



"Rooted in Hope"

Racine Dominican Eco-Justice Center

Summer 2021

Vol. 16 Issue 1

Issued biannually

Making Room for Growth

View this newsletter in

Full Color

on our website:

ecojusticecenter.org

Grounds Are Open!!

7-Days a Week 8-4PM

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Eco-J Staff

MaryLynn Conter Strack

Executive Director

Katie Flannery

Education Program Manager
& Developer

Dawn DeMuyt

Racine Area Youth Farm Corps
Program Manager

Jeff Appenzeller

Maintenance

Change is a sign of life!

The Sisters who have called the Eco-Justice Center home since its founding in 2004, have stated, "The time has come for the four of us to move out of the farmhouse to enable the mission of the EJC to grow and thrive."

Although Sisters Kathleen Bohn, Rose Marie Dischler, Mary Ann Weyker and Janet Weyker will be moving out, they will still be an important part of the center and will continue to **support our mission to work for justice, healing, and right relationships among all Creation.** As mentors and story-tellers, crafters and jelly

makers, they will carry on promoting the on-going life and purpose of EJC.

"The founding Sisters have built the Eco-Justice Center into what it is today – a wonderful place to learn from nature and to heal ourselves and Earth. The center has reached the point in which it needs more space to grow. The sisters wanted to support that growth and see it succeed," said MaryLynn Conter Strack, Executive Director. "The Sisters have given many gifts to the center



The Founding Sisters: Rose Marie Dischler, Kathleen Bohn, Mary Ann Weyker & Janet Weyker

over the years: passion, wisdom, enthusiasm, knowledge, and love. Now they are giving us the gift of space to grow."

The hiring of additional staff and interns, along with the desire to expand our environmental teaching capacity, have created a real need for space. By moving administrative offices to the house, programming will gain additional storage, teaching, and meeting space, along with access to a full kitchen. Our education building will be open to hosting educational workshops and community meetings.

In addition, the farm house will have space where interns can live on-site as they help to care for the property and animals. **Applications are being accepted now!** If you know someone who may be interested, please encourage them to find more information at ecojusticecenter.org.

Scan to Donate



THANK YOU!

Eco-J Board Members

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S. Jane Weiss, OP

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Nicole Reid

We invite you to make a donation in honor of our founding Sisters' leadership and legacy.

Our Annual Fall Fundraiser is now a Weekend-Long Event



Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 18-19: *Come & Explore from Noon 'til 4*
Event Kicks Off Friday, September 17 at 7PM with a Drum Circle, Bonfire & Night Hike

Admission: \$5 adults / \$2 children ages 4+

Educational Demos/Talks:

All About Alpacas/Goats,
Bee-keeping, Composting
Backyard Chicken Coops,
Organic Farming, Edible Plants,
Wool Spinning, Wood-turning,
Renewable Energy,
Food Preservation,
& More!

Kids Activities:

Alpaca Crafts,
I-Spy in the Tree House,
Make-Your-Own
Birdhouse/Feeder,
Face Painting & More!

**12-Item Silent Auction
on Facebook:**

Brick Oven Pizza Party,
Kids' Party, Farm Corps
Produce & Egg Vouchers,
A Stay in the Hermitage,
A Unique Game Bench,
Original Works of Art,
and More!

**Enter Our
\$1,000 Sweepstakes!!**

Sponsored by Strouf Funeral Home



***Guided
Walking Meditation**

Sunday at 10:30AM

with Buddhist Nun, Bhikkhuni Vimala
*Pre-registration required

***Yoga with Alpacas!**

Saturday & Sunday

9:00 & 10:15AM

with Instructor, Chloe Wright
*Pre-registration &
separate fee required



Unique Gift Shop Items & Nibbles to Purchase:

Tomato Tasting / Honey Tasting / Corn on the Cob / Brats / Popcorn
Frozen Chili (Chicken or Veggie) & Frozen Fruit Pies To-Go

www.ecojusticecenter.org ~ facebook.com/EcoJusticeCenter/

Meet Our 2021 Summer Interns!



Jessie is a recent Arizona State graduate who majored in Sustainability and minored in Urban Planning.



Generously Sponsored by:



Farron is a senior at the UW-Parkside, pursuing a degree in Biology.

"As a lifelong Wisconsin resident, I am passionate about our ecosystems and I hope to continue working in Wisconsin after school. That's why I am so excited and grateful to have the opportunity to work at the Eco-Justice Center. I am learning so much about our local ecosystems.

My favorite skill that I have learned here is how to preserve food and seeds. My favorite thing to do is to take a snack break with the goats and chickens." -Farron



Annika is a junior at Augustana college studying biology and Spanish.

Aubriana is a senior at Carthage College pursuing a major in Environmental Science with a focus on Conservation and Ecology.

"What I love about this job is that I am surrounded by similar minded individuals who are also passionate about the environment and sustainability.

Dawn (our Farm Corps manager) was the best and always made each day feel like an adventure with tons of new activities to try. I really loved garlic braiding - which I think mine turned out pretty great.

Another part of the job that I love is collaborating with Annika, a fellow Farm Corps intern, on the creation/ implementation of a seed saving program here at the Eco-Justice Center!" -Aubrey

"This position has solidified my desire to work with food distribution and production. There are few things as fulfilling as knowing your work has fed another person, and that your itty bitty seeds have turned into complete meals.

I've learned that there is nothing more satisfying than a bed cleared of weeds, and that Guinea hens have a lot less common sense than you might expect!" -Annika

"As a sustainability student, I have focused on studying the intersection of environmentalism and social justice. In particular, I have researched the ways vacant space can be utilized in urban areas to promote local food sovereignty. I now have a deeper appreciation for the work farmers do and seek to understand how we can make our current food systems more sustainable." -Jessie

Farm Corps Produce Available Now!

Visit Our Farm Stand
Saturdays from 10-2

Forever Grateful
to our Sponsors:



Racine Dominicans

Forest County
Potawatomi
FOUNDATION



SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF LEAVENWORTH



Mission Fuel

With support from SC Johnson, Eco-Justice Center staff participated in the fourth cohort of Mission Fuel in spring, a program through Cardinal Stritch University. Mission Fuel is a business accelerator program designed specifically for non-profits to develop strategies to diversify revenue streams, become more entrepreneurial, and ultimately realize a more stable and self-sustainable future.

EJC just developed a three-year strategic plan to increase innovative programming and what we learned from Mission Fuel is truly helping us move the plan, and our mission, forward. Thank you, SC Johnson, for this amazing opportunity!

"Rooted in Hope" Since 2004

Eco-Justice Center
7133 Michna Road
Racine, WI 53402



Printed on recycled paper with soy ink



Scan to Donate

NOW OPEN!

Eco-Justice Center
FARM STAND
Fresh Produce

SATURDAYS 10-2
7133 Michna Rd



YOGA with ALPACAS!!

A unique offering you can only find at the Eco-J!
Four New Classes in September—See page 2.



Welcome, Katie Flannery!
Our New Education Program
Manager & Developer

"I was immediately drawn to the mission of the Eco-J. The staff, animals, and land truly make this a one-of-a-kind place. I am beyond excited to be the new Education Program Manager & Developer, and cannot wait to grow alongside this wonderful organization!"



Eco-Justice Center Wish List:

Home Depot Gift Cards for Lumber, 56qt-64qt Clear Storage Containers w/Lids, Painters Tape, Forever Postage Stamps