



*Preserving Carbondale's Natural Areas*

# Green Earth News

Volume 32, No. 3, Fall 2018

Green Earth, Inc.  
P. O. Box 441  
Carbondale, IL 62903-0441

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## Board of Directors

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Ken Mayberry, Marisa Szubryt,  
Becca Tally, Laurel Toussaint.

**Executive Director**  
Stephanie Eichholz,  
[director@greeneearthinc.org](mailto:director@greeneearthinc.org)  
(618) 201-3774

## Trail Adopters

### Brush Hill

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### Oakland

NeuroRestorative

SIUC Evaluation &  
Development Center

### Chautauqua Bottoms

Bob & Janel Taylor  
Dorcy Prosser & Jan Weiss  
Ken Mayberry

### Fernlands

Nathan Speagle

### Pyles Fork

SIUC Geography Club

## 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.

## Chautauqua Bottoms ADA Bridge & Trail Opening this Fall!

We are pleased to announce that the ADA friendly trail and pedestrian bridge construction at Chautauqua Bottoms is nearly complete! To show off this work, we have scheduled an Open House on several dates (listed below) where you are invited to attend walks of the upgraded trail systems hosted by GE board members.

Please join us at the Chautauqua Bottoms Preserve main parking lot on Chautauqua Road during one of the following Open House dates:

**Thursday, Nov 15 - 1pm**

**Saturday, Nov 17 - 10am**

**Saturday, Nov 17 - 1pm**



*Trailhead improvements by GE volunteers*

We'd like to take this  
opportunity to thank those that  
made this project possible.

### **Our grantors:**

The Illinois Department of  
Natural Resources for 80%  
funding of the original cost.

The Illinois Clean Energy  
Community Foundation who  
provided a trailhead  
improvement grant that was  
folded into the entire site  
upgrade.

The Carbondale Township  
whose community grant  
covered the project cost  
increases and a large portion  
of the required match.

### **ET Simonds Construction:**

Without the support of ET  
Simonds we would not have  
been able to take on and  
complete such an ambitious  
venture. Their support has  
been extraordinary.

**And you:** all of our volunteers  
and supporters who donated  
time and funds towards the  
match portion of this project.  
Thank you!



*ET Simonds construction crew setting the 80' weathered steel pedestrian bridge*



*New ADA friendly trail surface at the Sunset Trailhead*





## President's Corner

*Beth Fisher, beth.bfisher@verizon.net*

I'd like to recognize and thank all of our amazing volunteers and donors who have supported Green Earth this year. You'll read about them throughout this issue. We couldn't exist without you! Many of you have generously donated toward our matching grants over the past two years. Green Earth has been very successful in obtaining these grants and

meeting our fundraising requirements. And the grants have and will continue to make an important impact on our preserves and our community. In addition to this matching grant fundraising, we still need to raise money for Green Earth's general fund, which sustains our organization and keeps us running from year to year. Will you consider a year-end donation? A form and giving options are included on the last page of the newsletter. Thank you!

**Will you be able to find the Secret Garden?** We've always encouraged off-trail exploration at the Green Earth sites, from simple adventuring to geocaching, we think non-consumptive activities that take hikers off the beaten path are great. This coming winter we will be adding a new reason to explore.

Longshadow Gardens of Pomona has donated eight of their Secret Garden cast limestone seats to Green Earth. This winter we will bring the seats out to a "secret" place within Chautauqua Bottoms. These will provide a perfect place for a group of friends to have a seat and enjoy all that nature has to offer. The secret garden won't be on any trail guide though, it will be up to YOU to find it.



**Were you at The Pumpkin Glow?**

*Right: Pumpkin painting was just one of the activities and games offered*



*Middle: Candy Davis & Marty Merrill performed lively Halloween entertainment*



Despite a bit of drizzle, the Pumpkin Glow was a big hit! With all the games, activities, music, treats, and the beautiful Glow Trail, the weather couldn't deter the fun. We estimate between 800-1,000 people attended. We'd like to thank all our volunteers that made this event possible. A few notable people who were instrumental are Jan Weiss, Judy Martinko, Lisa Thomas, CCHS Key Club, Joe Lenzini and ET Simonds.

## Thanks To Our Recent Contributors!

Donations from 08/01/18

### 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.*

### \$200-\$499

Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship  
Beth & Derek Fisher

### \$100 - \$199

Barbara Sibert  
Barbara & Patrick Hewson  
Barbara Eichholz

### Up to \$99

Patsy Campbell  
Kathy & Steve Belletire  
Donald Lawrence

*eScrip contributors have raised \$462.29 so far this year—just by grocery shopping!*

### eScrip Contributors

Laura Basanta, Curtis Clark, Barbara Eichholz, Stephanie Eichholz  
Beth Fisher, David Gibson  
Jan Hinde, Dan Joutras  
Joe Krienert, Judy Lewis  
Beth Malmquist, Judy Martinko  
Ken Mayberry, Megan Miller  
Roberta Ogletree, Mary O'Hara  
Moe Phemister, Eugenia Poulos  
Katherine Poulos, Tom Redmond  
Ruth Roy, Nathan Speagle  
Laurel Toussaint, Julie Weinert  
Greg Wendt, Wenona Whitfield

## Landscape Plants Gone Bad:

### Amur Honeysuckle *by Laurel Toussaint*



In previous newsletters articles, "Landscape Plants Go Bad" featured plants that are legally purchased and pose threats to local natural areas, including GE Preserves. Illinois, along with many other states, bans the sale of Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*). One of twenty-six regulated exotic species, Amur honeysuckle cannot be sold or purchased in Illinois. Used for

landscaping it was introduced from Asia in the 1700s and 1800s. Amur honeysuckle is one of four invasive bush honeysuckles and is the most common and problematic bush honeysuckle in Southern Illinois.

Over the next few weeks, after leaves fall from forest trees and shrubs, Amur honeysuckle shrubs will remain green, forming a thick, impenetrable forest understory. Amur honeysuckle, along with many other non-native shrubs, remain green and continue photosynthesizing, growing vigorously weeks or months longer than our indigenous plants. It produces an alleopathic chemical that suppress the growth of surrounding vegetation. This adaptation allows this specie to displace our native plants.

In and around Carbondale you can see green bush honeysuckle everywhere it has been allowed to volunteer; covering many acres of SIU property, in parks, and Green Earth preserves. Bush honeysuckle volunteers in yards, growing among other shrubs in hedges and along property edges. Growing as high as 15.5 feet, white flowers appear in May and June, with bright red fruits, .25 in diameter, ripening in fall. The

shrubs form large stands that dominate the understory. Hiking through an infested area is virtually impossible. Birds and small mammals spread Amur Honeysuckle. Look for this bush growing under large trees and wires where birds have perched, spreading the seeds. It thrives in shade or sun.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden book, *Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants*, suggest Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) and Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) as replacements for of bush honeysuckle.



Winterberry  
*Ilex verticillata*



Spicebush  
*Lindera benzoin*

Both have showy, red fruits, providing wildlife food that does not spread harmful seeds. In addition, Spicebush leaves provide larval food for the Spicebush Swallowtail.

Most GE workdays focus on a single invasive species. Volunteers learn to identify a specific problem plant and methods to eradicate the invader.

One way that GE volunteers can have a greater impact is to provide others with additional information about specific invasive plants and to encourage them to use their new knowledge and skills on their own property. We are fighting a losing battle unless property owners recognize the threats of invasive plants and join in eradication efforts.

We'd like to take a moment to welcome our new student board member, **Marisa Szubryt**. Marisa is a Master's Student at Southern Illinois University Carbondale where she earned her B.S. in Plant Biology. Her thesis work involves researching systematics of the Aster tribe and ecological modeling to investigate changes in niche occupation between species. She is a board member of the Illinois Native Plant Society and currently working on preparing the INPS Annual Symposium on April 6, 2019.

Green Earth will once again have a table at the **Alternative Gift Fair** for all your Holiday shopping. This year's fair will be held at the Carbondale Civic Center, Saturday Dec 1st, from 11am to 2pm (preceding the Lights Fantastic Parade & other downtown Dec 1st activities).

Drop by our table to purchase nature-themed presents and support your local neighborhood nature preserve at the same time! Many worthy non-profits will offer products that you can feel good about giving.



## 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 green fund

\_\_ 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:director@greenearthinc.org)

#### Stock Transfer

Call 618-201-3774 or email [director@greenearthinc.org](mailto:director@greenearthinc.org)

### GE's Upcoming Volunteer Workdays & Events

Nov 15 1pm Open House - Chautauqua Bottoms

Nov 17 9-12pm Monthly Workday - Chautauqua Bottoms

Nov 17 10am & 1pm Open House - Chautauqua Bottoms

Dec 01 11-2pm Alternative Gift Fair - Carbondale Civic Center

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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