

## **Saturday Workshops – A– 9:00 – 10:10 AM**

### **A.1 Why Don't You Care What Happens To Me? : Race and Environmentalism**

How do race and privilege affect environmental activism? Participants will view the film "Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible" and discuss it from a personal perspective. They will consider the impact of race in their environmental activism and how change can occur. People of all racial and ethnic backgrounds invited to attend. **Presenter:** Rita J. Crooks is Director of Diversity for Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion. She has more than 15 years experience in Human Resources including diversity training.

### **A.2 The Organic Opportunity: Promoting Economic Development**

This workshop will show how a food system built on the principles of "local, healthy, and humane" can transform community economic health. It will look at what a food revolution could mean to Michigan's economy and propose a strategic action plan for achieving that revolution. **Presenter:** Christopher Bedford is co-founder and President of the Sweetwater Local Foods Market. He is a nationally known advocacy film maker and consultant whose work has won three dozen awards for excellence. "The Organic Opportunity" is his latest film.

### **A.3 Educating for the Common Good**

The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) in Monroe have a long history of responding to the world's most pressing needs. This workshop will explore the link between social justice and sustainability, and how to reconnect with the natural world as a positive response to creation in crisis. **Presenters:** Nancy Seubert coordinates the Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office for the IHM Sisters of Monroe, MI. She created "This Is Your Home," a DVD and study guide for youth on global climate change. Sharon McNeil is Ecology Director for St. Mary Organic Farm in Monroe. She is an educator, community organizer and advocate for plants, animals and humans. Danielle Conroyd is the Project Director for the IHM Sisters' Monroe Campus Long Range Master Plan. She oversaw the sustainable renovation of the 376,000 sf IHM motherhouse.

### **A.4 Lasagna Gardening: The Layering Technique**

How would you like a garden that requires little or no watering or weeding, and very little space, yet produces bushels of super-sized produce? Learn how to build a lasagna garden. See how this "no-cost " garden gives everyone the opportunity to be green. **Presenters:** Tom and Peggy Brennan co-founded the Great Lakes Green Initiative. The Great Lakes Green Initiative, an intentional community of hope for a sustainable future, consists of Detroit suburbanites who have decided to come together in an effort to promote environmental sustainability.

### **A.5 What Can a Brownfield Teach a High School Student?**

Through group activities, presentations, and discussions this session will demonstrate how issues of land use, urban revitalization, and brownfields development can serve as a context for effective place-based learning in SE Michigan. Participants will walk away from this workshop with sample lessons and resources appropriate for high school students and teachers. **Presenter:** Susan Santone, Executive Director of Creative Change Educational Solutions offers K-12 curricula and teacher education programs on multiple sustainability topics, including land use and ecological economics. She is also an adjunct instructor at the Department of Teacher Education at Eastern Michigan University.

## **A.6 Surviving an Energy Audit of Your Home**

In this workshop a home energy auditor will describe how an audit is done and what it can tell you about the ways your home uses, and wastes, energy. A restoration contractor will follow-up by suggesting many do-it-yourself ways to address your energy audit results. **Presenters:** Matt Rosendaul is the Principal Building Analyst for Great Lakes Home Performance LLC, an Energy Star Business Partner conducting Energy Star Certifications (HERS Ratings) and energy audits. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Lansing Community College in the Environmental Design and Building Technologies program. Jim Turner, owner of Turner Restoration, has built a Steel and Wood window restoration business on the principles of Practical Preservation -- preservation that is based on tried and true historic methods that are affordable, efficient and manageable for any homeowner to perform. Over the past six years, he has shared his message with business and homeowners from the Midwest to the eastern coast.

## **A.7 Building Sustainable Communities: Stories from Two Detroit Neighborhoods**

From building/renovating housing to community gardens to employment two Detroit non-profits tell the story of their successful work and collaborations in restoring and revitalizing neighborhood communities.

**Presenters:** Cathy DeSantis, CSJ, Executive Director, Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance (DCPA) has been improving the quality of life in our communities by engaging members in the social, moral, political, and economic issues of Metro-Detroit for over 18 years. Cleophus Bradley, Community Development Director, has worked for DCPA for 10 years and supports community-based neighborhood development. John O'Brien, Founder, Northwest Detroit Neighborhood Development, has worked to involve residents in revitalizing the Brightmoor Community. The Brightmoor 2007 Garden Project is working with Greening of Detroit and MSU to train community residents and initiate garden projects.

## **Saturday Workshops – B – 10:30 – 11:40 AM**

### **B.1 Race, Food Security and Food Justice**

It is one thing to know about healthy food options. It is another to access to them. This workshop will define "race" as a social construct that impacts food accessibility, quality, equity and justice. It will look at the work of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Coalition to make change in Detroit's African-American community. **Presenter:** Malik Yakini is Chairman of Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, Executive Director of Nsoroma Institute Public School Academy an African-centered school, and CEO of Black Star Educational Management. He is committed to freedom and justice for humanity in general, and African people in particular. He is a vegan and an avid organic gardener.

### **B.2 Renewable Options for Heating and Cooling Your Home**

Learn the pros and cons, the costs and cost trade-offs of the various heating and cooling systems that can reduce dependence on fossil fuels for the average homeowner. **Presenters:** Art Thayer is Director of Energy Efficiency Programs for the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association and is currently responsible for the energy efficiency and renewable energy conservation for 9 local electric co-operatives in Michigan. He has over 35 years experience in the energy industry including sales, marketing and research. Ed Kelly and Robert Tinker, Principals of Kelly-Tinker Architects, specialize in "energy intelligent" green architecture. Bob has evaluated, recommended and designed energy efficient and renewable improvements for structures across the Midwest region. Ed is both an architect and an engineer, and has experience in passive, hybrid, and radiant solar heating systems and green design. .

### **B.3 Developing Steward-Citizens: Eco-Justice and Community-Based Education**

This interactive workshop will highlight the exciting regional school-community projects sponsored by The Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative. It will engage participants in the specific principles of Eco-Justice education for the K-12 classroom and specific activities related to creating community-based projects.

**Presenter:** Rebecca Martusewicz is currently the Director of the Center for Sustainable Communities and EcoJustice Education at Eastern Michigan University. She is working to establish a Southeastern Michigan Stewardship Coalition focused on place-based educational projects and school community partnerships in the region.

### **B.4 "You Can" Grow Organic Food Year-Round in Michigan**

John Biernbaum will share his experience and research with growing organic food year-round in Michigan. With information that will appeal to beginners and master gardeners, come find out about making food production work locally. **Presenter:** John Biernbaum, Professor of Horticulture, Michigan State University has worked with MSU students in the development and operation of a year-round, student operated, diversified, organic farm. Emphasis is on both ecological farming and cultivating connections between the community and farmers.

### **B.5 Role of Food in Community Development**

How does food affect and enhance neighborhood development? Presenters will share some of the exciting experiences and new developments in the role of food in rebuilding communities. Food is the revolution!

**Presenters:** Ashley Atkinson is Director of Urban Agriculture and Project Development with Greening of Detroit. Detroit's guru gardener, continues to develop opportunities and promote agriculture through exceptional community based programming. Dan Carmody, President of Eastern Market Corporation, is working to recreate the Eastern Market as a comprehensive community food security system with the goal of better serving surrounding neighborhoods.

### **B.6 Green Jobs in Detroit**

A greener, healthier and cleaner Detroit is approaching and Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice (DWEJ) is training our residents to gain wealth through employment in our Green Jobs program. DWEJ's green jobs training program is providing environmental technical training and job placement for Detroit residents in this new growing job field. **Presenter:** Roshani Dantas coordinates the jobs training program for Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice. She was formerly working on environmental justice issues with the Michigan Environmental Council.

### **B.7 Spirituality, Science and Sustainability**

This workshop directly addresses what is at the core of developing sustainable communities. Through mini-lectures, reflection and dialogue the group will explore the question, "What do we need to know to understand the current human condition and respond to it in holistic life-affirming ways?" They will consider the challenges and opportunities of unsustainability, the need for multiple ways of knowing, and the potential of spiritualities for positive contributions to mutually accepted ethics of sustainability. **Presenter:** James Crowfoot is Professor Emeritus of Natural Resources and Urban and Regional Planning and Dean Emeritus of the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan. Jim and his spouse have lived for the past 9 years in an intentional community that seeks to contribute to social and environmental sustainability. They are members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and seek to realize the values and practices of non violence, simple living, and earth care as central to meaning in their lives and to contributing to sustainability.

### **B.8 Media : A Tool for Organizing in the fight for Environmental Justice**

Rethink media. Consider the role of media as not merely propaganda, but the process of media production as transformative for individuals and communities. Learn how organizations within the AMP network are

using innovative media strategies for environmental justice organizing. **Presenter** Jenny Lee has been an organizer of the Allied Media Conference since 2006, with a focus on developing the content for the ever-expanding Youth Track and the INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence Track. She has been involved with independent media and social justice organizing since 2002. She coordinates the Live Arts Media Project of Detroit Summer and also teaches a web radio class at YouthVille.

## **Sunday Workshops – C - 9:00-10:10 AM**

### **C.1 Dances of Universal Peace**

The Dances of Universal Peace are a growing collection of easy to learn circle dances and melodic chants drawn from all over the world. Sharing in the dances provides a chance for persons of all religious/cultural persuasions to enter into a common experience of honoring our unity and cherishing our diversity. This participative workshop will give particular attention to dances which support our deepening commitment to interactive harmony with and reverence for the entire physical universe. **Presenter: Mary Fran Uicker, IHM** is a Musician & Expressive Arts Therapist with 20 years experience in leading the Dances of Universal Peace in a variety of settings.

### **C.2 Raising Community Awareness through Action & Song**

In this interactive workshop, participants join the choir to raise awareness to protect the planet through song, readings from the Earth Charter and the sights and sounds of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

**Presenters:** Gaia Women of the Great Lakes Basin are women of two countries – Canada and the United States – who share land, water, sky, and song. The borders between us do not divide us but rather draw us together in our common concern for the well-being of our bioregion.

### **C.3 Composting: Worms Eat Our Garbage**

Diane Graham, Science and Engineering Specialist, Woodcreek Science, Math and Engineering Magnet School, Lansing

In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn how vermicomposting turns waste into a valuable resource. They then build their own worm bin which they can take home! **Presenters:** Jim Meyerle is Education Specialist at Urban Options in East Lansing. He coordinates the mid-scale worm composting program and co-created along with Diane Graham and other partners the world's first solar powered mid-scale worm bin. Diane Graham teaches science and engineering labs for grades kindergarten through 5th grade at Woodcreek Science, Math and Engineering Magnet School in Lansing. She promotes innovative methods and best practices in teaching.

### **C.4 TreeKeepers Kids: Students Revitalizing Detroit**

This workshop will highlight The Greening of Detroit's school based environmental education program. For the last ten years, the TTK curriculum has helped thousands of students and staff from the Detroit Public Schools to reclaim their sense of place in and around their school grounds. In this program, students learn to create, foster and use an outdoor classroom to strengthen their knowledge of the environment.

**Presenter:** Sarah Haller is Director of Environmental Education at Greening of Detroit. She coordinates, directs and supervises all Greening of Detroit education programs. Sarah serves as liaison to state and local environmental education groups, community improvement organizations, block clubs, and neighborhood groups to facilitate dissemination of information regarding The Greening's education programs.

### **C.5 Spirituality, Science and Sustainability**

**Presenter:** James Crowfoot, Professor Emeritus of Natural Resources and Urban and Regional Planning and Dean Emeritus of the School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan

**Repeated, See Saturday Workshops B**

## **Sunday Workshops D 10:30 – 11:40**

### **D.1 Restoring the Earth: What Does Faith Have To Do With It?**

Eco-spirituality is what sustains our spirits as we search for and apply practical environmental solutions and innovative strategies for restoring the Earth. Reflect on your own sources of inspiration and sustenance for this work, and experience new reservoirs of wisdom. **Presenter:** Patty Gillis is Executive Director and Founding Member of Voices for Earth Justice, an interfaith network bringing people together to pray, study, and act on ecological issues. Patty practiced for 33 years in Detroit as a community social worker, teacher and pastoral minister.

### **D.2 The Permaculture Journey: How to Begin**

In this introductory workshop, get equipped with the resources you need – especially pattern identification -- to recognize and learn from the working systems of nature. **Presenter:** Trevor Johnson, Permaculturalist and Organic Farmer, spent 5 years at the MSU Student Organic Farm. He then took up roots at the Good Neighbors Garden, a 2.5 acre community permaculture project, in Oak Park. Currently, he manages the St. Mary Organic Farm and CSA in Monroe.

### **D.3 Bees, Honey, and Our Health**

Learn about the history and ecology of honey bees, how honey contributes to our health, and the recent growth in urban and suburban beekeeping. **Presenter:** Rich Wieske is a beekeeper who manages over 100 hives in Detroit, Oakland and Macomb County. He markets his honey at several Farmers Markets in the area, carrying almost a dozen different varieties of honey from Michigan.

### **D.4 Keep our Great Lakes GREAT!**

Find out more about threats to the Great Lakes and discover solutions to those threats as well as local actions you can take to protect these wonders that hold one-fifth of the world's freshwater supply. **Presenter:** Melissa Damaschke is Great Lakes Program Regional Representative. For over four years she has worked to protect Michigan's greatest asset and gem, the Great Lakes. Melissa, based out of Sierra Club's Detroit office, works with the Healing Our Waters Coalition to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

### **D.5 Dream Community in the Hope District**

The grassroots work and collaborations going on in one of Motown's underserved communities is the focus of this workshop. Food based businesses, urban street farmers, wealth-creation opportunities, Peace Zones for Life and a Butterfly Dream Garden are some of the elements included in the vision for the community. Be energized by the vision and excited by the reality. **Presenter:** Michael Wimberley's work takes into account sustainability, civil rights, and entrepreneurship. The Hope District collaborates with churches, Lawrence Technological University, the Greening of Detroit, DAN, and the Garden Resource Program.

### **D.6 Avalon International Breads: A Recipe for Sustainable Business**

This thriving and growing business in Midtown Detroit is a powerful example of the positive impact that can result when entrepreneurs attend to the triple bottom line of economic, environmental and social impact. We have delighted in their delicious coffee, breads and desserts and now we are invited to explore the vision, sense of place and commitment that sustains them. **Presenter:** Jackie Victor, Co-owner of Avalon International Breads, has worked for urban renewal and to set an example for sustainable, Earth-friendly businesses in Detroit.

### **D.7 Michigan's Renewal Energy Future: How You Can Influence Policy**

Consideration of energy legislation focusing on the Renewable Portfolio Standard and House Bill 5218 will assist participants in understanding the importance of Michigan producing more energy from renewable sources. Presenters will challenge participants to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to influence policy change. **Presenters:** Kathleen Law is State Representative for Michigan House District 23. A former research scientist, retired in 1988 she was elected to the Michigan House in 2002, Representative Law lends her extensive experience to protect the state's land, air and water. David Gard is the Energy Program Director for the Michigan Environmental Council. He advocates in multiple policy arenas for cleaner, more efficient energy systems with focus on the burdens associated with fossil fuel dependence: human illness, damage to natural systems, lost economic opportunity, and geopolitical instability.

#### **D.8 Environmental Justice: Learning through Filmmaking**

Young Bioneers will show some of their short documentary films and share their learning experience of observing and documenting environmental and ecological concerns in the community. **Presenters:** Student Film makers from University Prep School in Detroit have attended previous GLBD conferences and interviewed participants, presenters and organizers.