.php>  
Citizen Science Opportunities- [listing](#)

### **County/New York State Resources**

Erie County GIS Mapping- <http://gis2.erie.gov/HTML5/ErieCountyNY/>  
Geographic Information Gateway <http://opdgig.dos.ny.gov/#/home>

### **Green Jobs, Internships and Opportunities**

Green Jobs- <http://www.greatgreencareers.com>  
UB Green Job list- <http://www.ub-careers.buffalo.edu/green.php>  
Listing of websites-[www.tinyurl.com/SustainabilityAndGreenJobs](http://www.tinyurl.com/SustainabilityAndGreenJobs)

### **Youth Summer/Holiday Camps/Home School Series**

[www.aquariumofniagara.org](http://www.aquariumofniagara.org)  
[www.buffaloudubon.org](http://www.buffaloudubon.org)  
[www.buffalogardens.com](http://www.buffalogardens.com)  
[www.buffscience.org](http://www.buffscience.org)  
[www.tiff.org](http://www.tiff.org)  
[www.buffalozoo.org](http://www.buffalozoo.org)  
[www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org)  
[www.yourspca.org](http://www.yourspca.org)

### **Education Resources**

[Green Education Foundation](#)  
[Facing the Future](#)  
[Cloud Institute for Sustainable Education](#)  
[Sustainable Futures Institute](#)  
[Nature Generation.](#)  
[The Center for Ecoliteracy](#)  
[Hamline's Center for Global Environmental Education \(CGEE\)](#)  
[The National Science Teachers Association Learning Centers](#)  
[The US Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development](#)

### **Grant Opportunities/Tools**

<https://trust.guidestar.org/grant-writing-101-resources-for-grant-writers>  
<http://assembly.state.ny.us/gan/>  
[www.grantstation.com](http://www.grantstation.com)  
[www.grantwatch.com](http://www.grantwatch.com)  
[www.grantsalert.com](http://www.grantsalert.com)  
<https://attra.ncat.org/index.php>  
<https://grantsreform.ny.gov/>

### **Urban Farms/ Composting/Rural Community-Supported Agriculture/Sustainable Practices-**

Arden Farm- <http://theardenfarm.com/>  
Becker Farms- <http://www.beckerfarms.com/csa>  
Buffalo Organics/Foodscaping Project-<http://www.buffalofoodscaping.com/>  
Canticle Farms-<http://www.canticlefarm.org>















Gardens Buffalo Niagara

<https://gardensbuffaloniagara.com/>

Garden Clubs of WNY

[www.gardenclubsofwny.com](http://www.gardenclubsofwny.com)

Genesee County Nature Center

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New York State Parks	<a href="http://www.nysparks.com">www.nysparks.com</a>
New York State Sea Grant	<a href="http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/">http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/</a>
New York State Soil and Water	<a href="http://www.nys-soilandwater.org/">http://www.nys-soilandwater.org/</a>
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group	<a href="http://nesawg.org/">http://nesawg.org/</a>
New York Upstate Chapter of the Green Building Council	<a href="http://www.greenupstateny.org/">http://www.greenupstateny.org/</a>
New York State Wetlands Forum	<a href="http://www.wetlandsforum.org">http://www.wetlandsforum.org</a>
Niagara County Farm Bureau	<a href="http://www.niagaracountyfarmbureau.com/">http://www.niagaracountyfarmbureau.com/</a>
Niagara County Landfill and Recycling	<a href="http://www.rethinkyourwaste.com/">http://www.rethinkyourwaste.com/</a>
Niagara County Parks	<a href="http://www.niagaracounty.com/Parks/">http://www.niagaracounty.com/Parks/</a>
Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District	<a href="http://www.niagaraswcd.com">www.niagaraswcd.com</a>
Niagara Fishing Expo	<a href="http://niagarafishingexpo.com/">http://niagarafishingexpo.com/</a>
Niagara Frontier Botanical Society	<a href="https://sites.google.com/a/niagarafrontierbotanicalsociety.org/niagar">https://sites.google.com/a/niagarafrontierbotanicalsociety.org/niagar</a>
Niagara River Anglers Association	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/Niagara-River-Anglers-1013633888708865/">www.facebook.com/Niagara-River-Anglers-1013633888708865/</a>
Niagara River Greenway Commission	<a href="https://www.niagararivergreenway.com/">https://www.niagararivergreenway.com/</a>
Niagara University Sustainability	<a href="http://www.niagara.edu/green/">http://www.niagara.edu/green/</a>
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York	<a href="http://nofany.org">http://nofany.org</a>
Oakmossed Education	<a href="http://oakmossed.com">http://oakmossed.com</a>
One Region Forward	<a href="http://www.oneregionforward.org/">http://www.oneregionforward.org/</a>
Open Buffalo	<a href="http://www.openbuffalo.org/">http://www.openbuffalo.org/</a>
Our Outer Harbor	<a href="http://www.ourouterharbor.org/">http://www.ourouterharbor.org/</a>
Partners for a Livable WNY	<a href="https://www.livablewny.org/">https://www.livablewny.org/</a>
Partnership for the Public Good	<a href="http://www.ppgbuffalo.org">www.ppgbuffalo.org</a>
Paths, Peaks and Paddles	<a href="http://www.pathspeakspaddles.com">www.pathspeakspaddles.com</a>

Pfeiffer Nature Center (Portville)	<a href="http://www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org">www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org</a>
People United for Sustainable Housing	<a href="http://www.pushbuffalo.org">http://www.pushbuffalo.org</a>
Plant WNY	<a href="http://www.plantwny.com/">http://www.plantwny.com/</a>
Pollinator Conservation Association	<a href="http://www.pollinatorconservationassociation.org/">http://www.pollinatorconservationassociation.org/</a>
Preservation Buffalo Niagara	<a href="http://www.preservationbuffaloniagara.org/">http://www.preservationbuffaloniagara.org/</a>
Primate Sanctuary	<a href="http://theprimatesanctuary.com">http://theprimatesanctuary.com</a>
Regional Councils NYS	<a href="http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov">http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov</a>
Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve	

Sustainability at Buffalo State

<http://sustainability.buffalostate.edu/>

Tift Nature Preserve

<http://www.tift.org/tift/>

Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee

<https://www.facebook.com/TonawandaCreek/>

Tonawanda Tomorrow

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Western New York Herpetological Society	<a href="http://www.wnyherpsociety.org/">http://www.wnyherpsociety.org/</a>
Western New York Hiking Trails and resources	<a href="http://www.wnyhikes.com">www.wnyhikes.com</a>
Western New York Land Conservancy	<a href="http://www.wnylc.org/">http://www.wnylc.org/</a>
WNY Nursery and Landscape Association (PLANT WNY)	<a href="http://www.plantwny.com/">http://www.plantwny.com/</a>
WNY Partnership for Invasive Species Mgmt (PRISM)	<a href="http://www.wnyprism.org">www.wnyprism.org</a>
WNY Mountain Bike Association	<a href="http://www.wnytrails.org/">http://www.wnytrails.org/</a>
WNY Permaculture	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/WNY-Permaculture-1098493876841295/">https://www.facebook.com/WNY-Permaculture-1098493876841295/</a>
Western New York Science Congress	<a href="http://wnyssc.org/">http://wnyssc.org/</a>
Western New York State Horticultural Society (WNYHS)	<a href="http://www.wnyhs.org/">http://www.wnyhs.org/</a>