

Greenburgh Nature Center

E3 Newsletter - E-mailed, Economical & Environmental
NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2010



Mission

Our mission is to educate and to promote conservation, research, and appreciation of nature and the environment while preserving the natural and historic character of our property.

Vision

The Greenburgh Nature Center will be the leader in nature and environmental education, igniting a lasting desire to preserve and protect the natural world.

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Green Tip of the Month

No idling - Today's engines don't need a warm up. Start the car immediately and gently drive away. Don't leave your car idling. Prolonged idling increases emissions and wastes fuel.

Remember:
Westchester County has a 3 minute no idling law.

Our Supporters



→ New Executive Director for the GNC

The GNC is excited to announce the appointment of Courtney White as Executive Director, effective November 29th. Ms. White comes to the Nature Center from Wave Hill, a public garden and cultural center in the Bronx, where she has served for the past five years as director of education and public programs.



"Courtney is passionate about engaging communities in learning and is compelled by the urgent need to increase pro-conservation behavior, innovation, and sustainable practices," said GNC Board President Bennett Fradkin. "These are all important qualities that will certainly help to enhance the community feel and experience of the GNC."

Ms. White brings to the GNC a wealth of experience and leadership in the areas of nature, the environment, research, and education. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Savannah College of Art and Design, a Master's degree in Museum Education from Bank Street Graduate School of Education, and is pursuing a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies, with a focus on education for sustainability, from Antioch University New England.

"We're at such a pivotal point concerning global environmental change," said Ms. White. "I'm looking forward to working with the entire GNC community - its members, staff, the board of directors and other partners - to help people make meaningful connections to nature and learn to care for the world in a different way."

→ GNC Brings Environmental Programming to Lois Bronz Children's Center



With generous funding from the Westchester County Community Development Block Grant Program, the GNC is conducting a series of nature and environmental awareness programs with some local Greenburgh youth. The series focuses on sustainability themes such as gardening, recycling, and animals and their adaptations. After-school students at the Lois Bronz Children's Center have been meeting weekly with GNC naturalists, connecting with nature and learning more about the environment. "It's been so beneficial for our students to have

this hands-on programming from the GNC," said LBCC Educational Coordinator Tanya Johnson. "They're getting experiences above and beyond what they get in their normal daily lives." The GNC hopes to build on this type of programming and inspire more youth to appreciate nature and do their part to protect natural resources.

→ A Time for Giving Thanks

During this season, when we take stock of all the reasons we have to be thankful, the Nature Center would like to say special thanks to state lawmaker Richard Brodsky, who will be leaving the New York State Assembly after serving there on behalf of the 92nd District (which includes the Town of Greenburgh) since 1982.

As Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Conservation from 1993 to 2002, Assemblyman Brodsky





structured the most dramatic legislative advances in environmental conservation in over two decades, including legislation that created the Environmental Protection Fund and the Clean Air/Clean Water Bond Act.

As we face environmental challenges on so many fronts, we can be grateful for champions of leadership and reform like Assemblyman Brodsky. We wish him well in his future undertakings.

➔ A Gift of GNC Membership



Looking for that perfect holiday gift? Please consider giving a GNC family membership. Members are entitled to free admission to all regular exhibits (including our Animal Museum), as well as discounts on special programming and in our gift shop. Being out-of-doors, interacting with animals, and witnessing nature's seasonal changes can provide a nurturing effect that is welcomed during these turbulent times. Plus, membership funds support our ongoing educational programs for the enrichment of the entire community. To purchase a membership, go to www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

➔ Model Train Show Arrives

Back by popular demand, the GNC Model Train Exhibit arrives on Saturday, December 11th, running through Sunday, December 19th. It's the sixth consecutive year that the GNC is hosting this exhibit, partnering with the Westchester Model Train Club to share the joys of the world of trains with visitors of all ages. The



exhibit features a special 12- by 18-foot display of HO gauge model trains traveling through countryside scenes of natural beauty, modeled on the terrain of upstate New York and New England. So come on over and check out the action! Members of the railroad club will be on hand to talk about the trains and provide opportunities for visitors to examine some of the different kinds of train engines up-close. We are grateful to Cablevision, Capital One, Country Bank, Stratton Pharmacy, and Westchester County Department of Parks for their generous underwriting support of this special exhibit.

➔ Upcoming Events and Programs

Saturday, November 27th, 2:00 p.m. - Feeding Fun - Now that you've had your Thanksgiving fill, come over to the Nature Center to see what our animals get to feast upon! This program, which is included with regular Museum admission, gives visitors the opportunity to observe feeding time up-close, and, with our animal collection pushing 100 members, it's quite a show.

Sunday, December 5th, 1:00 p.m. - Trim the Nature Tree - Is the commercial crush of the holiday season getting to you? Come connect with nature and join Senior Naturalist Dean Fausel in making tree-trimming treats for our wildlife friends. There'll be music and a crackling fire to work by, all creating a relaxing and rejuvenating holiday atmosphere. Fee: \$3/member, \$6/non-member.

Wednesday, December 8th, 7:30 p.m. -- Sacred Circle Dance and Pachamama Renewal -- Warm and brighten your December by joining us for an evening of "earth-honoring" through two rituals based in ancient traditions. Returning to the GNC by popular request, Jean Ando will lead us in the inspiring and uplifting Sacred Circle Dance, and Dorothy Cunha will teach the Pachamama (Earth Mother) Renewal Ritual from Peru. Wear comfortable clothing and

be ready to move! This is a free program, co-sponsored by the Lower Hudson Chapter of the Sierra Club.

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