



# EARTHWAYS CENTER

a division of the  MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

We promote sustainability through environmental education and improving the built environment.

Vol. 2, No. 4 – October/December 2007



Young green homes festival attendees show off their energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs.  
Photo credit: Glenda Abney

**Fall is such a great energy season** – it's the time when concerns over cold temperatures and rising energy prices make many of us start to pay attention to utility bills and energy use in our homes.

We know that 2100+ of you who attended the **EarthWays Green Homes Festival and House Tour** on September 29 and 30 have great ideas on how to be more efficient and sustainable this winter. On top of all the great information disseminated, we sold 6,000 compact fluorescent light bulbs! Check out the impact from all of you who bought and will now be using these efficient cfls: 4,620,000 kWh of energy has been saved and 7,091,700 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> will not be released into the air. This is equivalent to removing 618 cars off the road for one year. Thanks everyone, for your part in this savings!

If you missed the bulb sale and would like to still get the 100 watt equivalent cfls for 99 cents, you have one last chance – there will be a **Change-A-Light bulb sale again sponsored by AmerenUE on the main grounds of Missouri Botanical Garden on October 28**, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or while supplies last. Cash sales only, 6 bulbs per person limit. Sales will happen in the lobby of the Ridgway entrance building. Be there!

If you'd like to be even more involved in getting this kind of information out to the public, check out our **two new positions now open for applications: Coordinator, ENERGY STAR Programs & Coordinator, Green Resources**. All information can be found on the Garden's website, including the link to the electronic application. Go to [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org) and click on Opportunities, then Jobs.

## EarthWays Provides Sustainability Education

EWC's education programs explore sustainability, through the investigation of energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy sources, solid waste reduction and recycling, green building, water conservation and air quality.



Adult education classes at EWC are wonderful motivators towards living a more sustainable life.

We are offering several classes this fall to help individuals expand their understanding of sustainability issues. See the Upcoming Programs section below for details – don't miss **Beginning the Discussion: Sustainability 101** that is being offered the evening of October 25 at the EarthWays Center. We'd love to have a great group that night to discuss everyday things we should all be considering to improve our own sustainable use of resources. This evening is for everyone – the novice, the learner, the expert. Together we can help each other identify the multitude of options available to us all. This is the first of a regular series that will be held each quarter. Light snacks and beverages will be available. Come join us for a great evening and to help outline the topic list for future Sustainability Discussion Evenings.

## EarthWays Improves the Built Environment

EWC programs focus on improving all aspects of our living and working environments.



**Home Energy Efficiency Makeover Contest** – don't miss this incredible opportunity for \$10,000 of home energy improvements! The contest is open now until 6:00 pm October 24.

To submit electronic applications go to [www.earthwayscenter.org](http://www.earthwayscenter.org), and click on the contest link in the left column. Applicants must be legal homeowners either living in Illinois or in the AmerenUE territory of Missouri. Two winners will be chosen, one in MO and one in IL.

The contest is part of the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Review the rules, submit an application and tell us why you should be chosen!

Winners will be announced November 2nd. Check it out!

We are looking for contractors to be a part of the **Greater St. Louis Regional Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program**. If your company would like to offer whole house building assessments and then help homeowners obtain the recommended home improvements, this program is for you! We have a training session scheduled for October 29 through November 2. Call us now so we can get you integrated into the program.

## Upcoming Programs - Adult Classes at EarthWays Center

### Re-Energy-ize Your EXISTING Home

Monday, October 22 · 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Monday, November 5 · 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., OR Monday, December 10 · 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

We'll explain the importance of whole house audits and subsequent home improvements that can help make existing homes more



The Re-Energy-Ize Your EXISTING Home class will help home owners see the benefits to whole house assessments as demonstrated by the contractor above.

Photo credit: Julia Feder

comfortable, healthy, safe and efficient.

**Instructor:** Glenda Abney, EWC Manager

**Fee:** \$5 MBG member, \$10 nonmember (Offered multiple times, attend once)

### Beginning the Discussion: Sustainability 101

Thursday, October 25 · 7 to 9 p.m.

During this introductory discussion, participants will explore the basics of sustainable living. The focus will be on low cost ways to incorporate these practices into your daily routine.

**Facilitators:** EarthWays Center Staff Members

**Fee:** \$5 MBG member or nonmember, Free MBG Staff

### Reduce: A Focus on the First "R"

Thursday, November 8 · 7 to 9 p.m.

Learn how you can be part of the solution by bringing less home in the first place! You'll walk away with ideas on how to save time, money, and natural resources.

**Instructor:** Katy Mike Smaistrila, Education Coordinator

**Fee:** Free

### Greening Your NEW Home – No "Greenwashing" Allowed

Wednesday, November 14 · 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. OR Thursday, December 6 · 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Looking to build or buy a new 'green' home? Come learn the basics of true green building. Pizza provided.

**Instructor:** Jean Ponzi, EWC Program Manager · **Fee:** \$10 MBG member, \$15 nonmember (Offered multiple times, attend once)

**How to Register:** Call (314) 577-0220 or email [earthways.center@mobot.org](mailto:earthways.center@mobot.org) to register.

**Reservations required for all classes!** All classes listed above will take place at the EarthWays Center located at 3617 Grandel Square, St. Louis. Parking is on the street at meters, bring some quarters.

## Featured Organization



**MEEA – Missouri Environmental Education Association** ([www.meeea.org](http://www.meeea.org)) is a great organization for *anyone* interested in educating others about the environment – this includes formal and non-formal educators and interested individuals. Their Vision is for 'An Environmentally Responsible Citizenry in Missouri'. Their mission is to 'Advance Environmental Education in Missouri by Providing Innovative Professional Development and Networking Opportunities for Those who Share our Vision'. Their value is in 'Connecting People, Ideas and Resources Throughout Missouri'. Members receive electronic newsletters full of opportunities and ideas; they have a professional certification program and a database program, great networking opportunities and a wonderful annual conference.

This year is the 11th annual conference - "EE Campus 2007 – Mapping the Literacy Links in Environmental Education: Linking Reading, Writing and Math to EE". It's on Saturday, December 1, 2007, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm at the Discovery Center in Kansas City. It's a great day to get in touch with environmental education topics regionally and nationally. Go to their website for full conference details. We'll be there, and hope you will be too!

## EarthWays Center Volunteer Opportunities



*EWC Volunteer Scott assists a recent green homes festival attendee.  
Photo credit: Leslie Wallace*

### **EarthWays Center Seeks Volunteers to Learn and Teach GREEN. Think You're Green?! Spread Your Green Attitude & Enthusiasm!**

This is a wonderful way to become even more knowledgeable about sustainable living – and to spread the good green word!

We have opportunities for volunteers to help with tours and special events on a monthly basis. The only requirement is a minimum of four hours of your time every three months - we'll teach you the rest! We need help during the week, on weekends and an occasional evening.

An EarthWays shirt and name badge will be provided for regular volunteers when a one-day training is completed. Come help make a difference!

**Currently, we are taking volunteer applications for all times, but have a special need for several individuals, including:**

- Weekday tour guides
- Public Tour Weekend tour guides and hosts
- Performers to develop our "Detox Your Domicile" troupe

**Please contact us at:** (314) 577-0220 or e-mail [earthways.center@mobot.org](mailto:earthways.center@mobot.org) today!

## EarthWays Center Public Tours

3rd Saturday & Sunday each month



11 a.m. • Noon • 1 p.m. • 2 p.m.

### Upcoming tour weekends:

October 20-21

November 17-18

December 15-16

**Admission:** \$3 per person beginning August 1st.

Missouri Botanical Garden Members and Children Age 12 & under Free.

No reservations or advance ticket purchase needed for public tour weekends.

For more information on the EarthWays Home Public Tour Days and examples of things you can see here go to:

[EarthWays Home Public Tour Days](#)

**Note:** This historic building is not wheelchair accessible. EarthWays Center is located in the Grand Center arts district of mid-town St. Louis, not on the grounds of Missouri Botanical Garden. For a map to EWC, [click here](#).

For directions during the I-64/Hwy 40 reconstruction, visit [www.thenewi64.org](http://www.thenewi64.org).

**EarthWays Center - 3617 Grandel Square - St. Louis, MO 63108 - (314) 577-0220**

*You are receiving this newsletter because you have subscribed during a visit to EarthWays Center or to our website. We hope you find this information useful! If you wish to unsubscribe, please email [earthways.center@mobot.org](mailto:earthways.center@mobot.org) and title your message "unsubscribe."*