



EARTHWAYS CENTER

a division of the  MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

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

Vol. 4, No. 4 • October–December 2009

GREEN HOMES FESTIVAL A SUCCESS—THANKS FOR ATTENDING AND PARTICIPATING



Missouri Botanical Garden's **EarthWays Center** and **Missouri Coalition for the Environment** extend a fond thank you to all of the wonderful sponsors, exhibitors, crafters, food vendors, workshop presenters and **ATTENDEES** for participating in the 2009 Earthways Green Homes Festival on Saturday, September 26, 2009.

THANK YOU!

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.

EarthWays Center Helps Local Schools Go Green

Thanks to funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health, the US Environmental Protection Agency and the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District, EarthWays education staff can offer innovative, hands-on programs focusing on clean air, green schools, and solid waste reduction to local schools.

Whether it's Clyde C. Miller Career Academy students learning how plants affect air quality and monitoring the air quality within their classrooms, students from all over the St. Louis region becoming Green School Ambassadors and performing audits of their schools, or students at Rockwood Summit High School coordinating social marketing and peer education campaigns through the Leadership in Environmental Action Projects (LEAP) program, EarthWays staff are helping students learn that they have the power to make a difference and also make more sustainable choices at school and in their personal lives.

For more information on each of these programs and how your school can become involved, visit <http://www.earthwayscenter.org/education.html>.



A school yard audit in action as a student looks for native plants. Photo: Jennifer Morrison, The St. Michael's School.

EARTHWAYS IMPROVES THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

*EarthWays Center programs focus on improving all aspects of our living and working environments.
EWC is home to the USGBC—St. Louis Regional Chapter headquarters.*

No-Cost Ways to Green Your School

Twenty percent of America goes to school every day. Students, faculty and staff deserve to spend their days in a green school—a building that provides a healthy environment conducive to learning while saving energy, resources, and money.

Green schools cost less to operate, which means more resources devoted to improving students' education. On average a green school saves up to \$100,000 per year—enough to hire two new teachers, buy 500 new computers, or purchase 5000 new textbooks. More importantly, students attending green schools demonstrate reduced absenteeism and improved student performance and test scores.

[USGBC—St. Louis Regional Chapter](#) is hosting its second annual Green Schools program in order to encourage all schools to go green! The program will feature networking opportunities, informational booths, an introduction to green schools, a presentation on no-cost ways to green your schools and an optional tour of Crossroads College Prep's new science wing (pursuing LEED Platinum certification).

WHAT: No-Cost Ways to Green Your School

WHEN: October 28, 2009; 7:30 to 10:30 AM

WHERE: Crossroads College Preparatory School, 500 DeBaliviere Avenue, St. Louis 63112

This is a **FREE** workshop for educators and administrators and open to the public. For more information or to **RSVP** please visit the USGBC—STL web site at <http://www.usgbc-stl.org/2009/10/no-cost-ways-to-green-your-school/>.



**ST. LOUIS
REGIONAL
CHAPTER**

Energize Missouri Communities—Grants available for municipal energy efficiency improvements!

EarthWays Center is collaborating in a statewide project to distribute over \$12 million in federal energy efficiency funds to local governments across Missouri. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources has set aside this Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funding for cities and counties. We are partnering in these efforts with the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) and Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc., in addition to MO-DNR.

[Learn more...](#)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS—ADULT CLASSES / FIELD TRIPS AT EARTHWAYS CENTER

2009–2010 Classes and Educational Opportunities

EarthWays Center'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.

The Garden continues its sustainability efforts by going GREEN with paperless registration for all of our classes!

EWC fall and winter offerings include returning favorites like "Cashing In On Home Comfort," composting and rainwater harvesting how-to's, "Building Your Green Dream Home," and a field trip to a local landfill.

[Learn more...](#)

New this season:

- [Sustainable Chocolate](#)
- [Real and Slow...An Evening with Chef Jeff](#)



Photo: Hemera.

FEATURED ORGANIZATION

Missouri History Museum's GREEN LIVING EXPO

Join staff from EarthWays Center as we participate at the Missouri History Museum's Second Annual Green Living Expo on December 6th!

Their exhibition, *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years 1859–2009* (exhibition runs February 14, 2009 to February 14, 2010), will be the inspiration as they help attendees explore "green living" in the 21st century. Featuring a timeline of the Missouri Botanical Garden, photographs, artifacts, and an audio tour, the 1,000-square-foot gallery examines the rich history of the oldest continually operating botanical garden in the United States.

Visit this free exhibit and enjoy eco-friendly shopping, educational demonstrations, music, and more! Kim Petzing, Education Supervisor at EarthWays Center, will present on the topic [Greening Your Holiday Home](#).

WHAT: Second Annual GREEN LIVING EXPO

WHEN: December 6, 2009; 12 to 4 PM

WHERE: Missouri History Museum, Lindell and DeBaliviere in Forest Park, St. Louis 63112

Learn more at <http://www.mohistory.org> or call 314-746-4599. [Download flier.](#)



EARTHWAYS CENTER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

EarthWays Center Seeks Volunteers to Learn and Teach About Sustainability

Think you're green?! Spread your eco-centric attitude and enthusiasm!

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. This is a wonderful way to become even more knowledgeable about sustainable living—and to feel good about spreading the word! An EarthWays shirt and name badge will be provided for regular volunteers when one-day training is completed. Come help make a difference!

Featured opportunity:

Earthways Center is pleased to partner again with the St. Louis Community College District to teach students from the Rockwood School District about green buildings...and we need your help!

If you're interested in working with youth, educating for sustainability, or offering general support, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Katy Mike Smaistrle via email at KatyMike.Smaistrle@mobot.org.



An EarthWays Center volunteer leads an elementary school discussion on recycled content and reuse. Photo: EWC staff.

EARTHWAYS CENTER PUBLIC TOURS

Tour the EarthWays home during one of the following weekends to raise your awareness of increased sustainability in your own home. Upcoming tour weekends: October 17 & 18; November 21 & 22; December 19 & 20.

WHAT: EarthWays Center Public Tours

WHEN: 3rd Saturday & Sunday of each month;

11 AM • Noon • 1 PM • 2 PM

WHERE: EarthWays Center, 3617 Grandel Square, St. Louis 63108

ADMISSION: \$3 per person; Missouri Botanical Garden Members and Children Age 12 & under Free. No reservations or advance ticket purchase needed for public tour weekends.

[Learn more about EarthWays Home Public Tour Days and examples of things you can see at EarthWays Home.](#)

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. [View EarthWays Center map](#). For directions during the I-64/Hwy 40 reconstruction, visit <http://www.thenewi64.org>.



International Day of Climate Action

Saturday, October 24th, is an International Day of Climate Action. On that day, people around our region and the world will gather to raise awareness of the challenges and opportunities presented by global climate disruption. More information at <http://www.stl350.com>.

EARTHWAYS CENTER – 3617 GRANDEL SQUARE – ST. LOUIS, MO 63108 – 314-577-0220

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