

Hello Green Team!

So much happens in April. The first eaglets have been born, owl nestlings are growing fledgling feathers, flowers and trees are blooming, and chlorophyll is becoming more obvious in the landscape. We're almost a fourth of the way through 2009 and of course Earth Day is celebrated. It's a special day for me. It's not just a day to celebrate one thing that I love (Earth), but two. April 22 is also my father's birthday and as many of you already know, I credit my parents for "growing" my love for the natural world. With many animals in and around our home it's no wonder I am where I am today.

I am, for the most part, intrigued by everything outside and it's a great time of year to explore. Leafless trees and shrubs still make it easy to see into and through woodlots. Many creatures are out and about mating, migrating, building nests, foraging, and enjoying the newness of the season.

Last Saturday I spent the day outside exploring around a wetland. The air was cool, but it was a perfect spring day with some sun and a light breeze. We were barely out of the truck when a crow flew over with a bundle of sticks, no doubt for its nest. It was at this point that we heard the frogs calling and it was at this point that I felt the excitement of an explorer. What would we see?

We walked up to the top of the embankment along the wetland and were not disappointed. There were countless migratory ducks on the water, each in splendid breeding plumage. American Wigeons, Northern Shovelers, Ringed-Necked Ducks, Ruddy Ducks, and Hooded Mergansers were spotted along with more common bird species such as American Coots, Canada Geese, and Mallards. Woodcocks came up out of the tall grasses from time to time to change foraging locations.

We sat for awhile on a log near one of the many vernal pools listening to breeding frogs calling for mates. Western Chorus frogs were vocalizing; the bulbous, cream colored pouches of the males protruding with each trill. It took forever to spot one. Despite their boisterous call which is said to be heard up to a half mile away, they are quite small measuring only around an inch and a half. When disturbed or threatened they stop calling and dive below the surface. Once less common in Ohio, their range spread and numbers increased with deforestation. They prefer wet, grassy, and open areas and if they're present, it's typically in large numbers. As vernal pools dry up and days get warmer, these little frogs will be less prevalent and very hard to find. They'll burrow into the dirt to escape the heat of summer. They were definitely a treat to see.

I hope you are able to explore the depths of spring in Dublin's parks and beyond. Enjoy April showers.

I have attached a newer copy of volunteer opportunities and training.
All my best,
Míme



GREEN VOLUNTEER PROJECTS IN DUBLIN, OH

Saturday, April 11, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Eco Dublin Expo

Dublin Community Recreation Center

Volunteers needed to welcome guests, serve as booth attendants, and answer general questions about Dublin at this popular "expo" all about green and eco friendly living. Call 614-410-4406 or cnardecchia@dublin.oh.us. Pre-registration to volunteer is required.

Saturday, April 11, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Shred It! at the Eco Dublin Expo

Dublin Community Recreation Center

Help residents with their boxes of materials to be shred by ShredDirect, parked at the Dublin Community Recreation Center. Welcome residents, help them with boxes, obtain data and needed information from them. Call 614-410-4406 or cnardecchia@dublin.oh.us. Pre-registration to volunteer is required.

Saturday, April 18, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Earth Day Planting

Red Trabue Nature Reserve, Coffman Park, Coventry Woods, Woods of Indian Run

Join HUNDREDS of volunteers for a massive native planting project and invasive plant removal project at five Dublin park sites. Headquarters location: Trabue Nature Reserve. Call 614-410-4406 or cnardecchia@dublin.oh.us. Pre-registration to volunteer is required. Our thanks to resident leader Rich Brown for his coordination efforts!

Saturday, April 24, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Ashland, Inc.

Adult volunteers are needed to greet hundreds of cars in line to turn in household hazardous waste, survey drivers on what materials they are dropping off, and gathering other needed information and data. Call 614-410-4406 or cnardecchia@dublin.oh.us. Pre-registration to volunteer is required.

Saturday, May 2, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Leadership Dublin's Community Service Day

Headquarters Location: Dublin Community Recreation Center

It's Dublin's "spring clean up day" & Leadership Dublin's flagship project. Need volunteers are needed to go to various sites throughout Dublin including schools, places of worship, non-profit organizations and the homes of our senior citizens to clear out brush, rake, clean debris, and plant spring plants. Contact Jan Walton Rozanski at 614-761-0694 or leadershipdublin@yahoo.com.

Saturday, June 20, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Annual Bike Rodeo and Bicycle Recycling

Karrer Middle School, 7245 Tullymore Dr.

Time to clean out the garage and donate those old bikes the kids have outgrown. Regardless if it's in good or bad shape, recycling will keep the bikes out of the landfill!



GREEN VOLUNTEER PROJECTS IN DUBLIN, OH

Saturday, August 15, 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Annual Mike Utt Memorial River Cleanup and Scioto River Day
Scioto Park**

Join us once again to honor Mike Utt as we make our river more healthy and beautiful.

Saturday, October 24, 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Make a Difference Day
Dublin Community Recreation Center**

Everyone has an old pair of tennis shoes they haven't worn in a few years that are still lurking in their closets. Recycle them at our annual shoe recycling event. Old, smelly shoes get turned into surfaces used in playgrounds and gyms! Keep those old shoes out of the landfill!

Learning Sessions

April 23, 2009

Location: Service Center, 6555 Shier-Rings Road

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Topic: Living with Wildlife

Speakers: Mime Migliore, City of Dublin and Marne Titchenell, Wildlife Program Specialist, OSU Extension

June 18, 2009

Location: Service Center, 6555 Shier-Rings Road

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Topic: Water: Fish to Fawcett to Flush

Speaker: Lorraine Winters, Water Protection Coordinator, Columbus Division of Power & Water

September 17, 2009

Location: Service Center, 6555 Shier-Rings Road

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Topic: Green Living, Sustainable Ways

Speaker: To Be Announced

November 12, 2009

Location: Service Center, 6555 Shier-Rings Road

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Topic: To Be Announced

Speaker: To Be Announced



GREEN VOLUNTEER PROJECTS IN DUBLIN, OH

On-going Volunteer Opportunities

Trainings must be completed prior to volunteer time.

Bluebird Box Maintenance Training

Date: April 2, 2009

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: Service Center, 6555 Shier-Rings Road

Stream Quality Monitoring Training

Date: May 30, 2009

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Start at the Service Center, 6555 Shier-Rings Road

Invasive Species Removal Training

On-Line Training

Watch for the training on the Volunteer Page