



Preserving Carbondale's Natural Areas

Green Earth News

Volume 33, No. 2, Summer 2019

Green Earth, Inc.
P. O. Box 441
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www.GreenEarthinc.org



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Pyles Fork

River to River Runners

Green Earth, Inc.

is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit
organization established in 1974.

Green Earth's mission is to
acquire and preserve natural areas
in the vicinity of Carbondale,
Illinois, and provide access for
public enjoyment and education.

We strive to preserve these areas
for future generations, and
encourage public input and
participation for these objectives.

Save the Date: GE's Annual Fall Potluck

Saturday September 7th, Noon-2pm Chautauqua Bottoms, Freeman St Entrance

Please join us for our annual fall potluck. This year we've decided to hold the potluck within one of our preserves, under the shade of the woods at Chautauqua Bottoms. We will set up within the circular clearing just south of the Freeman Street entrance (west of the intersection of Emerald Lane and Freeman Street). Plenty of street parking is available. Directional signs will be posted to make the potluck easy to find.

Our board members will set up tables and chairs, and provide main dishes, beverages, plates and utensils. Bringing a side dish or dessert to share would be appreciated. We will take this opportunity to recognize our hardest working volunteers.

RSVPs to 618 201-3774 or director@greeneearthinc.org are welcome but not mandatory.

Thanks to Unity Point Sixth Graders!

In early May, on a beautiful spring morning, we were delighted to again host the Unity Point Sixth Graders for a morning of hand-pulling the invasive garlic mustard plant from our Chautauqua Bottoms Preserves. Science teacher Christopher Midden organizes this annual event to coincide with a unit on ecology. The sixth graders learn about the negative impact invasive species can have on a habitat and how reducing biodiversity can dramatically impact ecosystem health. Our thanks to the 58 students, teachers, and volunteer chaperones who pulled garlic mustard and helped improve the ecological health of Chautauqua Bottoms Preserves.



River to River Runners Trail Adoption

We'd like to welcome The River to River Runners club to the family of Green Earth Trail Adopters. The RTR Runners are taking on the care and maintenance of the Pyles Fork Preserve's Attucks Trail. The RTR Runners kicked off their inaugural workday during June with trail clearing, mowing, and completing the rough-hewn log benches within a small meadow that had been started last fall. Thank you to our new adopters!



The former adopters, SIUC Geography Club, will move their efforts to the health and care of the preserve ecology. Because the Geography Club members are SIUC students and not typically in town over the summer months when our trails need the most care, this new arrangement will suit both the Club's schedule and the preserve's needs.



President's Corner

Beth Fisher, beth.bfisher@verizon.net

This issue is filled with stories about the amazing work of our volunteers, and on behalf of the entire board I'd like to thank all of them for their dedication to Green Earth. Many of them have even raised the money to cover the cost of materials, which we greatly appreciate!

*Bush Honeysuckle removal workday
Pyles Fork Preserve
January 2018*

We will be recognizing many of our volunteers at our potluck in September. We haven't held a gathering since 2016, so this will be a great opportunity for all our supporters to not only celebrate Green Earth's 45th anniversary, but also to catch up with each other and the work that's been happening over the past few years. I hope you can join us!

GE Welcomes New Board Member

Grant Miller is an Associate Professor in the department of Curriculum and Instruction at SIU. His work at SIU and his collaboration with area schools concerns history and place-based education. His personal interests include bicycling, hiking, and traveling, and he is excited about this opportunity to serve on the Green Earth board.

Progress on Chautauqua Bottoms ADA Bridge & Trail Upgrades

Though wet weather continued to keep heavy equipment off the trails this past spring and early summer, progress continues on the ADA upgrades. Over the past two months, two footbridges were upgraded by two different volunteer groups (read more about this work on the next page). Finishing touches to the ADA trail surface and upgrades to the prairie trail are still on hold until the trail surface can dry out a bit.

GE Soliciting Sponsorships for the 2019 Pumpkin Glow

We are actively looking for businesses to sponsor the Pumpkin Glow, a fundraiser that benefits both GE and the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Illinois. If your business would like to be associated with this fun and popular family event, please contact our director at 618 201-3774 or director@greeneearthinc.org

\$1000+

Lions Club of Carbondale

\$200-\$499

Judy & John Martinko

\$100 - \$199

Gregory Kupiec

Judy Drolet & Larry Townsend

Ruth & Thomas Roy

Gerard Smith, Barbara Sibert

Up to \$99

Betty & Roland Person

Emma Jean & Michael Durr

Katherina Calhoon & Mary Schmid

Laraine Wright, Craig Taylor

Joyce & Bob Killian

Carol & Jim Dooley

Harold Hungerford

Andrea & John Rendleman

Thanks To Our Recent Contributors!

Donations to 07/15/19

Monthly Contributors

S. Bennett Mercurio

John & Sara Hinde

Would you consider being a Sustaining Donor?

Automated monthly contributions are a reliable source of funding for Green Earth. Signing up is easy and free. Pick the amount that works for you! Just log on to our website and visit the Support GE page for more info.

eScrip Contributors

Curtis Clark, Barbara Eichholz,
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Wenona Whitfield

eScrip contributors have raised \$213.76 so far this year—just by grocery shopping at Schnucks!

GE Receives A Helping Hand On Several Upgrade Projects

Construct Flaglands Preserve Sign and Revitalize the Demonstration Garden

Boy Scout Joseph Prest worked toward his Eagle Rank this past spring by helping Green Earth with two projects at our Flaglands site. Joseph assembled a crew to construct a preserve sign mount and to revitalize the demonstration prairie garden.

The garden was first spot-sprayed for undesirable plants, especially encroaching woody vegetation. Local pollinator garden enthusiast Patty Wyrich transplanted seedlings from the demonstration prairie at Oakland - seedlings removed from the walkway and culled from the crowded garden. Materials for the project were supplied by GE.



Top right: Scout Joseph Prest.

Middle left: Boy Scout crew working on the sign mount.

Bottom right: finished sign

14 ft ADA Footbridge In mid-May a combined crew from Carbondale Lions Club and Habitat for Humanity replaced an existing footbridge on the ADA Friendly trail with a much larger, sturdier bridge which includes handrails. The trail will be ramped to the new deck height as soon as site conditions allow.

The project was proposed by Dick Daesch and developed by Jim Dooley - both longtime GE supporters and Lions Club members. Joe Lenzini of ET Simonds and Jim Nesler of Habitat for Humanity were both instrumental in logistics and planning.

The Lions Club generously donated \$1,000 to cover the materials and supplies.



Above: Art Zaitz, Ken Robinson, Phil Reed, & Dan Sterns

Left: Dan Stearns and Jim Dooley

12 ft ADA Footbridge In late June Boy Scout Raeden Bowker worked toward his Eagle Rank by planning, organizing, and executing the construction of the second ADA footbridge on the ADA Friendly Trail. This footbridge uses the same design as the earlier bridge and is much sturdier than the bridge it replaced. Ramping of the trail to the new deck height will also need to be completed as soon as site conditions allow.

Materials and supplies were donated by Lowes of Carbondale, and once again Joe Lenzini of ET Simonds provided support.

Raeden (center in bottom photo, right in adjacent photo) with fellow scouts working on footbridge



Mail-in Donation Form

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ Other _____

☐ I prefer to NOT have my name listed as a donor in
GE publications

☐ Please direct my donation toward GE's general fund

☐ Please direct my donation toward GE's Chautauqua Bottoms Upgrade project

Name(s) _____

☐ Help us cut down cost and opt for GE newsletters via email

Address _____

Email _____

Premiums

(please leave blank if you already receive our emails)

Gifts of \$10 or more:

☐ Please send me the *Invasive Species of Southern Illinois* Handbook

Gifts of \$35 or more:

☐ Please send me a Child Green Earth Shirt

circle one: short-sleeve long-sleeve

circle one: S M L

Gifts of \$25 or more:

☐ Please send me a gift box of GE Photo Note Cards

Gifts of \$50 or more:

☐ Please send me an Adult Green Earth Shirt

circle one: short-sleeve long-sleeve

circle one: S M L

Ways to Give

Check

Complete the information above and mail this form and
your check to P.O. Box 441, Carbondale, IL 62903

One time or Monthly Donations via Credit Card or PayPal

Visit the greenearthinc.org donations page

Enroll in Merchant Reward Programs

Green Earth participates in both Schnuck's eScrip
Program and Amazon Smiles program. Visit
greenearthinc.org/support-ge to learn how to sign up

Estate Planning

Remember Green Earth in your will. Call 618-201-3774 or
email director@greenearthinc.org

Stock Transfer

Call 618-201-3774 or email director@greenearthinc.org

GE's Upcoming Volunteer Workdays & Events

See our website's Event Calendar for more information

Aug 17 9am-12pm Monthly Workday, TBA

Sept 7 12pm-2pm Annual Potluck, Chautauqua Bottoms
Freeman Street Entrance, look for signs

Sept 8 1-3pm Rain date for the Annual Potluck

Sept 21 9am-12pm Monthly Workday, TBA

Locations subject to change based on site conditions & need.

Check our website for rain dates, updates, and changes.

ISM = Invasive Species Management

TBA = To Be Announced

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