

Enviro-News

January, 2026

Sponsored by Daemen University
Editor: Brenda Young

Newsletter Contents:

- Articles- including events, courses, local news, teaching resources, grants, jobs
- Upcoming Activities
- Public Comments, Civic Engagement and Activism
- Tips for the Environment
- Volunteer Opportunities, Recycling, CSAs and Farms, Organization links

Articles:

Green Drinks

Join others for networking and fun at Green Drinks on **Thursday, January 8th** at 5:30pm at The English Gardener (4000 Harlem Rd, Snyder, NY 14226). It will be BYOB (and bring your own food if you want). The event is also listed on [Facebook](#) and on the [Green Drinks webpage](#).

2026 Partnership for the Public Good Community Agenda Rollout

This year's public roll-out of the Community Agenda will take place on **Friday, January 16th** at 10:00am at the Buffalo State University Alumni & Visitor Center (667 Grant St). At the rollout event, an advocate for each proposed policy will share why it matters for our city and region. Elected officials will join to voice their support for agenda items. The event is free and open to the public.

Volunteers Needed for MLK Day of Service

The 6th Annual MLK Day of Service will be held on **January 19th** and is hosted by the Monarch of Infinite Possibilities LLC, in partnership with the Buffalo Urban League, Legislator Lawrence Dupre, Masten District Councilwoman Zeneta B. Everhart, City of Buffalo, Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor, AmeriCorps, NAACP Buffalo Branch, and East Side Stewards. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s timeless call to action, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" we come together to honor his legacy through community service. This powerful day is an opportunity to take meaningful action and create lasting change by engaging in projects that promote justice, equity, and unity. [Sign up.](#) Volunteer hours are 9-11am. There is a kickoff at **Bethel AME Church, 1525 Michigan Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209**. We will start our service day with a warm welcome, group photo, and engaging introductory activities, offering coffee and grab-and-go breakfast options.

Nature has Rights: Film Screening

Rights of Nature WNY, [Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center](#), and [SPARK Filmmakers Collaborative](#) are hosting a film screening of a shortened version of 'Ripples of Plastic', a documentary about microplastic pollution in the Great Lakes on **Friday, January 23** from 7 to 8:30pm. We will then discuss the Rights of Nature and how we can advocate for the Great Lakes and State Waters Bill of Rights, which would recognize the legal rights of all waterways, land, and communities in NYS to "exist, persist, flourish, naturally evolve, regenerate, and be restored." At this meeting, we will present an overview of the Rights of Nature Movement and the Great Lakes Bill of Rights, followed by a Q&A and how you can get involved. To learn more about the Great Lakes and State Waters Bill of Rights and Rights of Nature WNY, contact rightsofnaturewny@gmail.com or check our [our website](#). Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center serves dinner every Friday from 6-9p, with prices ranging from \$6-18. Come before the film screening and enjoy home-cooked food (menu varies) and support Dnipro and their mission.

Gardening Workshops

MAP, Urban Roots and Grassroots Gardens are partnering to sponsor Saturday gardening workshops from 10am to noon beginning on **January 17**. Topics vary for skill levels from beginner to advanced. Tickets are pay as you can from \$5-\$30 and may be purchased at <http://bit.ly/wintergardeningworkshops>.

WNY PRISM Accepting Proposals for 2026 Crew Assistance Program

WNY PRISM is currently seeking proposals for consideration under the 2026 Crew Assistance Program. Through the Crew Assistance Program partners may request assistance for invasive species surveys, invasive species removal projects and restoration efforts for the 2026 field season. To learn more about this program including proposal requirements, eligibility, priorities and review criteria, please view the full [WNY PRISM Crew Assistance Program 2026 Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#). Proposals must be received by **5:00 pm on Friday, January 30, 2026**.

Docent Training for New Explore Buffalo Guides

Explore Buffalo provides hundreds of tours each year, all of which are led by trained volunteer docents. No prior docent experience or knowledge of Buffalo history or architecture is required – we will provide a thorough training in Buffalo history, architectural styles, and presentation skills. In 2026, there are two opportunities to join Explore Buffalo as a new docent: [Public Tour Docent Training](#) will begin **January 31st**, taking place on 10 class dates – seven Saturdays in-person downtown, and three Thursday evenings on Zoom – concluding on April 11th. New docents in this class will learn one of Explore Buffalo's walking tours to lead during the 2026 tour season. [Education Docent Training](#) will take place **March 24 – April 16, 2026** on Tuesday & Thursday mornings. Education Docents lead our many tours for students – a rapidly growing program and an essential part of our organization's mission.

Civic Ecology Lab Online Course

Cornell's Civic Ecology 4-week online course [Advancing Environmental Education Practice \(January 5–30, 2026\)](#) is open for registration. The course includes four mentoring workshops where you receive feedback on your own education plans and programs from course instructor Marianne Krasny and goes beyond traditional knowledge → attitudes → behavior models to explore outcomes such as identity, efficacy, nature connectedness, sense of place, youth development, and collective action. Participants who complete the course will earn a Cornell University certificate documenting 25 hours of professional development. Learn more and register: <https://www.civicecology.org/aep>

New York Winter Greenhouse & Growers School

The annual winter Greenhouse and Growers School will be held on **Wednesday, January 21** from 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM at Roycroft Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora, NY (virtual option for morning). Attend half day or full day. This class will allow attendees to earn NYS DEC Pesticide Recertification credits. [Info and registration](#).

Erie County Rain Barrel Painting Contest for Youth

The 2026 Erie County Rain Barrel Painting Contest is in full swing! Contestants design and paint a plastic rain barrel (provided) illustrating stormwater pollution prevention and/or re-using rainwater. Contest is open to schools and student-based community groups in Erie and Niagara counties; this painting contest is held annually in honor of Earth Day. For information on stormwater pollution prevention see www.erie.gov/stormwater. All participants will retain their final painted rain barrels to use, donate or raffle as desired. [register](#)

NOFA-NY Annual Conference

NOFA-NY's (Northeast Organic Farming Association) Annual Winter Conference will be held on **January 9-10, 2026** at Purchase College. The event convenes hundreds of farmers, food system professionals, educators, advocates, homesteaders, and gardeners who are passionate about advancing the organic principles that create better food and farming systems.

[Register today.](#)

Buffalo Auto Show: Mark Your Calendars!

The Buffalo Auto Show will be held **January 29-February 1** at the Buffalo Convention Center ([153 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York 14202](https://www.visitbuffalo.com/153-franklin-street-buffalo-new-york-14202)). The show highlights the future of transportation, featuring electric vehicles and other alternative-fuel technologies.

2026 Erosion and Sediment Control Workshops

Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District and WNY Stormwater Coalition will host two DEC-Endorsed 4-hour Erosion and Sediment Control Workshops for Construction Site Contractors and Operators in Winter 2026. The workshops will be **Wednesday January 14th and Tuesday February 10th, 2026**; 8:30am- 1:00pm. Both classes are identical and will be virtual. All Qualified Inspectors and Trained Contractors must complete 4 hours of training in the principles and practices of erosion and sediment control through a program endorsed by NYDEC, SWCD or CPESC, Inc. every three years. Upon completion, each participant will receive a NYS DEC registration number that is valid for 3 years. Certified Professionals in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC), LA's and PE's are exempt from these training requirements. Registration fee is \$95.00 per attendee. Attendees must pre-register. Register for [January](#) or [February](#).

2026 Winter History Course with Explore Buffalo

The Explore Buffalo 2026 Winter History Course will feature four presentations on Zoom beginning **January 22nd** at 7pm. The series will take an in-depth look at the ten most requested landmark buildings in Buffalo. Registered participants will also receive access to the recording of the series after the final presentation on February 12 in case you are unable to attend, or would like to rewatch the series. [Register.](#)

CNLP Horticulture Conference

PlantWNY is hosting their annual conference on **Thursday, February 5 and Friday, February 6** at Salvatore's Italian Gardens, Depew. Horticulture 101 with various talks will be on Thursday. There is a full day of seminars and a trade show on Friday. Attend one or both days. [Register.](#)

Birds on the Niagara Festival

Save the date for the annual Birds on Niagara Festival. For 2026, the events are planned for **February 12-16**. Check for schedules at [2026 Birds on the Niagara Festival](#).

Air and Waste Management Association Seminar

The 2026 A&WMA-NFS and BAPG Annual Enrichment Seminar will be held on **February 19, 2026** at The Grapevine Banquets and Event Center which is located at 333 Dick Road, Depew, NY 14043. This year's seminar will include five presentations. If you have heard a recent presentation that may be of interest, please contact [Christa Bucior](#). To register, please click [here](#).

Greater Niagara Fishing Expo

This pure fishing show is designed by anglers for anglers to promote and teach fishing. This annual event attracts thousands of anglers to the Niagara Falls Convention Center (NFCC) in downtown Niagara Falls, NY. Now in its 11th year, the Expo will run from **Thursday, February 19, to Sunday, February 22, 2026**. With hundreds of hours of fishing education available for attendees to choose from and over 170 booths of fishing-related exhibitors, the Greater Niagara Fishing Expo is the largest fishing show in New York State and among the largest in the Great Lakes. Check for [info](#).

Freshwater Flicks

Support Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper and enjoy some water-related films. Freshwater Flicks 2026 will be on **March 1, 2026** beginning at 1pm at The Caz in South Buffalo. Ticket sales are now open and [we have released our list of films](#). These are all different films released by Wild & Scenic Film Festival from prior years and we can't wait to watch together with you. [Tickets](#).

Electronics and Paint Recycling and Waste Collections

Erie County residents have the option of using the County's "Voucher Drop-off program" which enables residents to bring up to 50lbs. eligible hazardous waste to the Hazman facility in Tonawanda at no cost. Preregistration is required, go to [erie.gov/recycling](#) or call 716-858-6800. For info on City of Buffalo events, check [www.buffalorecycles.org](#).

"Don't Be Salty, New York" Public Awareness Campaign

The DEC announced the [launch of the "Don't Be Salty, New York" public awareness campaign](#) to help educate property owners, managers, communities, and snow and ice removal professionals about the impacts of rock salt and the various strategies that can be implemented to reduce salt use. The goal is to protect water quality while maintaining public safety. DEC is encouraging New Yorkers to reduce the overuse of rock salt when possible. Although applying rock salt on roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks helps to ensure the safety of those traveling by vehicle or foot, overuse of salt can be costly for consumers, degrade infrastructure, contaminate runoff that enters streams and waterbodies, and impact drinking water. Find additional information and resources on [DEC's Rock Salt Reduction webpage](#).

Solar Option Available for Erie County

ECLIPSE is now available to ALL Erie County residents, *regardless of income!* Check out [erie.gov/eclipse](#) to enroll in our Community Solar Program and get 10% off your electric costs. There is no change in electric company or added fees or equipment installation. The program is for both renters and homeowners.

New York State's Foam Cooler Ban Starts January 1, 2026

Starting January 1, 2026, New York State's Foam Ban is expanded to include polystyrene foam coolers and other containers intended to be used for cold storage, adding even stronger protections to reduce plastic pollution, keep the recycling stream clean, and encourage the switch to more sustainable container and packaging options in New York. For more info about the new requirements including who is affected, container types affected, and exemptions visit [Polystyrene Foam Ban webpage](#).

Snapshot NY

Snapshot NY, a collaborative citizen science initiative between DEC and the NY Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Cornell University invites YOU to be part of a groundbreaking wildlife research project across New York State. Using trail cameras, Snapshot NY empowers everyday New Yorkers—students, families, nature lovers, and outdoor explorers—to help biologists track changes in animal populations across the state so we can better manage those species. Visit the [Snapshot NY website](#) or download the Snapshot NY app for more information.

Restrictions on Hotel Hospitality Personal Care Products in Plastic Containers

The practice of hospitality properties providing small plastic hospitality bottles of personal care products in guest rooms and retail shops has proven wasteful in both natural resources and products. Plastic bottles are resistant to degradation and last many years in a landfill. As the bottles deteriorate, they spill the residual contents of product and the packaging itself can also release micro and nano plastics that can negatively impact humans, wildlife, and our ecosystems. The New York State Small Bottle Personal Care Product Restrictions Law Article 27, Title 32, began January 1, 2025 for any hotel, apartment hotel, motel, or boarding house with more than 50 rooms and, begins January 1, 2026 for any hotel, apartment hotel, motel, or boarding house with less than 50 rooms, constitutes the following: the properties must not provide any small plastic bottle containing less than 12 oz. of a hospitality personal care product. [For more info or to file a complaint](#), please email recycling@dec.ny.gov or visit our website.

Watch “The Nature of Nature” on YouTube!

The Nature of Nature: Biodiversity in the Hudson Valley is now available to view on [DEC's YouTube channel](#). We encourage communities, conservation organizations, and college and high school classes to show the 30-minute documentary and host their own dialogues about diversity. [Check the Cornell University website](#) for new materials to support hosting a film event in your community.

Tech and Sustainability

Data centers and technology use considerable amounts of energy, water and other resources. Companies like Google are trying to improve the sustainability of their operations and be transparent about their impact. If you are interested in the overall footprint of one company, you can view their [Environmental Report](#).

New Guide to Reforestation in New York State

DEC recently collaborated with The Nature Conservancy on a guide for landowners to establish new forests on their property, titled [Reforestation and Afforestation Guidance in New York State](#) (PDF). This new guide focuses on reforestation and afforestation practices—in other words, planting trees in areas that were once covered by forests, such as old farm fields. The guide provides step-by-step instructions on planning a reforestation project, planting trees, monitoring and maintaining them.

Event Carbon Calculator

Estimate your event’s carbon footprint in five minutes or less. Our [event carbon calculator](#) provides insights into the main drivers of your meeting’s greenhouse gas emissions, offers reduction scenarios to test and provides resources to help you build a sustainable strategy for your event. Our calculator is still in its beta stage, so please explore our tool and send us feedback on how to make it better suited for your needs. Our [calculator](#) is part of The Company of Biologists Sustainable Initiative, [read more about how](#) we can support you.

Updated Organic Resource Locator

An [online mapping tool](#) was designed for organizations in New York State that produce organic waste—like grocery stores, manufacturers, restaurants, schools, correctional facilities, and hotels—or that rely on organic material for different purposes, such as waste haulers and operators of composting or anaerobic-digestion sites. These organizations can use the tool to learn about and connect with one another. When possible, waste-producer listings include key data points, such average estimates of the volume of waste they generate. Likewise, entries for organics recyclers include the type of organics they accept and process.

Common Ground Film Available for Viewing

The new educational edition of the award-winning film Common Ground, is available free to farmers, educators, and organizations, sharing insight into the challenges of our current food and farm systems, and the positive impact of regenerative agriculture, through testimony from American farmers, ranchers, educators, and advocates. <https://commongroundfilm.org/for-farmers/#watch-now>.

New 25 million Trees Initiative ‘Tree Tracker’

New York State's goal is to plant 25 million trees by 2033. Now there is a way to track our progress. Hosted by DEC and developed in cooperation with the Office of Information Technology Services, the [25 Million Trees webpage](#) and Tree Tracker allow State agencies, organizations, private entities, and individuals to report the location and number of trees planted into a tracking tool, measuring progress in the statewide effort. Information on how to plant trees, how to care for them to aid their survival, and where to go for more technical assistance is also available on the webpage.

Plant-Based Plastic That Dissolves in Seawater

Modern plastics break into microplastics that drift through oceans, move up the food chain, and linger for decades. Japanese researchers have created a plant-based plastic that dissolves completely in seawater within hours, leaving no microplastic fragments behind. The material is made from a modified form of cellulose produced using ionic polymerization and cross-linked with guanidinium ions. It remains strong during use but breaks apart safely if it escapes into the ocean due to temporary links between opposing charges that can be separated with the sodium and chloride ions of saltwater. A thin coating prevents salts from disrupting the material prematurely. If successfully scaled, the material could deliver packaging that remains durable in everyday use but breaks down more quickly once it enters seawater. The study is published in the [Journal of the American Chemical Society](#).

PFAS in Fish Provide Path to Global Spread

A study in [Science](#) highlights that the global fish trade is a major pathway for spreading PFAS, known as "forever chemicals," around the world. PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) are human-made chemicals used in many products (non-stick pans, waterproof clothes, food packaging) for their resistance to heat, water, and oil. By modeling PFAS accumulation in over 200 fish species and tracking international trade flows, researchers found that seafood exports transfer significant PFAS loads from contaminated regions to countries with otherwise clean waters, making the global trade network a key driver in worldwide PFAS exposure.

Take the Pesticide-free Pledge and Receive a Free Lawn Sign!

[Receive a FREE lawn sign](#) when you pledge to protect your family, pets, wildlife and waterbodies by having a pesticide-free lawn or eliminating use of pesticides on your lawn and making your lawn a pesticide-free safe “Home for the Gnomes”. Overuse and misuse of garden chemicals can be harmful to humans, pets, wildlife and waterbodies. Collectively, residents control about 900,000 acres of lawn in New York alone - 75% of the managed turf in the state. The good news is there are many ways to care for your lawn that avoid putting family and neighbors at risk. Pledge to eliminate pesticides in your lawn and receive a free lawn sign to let your neighbors know that your lawn is healthy and safe.

Free Poster Download: Popular Feeder Birds

Which birds flock to which feeders? Birds of the U.S. and Canada from both the East and West are shown in this beautifully illustrated poster by Maria Klos. Celebrate popular feeders and feeder birds with [this downloadable, double-sided poster](#) you can print at home. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a membership institution dedicated to interpreting and conserving the earth's biological diversity through research, education, and citizen science focused on birds.

Free *Phragmites* Genetic Testing Available

Are you a manager unsure if you are dealing with native or non-native *Phragmites*? The Great Lakes *Phragmites* Collaborative has a unique opportunity to partner with Oakland University to offer free genetic testing of *Phragmites* to anyone in the Great Lakes region of the United States. All it takes is a simple leaf sample! If you are interested, reach out to tphragmites@glc.org for more information. Are you located in Canada and want genetic testing? The Invasive Species Centre is offering free *Phragmites* DNA screening! [Learn more about eligibility and requirements here](#).

Floating Fen Preserve

Western New York Land Conservancy announced the opening of their newest preserve, the [Floating Fen Preserve](#) in Chautauqua County. This spectacular 225-acre forest is home to a unique wetland that includes a floating peat mat, from which the preserve derives its name. Visitors to the new preserve will be able to enjoy scenic vistas around this remarkable fen. The Land Conservancy's stewardship team, led by Josh Balisteri, designed and built the 2-mile hiking trail. Plan your visit by visiting the [Floating Fen Preserve](#) page on our website. Watch the video below to get a preview of the preserve.

Let's Go Compost Providing Worm Composting Kits for Public Libraries

Let's Go Compost is proud to support public libraries and local communities with composting education. They are able to provide a limited number of free library composting kits each year to qualifying public libraries, based on available funding. Kits typically include a worm farm, a compost-related book, activity guides, and ongoing virtual staff support. These kits help libraries host hands-on STEM programs, build garden connections, and engage patrons of all ages in hands-on learning about soil health, waste reduction, and local stewardship. [Learn more and apply for a kit.](#)

New Jetting Method Reclaims Spawning Habitat for Lake Trout

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has completed an experimental aquatic habitat reclamation project on Brocton Shoal, 10 miles southwest of Dunkirk in Lake Erie. A groundbreaking high-velocity jetting method was developed to clean and restore historical spawning habitat for lake trout. Lake trout require clean rock containing crevices in which eggs can become lodged and protected from weather and predators. However, the habitat has been severely degraded following the introduction of zebra and quagga mussels in the 1990s. A high-velocity jetting nozzle was designed, fabricated, and deployed in mid-September at two test sites removing silt, sand, and mussel shells covering the rock piles. DEC staff deployed an underwater drone to evaluate and adjust the method in real time. These sites lie in 50–60 feet of water, greatly increasing the difficulty of the work and making the resulting clean rock that much more impressive. To learn more about the [Lake Erie Lake Trout Rehabilitation Plan](#), (PDF) contact DEC's [Lake Erie Fisheries Research Unit](#) at fwfishle@dec.ny.gov.

Effects of Human-Caused Greenhouse Gas Emissions on U.S. Climate, Health, and Welfare

A National Academies of Sciences publication has been published that describes decades of climate research and data that have expanded our understanding of how greenhouse gases affect the climate. This report summarizes the latest evidence on whether greenhouse gas emissions threaten public health and welfare in the United States. [Download Free PDF](#)

Funding for Clean Energy Business Interns

NYSERDA has revised [PON 4000: the New York State Clean Energy Internship Program](#), which provides funding to eligible clean energy businesses, organizations, and local municipalities to hire interns to perform meaningful work in the clean energy sector. Both clean energy businesses and intern candidates can apply to participate in the program. Accepted businesses will select, interview, and hire interns, and NYSERDA provides reimbursement on a percentage of the interns' wages.

WNY Food Systems Map

Explore our region's food systems through stories and maps. This mapping and stories website was built by the [Food Systems Planning & Healthy Communities Lab](#) at the University at Buffalo, in support of [Food Future Western NY](#), a food systems assessment and planning initiative for the nine counties of Western New York. The assessment and planning initiative took place over 18 months, and brought together business, non-profit, government, and community stakeholders to create a cross-county, cross-domain vision and action plan. [Check out the map.](#)

European Union Requiring Transparency for Clothing

The European Union is targeting the fashion industry's greenwashing with new rules for a new level of transparency. By 2027, garments entering the European Union could be required to carry digital product passports (DPPs), offering consumers an unprecedented look into the environmental and social footprint of what they wear. Consumers will be able to scan QR codes or electronic tags to see the garments' digital product passports (DPPs) and check if a fashion brand's green claims are true. The tags will tell consumers what the clothes are made of, how much energy, water and chemicals were used to make them, and who took part in each stage of their production.

Drop Off Your Cans and Help Audubon

Help Buffalo Audubon raise funds by dropping off your cans and bottles at Xtra Dime Recycling, 1041 Englewood Ave., (between Sheridan and Kenmore). Stop by Monday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm and mention Buffalo Audubon for the funds.

US Tree Canopy Map

You can view your community's tree canopy—and its changes over the past 5 years—for free on the TreeCanopy.us mapping tool.

Municipal Training Resources from LEWPA

The Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance (LEWPA) has developed a webpage with 20-minute educational videos designed for municipal officials but are also informative for the public. Learn more about watersheds and the issues impacting water quality at www.tinyurl.com/municipaltraining.

Environmental Issue: File a report to the DEC and/or U.S. Attorney's Office

See dark smoke or dust rising from an industrial site, or smell something foul? Visit [here](#) to file a DEC report, or, for rapid response, call 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267) or the NYS Spill Hotline (1-800-457-7362). Report petroleum or chemical spills to the [Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\) Spill Hotline](#) at 1-800-457-7362.

Funding Available for Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations for Municipalities

Funds of \$5 million for municipalities is available on a first-come, first-served basis through the Municipal ZEV Infrastructure Grant program to support the installation of Level 2 and Level 3 electric vehicle chargers, in addition to hydrogen filling station components. DEC is **accepting applications through 4 p.m. on February 27, 2026**, available through the [Consolidated Funding Application](#) (CFA) under the name "2025 Municipal ZEV Infrastructure Grants." The local match requirement for funding varies based on the municipality's median household income (MHI) and whether the ZEV infrastructure is located within a disadvantaged community (DAC). If located in a DAC, no match is required, regardless of the municipality's MHI. Please note, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) [Charge Ready Program](#) and the DEC ZEV Infrastructure Grant program cannot be used together for the same installation.

Reuse Action in Action: Source for Reusable Materials

Reuse Action helps deconstruct buildings to return building materials to the supply chain. The store will also take your used furniture, cabinetry or building supplies. Don't send them to the landfill, donate them. Profits from sales put people to work! Check out www.reuseaction.com, call the store at 716-894-3366, or stop by 980 Northampton Street.

LEED Green Associate Training - Webinar and Online Self-paced Options

LEED Green Associate is a credential which will enhance your professional credentials, open doors to new job opportunities and help advance your career in the green building industry. [Register for a live webinar](#) or start today with an on-demand recorded workshop completed anytime at your own pace from Leading Green. Cost: \$200 - Students can use the coupon code 'green' for \$50 off (Discounted course price \$150). Save your seat by [registering](#) for our live or self-paced options.

Free Access to Parks, Campgrounds, and More for Veterans and Gold Star Families

New York State veterans and Gold Star Families will have free access to New York State parks, campgrounds, day use areas, historic sites and recreations through the expansion of the Lifetime Liberty Pass Program. All Veterans and certain Gold Star Family members who are residents of New York State are now eligible for this pass. [Apply for the pass](#).

Free Online Course: Continuous Living Cover 101

Continuous Living Cover 101 is a self-paced, online course for agriculture, conservation, and technical assistance professionals – as well as anyone else who is curious to learn more about CLC! Continuous Living Cover 101 introduces the concept, describes five basic strategies (annuals + cover crops, agroforestry, perennial grains, perennial forage and grazing, and perennial biomass) to achieve CLC, and goes over economic and environmental benefits with on-farm examples. There is no cost, and the course is available on three different platforms. [Access the course](#).

Free Educational Resources on Electricity in the US

Download an [ebook](#) on “The Future of Electric Power in the US” and a [paper](#) on “Enhancing the Resilience of the Nation’s Electricity System”. As data centers use increasing amounts of electricity, the nation must plan.

Harmful Algal Bloom Report Summary for 2025

A summary of HABs reported during 2025 is available in the archive section of the [Harmful Algal Blooms \(HABs\) webpage](#). Historical HABs data through 2019 is provided on [Open NY](#), which gives public access to digital data (Search the "Data NY" portal for "Harmful Algal Blooms"). View historical water quality monitoring data, including HABs information, on the [DOW Monitoring Portal](#). Both OpenNY and the Monitoring Portal will be updated with 2025 HABs data over the coming months.

Follow the NYS Firewood Regulation to Help Protect New York’s Trees

Invasive pests like [emerald ash borer](#), [Asian longhorned beetle](#), and [spotted lanternfly](#) can hitch a ride to new areas in or on untreated firewood. Limit the spread of invasive species by following [New York State’s firewood regulation](#): Untreated, New York-grown firewood must stay within a 50-mile radius of its source or origin, Untreated firewood may not be brought into New York from any other state, Heat-treated firewood can be transported anywhere in New York, but it must have a receipt or label that says, “New York Approved Heat-Treated Firewood/Pest-Free.”

Vernal Pool Monitoring: Volunteers Needed for Next Year

The New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) is working with organizations in Great Lake states to increase knowledge of vernal pools using new mapping tools and community science. Remote sensing will be used to find potential vernal pools in three focal areas in the western, northern, and capital regions of New York. NYNHP is building a participant network through a community science program that will help to monitor the potential pools (NY POOLS). **Volunteers will be needed in 2026 and 2027** to survey select vernal pools up to three times through the year to assess habitat, amphibian breeding, and other key factors. In Region 9 there are opportunities for volunteers in Chautauqua and Erie counties. Volunteers located within (or willing to travel to) these counties can [sign up to be involved](#). For additional information, contact NYNHP Zoologist Ashley Ballou at Ashley.Ballou@dec.ny.gov.

Connect Kids to Parks Field Trip Grant Program

Grant Applications for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's (OPRHP) "Connect Kids to Parks Field Trip Grant Program" is now open! Connect New York school age children (pre-K through grade 12) with nature, outdoor recreation, and history by reimbursing eligible costs for field trips to state and national parks, historic sites, and New York State owned public lands. Funding is available for: schools, municipalities, libraries and eligible not-for-profits that are physically located in a New York school district that receives Title 1 funding. **Applications must be submitted six weeks before the field trip is planned to occur**, and no earlier than six months prior to the field trip. [Applications](#) will be reviewed on a rolling basis in the order they are received, while funding is available

Introduction to the Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience

Thousands of educators across the country are using Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) in their classrooms, and now, you can join them! Take the **free**, self-paced eeLEARN: MWEE 101 online course to begin planning your very own student-centered approach to evidence-driven learning that's grounded in real-world environmental issues. [Get started.](#)

Greenhouse Gas Emission E-Learning Courses

Two free, self-paced e-learning courses are available and cover Greenhouse Gas Emission (GHG) Basics and Reduction Potential. [Explore the courses.](#)

Teacher's and Home-Schooling Resources

[Climate Action Simulation](#) role-playing game, powered by the [En-ROADS Simulator](#), not only teaches participants about high-impact climate solutions but also results in real-world climate action.

[Science of Biofuels](#)- Investigate the science, systems, and trade-offs of making energy from biofuels.

[Science of Geothermal](#)- Dive into Earth's internal energy and how we harness and use it.

[Energy Demand and Scale](#)- Help students explore how electricity systems operate to keep energy supply and demand in constant balance.

[Microplastics lessons](#)

[Walking Softer Education](#) is a free, ready-to-implement program that equips high school educators with engaging, NGSS-aligned curriculum focused on environmental sustainability. This opportunity is open to any high school class, club, or out-of-school-time program across the U.S. **Includes project grants and teacher stipends (deadline Feb. 26, 2026).**

[Becoming a Climate Change Educator Toolkit](#) was designed for formal and nonformal educators from all subject areas and grade levels who are new to teaching climate change, although there are certainly activities and tips that may interest seasoned climate change educators. Dig into the activities to prepare yourself to teach the many aspects of climate change, including how to connect to your values and how to prepare yourself to support students as they process the many feelings that come along with learning about climate change.

[Green Club Guide](#) helps educators lead middle- and high-school clubs with tools and inspiration to make a lasting impact on our environment. It connects local action projects to WWF's conservation mission and helps students contribute to a sustainable future.

[Electric Universe](#)-Energy activities for kids

[Keeping it Wild Compassionate Coexistence](#) teaching curriculum modules for primary (K–2), upper elementary (grades 3–5), and middle school (grades 6–8) levels. This curriculum provides teachers with the tools to teach kids about North America's wild carnivores.

[Food Waste Education](#) -materials on food waste basics and food waste reduction techniques that are designed for use in the classroom and at home. There are several playful and educational activities for groups ages 6-11 and 9-11. The handbooks offer a starting point for parents and educators to discuss food loss and waste and how it can be avoided.

[SubjectToClimate](#): Free professional development opportunities including on-demand webinars like *Climate Change Teaching Tips* and *Developing Climate Change Lessons*, and online workshops.

[NEED Curriculum](#)-National Energy Education Development has resources for different grades and energy-related topics.

[Evolution in Paradise](#)-Tropical birds of paradise are the inspiration for this three-activity lesson plan exploring life science concepts such as evolution natural through sexual selection and behavioral adaptations and heritability. Developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology for middle and high school levels (grades 6–12), the lesson plan's activities incorporate actual video footage from science researchers working as part of the BirdsofParadiseProject.org and feature hands-on experiences and lively discussions about life science content throughout.

[Dive Into Shark Education from the Classroom](#)- Resources for elementary through high school on sharks.

[NEEF Infographic: Biomonitoring with Benthic Macroinvertebrates](#)-Biomonitoring uses aquatic organisms as biological indicators of water quality. This infographic from NEEF will help you gain a greater understanding and appreciation of benthic macroinvertebrates and the important role they play in biomonitoring.

[Waterloo Climate Institute: Illuminate Climate Change Game](#)- Illuminate is an educational simulation game that teaches players about the impacts of climate change, ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and how to respond to climate risks.

[Salmon Restoration Investigations](#)- Students explore data and possible solutions to restore salmon populations.

[uBEATS Interactive Online STEM Modules](#)-Building Excellence in Academics Through STEM (BEATS) is a series of online science, technology, engineering, and math learning modules for grades 6–12 exploring topics in genetics, microbiology, pathology, pharmacology, public health, and health science careers

[Sea Otters Case Study \(APES Unit 1\) \(FREE\)](#)- A great way to explore ecosystems and keystone species.

[En-Roads & C-Roads Climate Simulator Activities \(FREE\)](#): Interactive activities to explore climate policy and energy choices.

[ORISE: Invasive Species Lesson Plan](#)- designed for students in Grade 6 and takes place over ten one-hour lessons. Students will be able to define and give examples of invasive species, describe the impact an invasive species has on an ecosystem, and use the engineering design process to mitigate the impact of an invasive species.

[LunaSustain](#)-Take your students on an interactive online journey from Earth to the Moon and beyond to learn about sustainability. Site encourages students to become “solutionaries” by using critical and creative thinking skills to look at sustainability in new ways. Activities include calculating your carbon footprint and making air breathable on the International Space Station. Students who complete LunaSustain can sign their own “My Sustainability Pledge.”

[STEAM Powered Family: Bird Feeder STEM Project for Kids](#)-Young people can have fun designing bird feeders from recycled materials while learning about their local environment. This resource features several simple bird feeder designs that you can replicate or can inspire other designs.

[Educational resource package for I Am A Scientist initiative](#), featuring four alumni of the International Science and Engineering Fair. The multimedia collection is free to download and includes interactive digital stories, classroom posters and teaching guides that showcase pathways and possibilities in STEM careers.

[The Bridge](#)- go-to for all marine and aquatic education resources. It is a clearinghouse of lessons and activities across grade levels and includes incredibly strong use of data that is student-accessible. Every lesson is vetted by teachers and organized by subject and grade level.

[Science Career Books for Kids](#)-Learn more about what it takes to be a volcanologist, disease ecologist, climate modeler, and many other careers through whimsical whiteboard animations and coloring pages from the USGS.

[World Wildlife Federation Lesson Library](#)-Choose from a variety of toolkits featuring information guides and activities about some of WWF's priority species and conservation goals. These subject-integrated lessons are perfect for school, home, or any learning environment and will leave kids with an understanding of how their actions help shape the future of nature.

[Printables: Wildlife Species Cards](#)- Explore a world of fascinating animals like the black-footed ferret and Asian elephant with a collection of species cards. These fun and educational printables showcase each animal's characteristics, behaviors, habitats, threats, and more. Kids can use cards to reinforce concepts, build vocabulary, and explore the animal kingdom at their own pace.

[Women in Oceans Careers](#)-What does it mean to be a woman in an ocean science career? What different career paths are available, and how does one get there? Hear from inspiring women working throughout the National Marine Sanctuary System.

[Nature's Benefits Card Game](#)-fun way to teach important lessons about ecosystems. Players explore how people benefit from nature, how our actions impact the benefits we receive, and how working together can sustain benefits for everyone.

[Knowles Experiential Learning Project \(KELP\) Resource Bank](#)- real-world lessons exploring the Galápagos Islands ecosystem. Designed for students in grades 9–12, but adaptable for middle and college levels, the lessons are anchored in real-world phenomena and address topics in biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, Earth science, and mathematics.

[EarthEcho Water Monitoring Activities](#)- provides videos, data sheets, resources, and equipment to guide teachers and students in executing a water monitoring event. The materials are very user-friendly and students across many grade levels can learn and take action.

[NOAA's updated coral bleaching module](#). New data visualization tools and an updated design make this resource more engaging than ever. With access to a range of historic and current data, you'll discover what's happening to coral reefs and how they're impacted by climate change. Perfect for sparking curiosity and building science skills!

[Crossword activity focused on endangered animals.](#) -Have students complete the puzzle and then read about one of the animals detailed in the puzzle to learn more about it.

[Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture](#) explores how changes in temperature, invasive species, and extreme weather events influenced by climate change will all impact growing food and raising livestock in North America. These lessons are great for 6th-12th grade students and follow Common Core State Standards.

[The Nature Conservancy: Nature Lab Virtual Field Trips](#)-These virtual labs from TNC include videos, teacher guides, and student activities for ages 9-15 on topics from Colombia's páramo ecosystem to the secret life of corals.

[Food Solutions: Climate Change Action for K-2](#) focuses on food and climate, written by and for elementary educators!

[Biodiversity lesson plan](#) encourages students to explore biodiversity, including what it is, how human activities are putting it at risk, and what we can do to protect it. Students discover the wide array of organisms that populate our planet, research one of the almost one million species currently at risk, explore the diversity of life in their own backyard, and learn what they can do to lessen human impact on biodiversity. The lesson integrates STEM, English Language Arts, and Social and Emotional Learning.

[Schoolyard Habitats® campaign](#) and action cards allow students to learn about the habitat elements needed for wildlife to thrive while increasing native habitat and biodiversity. Plus, the school will gain an outdoor space for learning, support physical and mental well-being, and expand the community's green space. The new action cards provide the road map and resources for schools to complete the process from start to finish.

[The Bee Conservancy: Classroom Resources](#)- inspire environmental stewardship, instill actionable knowledge about the world's 20,000 bee species, introduce factors that contribute to bee population decline, and describe kid-friendly ways to build habitat and food supplies that support bees.

[Facilitate Authentic Science Investigations with Students as Scientists](#)-*Nature-based Inquiry* unit guides your students through the full range of science practices, from asking their own questions to designing and carrying out studies to answer them. Choose the unit for your grade-band (K-5 or 6-12) and immediately gain access to 6 lessons and supporting resources.

[Additional resources](#)

Contests, Fellowships and Awards

[21st Annual Middle School Water Conservation Poster Contest](#)-Middle school students may submit posters. Deadline: **January 2, 2025**

[NOAA Ocean Guardian Youth Ambassador](#) program provides a new level of engagement for youth aged 13-18 committed to ocean conservation and stewardship of our blue planet. We are looking for enthusiastic youth with new ideas and a unique perspective to learn more about America's underwater treasures and to share their passion with others. Deadline: **January 4**.

[Foundation for Environmental Education \(FEE\) - Education Awards](#)-Applications are now open for the 2025–2026 FEE Education Awards, which recognize excellence in environmental education. This year's theme is "Healthy People on a Healthy Planet – Transforming Food Behaviors for Sustainability." Educators can apply in one of two categories: (1) Lesson Plan Competition or (2) Teacher Award. Deadline to submit applications is **March 27, 2026**.

Grant and Scholarship Opportunities

[FACT's Fund-a-Farmer grants](#) are now OPEN! Grant awardees are announced at the end of February 2026 with fund dispersal the 2nd week in March. Projects should be completed by June 1, 2027. Deadline: **January 3, 2026**.

[2026 Deborah BanDrosky Award](#)-For students engaged in studies and research as part of a higher education degree related to invertebrate conservation and who intend to continue to work in this field. Deadline: **January 7, 2026**

[2026 Joan Mosenthal DeWind Award](#)- For research and conservation of Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths). Deadline: **Wednesday, January 7, 2026**.

[New York Agriculture in the Classroom](#) is awarding grow systems through the "Grow With Us" grant again this year. NYAITC aspires to provide teachers with the vehicle and tools to facilitate experiential learning using agriculture as the context for learning. To achieve this goal, schools are eligible to earn a bundle of three tower gardens. The tower garden bundle will come with all the necessary supplies to begin growing right away. Deadline: **January 9**.

[Great Lakes Research Consortium Solicitation](#)- An award will be made to one public university or to a consortium of organizations with a single public university acting as the lead to advance Great Lakes scientific research to effectively implement New York's Great Lakes Action Agenda. Deadline: **January 14, 2026**.

[2025 Transportation Alternatives Program \(TAP\)](#)- The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is making available up to \$97.4 million (statewide) to support bicycle, pedestrian, multi-use path and active transportation-related projects and programs through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). TAP funding is made available to the State through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Pre-review application due **January 15, 2026**.

[Great Lakes Restoration Community Grant Program](#)- Projects must be in the Great Lakes watershed boundaries and include community-led restoration projects, such as controlling invasive species incursions, addressing nonpoint source pollution, and fostering abundant populations of wildlife. Letters of Intent expressing interest in the first round of funding are being accepted through **January 16th, 2026**.

[Honey Bee Health](#)- seeking proposals for research related to improving the health of honey bees. Proposals should focus on research to understand, manage, suppress, and eradicate Varroa mites, small hive beetles, and other pests, pathogens, and diseases contributing to colony losses. Deadline: **January 16, 2026**

[Garden Club of America Fellowship](#)- provides funding to a current graduate student to study the causes of pollinator decline, in particular bees, bats, butterflies, and moths, which could lead to potential solutions for their conservation and sustainability. Deadline: **January 17, 2026**

[Regional School Food Infrastructure Grant Program](#). The program offers one \$5 million award in each of 10 regions, and in this round two regional awards are available. Funding from the program will go toward projects that encourage the use of fresh New York State farm products in meal preparation for K-12 school children, reduce food insecurity, increase market opportunities for New York State producers, and strengthen the resiliency of the state's food system. Deadline: **January 20**.

[ReFED's Catalytic Grant Fund](#)- seeking bold solutions and initiatives in two high-impact areas: Advancing food recycling and Reducing methane in the beef and dairy sectors. Deadline: **January 21, 2026**.

[Green Jobs for Youth Grant Round 2](#) -\$4 Million Available to Support Green Jobs for Youth in Environmental Justice Areas to help youth in environmental justice communities develop skills training and promote job placement in various green industries. Deadline: 3pm on **Jan. 28, 2026**.

[FruitGuys Community Fund](#) is accepting applications for its 2026 Grant Cycle, with awards up to \$5,000 for small farms and agricultural nonprofits, to support projects that advance sustainable and equitable food systems. Deadline: **January 30, 2026**.

[NOAA's Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship](#) recognizes outstanding students studying in NOAA mission fields. Scholars receive up to \$9,500 per academic year to support their studies, as well as paid summer internship opportunities at NOAA facilities across the U.S. Deadline: **January 31**.

[Garden Walk Buffalo Poster Contest](#)- America's largest garden tour, is looking for submissions of original artwork to promote the 2026 event. The artist chosen for the poster will receive a \$1,000 honorarium. Deadline: **January 31, 2026**.

[Imperiled Bombus Conservation](#)- seeking proposals for research on improving the recovery and persistence of imperiled *Bombus* species. Proposals should focus on evaluating the effects of stressors on bumble bees, enhancing knowledge of the historical and current geographical distribution, biology, and ecology of bumble bees, contributing to improved monitoring practices, or utilizing emerging techniques to best conserve imperiled bumble bees. Deadline: **January 31**.

[Lepidoptera Conservation](#)- seeking research proposals related to Lepidoptera conservation. This small grant aims to support research projects that need some additional support to get off the ground, or projects that are underway but need additional support for completion. Deadline: **January 31, 2026**

[New York Farmers Market Resiliency: Regional Sub-Grant Program](#)-Funding of \$500,000 will be available for projects that help enhance New York's food system resiliency through farmers markets, including projects aimed at the development and enhancement of farmers market infrastructure, online infrastructure, marketing and outreach efforts, and/or delivery capabilities across the state. Applications are due by **February 4, 2026**.

[2026 Climate Resilience Grant Program for Land](#)- The New York chapter of The Nature Conservancy program is to protect the lands that contribute to climate resilience for the benefit of people and nature. Funding is available to land trusts and other conservation organizations, academic institutions, Tribal Nations, municipalities, and local agencies. Deadline: **February 13, 2026**.

[2026 Climate Resilience Grant Program for Water](#)- The New York chapter of The Nature Conservancy program is to protect the waters that contribute to climate resilience for the benefit of people and nature. Funding is available to land trusts and other conservation organizations, academic institutions, Tribal Nations, municipalities, and local agencies. Deadline: **February 13, 2026**.

[Zabar Scholarships](#)- These are competitive scholarships intended to help defray the cost of a student's education and support their growth as future leaders in the preservation field. Scholarships are available to students enrolled in a college, university, or post-graduate program in historic preservation or related fields in New York State. Deadline: **February 13**.

[Open Space Conservation Grant Program](#)- to protect and preserve open space in New York State. Municipalities, not-for-profits, and Indian Nations or Tribes can apply. Projects must align with the goals of the [New York State Open Space Land Conservation Plan](#). Deadline: **February 18, 2026**.

[Climate Smart Communities Initiatives Grant](#)-provide funding and technical assistance to advance community-based climate resilience in communities or regions that are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Deadline: **March 12, 2026**.

[Earth Day Grant](#)-The Air & Waste Management Association, Niagara Frontier Section (A&WMA-NFS) will be awarding one or more grants worth up to \$500. The program promotes environmental awareness through creative and impactful educational activities and community engagement efforts. The grant is open to educational institutions and community organizations in New York State counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, and Wyoming. Deadline: **March 20**.

[2026 Dave Sauer Memorial College Scholarship](#)-For Current High School Seniors, awarded by The Air & Waste Management Association, Niagara Frontier Section. Deadline: **April 3**.

[2026 Dominic Buccilli College Scholarship](#)- For Current College Students Only, awarded by The Air & Waste Management Association, Niagara Frontier Section. Deadline: **April 3**.

[Dart Stormwater Grant](#)- Council of the Great Lakes Region is offering a grant to help communities purchase, install and monitor innovative stormwater filtration systems designed to capture and prevent land-based plastic litter, oil and sediment from entering our waterways and ultimately the Great Lakes, such as the LittaTrap™ and the Gutter Bin®. **Rolling until funding allocation.**

[Critical Material Innovation, Efficiency and Alternatives](#)-designed to conduct a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercialization to develop alternatives to critical materials, to promote their efficient production and use, and ensure a long-term secure and sustainable supply of them. **Rolling until funding allocation.**

[T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program](#) - Building community, together. We're focusing on revitalizing community spaces in towns with 50,000 people or less. Submit a proposal for a town project of your choice, and if selected, use the funds to get started. Deadline: **Quarterly**

[The Story of Stuff Project Grassroots Grant Program](#)- BIPOC-led groups focusing on water privatization, plastic pollution, or environmental justice projects that are campaign-focused, community driven, and serve communities of color can receive up to \$5,000. Deadline: **Quarterly**

[Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant](#) - The Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program provides \$10,000 in funding for resident-driven groups in small cities and towns to start the Community Heart & Soul model. Grant funding requires a \$10,000 cash match from the participating municipality. Deadline: **Ongoing**

[Amber Grants for Women](#)-funds for women's businesses. Deadline: **Ongoing with monthly and quarterly funding.**

[Groundswell Grants for Black Buffalo](#)- stabilization funds awarded to Black-owned and Black-led nonprofits and small businesses working in East Buffalo. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[The Karma for Cara Foundation](#) is encouraging kids 18 and under to apply for funds between \$250 and \$1,000 to complete service projects in their communities. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[Ben and Jerry's Foundation National Grants](#)- offers two-year unrestricted, general operating support grants of up to \$30,000 per year, with an average grant size of \$20,000 per year, to small (budgets under \$350,000), constituent-led grassroots organizations throughout the United States and its territories. These grants will support groups carrying out activities that address the impacts of inequity and injustice in their communities. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[Kauffman Foundation Grants](#)-The Kauffman Foundation accepts new ideas and innovative project submissions throughout the year. They support ideas and solutions designed to improve education, boost entrepreneurship, and help communities and individuals thrive. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[Toyota 4Good Grants](#)- Projects that are needed and will help contribute to the long- term sustainability of the community. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[The Story of Stuff Project Grassroots Grant Program](#)-BIPOC-led groups focusing on water privatization, plastic pollution, or environmental justice are encouraged to apply. We support projects that value local community involvement and organizing, creative interventions, strategic thinking, and both defensive "fight-back" and offensive solutions-focused projects. Deadline: **Rolling**

[Power of Youth Summer of Service Grants](#) - The Challenge will provide 201 grants to young people seeking to serve their communities. Young people ages 13-19 across the country are encouraged to apply now for the \$300 grants. Projects can address any issue/need that youth are passionate about. Deadline: **Rolling**

[Climate Emergency Fund Grants](#) - The Climate Emergency Funds awards grants up to \$75,000 across four major campaigns: Confronting Media Climate Silence, Climate Emergency Campaigning, Building Movement Infrastructure, and Back To The Streets. Deadline: **Rolling**

[Global Youth Mobilization Grant](#)-Do you have an idea for a solution to overcome a community challenge created by the COVID-19 pandemic? Any young person between the ages of 14 – 30 can apply for funding from \$500 –\$5,000. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[The Pollination Project Grants](#) support organizations/groups that do not have any paid staff with initial grants of up to \$1,000. Successful grantees become eligible for larger impact grants of up to \$5,000 and other support. One grant is awarded every day. Deadline: **Rolling**

[The Connect-Kids-to-Parks Field Trip Grant Program](#) is designed to connect New York State students with nature and history. Each grant reimburses of up to \$40 per student (and \$80 for Special Education students) for trips to state and federal parks, forests, historic sites, fish hatcheries and other outdoor recreation areas. Deadline: **Rolling.**

[H2O for Life Mini-Grants](#) provide \$250-\$500 mini-grants for schools to organize projects that educate youth about the global water crisis and help them take action to provide water, sanitation and hygiene education (WASH) for global partner schools. Deadline: **Rolling**

[The Kars4Kids Small Grant Program](#) is dedicated to supporting education, mentoring, and youth development programs around the country that help children develop into productive members of their community. Grants typically range from \$500-\$2,000. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Avantor Foundation Science and Technology Education Grants](#) funds community-based organizations that teach science and technology to underserved high school students. Eligible applicants are invited to submit a Letter of Intent via email. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[NIEHS Conference Grants](#)-The mission of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is to discover how the environment affects people in order to promote healthier lives. All conference grant proposals must focus on or clearly indicate relevance to advancing our understanding of the role of environment and/or gene-environment interactions in disease/dysfunction. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Saving Species](#)- We help local conservation groups purchase land for conservation and habitat restoration, and may consider projects for restoration of habitat on land that is within an existing protected area. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Wells Fargo Clean Technology and Innovation Grant Program](#) funds projects and programs related to research and development for new and emerging clean technologies by working with universities, colleges, research institutes and laboratories as well as entrepreneur incubator, accelerator and business plan competitions. If you would like to submit a topic for consideration, provide a brief description (150 words or less). **Rolling**

[Youth Pollinator Gardens Grant](#)- up to \$200 available for projects that include educational materials on the vital role pollinators play in nature and youth involvement in planning and planting gardens providing nesting and food sources for pollinators. To apply for a grant, complete an NGC Grant Application, and provide detailed information about the project.

[Cornell Douglas Foundation](#)- Its mission is to provide small grants to organizations which promote the vision of the foundation: advocating for environmental health and justice, encouraging stewardship of the environment, and furthering respect for sustainability of resources. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Cedar Tree Foundation](#)- Letters of Inquiry Accepted at Any Time. Areas: Environmental Education, Environmental Health, Sustainable Agriculture.

[Food Waste Grants](#) –reimburses businesses that generate over one ton of food waste per week to offset cost of select technologies and equipment that reduce or divert that food waste from landfill or incineration. Projects must reduce and/or divert wasted food at a NYS business including supermarkets, restaurants, and hospitals. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[VolunTEEN Nation International Service Project Grants](#)- Students (ages 13-22) from the US going abroad to volunteer or study in a developing country are encouraged to apply for an international service-learning mini-grant. Grants are for up to \$300 to create a service project in a developing country while you are visiting that country. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[KEEN Effect](#) is committed to inspiring responsible outdoor participation to help preserve the places we all play. Through the KEEN Effect, \$10,000 grants are awarded to nonprofit organizations around the world who are dedicated to responsible outdoor participation. Projects must increase responsible outdoor participation as a way to work towards building a strong community. Deadline: **Ongoing**.

[Everyday Young Hero Award](#)- young people, ages 5-25, who are improving their communities through service to others and making significant progress in achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each week, YSA selects one young person to receive this honor and receive \$250 grants to continue and expand their project. Deadline: **Rolling**

[The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation](#) is dedicated to planting fruitful trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming, strengthen communities, and improve the surrounding air, soil, and water. FTPF programs strategically donate orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Doris Duke Environment Program Grants](#)-For Nonprofits registered and working in the US. Permanent land protection (i.e., the acquisition of conservation easements or fee title interests to secure high-priority sites), management of lands already in protected status, and more. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[WalMart Community and Education Grants](#) . Rolling Deadline, but minimum 6 month lead time advised. 501 (c) (3) organizations, schools, religious organizations and government agencies for requests over \$250. For requests under \$250, get a local donation form from your nearest Walmart at the customer service desk.

[Environmental Research and Education Foundation](#). Open. All educational materials for sustainable solid waste management, including conferences or events, which advance the foundation's educational mission. Grants are typically not provided to support the development of educational projects.

[KaBOOM! Let's Play Engineered Wood Fiber Surfacing Grants and Let's Play Maintenance Grants](#)- awards grants of \$750 each to communities who wish to top-off their Engineered Wood Fiber safety surfacing or who are working to make their existing playgrounds cleaner, safer and more inviting. **Rolling deadlines**.

[J-Serve Start-Up Grants](#)-J-Serve is the International Day of Jewish Youth Service. Grants are available for \$500 micro grant to communities that plan and execute projects that bring a minimum of 10 and maximum of 74 Jewish teens together in partnership with a least two movements or agencies in the community. **Rolling deadline**.

[Staying Bothered Foundation](#)-grants to nonprofits that have shown transformative leadership in the areas of education, mental wellness, and gender equity. Application deadline: **Rolling**.

[The Coca-Cola Foundation](#) partners with nonprofits that address priorities focusing on one of the following: Water Stewardship, Healthy and Active Lifestyles, Community Recycling and Education. **Rolling deadlines**.

[Kresge Foundation's Healthy Environments grant program](#) seeks to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable populations by making the places they live, learn, work and play safe and conducive to overall good health. Application deadline: **Rolling**.

[Cisco Global Impact Cash Grants](#) support nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and worldwide that provide assistance to underserved populations and leverage technology solutions to improve the reach, efficiency, and impact of services. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Technical Assistance Grant Information](#)-The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is continuously accepting applications for Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs). TAGs are a citizen participation tool available to eligible community groups to increase public awareness and understanding of remedial activities taking place in their community. Eligible community groups may apply to receive grants for up to \$50,000 per site.

[Shell Foundation Grant](#)—Programs that restore critical ecosystems, address water, air quality research, preserve wetlands and sponsor wetlands initiatives. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Home Depot Community Impact Grants](#)-Grants, up to \$5,000, are available to non-profit organizations and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are given in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services.

[Fluor Foundation Grants](#)—Nonprofits and academic institutions. Projects promoting responsible stewardship of the environment and supports organizations that protect natural resources and habits through conservation, restoration and beautification, and environmental education. Deadline: **Rolling**.

[Youth Outdoor Equity Leadership Fund](#)- The Children & Nature Network invites young leaders between the ages of 16 and 30 to request up to \$500 to grow professionally as a leader in the movement or to implement projects that create change in equitable access to nature, community health and well-being, and justice. Deadline: **Ongoing**.

[Wayfinder Mini Grants](#)- to educators leading the way on environmental education. The mini-grants will range from \$100 – \$750 and are unrestricted. Deadline: **Rolling**.

Employment and Internship Opportunities

[Field Crew Leader](#): WNY PRISM- will be primarily responsible for ensuring the successful implementation and tracking of WNY PRISM field activities including invasive species surveys, removal projects, and habitat restoration efforts. Deadline: **January 23**.

[Tool Library Repair Technician](#)-Part-time. Deadline: **January 19**.

[Part-time Graphics and Marketing Coordinator](#)-Buffalo Science Museum.

[Part-time Exhibits Technician](#)-Buffalo Science Museum.

[Director of Planning: City of Niagara Falls](#)

[Event Coordinator](#)-Botanical Gardens

[Lead Operations Coordinator](#)-Botanical Gardens

[Seasonal Visitor Experience Associate](#) -Botanical Gardens

[Part-Time Facilities Coordinator: Cornell Cooperative Niagara County](#)- working 20 hrs/wk at Lockport office. Deadline: **January 5**.

[Summer Nature Education Internship: Jamestown Audubon](#)-Deadline: **March 9**.

[Seasonal Invasive Species Management Intern: Jamestown Audubon](#)- Deadline: **March 9**.

[NYS Sustainable Materials Management \(SMM\) Stewardship Internship](#)- Fall and Spring

[Zoological Manager](#)-Buffalo Zoo.

[Development and Member Associate](#)-Buffalo Zoo

[Senior Program Manager for Double Up Bucks](#)-Field and Fork Network.

[Digital Communications Manager](#)-Field and Fork Network.

[EcoVerde Organic Compost Crew Member/Driver/ Laborer](#)- Full-time & Part-time available

[Paid White House Internships](#)- numerous council opportunities, varied deadlines.

[Aquarium of Niagara Internships](#)-Opportunities for high school or college students to work with marine mammals, fish, penguins and turtles. Certain requirements must be met.

[Paid Internships in the Energy Sector in NY](#)- you will gain hands-on experience in the growing clean energy sector as either a part-time or full-time paid intern in one of many potential roles.

[Clean Air Coalition Internships](#)-The Clean Air Coalition is a grassroots environmental health and justice organization based in Buffalo, New York. All internships include some operations and administrative work.

[Service Collaborative of Western New York Vista Positions/AmeriCorps](#)-Opportunities for paid community involvement. Check out the available opportunities and eligibility.

[Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens Internships](#)-Seeking individuals to work with Education Dept., Special Events, and Horticulture.

[EquiStar Intern](#) will assist both the Program Coordinator and Barn Manager in providing a therapeutic riding program during the summer sessions.

[Asha Farm Sanctuary Interns](#)- Asha's Farm Sanctuary provides a hands-on learning experience for students enrolled in colleges, universities, and trade schools.

Citizen Science

[Global Earth Challenge](#)-Collecting data from multiple citizen science projects. See how you can be involved.

[Hemlock and HWA Hunters](#)-volunteers locate hemlock stands and hemlock woolly adelgid in NY. To join our project please send us an email at cm933@cornell.edu or info@nyhemlockinitiative.info.

[EPA Citizen Science Database](#)-offers a searchable site for ways the public and EPA can partner to collect environmental information.

[Tree Pictures for NASA Data Verification](#)- NASA would like you to take a picture of a tree, please. The space agency's ICESat-2 satellite estimates the height of trees from space, and NASA has created a new tool for citizen scientists that can help check those measurements from the ground. All it takes is a smartphone, app, and tree.

[Record Your Squirrel Observations](#)-People of all ages are encouraged to contribute to Project Squirrel, a citizen science project that has been operating since 1997. Join Project Squirrel by recording squirrel observations, sharing squirrel stories, sharing squirrel photos, or contributing data to an experiment using food patches.

[Other Citizen Science Programs](#)

<https://www.neefusa.org/story/environmental-education/how-participate-citizen-science-all-year-long>

Upcoming Community Activities:

Thursday, January 1

First Day Hike-10am. Ring in New Year's Day with a hike led by a DEC Forest Ranger who will discuss how to prepare for any outdoor adventure. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

First Day Hike-9:30 - 11:30 am at Whirlpool State Park. Take a leisurely stroll along the gorge with park educators on the first day of the year! Participants should dress appropriate for the weather conditions. Meet at Main Pavilion and the hike is 3 mile long. Registration required. [Eventbrite](#)

First Day Hike-10 am - 12 pm at Darien Lakes State Park. Go for a leisurely stroll through the grasslands and make your way to the hardwood forest of the Spooky Woods! At the conclusion of our hike, enjoy hot chocolate by the campfire. Meet at Route 77 Parking Area (42.916785, -78.389886) for a 2 to 3 mile hike. No registration required.

First Day Hike-10 am - 12 pm at Hamlin Beach State Park. Welcome in the New Year with nature! Join us on a gentle guided wintery walk where we will explore the history and natural wonders of Hamlin Beach State Park. Meet at Shelter 3 in Area 3. No registration required.

First Day Hike-10 am - 12 pm at Knox Farm State Park. Embrace the feeling of renewal as you kick off the year with a refreshing First Day Hike at Knox Farm. Hikers should dress for the weather, as it can be very cold and windy in the open field areas of Knox Farm. Hikers are encouraged to wear a warm and waterproof jacket and boots. Trails can be icy, so hikers are encouraged to bring ice spikes for their boots. The park consists of fields and forests. The terrain has some gently rolling hills. The trail surface will be a combination of pavement, crushed stone and compressed soil trails. Hikers are encouraged to bring hiking sticks if they need more stability. There are benches where the walk begins and ends and a bench about a half mile from the start. Meet at Main Parking Lot - Big Rocks and the hike is 2.5 miles long. Registration required. [Eventbrite](#)

First Day Hike- 12:30 - 1:30 pm at Wilson-Tuscarora State Park. Join a Park Naturalist on a leisurely stroll through Wilson Tuscarora State Park and start the new year off right. The trail can be muddy so boots/hiking shoes are recommended, as is water. The area we will be hiking will consist of Old Growth Forests and the 12-mile creek wetland. The terrain is mostly level with limited slight rises in the trail, and little to no obstacles. There will be break points but not many spots to sit along the way. Meet at Marina Lot and the hike is 1.5 mile long. Registration required. [Eventbrite](#)

First Day Hike- 1:30 - 3:30 pm at Evangola State Park. Join us for a First Day Hike at Evangola State Park. Hikers should dress for the weather, as it can be very cold and windy along the Evangola beach. Hikers are encouraged to wear a warm and waterproof jacket and boots. Trails can be icy, so hikers are encouraged to bring ice spikes for their boots. The park consists of a beach with surrounding forests and fields. The terrain is mostly flat with an incline to and from the beach. Most of the walk will be on sand. Hikers are encouraged to bring hiking sticks if they need more stability. There are no places to sit other than where the walk begins and ends. Meet at Evangola Warm Up Room, at the bathhouse and the hike is 2.5 miles. Registration is required. [Eventbrite](#)

First Day Hike- 2:30 - 3:30 pm at Niagara Falls State Park. Enjoy the first day of the New Year with your dog at Niagara Falls State Park! Take a leisurely walk from Prospect to Terrapin Point and take in the extraordinary views of all three waterfalls that make up Niagara Falls. Participants should dress for the weather, as it can be windy and misty at the Falls. Cold temperatures can result in some icy conditions. All trails are paved and mostly level. You do not need to have a dog to participate. All dogs must be on a non-retractable leash not longer than 6 feet. Meet at Welcome Center and the hike is 1.5 mile long. Registration required. [Eventbrite](#)

First Day Hike-2:30 - 3:30 pm at Fort Niagara State Park. Join us for a walk to view the Niagara River and War of 1812 Cemetery, and to see the lighthouse and Old Fort Niagara from the parking lot. There will be a tour of the Officer's Club to view the paintings and visit the museum displays. Participants should dress for the weather as wind can be brisk off Lake Ontario. Path to be taken is level. Limited seating is available in the officers club. Meet at Officers Club and the hike is 1 mile long. Registration required. [Eventbrite](#)

Guided Hike: Hike in the New Year!-10:00 - 11:30am at [Emery Park - Meeting Location Emery Fieldhouse](#). Join Park Ranger Austin as he leads a Winter Nature Hike at Emery Park, please review the hike summary to be sure this hike is a good fit for you! [Register for Guided Hike: Hike in the New Year!](#)

Friday, January 2

Halfway to Summer Tie-Dye!-10am. Get out of the winter blues and into your summer hues! Join us to create your very own tie-dye masterpiece. Please bring a clean item to tie-dye; all other materials will be provided. Limit one item per person. For ages 5 and older. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Buffalo Geological Society Meeting-7pm at 100 Lee St., Buffalo.

“What’s Bugging You” talk-12 to 12:30pm online with Cornell Cooperative. Stratifying native perennial seeds, learn how to prepare seeds to germinate. [Register](#)

Birding With Audubon-8 to 9:30am. Each Week we will explore the different habitats at Beaver Meadow Nature Preserve to see what birds we can find. Binoculars are available. Buffalo Audubon Members – Free, General Admission - \$10.00. Meet in the Trillium Nature Center Parking Lot. [Info and register](#).

Saturday, January 3

Mindful Nature Walk for an Intentional New Year-9:30am. Bring in the New Year with a guided stroll to reflect on the past year and look forward to the next year. Come with a friend, loved one, or by yourself. For ages 14 and older. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Woods Walk: Nature Guide's Choice-11am. Join a guided nature walk through the woods. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. No registration required.

Full Moon Hike-6 to 8pm. Trillium Nature Center at Beaver Meadow. Take a night time hike at Trillium Nature Center under the full moon with Mike Radomski of Outside Chronicles! \$20. [Register](#).

Christmas Bird Count: Dunkirk and Fredonia- Joanne Goetz organizer, goetz@netsync.net
[716-673-1627](tel:716-673-1627)

Christmas Bird Count: Hamburg and East Aurora- Tom O'Donnell organizer, tmodonnell@roadrunner.com
[716-284-5569](tel:716-284-5569)

Old Woods Birding- 10am to noon at Trillium Nature Center. Register at www.buffaloaudubon.org

Sunday, January 4

Skating at Canalside-11am to 8pm, weather permitting. [Info](#).

Monday, January 5

GBNRTC Public Information on the draft 2024-2026 UPWP-2pm virtual and in-person at 438 Main Str, Sunburst Room, Buffalo and 530pm - Virtual only. You may join both meetings live via [ZOOM](#).

Tuesday, January 6

Virtual IMAGINE Series- 12:30 – 1:00 P.M. This week guest speaker Tanya Staples (Community Schools Director, Say Yes Buffalo) will join us to discuss the Community Schools Initiative. [Zoom link](#)
Each weekly program features a local speaker and Q&A. This series is presented by the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library in conjunction with C-SAAHN and ImagineLifelongLearning.com. FREE and open to the public.

Wednesday, January 7

Green Jobs for Youth Webinar - 1:00 to 2:00pm ET. Please join DEC OEJ grants for a part 2 of our Green Jobs for Youth Webinar where we will go over some common mistakes and more detailed tips for how to be successful in your application. Meeting will end with a Q&A session. [Register](#).

Turning Gray to Green: Post-Industrial Restoration and Urban Ecological Connectivity in Buffalo- 7 to 8:30 pm at Black Rock Harbor Center, 52 Amherst St., Buffalo, NY 14207. Free, [required registration](#). Featuring Nicholas Henshue, M.S. Ph.D., Associate Professor of Ecology in UB's Department of Environment and Sustainability, and SUNY Sustainability Fellow.

GBNRTC Planning and Coordinating Committee (PCC) Meeting-9:30 to 10:30am. 181 Ellicott Street Buffalo, NY, 14203 or via [zoom](#).

Thursday, January 8

Orchard Park Garden Club: Iron Chef Floral Design-11:30am at American Legion Hall 5784 Ellis Rd., Orchard Park, New York. Several members will create floral designs in a competition. Plant material will be provided by the judges. Accredited Judges, also club members will critique the designs. Guests are welcome.

Wellness Walks-10am to noon. Drop by Tifft Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. **Ages:** All Ages, **Cost:** FREE. *Please call 716.825.6397 to confirm walk will take place.*

Green Drinks-5:30pm at The English Gardener (4000 Harlem Rd, Snyder, NY 14226). It will be BYOB (and bring your own food if you want). The event is also listed on [Facebook](#) and on the [Green Drinks webpage](#).

"Big Energy" Across the Mid-Atlantic Region-Webinar from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. The Maryland Department of Planning is partnering with the [Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration \(MAPC\)](#) to present a blended discussion on regional energy issues with practitioners from a variety of Mid-Atlantic states. Topics will include nuclear power, utility scale solar siting agreements, and regional coordination of data center sitings, among others. A Q&A will occur following the brief individual presentations. [Register Here](#)

Friday, January 9

Birding With Audubon-8 to 9:30am. Each Week we will explore the different habitats at Beaver Meadow Nature Preserve to see what birds we can find. Binoculars are available. Buffalo Audubon Members – Free, General Admission - \$10.00. Meet in the Trillium Nature Center Parking Lot. [Info and register.](#)

Saturday, January 10

Dare to Repair Café-11:00AM-2:00PM @ Tri-Main (2495 Main St, Buffalo, NY). Info and Register at <https://thetoollibrary.org/daretorepair/>.

Learn to Cross-Country Ski-10am. Learn the basics of cross-country skiing before going on a short, guided ski tour. Cost is \$15 per person, \$10 for Friends members. For ages 12 and older. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Buffalo United Coalition Day of Action Conference-11am to 1pm. The event will be held at St. Stephen's Bethlehem UCC Church, located at 750 Wehrle Drive. The conference is free, but registration is required. You can learn about and get involved in key campaigns and volunteer opportunities. These efforts focus on protecting vulnerable communities, advocating for fair elections, supporting worker protections, and much more. Space is limited, so [registration](#) is required.

Adult Workshop: Eye Spy Cow Eyeball Dissection-2 to 3pm at Science Museum. Take a closer look at the structures and functions of the eyeball with a cow dissection! Learn how the different eye parts work together, and discover how cows and other animals have a leg up on human vision! All supplies included. Ages 18+
[Tickets](#): \$15 per participant plus Museum admission or membership

Family Snowshoe Hike-10:30am. Explore Reinstein Woods on snowshoes and search for animal signs. We will walk if there is no snow. Cost is \$10 per person, \$7 for Friends members. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Snow Rolls- All rides meet at 12:00 PM, with our 3-loop ride rolling out at 12:30 PM. Bundle up, bring friends, and join us for community winter riding! [Cafe Bewilderment \(1235 Hertel Ave.\)](#)
Kick off the new year with a cozy, crisp winter ride starting and ending at Cafe Bewilderment.

Bark Owls-10 - 11:30 am at [Niagara Falls State Park](#). This craft is a HOOT! Join us in the Education Center for this nature-inspired craft while learning about the different owls found in our region and how to identify them! Materials for craft will be provided. *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#).*

Skimore Knox-10 - 11:30 am at [Knox Farm State Park](#). Enjoy a guided ski tour through Knox Farm with natural history along the way. *Adults only. Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#).*

Woods Walk and Watercolor-2 - 3:30 pm at [DeVeaux Woods State Park](#). Join us for a woods walk to find inspiration before going inside to create a watercolor painting! *All materials provided. For individuals and families ages 8+. Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Wildlife Stories-10:00am-12:30pm at The Park School of Buffalo (see map upon registering). Bring your family and join Earth Spirit staff for a wildlife program at The Park School of Buffalo. Spend some time indoors learning how to walk and talk like different animals, then venture outside with us to discover the stories wildlife teach us with the signs they leave behind. Since this program is geared to (but not limited to) families and kids, children age 12 and under are FREE! [REGISTER](#)

Niagara River Birding- 10am to noon. Register and info at www.buffaloaudubon.org

Sunday, January 11

Winter Trivia Hike-10:00 - 11:30am at [Chestnut Ridge - Meeting Location Chestnut Ridge Park Casino](#). We will enjoy a moderately vigorous hike in Erie County's flagship park and try our luck with trivia questions from a number of subjects. [Register for Winter Trivia Hike](#)

Winter Trails Walk- 11 am - 12 pm at [Artpark State Park \(Earl W. Brydges\)](#). Celebrate Winter Trails month with a walk around Artpark State Park, exploring some of the lesser-known trails and learning about the art in the park! *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Monday, January 12

Composting Workshop-Presented By: Seeds of Living Education and Hamburg Farm to School, 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Meet Red Wiggler Worms and learn about the school gardens & composting! Hamburg Public Library, 102 Buffalo St., Hamburg.

Tuesday, January 13

Virtual IMAGINE Series- 12:30 – 1:00 P.M. This week guest speaker Pastor George Nicholas, M.Div. (CEO, Buffalo Center for Health Equity) will join us to discuss his work toward health equity in Buffalo.

[Zoom link](#). Each weekly program features a local speaker and Q&A. This series is presented by the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library in conjunction with C-SAAHN and ImagineLifelongLearning.com. FREE and open to the public.

The Conscious Cup- 4:30 to 6:30pm. Sustainable Business Roundtable Networking for members and potential members. Stop by, grab a hot beverage, and say hello! No registration required. Facilitated by Fenna Mandolang (716-504-7474) at Socotra Yemeni Coffee House, Lackawanna.

Spotted Lanternfly: Research Updates and Panel Discussion-12 to 1:30pm online. The spotted lanternfly (SLF), an invasive sap-feeding pest, continues to pose significant challenges for vineyards as it spreads into new grape-growing regions. Join researchers and extension professionals as they share the latest findings on SLF management, including its impacts on grapevine biology, wine composition, and potential complications with harvest mechanization. Presenters will also explore consumer and stakeholder perceptions of SLF and current control strategies. The session concludes with a moderated Q&A, offering participants the opportunity to engage directly with panelists and get practical, research-informed answers to their SLF questions. [Register](#).

ADK Meeting- 6:00pm. Main program at 7pm. features the return of former chair, Mike Radomski! Mike Radomski's 2025 Mt. Rainier Trip Education: Knot Tying 101 with Ed Kasperak. Amherst Community Church 77 Washington Hwy. Amherst, NY, 14226.

Wednesday, January 14

2026 Western STANYS & NYS Master Teacher Mini-Conference Workshop -3:30 pm - 7:00 pm at Buffalo State University, Science & Math Complex. <https://westernstanys.org/>

Citizens' Climate Lobby Meeting- 6pm at Buffalo-Erie County Central Library in the Gallery Conference Room (2nd floor) or via [zoom](#). Meeting ID: 934 591 8056 | Passcode: BxKGf1Lw46

BWELL Brains and Brews- 6:30pm. Big Ditch Brewing Co. 55 E Huron St, Buffalo, NY 14203. Join us for an inspiring speaker series featuring three accomplished professors. Look forward to conversation, connection, and community as we raise a glass to women leading with knowledge and purpose. [RSVP](#)

Buffalo Ornithological Society Meeting-7pm. Virtual only- for link, [contact](#). President Bev Seyler Recaps the Cape May 2024 Trip.

2026 Erosion and Sediment Control Workshops-NYSDEC-endorsed 4-hour GP-0-25-001 Training, 8:30am-1:00pm. Virtual. Registration fee is \$95.00 per attendee. Attendees must pre-register. [Register](#) for a class. Please contact Don Stribick at (716) 652-8480 x 8556 or don.stribick@ny.nacdnet.net for questions.

Thursday, January 15

Learn to Cross-Country Ski-10am. Learn the basics of cross-country skiing before going on a short, guided ski tour. Cost is \$15 per person, \$10 for Friends members. For ages 12 and older. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Virtual Program: The Climate Friendly Kitchen-Noon. How can eating delicious food and reducing food waste help the planet? Make a New Year's resolution to find out during this virtual presentation! Registration required; visit <https://reinsteinwoods.org/events/>.

Wellness Walks-10am to noon. Drop by Tifft Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. **Ages:** All Ages, **Cost:** FREE. *Please call 716.825.6397 to confirm walk will take place.*

Virtual: Why We Need Oak Trees, and How to Save Them with Doug Tallamy-7 to 8pm. [Livestream](#). Join us for a book talk on *The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees*, presented by ecologist and New York Times bestselling author Doug Tallamy. Using the months of the year as a backdrop, Tallamy showcases the myriad of life that depends on oaks, from caterpillars and other insects — and the birds that feed on them — to a cast of acorn-eaters. He also details the many ecosystem services that oaks provide. These long-lived trees are champions at storing carbon, and their enormous root systems help stabilize soils and buffer floods.

Help Protect Our Hemlocks – 10am to noon. Become an HWA Hunter with WNY PRISM! The eastern hemlock is a foundation species in our forests, but it's threatened by the invasive hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), a tiny insect with a big impact. Early detection is a great way to help slow the spread of HWA and you can help. Join our HWA Hunters Training to learn how to identify, survey for and report HWA, and adopt a location to survey this winter. at the Trillium Nature Center. **Registration deadline: Thursday, January 15, 2026.** [Learn more and register here.](#)

WNY PRISM HWA Stand Assessment Training- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm at Trillium Nature Center, North Java. Calling all HWA Hunters! Are you ready to level up your survey skills and make an even greater impact on hemlock conservation? Join this hands-on training to learn how to assess the health of hemlock stands, document the extent of HWA populations, and provide critical data that guides future management and biocontrol efforts. Adopt a location to survey this winter and help make a difference! **Prior HWA survey experience is required.** Register at <https://bit.ly/2026StandAssessments>. **Deadline: Monday, January 12, 2026.**

Waves of Change: Taking Action to Protect the Great Lakes-1 to 2pm EST. Discover how you can play an active role in protecting and preserving the Great Lakes in the new year! We'll dive into a variety of ways to get involved with the Alliance for the Great Lakes, as well as some major issues facing the lakes in 2026. Whether you're new to environmental activism or a seasoned advocate, this session will equip you with the knowledge and resources to make a tangible impact on the health and sustainability of the Great Lakes. Join us and become part of a passionate community working to ensure these vital freshwater resources thrive for generations to come! [Register](#)

Friday, January 16

Birding With Audubon-8 to 9:30am. Each Week we will explore the different habitats at Beaver Meadow Nature Preserve to see what birds we can find. Binoculars are available. Buffalo Audubon Members – Free, General Admission - \$10.00. Meet in the Trillium Nature Center Parking Lot. [Info and register.](#)

Get a Clue-6 to 9pm at Buffalo Science Museum. Help solve a museum mystery! Was it botanist Mary Gold in the Rethink Extinct exhibit with the death cap mushroom? Grab a drink from the bar and gather clues from witnesses for an epic adults only museum-wide game of *whodunit*. *For ages 21+*. [Tickets](#).

Flashlight Frolic-5:30 - 6:30 pm at [DeVeaux Woods State Park](#). Join a park naturalist for a guided dark evening walk, visitors are encouraged to bring along a flashlight and explore DeVeaux Woods at night. *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Saturday, January 17

I Use Merlin Bird ID, Now What?-11am. Have you recently developed a love for birds thanks to the app Merlin Bird ID? Take your new hobby further with these recommendations! For adults only. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Woods Walk: Nature Guide's Choice-1pm. Join a guided nature walk through the woods. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. No registration required.

Starting and Planning your Garden- Workshop hosted at MAP from 10am to noon at 387 Massachusetts Ave. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/wintergardeningworkshops>.

Fossil Exploration-10:00 - 11:30am at [Akron Falls - Meeting Location: Akron Falls Park, Falls Parking](#)

Join Ranger Nikki to explore the types of fossils found in Akron Falls Park! Starting at the magnificent falls itself learn about the types of rocks found here, their importance and why we have fossils throughout the park! Bring your inner explorer because we are going fossil hunting! [Register for Fossil Exploration](#)

Trees in Winter-10 - 11 am at [Devil's Hole State Park](#). We will look at some of the most common trees in our area and talk about how they survive the winter. Some points we will cover are: Do conifers photosynthesize in the winter? Why do some trees keep their leaves? How do trees help wildlife survive? *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

NYSOA Winter Waterfowl Count-1 - 2 pm at [Evangola State Park](#). Every year, the New York State Ornithological Association counts the number of waterfowl across the state, with more than 250,000 birds recorded in most years. Jump on board this community-driven science project and help tally birds along the shore! *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

WNY Wildway with WNY Land Conservancy- 2 to 3:30pm at Tifft Nature Preserve. How are wildlife such as black bear, bobcat, and fisher traveling throughout their home ranges across WNY? Marcus Rosten of the WNY Land Conservancy will share photos and insights from a recent wildlife camera study for the WNY Wildway, and discuss the importance of creating wildlife corridors for the future of our wild neighbors. Ages 18+, [Advance registration required](#). FREE

Young Birders Club- 1 to 3pm, Winter Birds & Survival at Beaver Island State Park with Jon Roth of Earth Spirit!

Southtowns Cozy Chat about Native Plants- 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Art's Cafe in Springville, NY, 5 E Main St, Springville, NY, 14141 [Map](#) Come out of the cold and meet with folks who love plants and supporting local ecology. We will be meeting informally for an hour or so at the Art's Cafe in Springville. A variety of hot drinks and delicious foods are available for purchase. All are welcome to attend. [Register](#).

Sunday, January 18

Feathers in Frost-11 am to 12:30 pm at [Niagara Falls State Park](#). Winter is here and with it brings plenty of migrating waterfowl and gulls. Join a park naturalist to discover the wildlife along the great Niagara River corridor. *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Winter Wonderland Soap Making-1 to 2:30 pm at [Woodlawn Beach State Park](#). Unleash your inner artisan at Woodlawn Beach State Park! Make your own soap using a soap base and fun molds (*children 8+ with parent/guardian supervision.*) *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Snowshoeing- 2 to 3:30 pm at [DeVeaux Woods State Park](#). Learn how to snowshoe with a park naturalist and take a guided walk through DeVeaux Woods. Snowshoes will be provided (if there is not enough snow to snowshoe this will be a winter hike.) *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Monday, January 19

MLK Day of Service- 9am to 11am with 7:30am kickoff at Bethel AME Church, 1525 Michigan Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209. [Sign up](#). Volunteer to make a difference.

Tuesday, January 20

The Conscious Cup- 8am. Sustainable Business Roundtable Networking for members and potential members. Stop by, grab a hot beverage, and say hello! No registration required. Facilitated by Jenny Bruce (716-279-9884) at Five Points Bakery, Buffalo West Side.

Toddler Program-10 to 11am. Trillium Nature Center, North Java. Register at www.buffaloaudubon.org

Virtual IMAGINE Series- 12:30 – 1:00 P.M. This week guest speaker Dr. Kathryn Grow Allen (Ralph Wilson Park Conservancy) will join us to discuss the Ralph Wilson Park Heritage Engagement Project.

[Zoom link](#). Each weekly program features a local speaker and Q&A. FREE and open to the public.

Meet the League of Women Voters – 6:30 to 7:30pm. A great way for new members to meet members of the League, ask questions, and learn about volunteer opportunities. All are welcome!

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84350101742?pwd=wPKSqNe4ReaoE12HxALPcvBABYD0i.1>

Wednesday, January 21

New York Winter Greenhouse & Growers School- 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM Roycroft Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora, NY (virtual option for morning). Attend half day or full day. This class will allow attendees to earn NYS DEC Pesticide Recertification credits. [Info and registration](#).

“Intergenerational Care for Land and Community: A Conversation with Robin Wall Kimmerer and Esther Bonney”-7 p.m. ET, YouTube Live (link provided with registration). This conversation is presented in partnership with [Plant Baby Plant](#) and [Nurture Natives](#). All donations made at the time of registration will be shared between Plant Baby Plant, Nurture Natives, and Wild Ones to support community-rooted projects that build intergenerational relationships and put native plants into the ground. [Register now](#)

Thursday, January 22

Gall of The Wild-1:30pm. Have you ever noticed a bump on a goldenrod stem? Learn about the secrets of the insects inside these goldenrod galls and some of the different ways local insects can survive the harsh winter season. For adults only. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Citizens for Regional Transit Annual Meeting- 6:00 - 7:30, virtual, access [here](#).

Future of the NYS Route 33 Expressway: Listening Session #3-Cheektowaga Senior Citizen Center, 3349 Broadway, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

Wellness Walks-10am to noon. Drop by Tifft Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. **Ages:** All Ages, **Cost:** FREE. *Please call 716.825.6397 to confirm walk will take place.*

Bring Back the Pollinators: How you can Save the Bees- 1 to 2pm webinar with Xerces Society. Bees are struggling due to habitat loss, pesticides, and disease, but the good news is that there are things we can do to make our landscape better for bees—and if we all do something, together we can have a big impact. Matthew Shepherd and Aaron Anderson of the Xerces Society will introduce you to the diversity and natural history of North America’s native bees, and present straightforward ways in which you can make your garden—or neighborhood or city—a pollinator haven. Find out how to select flowers, provide nest sites, and why you should avoid pesticides. There are also community science projects to join in and other ways to engage your community.

Dare to Repair Café-4:30-7:30PM @ Martha Mitchell Community Center (175 Oakmont, Buffalo, NY). Info and Register at <https://thetoollibrary.org/daretorepair/>.

Friday, January 23

Birding With Audubon-8 to 9:30am. Each Week we will explore the different habitats at Beaver Meadow Nature Preserve to see what birds we can find. Binoculars are available. Buffalo Audubon Members – Free, General Admission - \$10.00. Meet in the Trillium Nature Center Parking Lot. [Info and register](#).

Nature has Rights Film Screening- 7:00 to 8:30pm. Ripples of Plastic at Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center. [Register](#). This is a documentary about microplastic pollution in the Great Lakes. We will then discuss the Rights of Nature and how we can advocate for the Great Lakes and State Waters Bill of Rights, which would recognize the legal rights of all waterways, land, and communities in NYS to “exist, persist, flourish, naturally evolve, regenerate, and be restored.” Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center (562 Genesee St, Buffalo) serves dinner every Friday from 6-9p, with prices ranging from \$6-18. Come before the film screening and enjoy home-cooked food (menu varies) and support Dnipro and their mission.

Saturday, January 24

Celebrating Squirrels- 10:30am. Even though Squirrel Appreciation Day is past, we can still celebrate these amazing animals! Join us for an indoor program about our local squirrels followed by a short walk for some squirrel spotting. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Snowshoe Adventure- 10:00am-12:30pm. Experience a snowshoe adventure with Earth Spirit staff at the beautiful JP Nicely Memorial Park in West Falls. Bundle up and embrace the winter weather through a guided hike with a focus on winter ecology. If there is adequate snow, we will provide snowshoes for all participants. In the potential absence of sufficient snow, we will be hiking the trails instead! [REGISTER](#)

Re-envisioning your Garden- Workshop hosted at MAP from 10am to noon at 387 Massachusetts Ave. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/wintergardeningworkshops>.

Midwest Academy Training with Clean Air Coalition- 10am to 3pm at School 77 • 429 Plymouth Ave, Buffalo, NY 14213. Contact bridge@cacwny.org for more info.

Buckhorn Island State Park Birding- 9am to noon. Register and info at www.buffaloaudubon.org

Frozen Footprints: A Wildlife Tracking Expedition- 10:00 to 11:30am at Erie County Bureau of Forestry Sawmill and Sugar Shack. Join Park Ranger Adam on an exciting adventure through a 1,000-acre forest as we search for signs of winter animal activity. Learn how to track wildlife, identify animal footprints, and discover which species thrive during the harsh winter months in Erie County’s diverse Forestry Lots. Bundle up for a day of exploration and immerse yourself in the beauty of one of the region’s most unique public forests! [Register](#)

Snowshoeing- 1 to 2:30 pm at [DeVeaux Woods State Park](#). Learn how to snowshoe with a park naturalist and take a guided walk through DeVeaux Woods. Snowshoes will be provided (if there is not enough snow to snowshoe this will be a winter hike.) *Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Curled Up with a Good Book- 6 to 7:30 pm at [Niagara Falls State Park](#). Join us at the Niagara Falls State Park Education Center for an evening of hot chocolate and book exchanges followed by a quiet hour of reading. *Registration available on [Eventbrite.com](#) but not required*

Moonlit Ski Tour- 6:30 to 8 pm at [Knox Farm State Park](#). Join us for a moonlit cross-country ski tour at Knox Farm State Park. Need about 6 inches of snow. *Experienced adult skiers only. Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Workshop: Herb Care and Processing- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, Amherst. \$38 Non-Members; \$33 Members. [Pre-registration is required](#), as space is limited.

Niagara County Cozy Chat: Let's Talk Native Plants- 11:00 am to 12:15 pm at Hill of Beans, 440 Main St, Youngstown, NY, 440 Main St, Youngstown, NY, 14174 [Map](#). Brighten the winter doldrums with a riveting discussion of native plants and favorite books about plants and ecology. There is a great selection of hot drinks and pastries available for purchase. [Register](#).

WNY Peace Center Annual Meeting- 1:30pm at 1272 Delaware (virtual option available). [RSVP](#).

Sunday, January 25

Sunday Seniors Stroll-10 to 11 am at [DeVeaux Woods State Park](#). An easy walk through DeVeaux Woods State Park. Along the way we will talk about interesting features of the natural world and maybe a bit of history. Note that the path is not paved. *Seniors 62+ only. Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Skimore Knox-10 to 11:30 am at [Knox Farm State Park](#). Enjoy a guided ski tour through Knox Farm with natural history along the way. *Adults only. Registration required on [Eventbrite.com](#)*

Monday, January 26

The Glow Must Go On: Exploring Firefly Ecology- 8 to 9am online. Fireflies, or glowworms, are wondrous bioluminescent insects found across the globe, with 179 species documented in North America. Long valued as indicators of healthy ecosystems—many firefly species are now in decline, with at least 18 threatened with extinction due to habitat loss, invasive plants, and light and water pollution. In this webinar, you will learn about firefly biology, the major threats contributing to their decline, and how to help conserve these remarkable insects by planting native trees and shrubs, conserving native ecosystems, and removing non-native plants. [Register](#).

Scajaquada Creek Community Workshop - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper is hosting a series of workshops for people who want to learn more about the Scajaquada Creek Ecological Restoration Plan, meet the project team, and provide your input on the best areas to implement restoration and resiliency projects in the watershed. Each workshop will focus on a different section of the watershed. This one will be at the Anna Reinstein Memorial Library at 2580 Harlem Road. [Info](#).

Winter Sowing with Native Seeds-10:30am to noon. Nike Base Park Community Center, 3278 Whitehaven Road, Grand Island, NY 14072. Learn all about the benefits of using native plants in your garden, including how easy they are to maintain and how they improve the quality of your soil. **You must bring your own transparent milk or water jugs** that have been thoroughly washed and sanitized in hot water. You can bring up to 3 jugs, the Grand Island Nature Alliance will provide the soil, seeds and labeling materials. Since we are working with soil, things can get a little messy, so be sure to wear appropriate clothing not your expensive cashmere sweater! Bring a smock (apron) and gloves if you like. Free, but [register](#).

Tuesday, January 27

Virtual IMAGINE Series- 12:30pm – 1:00pm Speaker: Nadine Marrero. Ex. Dir. Buffalo Office of Strategic Planning, “Buffalo’s “Smart Streets’ Initiative”, Partnered with the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site, Western New York Heritage Press, The Buffalo History Museum & EC200+. [Zoom](#), Each weekly program features a local speaker and Q&A. This series is presented by the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library in conjunction with C-SAAHN and ImagineLifelongLearning.com. FREE and open to the public.

Great Backyard Bird Count Webinar-7 to 8pm. Bring the joy of science into your classroom by participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)—a fun, hands-on way for students to observe birds, collect data, and contribute to real-world scientific research. Becca Rodomsky-Bish, Project Leader for the Great Backyard Bird Count, will be a guest speaker! [Register](#).

Wednesday, January 28

West Valley Citizen Task Force (CTF) Meeting- 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Ashford Office Complex, 9030 Route 219, West Valley. [Register](#).

Clean Air Coalition Meeting-5:30 to 7pm at Trinity Episcopal Church • 371 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14202. Online option available. [Register](#).

Water Cooler Talk: Soil Health Practices for Clean Water-12 to 1pm webinar. Around the world, soils are eroding faster than they are forming, and conventional practices can accelerate this loss. Bare or highly disturbed soils are especially vulnerable to wind and water erosion, allowing nutrients and sediments to wash into nearby waterways. With support from non-profits, conservation districts, technical assistance providers, and federal programs, farmers can adopt soil health practices that safeguard their land and local water resources. This webinar will examine beneficial practices, exploring their benefits and challenges. [Register](#).

Ranked Choice Voting Presentation-6:30 to 7:30pm at Grand Island Memorial Library - 1715 Bedell Rd. Grand Island, NY 14072.

Thursday, January 29

Trees from Twigs-1:30pm. How do you identify trees in winter, when the leaves are gone and it's too cold outside to look at bark? Take a look at their twigs! Learn basic twig ID skills and resources during this indoor program. For adults only. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Wellness Walks-10am to noon. Drop by Tifft Nature Preserve every Thursday and join us for a casual volunteer-led tour of the Preserve. **Ages:** All Ages, **Cost:** FREE. *Please call 716.825.6397 to confirm walk will take place.*

Nourishing a Bioregional Economy- 1 to 2:30pm EST. Join us for a conversation that will address using our purchasing power and investment dollars to nourish a bioregional economy. We'll hear which institutions should form the foundation of a healthy local economy. And we'll share resources for establishing an economy that repairs ecosystems while also meeting the needs of human communities. Online. [Register](#).

Friday, January 30

Birding With Audubon-8 to 9:30am. Each Week we will explore the different habitats at Beaver Meadow Nature Preserve to see what birds we can find. Binoculars are available. Buffalo Audubon Members – Free, General Admission - \$10.00. Meet in the Trillium Nature Center Parking Lot. [Info and register](#).

Saturday, January 31

Back on Track(s)!-10am. An indoor presentation on animal tracks followed by a nature walk to discover real tracks. For all ages. Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

Managing Pests and Diseases- Garden Workshop hosted at MAP from 10am to noon at 387 Massachusetts Ave. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/wintergardeningworkshops>.

Beaver Island State Park Birding- 10am to noon. Register and info at www.buffaloaudubon.org

Join us for a Spark Bird Panel-Trillium Nature Center from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM When did you first fall in love with birds? Join Jenn Lodi-Smith from the Spark Bird Project and our Panel of Birders to share your Spark Bird Story! Buffalo Audubon Members – Free, General Admission – \$10.00, 1610 Welch Rd., North Java, New York 14113. [Buy Tickets](#)

Winter Preparedness: The 10 Essentials for Winter Exploration-10:00 - 11:30am at [Sprague Brook - Meeting Location: Sprague Brook Park, Park Casino](#). Join Park Ranger Adam at Sprague Brook Park to learn the 10 Essentials for Winter Preparedness. After a quick introduction to key survival tips, we'll be putting your new knowledge into practice as we explore some of the Park's extensive trail network. [Register](#)

Sunday, February 1

Canalside Ice Skating-11am to 8pm, weather permitting.

Monday, February 2

Groundhog Day!

Tuesday, February 3

Virtual IMAGINE Series- 12:30pm – 1:00pm Speaker: Douglas W. DeCroix, Ex. Dir. Western New York Heritage, Partnered with the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site, The Buffalo History Museum & EC200+ [Zoom](#). Each weekly program features a local speaker and Q&A. FREE and open to the public.

Scajaquada Creek Community Workshop - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper is hosting a series of workshops for people who want to learn more about the Scajaquada Creek Ecological Restoration Plan, meet the project team, and provide your input on the best areas to implement restoration and resiliency projects in the watershed. Each workshop will focus on a different section of the watershed. This one will be at McKinley High School, 1500 Elmwood, Buffalo.

Wednesday, February 4

Turning Gray to Green: Post-Industrial Restoration and Urban Ecological Connectivity in Buffalo- 7 to 8:30 pm at Enterprise Lumber & Silo, 211 Main Street, North Tonawanda. Free, [required registration](#). Featuring Joy Kuebler, BNRLT Board Member and Playce Studio Ltd.

Dare to Repair Café-4:30-7:30PM @ South Park High School (150 Southside, Buffalo, NY). Info and register at <https://thetoollibrary.org/daretorepair/>.

Public Comments, Civic Engagement and Activism

****This section will share ways to engage and follow policy at the federal and state level. Voting is one action, but civic engagement requires us to share our views and desires with our elected officials.**

Waters of the US (WOTUS) Proposal

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other agencies developed this proposed rule. Key proposed revisions include: defining key terms like “relatively permanent,” “continuous surface connection,” and “tributary” to appropriately delineate the scope of WOTUS consistent with the Clean Water Act and Supreme Court precedent; establishing that jurisdictional tributaries must connect to traditional navigable waters either directly or through other features that provide predictable and consistent flow; reaffirming that wetlands must be indistinguishable from jurisdictional waters through a continuous surface connection, which means that they must touch a jurisdictional water and hold surface water for a requisite duration year after year; in addition, the limitation to wetlands that have surface water at least during the wet season and abut a jurisdictional water will further limit the scope of permafrost wetlands that are considered to have a continuous surface connection under the proposed rule. A **45-day comment period will close January 5, 2026**. Info at <https://www.epa.gov/wotus>. To read the rule, [click here](#).

Draft Policy Requiring Sampling of PFAS in Biosolid Products (DMM-7a) Open for Public Comment

DEC's Division of Materials Management is proposing a new draft policy ([DMM-7a](#)) that expands on the requirements of DEC's existing policy, Biosolids Recycling in New York State – Interim Strategy for the Control of PFAS Compounds (DMM-7), to require sampling and analysis of soil products produced from biosolids (biosolids products) such as compost and heat-dried products. Biosolids are nutrient-rich organic materials that, when treated at wastewater treatment plants and processed properly, can be recycled and utilized as a soil amendment. The concentrations and variability of PFAS in biosolids remain somewhat uncertain. DEC is taking multiple actions to obtain more information that will help guide future regulation of biosolid products. DMM-7a will provide improve data collection of biosolid products, which will complement information gathered from an ongoing study examining biosolids in the waste stream. Once the draft DMM-7a policy is finalized, all currently permitted facilities that accept biosolids, as well as facilities with approvals to distribute biosolids products from out-of-state sources, must analyze the biosolids product for PFAS compounds at a DOH-certified laboratory. *Comments on the proposed program policy can be submitted to biosolids@dec.ny.gov and will be accepted through January 9, 2026.*

Draft 2026-2028 Unified Planning Work Program by Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council

The Draft 2026-2028 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the list of planning initiatives that are proposed to be undertaken by GBNRTC staff and consultants for the 2026 and 2027 State Fiscal Years (SFY). The draft document is available for review at GBNRTC's website <http://www.gbnrtc.org/unifiedplanningworkprogram>. Public comments will be received for 30 days until **January 20, 2026**. Comments may be submitted to GBNRTC via email at staff@gbnrtc.org or by voicemail at 716-856-2026 x300 or by mail at 438 Main St, Suite 503, Buffalo, NY 14202. GBNRTC will also be hosting two public information sessions on the draft 2024-2026 UPWP: **Monday January 5, 2024**, 2pm - Virtual and in-person at 438 Main Str, Sunburst Room, Buffalo, **Monday January 5, 2024**, 530pm - Virtual only. You may join both meetings live via [ZOOM](#). Recordings will be available within 24 hours on our [YouTube](#) page and social media channels.

Ten-Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan (2027-2037)

The National Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) is seeking public input on the development of its next Ten-Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan (2027-2037). The Ten-Year Action Plan serves as a guide for urban forestry organizations and agencies to implement and expand urban and community forestry initiatives across the U.S. [To find more information and submit comments, visit NUCFAC's website](#). Comments are due by **5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2026.**

Contact elected representatives today! You don't have to be an energy or climate expert to make a difference. [Get their contact info.](#)

- https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/subjects/environmental_protection/6038 provides a listing of federal environmental legislation that is pending.
- <https://legiscan.com/NY/pending/assembly-environmental-conservation-committee/id/365> provides a list of environmental legislation pending for the NY Environmental Conservation Committee.
- <https://eany.org/our-work/2024-bill-memos/> provides a list on NY environmental legislation with comments from Environmental Advocates of NY.

Tips for the Environment:

- **Compost your Christmas trees**-Have a live tree for the holidays. Many towns have drop-offs so that the trees can be composted. If you have land, you can put out for wildlife. Dropoffs accepted at Niagara County fairgrounds until January 13 and in the City of Buffalo at 383 Babcock St from 7:30am to 3:30pm on weekdays. Trees should be free of any lights and decorations.
- **Feed Wild Birds Responsibly**- There are natural sources of winter food for birds including birch catkins, spruce and fir cones, dried seed heads from native grasses and flowers, and lingering fruits on plants. Bird feeders can supplement these natural foods and may attract more birds to your yard. Sunflower seeds are popular with many birds; adding suet helps to draw in woodpeckers. To provide a source of water, try installing a birdbath heater or bubbler and regularly refreshing the water. Avoid feeding when bears are active in an area. Ideally provide nearby shrubs or evergreens for cover, place away from windows, clean feeders regularly to avoid spreading disease, clean up fallen debris to avoid attracting rodents.
- **Treat Driveways and Sidewalks Responsibly**-No one wants a winter fall, so educate yourself about surface treatments. Rock salt works best above 20 degrees F, while Calcium Chloride and Magnesium Chloride are more effective at colder temperatures and cause less harm with runoff. Bird seed and sand can add traction in small areas. To better understand the negative effects of rock salt and benefits of alternatives, read [this](#).

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities Available

Volunteer opportunities are available at local organizations for a one-time commitment for several hours to a regularly scheduled donation of your time. Websites are listed later in the newsletter. You can also create an account at <https://filemaker.epd-pgh.com/fmi/webd/GreenGuardians> to volunteer with registered organizations.

Aquarium of Niagara- Scuba-certified volunteers needed to clean the sea lion exhibit (without animals) once monthly. Other opportunities exist for education, exhibit maintenance and other tasks.

AWARE (Association for Wild Animal Rehabilitation and Education) - Volunteers needed for fundraising, grant writing, capturing and transporting animals to us or the veterinarians, public relations, construction of cages, begging for donations of materials and food (for the animals, not us) and for helping at our educational programs.

Buffalo Audubon- Volunteers wanted for Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, and For the Birds Niagara! Help with tour leading, office work, programming, grounds keeping and general maintenance. Every Wednesday 10am-2pm is Volunteer Day at Beaver Meadow. No need to register but bring a lunch. Call (800) 377-1520 for details.

Buffalo Central Terminal- For info, check <http://buffalocentralterminal.org/you-can-help/volunteer-with-the-ctr/>.

Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens-Docents needed. Training is provided. Tours and hands-on lessons are scheduled in advance, so you may sign up for those that fit your schedule. Other opportunities to help are available too.

Buffalo Museum of Science has volunteer and internship opportunities available for teens, college students and adults. For information, contact Director of Community Programs, at 896-5200, ext. 343.

Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper- <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/programs/volunteer/> for opportunities.

Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy will assign volunteers to specific clean up and planting projects throughout the summer. Learn more and [sign up here](#)

Buffalo ReUse can use volunteers for many things. To help, contact them at volunteer@buffaloreuse.org.

Clean Air Coalition of WNY-Help with mailings, phone calls, canvassing and Photovoice (documenting environmental challenges). To help, contact at 852-3813 or www.cacwny.org.

Garden Walk Buffalo helps to rejuvenate neighborhoods, helps make our neighborhoods more walkable, and has an incredible impact on Buffalo's image outside the region. For info, email GardenWalkBuffalo@yahoo.com.

Global Justice Ecology Project- volunteers needed for mailing and office support.
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8799.html> <https://globaljusticeecology.org/>

Go Bike Buffalo- If you're interested or want more information, info@gobikebuffalo.org

Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers to help impact lives of families in the city of Buffalo by building simple, decent homes. Call 204-0740 or volunteer@habitatbuffalo.org.

Hawk Creek Wildlife Center is seeking volunteers who would like to work with wildlife. 16 years or older. Call 716-652-8646. Email info@hawkcreek.org.

HOME, Inc. (Housing Opportunities Made Equal) seeks volunteers to work on various committees to further fair housing. For info/application, visit their website at www.homeny.org.

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge-lots of options [here](#).

Iroquois Observations offers free nature programs in partnership with the Buffalo Audubon Society each spring and fall. Please contact Garner Light at glight@rochester.rr.com for more information.

Junior Solar Sprint Buffalo- If you are interested in helping run the JSS Buffalo event or are interested in finding out more about the leadership committee, please contact jssbuffalo@yahoo.com

Lead Safe Erie County needs volunteers to help paint houses and prevent lead poisoning. For those who are interested, there is also free training for Lead Safe Work Practices Certification. Service learning students, block clubs and others are welcome. Call Mary at 716-833-2929, ext. 117.

Massachusetts Avenue Project needs volunteers from the 1st week in April through October on Saturdays from 10-1 PM. <http://mass-ave.org/>, [current needs and dates](#)

Olmsted Parks-Volunteers are needed for tree plantings, special park events, office work and mailings. Please call (716) 838-1249 x. 33 for more info on becoming an Olmsted parks volunteer.

Pelion Outdoor Classroom-Volunteers needed for garden maintenance and youth education. Opportunities for school fieldtrips and intern engagement. <https://www.peliongarden.org/>

Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center- Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are needed. Have a few hours a month to help introduce children and adults to the natural sciences? Call (716) 627-4560.

Preservation Buffalo Niagara-Interns & volunteers welcome. www.preservationbuffaloniagara.org.

Providence Farm Collective- From May through November, PFC offers individual, group, one-time, monthly or weekly volunteer opportunities — on the farm in Orchard Park or at the PFC Farmers Market in Buffalo. [Info.](#)

Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve offers a variety of volunteer positions as well as internships for college students. For more info, call 683-5959 or visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/1960.html>.

Slow Roll Buffalo- our volunteer squad serves in a wide variety of roles on Mondays and beyond, from planning routes and keeping the rides smooth to many forms of community outreach. submit an [application!](#)

Tifft Nature Preserve also needs volunteers for their programs, communications, fund-raising and other events. [716-825-6397](tel:716-825-6397) and tifftreservations@sciencebuff.org.

Western NY Land Conservancy- trail clearing, mailings, technical research and citizen scientist projects.
<https://www.wnlyc.org/>

WNY Seed Library- Based in Audubon Library. Contact <https://www.facebook.com/wnyseedlibrary/>

Additional calendars with local events-

<http://www.buffalospree.com>

<http://www.buffalo.edu/calendar>

<http://buffalorising.com>

<https://boredommd.com/>

Useful Tools:

Wildlife Rehabilitator Search- https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/sls_searches/index.cfm?p=live_rehab

[Tree Equity Score Tool](#)- tree cover with social and demographic statistics

[Climate Change and Birds Visualizer](#)- examines how birds are faring across regions

[Cover Crop Selector](#)-select appropriate cover crops for your site

[Crop Condition and Soil Moisture Analytics](#) -high-resolution data that can help plan spring planting, track damage

[Climate Change Solution Simulator](#)-En-ROADS is a policy simulator

[BirdCast](#) offers real-time migration maps showing where birds are and in which direction they're going

[Bird Migration Explorer](#) provides migration data

[eBird](#)-record and identify birds that you see

[Personal Plastics Footprint Calculator](#)- measure your footprint for a week or year

[Climate Change Indicators in the United States](#)

[Seagull](#), a slick data platform that brings real-time weather and water data to Great Lakes users

<https://emagazine.com/green-jobs/> Green jobs

[Ecosystem Restoration Handbook](#)

[Sustainable Gardening Library Resources](#)

[Working With Nature: A Guide to Native Plants for New York's Great Lakes Shorelines](#)

[Buffalo B-WELL Videos](#)

<http://growitsaveituseit.com/>

[toolkit to reduce synthetic fertilizer use](#)

[#OnesToWatch interactive map](#)-NY invasive species map

[Organics Communications Toolkit to Reduce Waste](#)

[Pollution Prevention Institute Tools for businesses, households, others](#)

[The ABCs of Soil Health](#)

[DIY Calculators for supplies](#)

[Model Municipal Zoning Ordinance on Community Composting \(PDF\).](#)

[Dynamic World](#) Land cover dataset

[Target Organics Resource Hub](#) – resource for small scale and large scale composting

[Accessible Recreation Destinations Map](#) for New York

[CompTox Chemicals Dashboard](#)

Additional local blogs and websites-

Birds on the Niagara- <http://www.birdsontheniagarafrontier.org/>

Breaking Green Podcast- <https://globaljusticeecology.org/breakinggreen/>

Buffalo Niagara Gardening - <http://www.buffalo-niagaragardening.com/>

Buffalo Niagara Nature Almanac- <http://bnnatureblog.com/>

Buffalo Issues Alert- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BfloIssueAlerts/>

Buffalo Promise Neighborhoods- <http://buffalopromiseneighborhood.org/>

Buffalo Tours- <http://buffalotours.blogspot.com/>

Buffalo Green Fund-<http://www.buffalogreenfund.org/>

Canning Tips for Food Preservation- <http://www.motherearthnews.com>

Campaign for Buffalo History, Architecture and Culture- <http://greaterbuffalo.blogs.com/>

Chirps and Cheeps Bird Blog- <http://www.chirpsandcheeps.com/>

Dept. Environmental Conservation Calendar- <http://www.dec.ny.gov/calendar/>

DEC Green Living Tips- <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/337.html>

Edible Buffalo- <http://ediblebuffalo.wordpress.com/>

Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail- <http://www.ecatrail.org/>

Farmer Resource Network- <https://farmerresourcenetwork.force.com/FRN/s/>

Fix Buffalo- <http://fixbuffalo.blogspot.com/>

Gardening Speakers Bureau <http://gardentalkbuffalo.blogspot.com/p/blog-page.html>

GBNRTC-<http://www.gbnrtc.org/blog/>

Guide to Urban Farming- <http://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/>

Healthy Kids/Healthy Communities- <http://khcbuffalo.blogspot.com/>

Heirloom Soul Florals: Regenerative Flower Farming- <https://www.heirloomsoul.com/blog-archive>

Natural and Working Lands-<https://blogs.cornell.edu/workinglands/> Farming and Climate Change resources

Nourishing Harvest- <https://www.patreon.com/anourishingharvest>

Parks and Trails NY Trailfinder Site- <http://www.ptny.org/trailfinder/Default.aspx>

Recycle Right NY- <https://recyclerightny.org/>

Reuse Action-<http://reuseaction.com/blog/>

Rochester Environment- <http://www.rochesterenvironment.com/>

WNY Enviro- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WNY-ENVIRO/>

Outdoors Niagara- <http://www.outdoorsniagara.com/>

Environmental Tips- <http://www.globalstewards.org/ecotips.htm>

Buffalo Architecture and History- <http://www.buffaloah.com/>

Richardson-Olmsted <http://www.richardson-olmsted.com/>

Times Beach Nature Preserve- www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Times-Beach-Nature-Preserve/283210257029

Black Dog Rescue- www.blackdogsecondchance.org

Peace Weavers- <http://peaceweavers.org/>

Eco-Island Nature Center- <https://www.grandislandschools.org/domain/49>

NY Sport Fishing- <http://www.fishny.com/>

Erie Canal Trailway- <http://www.ptny.org/bikecanal>

Rochester Roots-<http://www.rochesterroots.org/>

New York Times Green Energy & Environment-<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/>

We Love Outdoors-<http://www.weloveoutdoors.com/>

WNY Chapter/American Chemical Society- <http://wny.sites.acs.org/>

Fishing Outdoors- <http://www.hunfishnyoutdoors.com/events.php>

Citizen Science Opportunities- [listing](#)

Sustainability SmartPod- <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2127930>

County/New York State Resources

Erie County GIS Mapping- <http://gis2.erie.gov/HTML5/ErieCountyNY/>
Geographic Information Gateway <http://opdgig.dos.ny.gov/#/home>
[NY Greenways interactive map](#)

Green Jobs, Internships and Career Opportunities

EPA-<https://www.epa.gov/careers>

Green Jobs- <http://www.greatgreencareers.com> , <http://greenjobs.net/>

Listing of websites-www.tinyurl.com/SustainabilityAndGreenJobs

Green Jobs Board- <https://www.brown girlgreen.com/greenjobs>

Green Guardian Environmental Volunteers of Niagara Region- <https://filemaker.epd-pgh.com/fmi/webd/GreenGuardians>

NOAA Internships- [NOAA Student Opportunities Website](#)

Access hundreds of research internships, fellowships, and scholarships funded by the government and private sector organizations: <https://www.zintellect.com/>

Learn more about the variety of opportunities with NOAA: <https://www.noaa.gov/work-with-us>

American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists: <https://aaees.mcjobboard.net/jobs>

AGU Career Center: <https://findajob.agu.org/>

ESA Career Center: <https://www.esacareercenter.org/>

American Fisheries Society: <https://jobs.fisheries.org/>

NYSDEC Employment: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/jobs.html>

NY State Parks: <https://parks.ny.gov/employment/>

National Association for Interpretation: https://nai-us.org/interp/nai/_membership/Career_Center/Career_Center.aspx

North American Association for Environmental Education: <https://jobs.naaee.org/>

Northeast Recycling Council- <https://www.nerc.org/job-board>

Marine Biology Education Resources: <https://www.marinebio.org/careers/>

Youth Summer/Holiday Camps/Home School Series

www.aquariumofniagara.org

www.buffaloaudubon.org

www.buffalogardens.com

www.buffscience.org

www.buffalozoo.org

www.penndixie.org

www.yourspca.org

Grant Opportunities /Tools

[Database of Federal Grants to Support Food Waste Initiatives](#)

<https://trust.guidestar.org/grant-writing-101-resources-for-grant-writers>

www.grantstation.com

www.grantwatch.com

www.grantsalert.com

<https://www.remotedclimatejobs.com/>

Find your farmer - [Erie Grown website](#)

Farmers' Markets 2025 map- [farmer's market map](#)

Urban Farms/ Composting/ Community-Supported Agriculture/Sustainable Practices-

Backyard Bounty-podcasts on homesteading, beekeeping etc. <https://heritageacresmarket.com/backyard-bounty-podcast/>

Becker Farms- <http://www.beckerfarms.com>

Brewster Street Farm- <https://www.jersbuffalo.org/brewster-street-farm>

Canticle Farms-<http://www.canticlefarm.org>

Crown Hill Farms-<https://www.crownhillfarm.com/>

Dirt Rich Farm- <https://www.dirrichesfa.com/>

Eastern Monarch Butterfly Farm- <https://www.facebook.com/EasternMonarchButterflyFarm>

Falkimmer Farms- <https://www.facebook.com/FalkimmerFarms/>

Farmer Pirates-<http://www.farmerpirates.com/>
Farmers and Artisans- <http://farmersandartisans.com>
First Light Farm and Creamery- <http://www.firstlightfarmer.com/>
Five Loaves Farm- <https://5loavesfarm.org/>
Fresh Fix -<https://www.freshfix.com/>
Goodman Farms- <https://goodmanfarms.net/>
Gormley Farms- <https://www.facebook.com/gormleyfarms>
Greater Buffalo Urban Growers-<https://www.facebook.com/greaterbuffalourbangrowers/>
Gregs U-Pick- <http://gregsupick.com/>
Groundwork Market Garden- <http://www.groundworkmg.com>
Healthy Living Farm- <https://www.healthylivingfarm.com>
Heartland Organics- <https://www.heartland-organics.com/visit>
Kin Loch Farmstead- <https://www.kinlochfarmstead.com/>
Kubed Root-<http://www.kubedroot.com/>
McCollum Orchards- <http://mccollumorchards.com/>
Michigan Riley Farm- <http://michiganrileyfarm.wordpress.com/>
Native Offerings- <http://nativeofferings.com/>
Nimble Farms- <https://nimblefarms.com/>
Niagara Malt- www.niagaramalt.com
Plato Dale Farm- <https://platodalefarm.com/>
Porter Farms- <http://www.porterfarms.org/>
Produce Peddlers-<https://producepeddlers.com/>
The Promised Land- <http://promisedlandcsa.com/>
Providence Creek Farm- <http://www.providencecreekfarm.com/>
Roots & Wings Family Farm- <https://www.facebook.com/rootsandwingsfarm/>
Root Down- www.therootdownfarm.com
Sinemus Farms- [http://www.sinemusfarms.com/](http://www.sinemusfarms.com)
Singer Farms Naturals-www.singerfarmnaturals.com
Thorpe's Organic Farm- www.thorpesorganicfamilyfarm.com
Urban Fruits & Veggies- <https://buffalogogreen.org/urban-fruits-veggies/>
Wilson Street Urban Farm- <http://wilsonstreeturbanfarm.wordpress.com/>
WNY Farmers' Markets- http://www.bestofwny.com/farmers_market/
Local Harvest (resource site with map of CSAs)-<http://www.localharvest.org/>
Local Meats- <http://meatsuite.com/>
NY State Fruit and Vegetable Harvest Calendar- <https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/HarvestCalendar.html>
WNY Food Hub for Farmers-<https://www.edenvalleygrowers.com/wny-foodhub>

Local Businesses with Classes and Workshops

Badding Brothers-<https://baddingbrosfarm.com/index.html>
Lockwood's Greenhouses-[https://weknowplants.com/](https://weknowplants.com)
Masterson's Nursery-[https://mastersons.net/](https://mastersons.net)
Sweet Flag Herbs-[http://sweetflagherbs.com/](http://sweetflagherbs.com)
CW Native Plants- <https://www.cwnativeplantfarm.com/>

Local Tourism promoting Sustainability

Buffalo Tours- <http://www.preservationbuffaloniagara.org/buffalo-tours/>
Niagara Wine Trail - <http://www.niagarawinetrail.org/>

Recycling, Reuse, Disposal, Green Cleaning Options: (also check www2.erie.gov/recycling/index.php?q=node)

- Year Round: [Food Scraps Drop-Off Collection Program Locator Map](#)
- Year Round: [PaintCare Drop-Off Collection Locator Map](#)
- Year Round: [Electronics Recycling Locator Map](#)
- Year Round: [Textile Donation & Recycling Locator Map](#)
- Year Round: [Reuse Locator Map](#)

Batteries- Twin Village Salvage Recycling, 4153 Broadway, Depew 683-5373

Batteries, rechargeable- drop offs at Office Depot, Best Buy, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, Lowe's, Home Depot

Batteries (high energy for mowers, power tools)-Lowe's, Bison Turf, Batteries for e-bikes- Tom Pro Bikes
Bicycles- Buffalo Blue Bicycle <http://gobikebuffalo.org/>
Books- www.booksforafrica.org, www.operationpaperback.org
Bras- www.donateyourbra.com,
Building materials- www.buffaloreuse.org
Cars- <http://www.donateacar.com/>
Cell Phones-Buffalo Zoo, Aquarium of Niagara and other charities, Walmart, Lowes, Wegmans
Cigarette Butts- <https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades/cigarette-waste-recycling>
Clothing, general-Goodwill, Amvets, Salvation Army, St. Vincent Depaul Society, Ladies of Charity, Goodwill, Hearts for the Homeless -to see what is accepted <https://www.nysar3.org/page/re-clothe-ny-78.html>
Clothing, formal/business- www.donatemyweddingdress.org/, www.careergear.org, www.dressforsuccess.org
Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs-Accepted at all Home Depot stores, Lowe's
Computer disks, tapes and misc. techno"trash"- <http://greendisk.com/>, <https://www.decluttr.com>
Computer equipment- local Goodwill stores and attended donation centers, Best Buy, Sunnking drop-offs
Construction Materials-Buffalo ReUse, Habitat for Humanity Restore
Contact Lenses and Blister Packs- Bausch & Lomb program with [drop-offs](#) at eye care offices
Drug disposal best practices and sites- <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/45083.html>,
Electronics- www.greenergadgets.org/recycling-responsibly.html, most electronics stores, www.sunnking.com
City of Buffalo residents- 1120 Seneca Street, hours and info [here](#); Other residents, check with your towns.
Envelopes, tyvek- contact us at 1-800-44-Tyvek® or 1-800-448-9835 for more information.
Eyeglasses-Lions Club <http://donateglasses.net/search.html> for sites accepting donations
Fishing line: Berkley Recycling, 1900 18th St., Spirit Lake, IA 51360.
Fur coats (incl faux fur)- <http://coatsforcubs.com> (used for animal rehab for young animals)
Furniture-Goodwill, Salvation Army, Amvets and other charities
Gift cards and customer loyalty cards- <http://www.earthworkssystem.com/consumers.html>
Green Cleaning programs in the workplace-<https://greencleaning.ny.gov/Entry.asp>
Greeting Cards- <http://www.stjudesranch.org/shop/recycled-card-program/>
Hazardous Household materials- <http://www.hazmanusa.com/>
Household Goods (Appliances, Furniture, Kitchenware)-Goodwill, Salvation Army, Ladies of Charity, St. Vincent DePaul Society (Main St.) 882-3600,
Ink cartridges-RecyclePlace.com and most manufacturers
Mascara Brushes- Contact wildlife rehabilitation facilities or [here](#)
Mattresses- <http://triadrecycle.com/mattress/> Hazman, Buffalo ReUse ReSource
Medicines, expired or unused- http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/guidance3.pdf
Needles, Syringes etc.- <http://www2.erie.gov/health/index.php?q=needle-disposal-amp-access>
Packaging Materials (bubble wrap, peanuts)-UPS Store
Paint- <https://www.paintcare.org/>
Pens- Dropoff at Staples stores
Pharmaceuticals-dropoff sites at [map](#)
Plant pots- Mischler's Florist and Nursery, Lavocats Nursery, Lockwood's Nursery, Lowes stores, Home Depot
Plastic shopping bags, cereal liners, packing pillows-groceries, many retailers, www.plasticfilmrecycling.org
Plastics 1-7- dropoff at Great Lakes Recycling, 22 Mechanic St, North Tonawanda, 716-692-3448
Shoes, athletic-NikeReuseAShoe.com, Souls4Souls.org and OneWorldRunning.com
Sports equipment-resell/trade at www.playitagainsports.com
Styrofoam- Thermal Foams, Inc. for clean, white Styrofoam at 2101 Kenmore Ave., 14207. Call first at (716) 874-6474.
Tennis balls- <http://www.rebounces.com/recycle/>
Toys, plastic or used- http://dmpgreen.com/mail_in.html, www.buffalony.gov/383/Streets-Sanitation
Underwear- <https://yourparade.com/products/second-life-recycling-kit>
Uses and reuses for many items- <http://www.world.org/weo/recycle>
Water filters-Brita partners with preserveproducts.com/recycling
Wetsuits- <https://www.sugamats.com/recycling/>, https://www.greengurugear.com/pages/recycling_to-upcycle-program
Searchable lists- <https://search.earth911.com/>, <https://www.call2recycle.org/locator/> [realsimple](#)

Eco-volunteering with Travel:

<http://www.planetfriendly.net/learn.html>
<http://www.globalteer.org>

<http://www.ecovolunteer.org/>
<http://www.goeco.org/>
<http://www.woof.org/>
<http://www.americanhiking.org/>

Education Courses, Resources or Certificates:

Solar Energy Training- <http://www.solarenergy.org/training-schedule/>

Coursera- www.coursera.org

[Green Education Foundation](#)

[Facing the Future](#)

[Cloud Institute for Sustainable Education](#)

[Sustainable Futures Institute](#)

[Nature Generation](#).

[The Center for Ecoliteracy](#)

[Hamline's Center for Global Environmental Education \(CGEE\)](#)

[The National Science Teachers Association Learning Centers](#)

[The US Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development](#)

[Basics of Organic Farming](#) is a self-directed online course for beginning orchard and vegetable-crop farmers

[Our Farms, Our Future](#) podcast series

[Second Nature's Solution Center](#)

On Demand Webinars:

[Extended Producer Responsibility](#) (other videos on same youtube channel).

[Plan-It GEO](#)

<https://www.ceres.org/events/ceres-climate-week-nyc-2020>- CERES from NYC program in Climate Week

EarthEcho [Youtube channel](#) Water Challenge [playlist](#).

STEMExplore Virtual Career Connections [Virtual Events](#) page

Miscellaneous tools including videos and websites:

Green America's guide to Socially Responsible Investing- <http://pubs.greenamerica.org/i/116105>

Buffalo Relocation and Self-Promotion <http://www.wherelifeworks.com/>

Community Food Waste Guide- Access the free resource [here](#).

Change Food Library <http://www.changefood.org/changefoodlibrary/>

USDA Tool Kit for Local Food [toolkit](#)

[Better Than Ed](#)-Video series with Actor Ed Begley encouraging environmentally-friendly practices.

[EJSCREEN](#) is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool.

[Local Foods, Local Places Toolkit](#) to help communities develop their own plans for setting and achieving local food and revitalization goals.

[Merlin Bird ID app](#) Bird id by song

[Archived EPA Climate Change Info](#).

www.epa.gov/climate-indicators.

[Guide to help schools reduce food waste](#)

[Tool for Sourcing Local Meat](#)

[Click here to watch the Know Your Food videos.](#)

[iMATTER Youth Movement to Spark Change](#)

[Green Infrastructure in Parks: A Guide to Collaboration, Funding, and Community Engagement](#)

[EWG's Guide to Healthy Cleaning](#).

[EWG's Tap Water Database](#).

<http://www.nebeginningfarmers.org/online-courses/> -beginning farmer online training through Cornell.

[2018 Fuel Economy Guide](#)

[Climate Hubs](#) provides information for managing risks posed by a changing climate.

[NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Webinar series](#)

[NOAA One Science Seminar Series](#)

[Green Restaurant sustainability tool](#)

[Mapping Climate Change](#).

[Socially Responsible Investing and Banking](#)

[Bee Better Certified™](#) - pollinator-focused farm certification program

[Promise of Biomimicry](#)

[Pollinators under Pressure](#)

[Recycle Right NY](#) - Resources and info on how to recycle and where you can recycle are shared.

Links to area/state environmental/community sustainability organizations and regularly scheduled activities:

Adirondack Mountain Club-Niagara Frontier Chapter

<http://adk-nfc.org/>

AIA Buffalo Western NY

<https://www.aiabuffalowny.org/>

Air and Waste Management Association

<https://awmanfs.wildapricot.org/>

Allegany Nature Pilgrimage

<http://alleganynaturepilgrimage.com/>

Alliance for the Great Lakes

www.greatlakes.org

American Planning Association-WNY Section/Upstate

<http://nyupstateplanning.org/www.wnyapa.com>

Amherst State Park Arboretum

<http://www.amherststatepark.org/ASP/Welcome.html>

Aquarium of Niagara

www.aquariumofniagara.org

Asha Sanctuary for Rescued Farm Animals

<http://www.ashasanctuary.com/>

Aurorans for Climate and Environmental Sense

<https://www.facebook.com/aceseastaurora>

AWARE-Assoc. for Wild Animal Rehabilitation & Education

<http://www.awarewildlife.com/>

Bergen Swamp Preservation Society

<http://www.bergenswamp.org/>

Birds on the Niagara

<https://bird-niagara.org/>

Black Rock Riverside Alliance

<https://brralliance.org/>

Bond Lake Environmental & Beautification Committee

<https://www.facebook.com/BondLakePark/>

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory

<http://braddockbaybirdobservatory.wordpress.com/>

Buffalo Architecture Foundation

<http://www.buffaloarchitecture.org/>

Buffalo Astronomical Association

<http://buffaloastronomy.com/>

Buffalo Audubon Society/Beaver Meadow Nature Center

www.buffaloaudubon.org

Buffalo Blueway

<https://buffaloblueway.com/>

Buffalo Central Terminal

<https://buffalocentralterminal.org/>

Buffalo Go Green	https://buffalogogreen.org/
Buffalo Niagara Community Reinvestment Coalition	https://www.facebook.com/BNCRC/
Buffalo Niagara Gardening	https://buffalo-niagaragardening.com/
Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens	www.buffalogardens.com
Buffalo Farm to School Program	https://www.facebook.com/BuffaloF2S/
Buffalo Geological Society	www.bgsny.org
Buffalo Heritage Carousel	http://buffaloheritagecarousel.org/
Buffalo Maritime Center	http://www.buffalomaritimecenter.org/
Buffalo Museum of Science	www.sciencebuff.org/
Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village	http://bnhv.org/
Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper	https://bnwaterkeeper.org/
Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy	www.bfloparks.org
Buffalo Orienteering Club	https://buffalo-orienteering.org/
Buffalo Ornithological Society	https://www.buffaloornithologysociety.org/
Buffalo Recycles	http://buffalorecycles.org/
Buffalo River Land Trust	https://www.bnrltrust.org/
Buffalo Urban Development Corp	http://budc.ecidany.com/
Buffalo Zoo	www.buffalozoo.org
Burchfield Nature and Art Center	http://www.burchfieldnac.org/
Buffalo Women of Env. Learning/Leadership (BWell)	https://bwell.community/
Center for the Study of Art, Architecture, History and Nature	http://buffaloah.com/h/center/index.html
Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy	http://www.chautauquawatershed.org/
Chestnut Ridge Conservancy	http://chestnutridgeconservancy.org/
Citizens Campaign for the Environment	www.citizenscampaign.org

Citizens' Climate Lobby	https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/chapters/
Citizens Coalition for Wildlife and Environment	http://citizencoalitionwe.com/
Citizens for Regional Transit	www.citizenstransit.org/
Clarence Bluebird Trail	https://lambluebirdtrail.org/
Clean Air Coalition of Western New York	https://www.cacwny.org/
Clean Communities of Western New York	http://www.ccofwny.org/
Coalition of Positively Charged People	https://www.facebook.com/coalitionpositive/
Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo	http://www.cfgb.org/
Cooperation Buffalo	https://www.cooperationbuffalo.org/
Cornell Cooperative Extension for Cattaraugus County	http://cattaraugus.cce.cornell.edu/
Cornell Cooperative Extension for Chautauqua County	http://chautauqua.cce.cornell.edu
Cornell Cooperative Extension for Erie County	http://erie.cce.cornell.edu/
Cornell Cooperative Extension for Niagara County	http://cceniagaracounty.org/
Cornell Cooperative Extension for Wyoming County	https://wyoming.cce.cornell.edu/
Daemen University Center for Sustainability	www.daemen.edu/enviro-news
Department of Environmental Conservation (NY State)	www.dec.ny.gov/index.html
Designing to Live Sustainably	https://www.facebook.com/d2lsBuffalo/
Drave's Arboretum	https://www.facebook.com/dravesarboretum/
Earth Spirit Educational Services	www.earthspiritedu.org
East Side Stewards	https://www.eastsidestewards.com/
Environmental Advocates NY	www.eany.org
Environmental Education Associates	http://environmentaleducation.com/
Environmental Protection Agency	https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-2
Erie Canal Harbor Development	https://esd.ny.gov/erie-canal-harbor-development-corporation-0

Erie County Climate Action & Sustainability	http://www2.erie.gov/environment/sustainability
Erie County Conservation Society	http://eccs-club.org/
Erie County Department of Environment and Planning	http://www2.erie.gov/environment/
Erie County Environment Management Council	http://www2.erie.gov/environment/
Erie County Farm Bureau	http://www.ecfarm.com/
Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs	https://www.ecfsc.org/
Erie County Parks and Recreation	http://www.erie.gov/parks
Erie County Soil and Water Conservation	www.ecswcd.org/
Explore Buffalo	www.explorebuffalo.org
Feminist Bird Club Buffalo	https://feministbirdclubbuf.org/
Field and Fork Network	http://fieldandforknetwork.com/
500 Women Scientists, Buffalo Chapter	https://500womenscientistsbuffalo.wordpress.com/
Food Future WNY	www.foodfuturewny.org
Foundry	http://thefoundrybuffalo.org/
Friends of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge	http://www.finwr.org/
Friends of Reinstein Woods	http://reinsteinwoods.org
Friends of Sinking Ponds	https://www.friendssinkingponds.org/
Friends of Times Beach Nature Preserve	http://www.friendsoftimesbeachnp.org/
Foothills Trail Club	www.foothillstrailclub.org
Gardens Buffalo Niagara	https://gardensbuffaloniagara.com/
Garden Clubs of WNY	www.gardenclubsofwny.com
Genesee County Village & Museum	https://www.gcv.org/
Global Justice Ecology Project	http://globaljusticeecology.org/
Go Bike Buffalo	http://gobikebuffalo.org/
Go Buffalo Niagara	http://gobuffaloniagara.org

Gooseneck Hill Waterfowl Sanctuary	www.gooseneckhillwaterfowlfarm.com
Grand Island Nature Alliance	https://gi-naturealliance.org/
Grassroots Gardens of Buffalo	www.grassrootsgardens.org/
Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council	www.gbnrtc.org/
Greater Buffalo Urban Growers Network	www.facebook.com/greaterbuffalourbangrowers
Great Lakes Center at Buffalo State College	http://greatlakescenter.buffalostate.edu/
Great Lakes Research Consortium	https://www.esf.edu/glrc/
Green Together WNY	https://www.facebook.com/greentogetherwny/
Habitat for Humanity	https://www.habitatbuffalo.org/
Hawk Creek Wildlife Center	https://www.hawkcreek.org
HEART Animal Rescue and Adoption	https://www.heartforanimals.org/
Heart of the City Neighborhoods, Inc.	www.hocn.org
Hope Rising Together	https://ltlol.com/
Housing Opportunities Made Equal	https://www.homeny.org/
Imagine Greater Buffalo Lifelong Learning	http://imaginelifelonglearning.com/
Inland Ocean Coalition-Buffalo Chapter	https://inlandoceancollection.org/whoweare/chapters/buffalo/
Innovation Center Buffalo	http://innovationcenterbuffalo.org/
Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge	http://www.fws.gov/refuge/iroquois/
Jamestown Audubon Center & Sanctuary	http://auduboncnc.org/
Jamestown Community College	http://www.sunyjcc.edu/sustainability
Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance	http://www.erie.gov/lewpa
Leadership Buffalo	https://www.leadershipbuffalo.org/
League of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara	http://www.lwvbn.org/
Local Initiatives Support Corporation	https://www.lisc.org/wny/

Lyceum at Silo City	https://www.facebook.com/LyceumatSiloCity/
Massachusetts Avenue Project	http://mass-ave.org/
Messinger Woods Wildlife Care and Education Center, Inc	www.messingerwoods.org
Nannen Arboretum	https://www.nannenarboretum.com/
Nature Conservancy-Central and Western New York Chapter	http://Nature.org
Nature Sanctuary of Western New York	http://nsswny.org/
New York Farm Bureau	http://www.nyfb.org/
New York Flora Association	http://www.nyflora.org/
New York Forest Owner's Association	www.nyfoa.org
New York Interfaith Power and Light	http://www.newyorkipl.org/
New York League of Conservation Voters	http://www.nylcv.org/
New York Power Authority	www.nypa.gov
New York Public Interest Research Group	http://www.nypirg.org/
New York State Association of Conservation Commissions	https://nysacc.org/
New York State Ornithological Association	http://nybirds.org/index.html
New York State Outdoor Education Association	http://nysoea.org/
New York State Parks	https://parks.ny.gov/
NYS Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling	https://www.nysar3.org/
New York State Sea Grant	http://www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group	http://nesawg.org/
New York Upstate Chapter of the Green Building Council	https://www.usgbc.org/community/usgbc-new-york-upstate
New York Upstate Chapter, Landscape Architects	https://www.nyuasla.org/
New York State Wetlands Forum	http://www.wetlandsforum.org
Niagara County Farm Bureau	http://www.niagaracountyfarmbureau.com/

Niagara County Landfill and Recycling	http://www.rethinkyourwaste.com/
Niagara County Parks	http://www.niagaracounty.com/Parks/
Niagara County Soil and Water Conservation District	www.niagaraswcd.com
Niagara Fishing Expo	http://niagarafishingexpo.com/
Niagara Frontier Botanical Society	Niagara Frontier Botanical Society
Niagara Outfitters	https://niagaraoutfitters.com/
Niagara River Anglers Association	www.facebook.com/Niagara-River-Anglers-1013633888708865/
Niagara River Greenway Commission	https://www.niagararivergreenway.com/
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York	http://nofany.org
North Tonawanda Botanical Gardens	https://ntbgo.weebly.com/
One Region Forward	https://regional-institute.buffalo.edu/one-region-forward/
Open Buffalo	http://www.openbuffalo.org/
Our Outer Harbor	http://www.ourouterharbor.org/
Partnership for the Public Good	www.ppgbuffalo.org
Pelion Garden	https://peliongarden.org
Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center	www.penndixie.org
Pfeiffer Nature Center (Portville)	www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org
People United for Sustainable Housing	http://www.pushbuffalo.org
Plant WNY	http://www.plantwny.com/
Pollinator Conservation Association	www.pollinatorconservationassociation.org/
Preservation Buffalo Niagara	http://www.preservationbuffalon Niagara.org/
Primate Sanctuary	www.facebook.com/ThePrimateSanctuary
Providence Farm Collective	http://providencefarmcollective.org/
Ralph Wilson Park Conservancy	https://rwparkbuffalo.org/

Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve	www.dec.ny.gov/education/1837.html
Restore our Community Coalition	http://roccbuffalo.org/
Retree Western New York	https://re-treewny.org/
ReUse Action	http://reuseaction.com/
Riverline	https://www.theriverline.org/
Roger Tory Peterson Institute	www.rtpi.org
Secret Places of WNY	https://www.insiders-outside.com/events
Service Collaborative of WNY	http://www.tscwny.org/
Sierra Club (Niagara Group of Atlantic Chapter)	https://www.sierraclub.org/atlantic/niagara
Slow Roll Buffalo	www.facebook.com/groups/slowrollbuffalo/
South Buffalo Alive	www.facebook.com/South-Buffalo-Alive-174141769403626/
SPCA serving Erie County	www.yourspca.org
Street Synergy	http://www.streetsynergy.org/
SUNY Fredonia	https://www.fredonia.edu/about/offices/sustainability
Tifft Nature Preserve	http://www.tifft.org/tifft/
Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee	www.facebook.com/TonawandaCreek/
Tool Library	https://thetoollibrary.org/
Tuscarora Environmental Task Force	www.facebook.com/tuscaroraenvironment/
UB Engineers for a Sustainable World	https://www.facebook.com/groups/esw.ub/
UB Environmental Network	https://www.facebook.com/UBEnvironmentalNetwork/
UB Office of Sustainability	http://www.buffalo.edu/sustainability.html
UB Regional Institute	http://regional-institute.buffalo.edu/
Urban Land Institute	http://newyork.ulí.org
Urban Roots	www.urbanroots.org/

US Army Corps of Engineers-Buffalo District	https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/buffalo/
US Coast Guard-Boating Safety	https://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/boating-safety-co
US Fish and Wildlife, Northeast	https://www.fws.gov/about/region/northeast
Vision Niagara	http://visionniagara.org/
Voice-Buffalo	https://voicebuffalo.org/
Western Chapter New York Water Environment Association	http://nywea.org/
Western New York AmeriCorps (Service Collaborative)	http://www.tscwny.org/
Western New York Environmental Alliance	http://www.wnyea.org
Western New York Herpetological Society	https://www.facebook.com/wnyherpsociety
Western New York Land Conservancy	https://www.wnylc.org/
WNY Mountain Bike Association	http://www.wnymba.org
WNY Nursery and Landscape Association (PLANT WNY)	http://www.plantwny.com/
WNY Partnership for Invasive Species Mgmt (PRISM)	http://www.wnyprism.org
WNY Permaculture	http://www.facebook.com/WNY-Permaculture-1098493876841295/
WNY Raptor Center	Wnyraptor.com
Western New York Science Teachers	https://westernstany.org/
WNY Seed Library	https://www.facebook.com/wnyseedlibrary/
Western New York Soil Health Alliance	https://www.facebook.com/wnysoilhealth/
WNY STEM	https://stemecosystems.org/ecosystem/wny-stem/
Western New York Stormwater Coalition	http://www2.erie.gov/environment/
Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable	http://www.wnysustainablebusiness.org/
WNY Peace Center Renewable Energy Task Force	https://www.wnypeace.org/
WNY Weather Society	http://www.facebook.com/amswnychapter
WNY Young Birders Club	https://www.wnnybc.org/events

West Valley Citizen Task Force	<u>www.westvalleyctf.org</u>
Wild Kritters	<u>http://www.wildkritters.com/</u>
Wild Ones-WNY Chapter	<u>https://westernnewyork.wildones.org/</u>
Wild Spirit Education	<u>https://wildspirit.org/</u>
Zoar Valley Coalition	<u>https://zoarvalley.org/</u>