

# Green Committee, Chamber host 'Go Green' Environmental Fair

Learn how you can become more environmentally conscious in today's economy by attending the "Go Green" Environmental Fair, from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 21 at the Rec Center, 202 E. Countryside Parkway, Yorkville.

The United City of Yorkville Green Committee and the Yorkville Area Chamber of Commerce are partnering to offer this free event designed to inform the Yorkville community on how to live a "Green" lifestyle.

Highlights include family activities, over 40 eco-friendly exhibitors, informational seminars, a presentation to the winner of the Green Committee's logo design contest, and much more.

Between noon and 5 p.m., enjoy informative 30-minute seminars on green home construction, protecting our environment, and fun family activities.

At 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. stop by the Yorkville Bicycle Club at the City of Yorkville's booth for a demo on how to change a bike tire.

"We'll show you what to do if you ever get a flat tire out on a ride or need to replace a worn tire. We'll also show some general tools that make the job simpler," says Ben Niles of the Yorkville Bicycle Club. "We will have a couple wheels to practice on, but people are also encouraged to bring their own wheels in," he says.

Between noon and 4 p.m., join the Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition and the Conservation Foundation for quilt square painting in the kids' activity area. The squares will become part of the 2010 Watershed Quilt. The Watershed Quilt Project is a grassroots project inspired by the Nature Quilt Project in Macomb, Ill.

"The Acting Chair of the Aux Sable Creek Watershed Coalition, Joan Soltwisch, thought we might be able to

replicate a modified project to increase awareness and get people involved in our local watershed - namely the Aux Sable Creek Watershed," says Stephanie Sheetz of the Conservation Foundation. "The book 'Crawdad Creek' by Scott Russell Sanders is the inspiration," says Sheetz.

The quilt will include approximately 140 squares designed by kids from Kendall and Grundy Counties, in addition to the top two winning squares from programs held at local libraries and bookstores and voted on by the public.

The centerpiece of the quilt will feature the Aux Sable Creek and Mazon River, which are connected by the Illinois River, and will be designed by a local artist who will tie the two watershed ecosystems together.

"We anticipate painting 30 squares at the Yorkville fair," says Sheetz. "Our goal is to complete the quilt by next year's fair and display it there." After that, the quilt will travel to schools, libraries, bookstores, and to other groups to increase awareness on the watershed systems.

The project is also meant to teach kids more about their local ecosystems, particularly that of local streams, but also animals and nature in general.

"You hear a lot of people saying, 'if you don't get the kids involved, how do you expect them to value nature when they grow up?' We want our local kids to know about our local resources," explains Sheetz.

The fair will begin with a presentation to the Green Committee logo contest winner by Mayor Valerie Burd, and will continue with three simultaneous tracks throughout the afternoon.

In Track One, Green Home Construction topics include designing and building the home as a system, eco-friendly paint options, insulation options, infrared thermal breach inspections, the latest in window and door performance, geothermal heating and cooling, lighting options (LED and CFLs), how does your home rate, green materials and practices, and greening your existing home.

Track Two, Protecting Our Environment, topics will include recycling, renewable energy, successful native landscape, global warming, smart growth/conservation design, water conservation, "soil—it's more than just dirt," rain gardens, open space and watershed protection, and taking care of your trees.

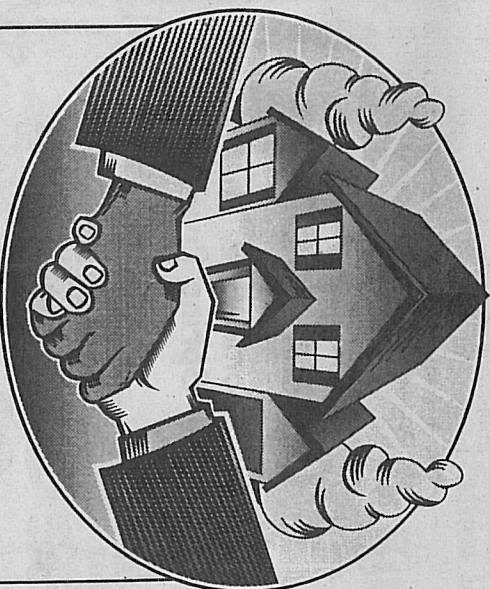
Track Three, Family Activities topics include "Water - where does it come from?," Thistle Stop Garden Shop's "Build a Bird Feeder," the Yorkville Public Library's presentation of "Michael Recycle," Sci-Tech activities, paint a square for the Watershed 2010 Quilt Project, creative crafts with recycled magazines, Earth Circle' bracelets, storytelling and crafts, River Cutters,

"Are You Smarter than a 4Her?" and a DVD presentation of "Healthy Child Healthy World."

Marta Keane, interim chairman of the Green Committee says the fair is all about options. "I hope that people learn a few of the many ways they can make green choices in their daily lives," says Keane. "It may be as simple as recycling or getting an energy efficient light bulb or as complex as putting in a rain garden. As people hear about global warming and the energy crisis, it is common to feel powerless—but spending an hour or more at this family-oriented fair should empower people with everyday options."

The "Go Green" Environmental Fair is a collaborative effort between the United City of Yorkville Green Committee and the Yorkville Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, contact 630-553-8564 or 630-553-6853. A complete list of topics, times and workshops are available on the United City of Yorkville's web site at [www.yorkville.il.us](http://www.yorkville.il.us). Note that workshop schedules and presentations are subject to change.



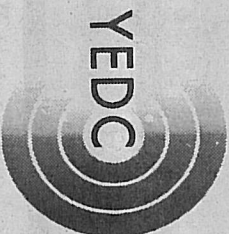
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Professional Dress Recommended. Please Bring Plenty of Resumes!

Workshops will be conducted on Interviewing Skills at 11:00AM & at 12:30AM