

Buffalo Grove Environmental Action Team

Meeting minutes, March 19, 2009

The meeting of the Buffalo Grove Environmental Action Team (Team) was called to order at 7 p.m. Present were:

Jeff Weiss
Martha Weiss
Steph Simon
Steve White
Mary White
Debi Moritz
Sarah Schultz
Erica Strojinc
Michele Hurwitz
Todd Katz
Joan Karnauskas

The meeting focused on 4 major projects:

Earth Day Recycling and Environmental Education Event will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on April 25 at the corner of Raupp and Lake Cook. Debi Moritz gave a detailed read out of the event. A press release and a list of to do's will be sent separately. We need volunteers to direct traffic and pass out information. Please refer recruits to Debi at (847) 541-3099 or me at (847) 224-0965. In addition to the work on the booths described below, Michele Hurwitz will contact Whole Foods to determine their interest in participating in this event.

Rain barrels and composting. We will be promoting rain barrels and composting at the Earth Day event to reduce runoff and conserve water. Todd Katz will be contacting Lake County to obtain order forms and a demo barrel. In addition, he will see if they can provide me with accessories like a rain diverter and stand. He will also find out where one can obtain barrels for do-it-yourselfers (DIY's).

Regarding composting, he will create/obtain an ingredient list for compost and obtain materials to build a rain barrel and a compost bin. He has already begun telling his students at Whitney Young about E.C. opportunities making posters. He needs more information from Debi, Erica, Steph and Sarah on the kinds of posters that should be made for the tables at the Earth Day event.

Farm co-op. Stephanie Simon discussed plans to publicize farm co-ops at the Earth Day event as an option to receive healthy, organic, locally grown food. She will communicate with Todd about the poster and to e mail the Park District with the vendors we'll be using. She will interview two other vendors and will get this info to the Park District next week.

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Park Restoration Project. The project itself is tentatively scheduled for May 30. It will be at a booth at the Earth Day event:

- 1) to educate people about common invasive plants in the area and provide ideas on native plants they can incorporate into their home landscape.
- 2) to encourage people to join our restoration event at Busch Grove Park on Saturday, May 30th

The booth will include:

- samples of invasive plants: buckthorn, teasel, garlic mustard, etc.
- Midwest Invasive Species brochure on alternative native plantings
- list of area native plant sales
- before and after areas of restored habitats
- map of Busch Grove Park
- sign-up sheet for the restoration event at Busch Grove Park

Jeff will ask Dan Schimmel to check the Park District calendar for May 30th to see if there are any major events scheduled at Busch Grove Park. If yes, we may need to consider rescheduling.

We also discussed areas that will be worked on and activities, which should include planting natives as well as removing invasive plants. A budget will be submitted to Dale Ducommun, head of Parks, for approval.

The next Team meeting is April 16, 7 p.m at the Alcott Center. Be there to help finalize plans for these activities!

Please let me know if you have questions, corrections or comments.