

June 2015



Thank you for your interest in **The Earth Day Program**

Just as supernovas celebrate the death of a star by giving forth intense light, so is The EDGE in its final days sharing its light with catalysts like you. The EDGE is offering sample programs which we designed and sponsored throughout our history as Sunseed/The EDGE. Because of budgetary cuts, and other considerations, The EDGE needs to close its doors June 30th, 2015. Program packets, however, are yours—free of charge.

Each packet includes sample announcements to the public, an event flyer, an outline, a timeline and other how-to information as a basis for your own creativity. Please check out the Table of Contents for specifics.

The area of ecological awareness is an exploding field. Hosting programs such as this one will surely bring inspired people together and promote cutting edge solutions to care for our Earth. As an organization leader, you have the vision, the knowledge, initiative and experience to help pave a positive road for our future. Whether you feel it or not, you are helping to bring about new and healthy perspectives energized by the universe story/evolutionary consciousness.

In a very real way, you are now entrusted with this sacred enterprise:

The Mission of The EDGE
*The EDGE is a ministry which
promotes ecological consciousness,
motivating adults and youth
to interact with self and with the rest of creation
in a beneficial way.
As an educational ministry,
The EDGE promotes the spiritual and scientific discovery
that all aspects of the Universe
are interconnected as one living whole.*

Programs can be accessed beginning June 1 by contacting theedge@ssndcp.org; 262-787-1011. Until June 19th, we are happy to assist you with the implementation of this program. And after June 19th, all programs can be accessed at this site: www.ssnd.org/resources/shalom-resources but the staff will not be on hand to provide any further assistance. However, the packet is quite adequate and contains helpful samples and suggestions.

We feel privileged to have been part of this ministry and hope you do, too,

Suzanne Moynihan, SSND
Director

Laura Harvancik
Volunteer Administrative Assistant

Purpose of Earth Day Program:

To celebrate Earth Day with people all over the world who are also honoring this day
To bring all participants to a greater awareness of the beauty and fragility of our Earth systems
To emphasize that all species are interconnected as one living whole and that what we do to other Earth systems, we also do to ourselves
To create awareness and practical steps making our “home” a healthier place for all
Actions that have already resulted from Earth Day are:

- The establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency (1970)
 - The Clean Air Act (1970)
 - The Clean Water Act (1971)
 - The Endangered Species Act (1973)
 - The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (1976)
- <http://www.resnet.us/library/earth-day-why-its-important/>

The official Earth Day is on April 22nd. Celebrations can be held any day around this time. The week of April 22nd is considered, “Earth Week”.

For your convenience, this packet contains:

A Welcome Letter
Three Flyers
One Handout
Helpful Information and Timeline
Newspaper Article before Event
Newspaper Article after Event
Sample Committee Agenda
Sample Announcement
Sample Prayer
Sample Introduction to Speakers
Sample Speaker Form (if needed)

Note: If choosing to use a DVD, these can be found at your local library, borrowed from the NDEG Shalom Library (262-782-1450) or from a local ecology organization.

FUNDING is available from The EDGE to purchase/rent a film or print posters. Contact Tim Dewane at tdewane@ssndcp.org to request an amount.
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We are available to offer you any further assistance and answer any questions about this packet until June 19th. (Contact The EDGE at theedge@ssndcp.org or call 262-787-1011.) After this date, other packets can be accessed at this link: www.ssnd.org/resources/shalom-resources; however, the staff will no longer be available for help in implementing this program other than the materials you have at your fingertips and your own creativity.

If desiring more resources, insert the words: *Earth Day Ideas* and a plethora of websites will come up so you can choose whatever fits you as well as getting ideas to enhance your creativity.



Join us at the Elm Grove Public Library

13600 Juneau Blvd; Elm Grove Village Park Municipal Center

View "Green Fire"

Film on Aldo Leopold's efforts to connect people with Earth.
See the land he restored in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

Children, ages 4 and up, will enjoy a lively story about a mysterious school garden, followed by planting activities to continue growing at home.

Questions? Contact Svetlana Foley @ 262-782-6717

**Celebrate
Earth Day**

April 21, 2013

Sunday, 2-4 p.m.

Sponsored by:

School Sisters of Notre Dame-

Sunseed Eco-Education

Elm Grove Library

Elm Grove Beautification Committee

Elm Grove Garden Club

Local Garden Clubs

Celebrate Earth Day with



Bats Bees Butterflies



Sunday, April 27

2:00-4:00 PM

Elm Grove Library

**13600 Juneau Blvd. Elm Grove, WI
Community Room**

You are invited to a hands-on-approach so...bring the kids. Learn about the fascinating habits of bats, bees and butterflies, what they contribute as well as challenges they now experience.

View the film:

*The Incredible Journey of the
Butterflies*

**Enjoy Small Group/Table Presenters
and their hands-on exhibits**

Dr. John Whitcomb (bats)

Denise Palkovich (bees)

Barb Agnew (butterflies)

During the film, children will be engaged in age-appropriate activities related to the theme, including a home-grown tale: "*Meet the Monarch in Your Backyard*."



**For further information about the event,
contact Mary @ 414-774-1582**

*Sponsored by: The EDGE (School Sisters of Notre Dame); Elm Grove Library;
Elm Grove Garden Club; Milwaukee Organic Gardening Club*



Third Annual Elm Grove Village Earth Day: Water Water Everywhere?

April 19, 2015; 2:00-4:00 PM
Elm Grove Village Library
13600 Juneau Blvd; Elm Grove

Featuring:

Jayne Jenks
DNR; Retzer Nature Center

Lindsay Frost
UWM School of Freshwater Sciences

Sister Jan Gregorcich, SSND
Global Partners Running Waters

Plenty of **Kids' Stuff** during
the presentations



**Displays and
Handouts**
Following the
Formal
Program

Questions?

Call The **EDGE**
Office:
262-787-1011.

Families are
heartily
welcome!

Pictures courtesy of www.morguefile.com

Earth Day Packet

Helpful Information and Suggested Timeline

Note: The official Earth Day is April 22nd of each year. It might be wise to check out when surrounding parks are holding their specific celebrations of Earth Day and schedule yours on an open date.

Suggested Dates	Suggested tasks to take care of
January	<p>Invite volunteers from family, worship community, garden clubs, and ecologically-minded folks to help you plan Earth Day. Set a date that is convenient for everyone. Choose a date and time together as a group to plan the event at a nearby location such as a library, a place of worship or a public building.</p> <p>If you need financial resources, welcome a sponsoring group or business to cover costs, i.e. rental of a room, printing, refreshments, purchase/rental of a DVD, and honorarium for speaker, <i>as applicable if needed</i>.</p> <p>Contact a facility such as a library, a worship site, a civic center or even a restaurant for use of needed facilities.</p>
January/February	<p>As a committee, choose a theme and decide how you want to express it: a speaker? A panel? A film? A demonstration of some sort?</p> <p>Outline the program as you see it now and do this together, if possible</p> <p>Publicize in local paper/local newsletters</p> <p>Decide who will make flyer and how you will distribute these—online; copies can go to friends, neighbors, businesses, places of worship.</p> <p>Decide who will solicit volunteers to bake cookies. (These always help!)</p> <p>Together, as a committee, set the timeline for the day to include these items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayerful reflection Introduction to film Film Discussion Social time; refreshments <p>Sample announcements are included in packet</p> <p>Sample flyers included in packet.</p> <p>Each volunteer could just bake 2 dozen cookies. Leftovers could lead to a cookie exchange!</p>
February	<p>Review tasks assigned to make sure all was taken care of and is in readiness for your March date.</p> <p>Make sure you have access to DVD equipment and that someone who is familiar with the machinery</p>

	<p>take care of running the film.</p> <p>Decide what time all of you will arrive on the day of the event</p> <p>Even if your group in attendance is anywhere from three to thirty, you are contributing to the positive energy for change on our planet, even if you don't see it.</p>
March	<p>Celebrate the event you held by having tea together as a committee or visiting a nearby nature center or...</p> <p>If participants like the event, invite them to form a group and possibly plan the next occasion. Inform them that you enjoyed the planning and that it was not difficult and did not take a lot of time from other areas of your life.</p>

Elm Grove News Independent
(April 2015 edition)

Topic: Third Annual Elm Grove Village Earth Day
Water, Water Everywhere?

Water

What is the vitality and necessity
of clean water?

Ask the man who is ill, and who is
lifting his lips to the cup.

Ask the forest.

– Mary Oliver

What a way to instill village residents with pride! This being the **third** annual Elm Grove Village Earth Day, we have every reason to look forward to another engaging program. Presenters involved with water projects whose main offices are a stone's throw from Elm Grove, will share with us about their efforts as well as ways we can honor water as a sacred element within our own lifestyles.

Jayne Jenks from the oft-visited, education-oriented Retzer Nature Center; Lindsay Frost from the only such school in the US, the UWM School of Freshwater Sciences; and Sister Jan Gregorcich from Global Partners Running Waters, with food, water and health projects in Latin America, will be our distinguished presenters. Afterwards, there will be a question and answer period.

During the presentations, delightful activities for children including story-telling, dramatization, a clown (*Orange Blossom*) and crafts will highlight their afternoon. Following the presentations, displays, informative handouts and nature gifts will be shared with participants.

A gift basket drawing will also be featured.

Third Annual Elm Grove Village Earth Day
April 19; 2:00-4:00 PM
Elm Grove Village Library
FREE event; families welcome!

The Elm Grove News Independent

Elm Grove Village Earth Day; April 27, 2014

If you ever doubted the magic of Monarch butterflies, and for that matter, bees and bats, too, then ask those who were present at our 2nd annual Elm Grove Village Earth Day just what they experienced. Not only children were enthralled by the home-grown story, the graceful dancing artist, Theresa Barnes, who mimed the transformation of a caterpillar into a butterfly; the clothespins and coffee filters crafted into butterflies but also the adults who watched the film, *The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies*. Thirty children and seventy-four adults were delighted by this event carefully-planned by Mary Ricklefs (EG Garden Club), Svetlana Foley (EG Library Director), Marni Geissler (SSND Associate) and Suzanne Moynihan (School Sister of Notre Dame). They were assisted by four volunteers from Brookfield Central High School Key Club, Diane Engelhart, SSND, photographer, and an SSND Associate.

The five presenters also sponsoring exhibit tables were: Barb Agnew (butterflies); Dr. John Whitcomb (bats); Denise Palkovich (bees), Meribeth Sullivan (green lawn care) and Sister Suzanne Moynihan (The EDGE/global warming). Participants heard intriguing stories about the habits of the three animals, what endangers them and how to welcome their presence into our backyards. Thanks to the library staff, the event was held at the Elm Grove Village Library.

**Earth Day Planning Committee Meeting
January 9, 2013**

1. Introductions: committee members share their name and what sparked their interest to join this committee and present an Earth Day program
2. Brainstorming: how can we best honor what has already been done in this area and yet raise awareness about actions that could be done personally, as a household, as a business or as a village?
 - a. What has already been done
 - b. Brainstorming: What would benefit the folks in our area? Worship community?
3. Possible Approaches
 - a. Hold celebration in one place with various groups having booths which emphasize green practices, indicating what organization/business does to be green; use Earth Day Songs; have poetry hearing; musical works...
 - b. Use a “green” practice in readiness for Earth Day and have businesses report on what they did; possible share a gift basket with winning business. These are some suggestions about what it is they could do:
 - Less is More** - Purchase items with less packaging.
 - Paperless Technologies** - Go paperless as much as possible
 - Go Chemical Free** – Examine chemical use in office/business and research alternatives
 - CFL Light Bulbs** – Convert conventional bulbs to CFL bulbs
 - Green Energy** – Measure your carbon footprint; resolve to change one habit this week
 - Recycling** – Start a recycling program at your school, office, workplace; research possibility of recycling containers used throughout the village.
 - Eco-Challenges** - Refrain...Reuse...Reduce...Recycle...Reinvent...
 - Sustainable Reading** – Provide books with information on how to reduce one’s carbon footprint; nature; climate change; endangered mammals and plants; nearby hiking trails;
 - Earth Day Movies**—sponsor a theater and invite citizens; purchase an ecological film and show during Earth Week
 - Green Transportation** – Walk, carpool or bike - Skip the car!
 - Plant a Tree or Garden** – Green your environment with trees, gardens and flowers; plant several trees in the park in honor of dignitaries (past or present).
 - Turn off the lights** – Turn off electronic equipment when not in use
 - Go Vegetarian** – Research menus and resolve to eat have one vegetarian day a week; hold Vegetarian Pot Luck during Earth Week

Hold An Art Fair: Construct creative artifacts from recycled materials: gum wrappers, toothbrushes, landfill goods

School Earth Week Activities – Invite schools to engage in Earth Week activities and to display these in a public place: business windows, library, village meeting hall...They could make posters, decorate paper grocery bags, do a video with an earth-centered theme. Maybe they would like to work in groups.

Conserve Resources: Encourage office employees, family members to conserve water: turn the faucet off when brushing teeth; turn the thermostat down two degrees; wash clothes only when there is a full load and in cold water; shorten showers; use water for more than one purpose; hang clothes on a line rather than using the dryer

Compost: nature's way of recycling decomposed organic materials into a rich soil. Compost can be used in gardens, flower beds

Rain Barrels/Rain Gardens: Hold teaching demonstration; have a rain barrel handy; have a corner in which a computer is set up with a You Tube video on how to set up a rain barrel

Solar/Wind Energy: Invite someone to share on benefits and costs

4. Benefits: When businesses go green, in addition to helping the Earth, they can often times get tax deductions or other financial benefits, so see if your companies or places of worship or organizations in your area are open to making some kind of an Earth Day commitment. (<http://www.greenbiz.com/news/2009/04/21/how-companies-celebrate-earth-day>)
5. Decide on date, time and place for future committee meeting

Earth Day Sample Program Announcements

Announcement: 2013 Earth Day

Elm Grove Village honors Aldo Leopold, a respected Wisconsin citizen by showing the film, *Green Fire*, free of charge. The event is open to preteens through adults. A professional story-teller will provide entertainment for children four years and older who will also have the opportunity to engage in a spring craft and seed-growing activity. Elm Grove business coupons will be shared with families who participate.

Date: April 21, 2013
Time: 2:00 PM
Place: Elm Grove Library
13600 Juneau Blvd.
Elm Grove, WI 53122.

Information: 262-782-6717.

Announcement: 2014 Earth Day

Village Earth Day: Bats, Bees, Butterflies! Includes film: *The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies*; hands-on displays by three knowledgeable exhibitors; and for the kids during the film: home-grown story time, a butterfly dance and a craft project Sunday, April 27; 2:00-4:00 PM; Elm Grove Library; 13600 Juneau Blvd. Elm Grove, WI; Community Room. Sponsored by: The EDGE (School Sisters of Notre Dame); Elm Grove Library, Elm Grove Garden Club; Milwaukee Organic Gardening Club. For further information, contact Mary @414-774-1582. Free admission.

EARTH STATIONS

A Prayer Recalling The Condition Of God's Body Earth

Percussion (rain stick, wind chime, shakers, drum) begins and at signal the Leaders, Readers, flag and candle bearers take places. When percussion ends, Leader 1 begins:

INTRODUCTION:

Leader 1: In the Preamble of the Earth Charter we read:

Reader 1:

We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must *choose* its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise. To move forward we must recognize that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms, we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny.

Reader 2:

Humanity is part of a vast evolving universe. Earth, our home, is alive with a unique community of life. The forces of nature make existence a demanding and uncertain adventure, but Earth has provided the conditions essential to life's evolution. The resilience of the community of life and the well-being of humanity depend upon preserving a healthy biosphere with all its ecological systems, a rich variety of plants and animals, fertile soils, pure waters and clean air. The global environment, with its finite resources, is a common concern of all peoples. The protection of Earth's vitality, diversity and beauty is a sacred trust.

Leader 2:

And in an open letter of the National Council of Churches we hear:

Reader 1:

"To commit a crime against the natural world is a sin. For humans to cause species to become extinct and to destroy the biological diversity of God's creation ...for humans to degrade the integrity of Earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the Earth of its natural forests, or destroying its wetlands... for humans to injure other humans with disease... for humans to contaminate the Earth's waters, its lands, its air, and its life with poisonous substances ... these are sins." We have become un-Creators. Earth is in jeopardy at our hands.

Reader 2:

This means that ours is a theological crisis as well. We have listened to a false gospel ...one that proclaims that God cares for the salvation of humans only and that our human calling is to exploit Earth for our ends alone. This false gospel still finds its proud preachers and continues to capture adherents among emboldened political leaders and policy makers. The imperative first step is to repent of our sins, in the presence of God and one another.... We are a precious part of Earth's web of life, but we do not own the planet and we cannot transcend its requirements for regeneration on its own terms. We have not listened well to the Maker of Heaven and Earth – or to Earth itself.

Leader 1: Let us reflect together on the condition of God's creation.



The First Station: EARTH

Leader 1:

Earth is both the planet we live on and the matter we live from. Its thin skin of soil produces our food, nurtures our trees and plant life, cleans our water, protects us from floods and regulates our climate. Throughout the ages, soil has been regarded as precious, even sacred, because of its gifts. Yet, today we have degraded over 5 billion acres of soil globally - through chemical fertilizers and pesticides, unregulated waste dumping, over-farming and over-grazing, deforestation, excessive population growth, and polluted rain. Replacing the topsoil already lost will take centuries -- even millennia. And so we pray....

Side 1

We ask forgiveness for:

- using unnatural pesticides and fertilizers,
- straining the soil by eating too high on the food chain,
- dumping recyclable waste in landfills.

Side 2

We are grateful for the gifts soil shares:

- plants and trees to help Earth breathe,
- food and medicines for us and all creatures,
- ground to root us in Earth.

Leader 1 Let us be still and imagine our feet reaching through the layers of flooring to the Earth beneath us. Sense the soil there - alive with microorganisms, solid and sustaining.



The Second Station: AIR

Leader 2:

Air – the invisible force that surrounds us, fills us up and gives us life. Air is the moving ocean of gases in which we swim all the days of our lives. Invisible and indivisible, air is a place without borders or owners, shared by all life on Earth. Air binds us all together as a single living entity extending through time and space. But human pollution is now rapidly changing Earth's air – filling it with materials harmful to all beings. These substances rise into the atmosphere damaging the ozone layer, increasing the planet's temperature, and endangering the health of the most vulnerable, then fall back to Earth as acid rain - killing forests and

sterilizing lakes. And so we pray....

Side 2

We ask forgiveness for:

- spewing chemicals and fossil fuel wastes into the atmosphere,
- exposing millions of children to life-threatening pollution, and
- taking clean, fresh air for granted.

Side 1

We are grateful for the gifts air shares:

- oxygen to keep us alive,
- space where we and other creatures can live,
- means for birds to fly and sound to travel.

Leader 2: Let us be still and attend to our own breathing, mindful of our absolute dependence on air.



The Third Station: ANIMALS:

Leader 1:

Our lives and livelihoods depend on biodiversity – the wealth of wild species. But Earth stands on the edge of a sixth “Great Extinction,” one caused largely by human activities. One quarter of Earth’s mammals, 12 percent of all birds, and 30 percent of all fish are at risk. This massive loss of species will be stopped only if we humans remember that nature is not an object to be exploited or an enemy to be destroyed, but an ally deserving respect and replenishment. We are part of the web of life. Many strands of this web have already been broken; we must act quickly to repair what we can. Our lives, and Earth as we know it, depend on this. And so we pray....

Side 1

We ask forgiveness for:

- destroying habitats of wild animals, most often for profit’s sake,
- ignoring animals’ most basic needs,
- raising animals in inhumane ways.

Side 2

We are grateful for the gifts the animals share:

- an innate sense for living in balance,
- spirited energy and graceful beauty,
- playful spirits that make us laugh and help us relax.



The Fourth Station: WATER:

Leader 2:

Water is the wellspring of life, perhaps our most fragile and precious resource. But Earth's freshwater is under siege. Humans are manipulating, polluting, and depleting freshwater supplies at alarming rates. An estimated 1.2 million people already lack access to clean drinking water. Yet 90 percent of the planet's fresh water goes to inefficient agribusiness and other industrial use. If present patterns continue, two out of every three persons on Earth will live in water-stressed areas within 25 years. We have a special obligation to protect this vital resource for humans and other life forms. And so we pray....

Side 2

We ask forgiveness for:

- using more than our share of Earth's waters – depriving other species,
- destroying water's pristine quality and beauty,
- failing to ensure clean, affordable water for all people.

Side 1

We are grateful for the gifts water shares:

- its power to cleanse and refresh,
- its generous quenching of thirst,
- the calming magic of its rippling.

Leader 2: Let us listen attentively to the sounds of water, allowing it to still our spirits.



The Fifth Station: FIRE

Leader 1:

All life on Earth is forged in the fires of the sun and, throughout the ages, humans have revered flame as sacred power. But fire is a double-edged sword: what warms may burn; what unleashes energy may destroy. Humans are "fire creatures" – the species that manipulates fire. And our choice to burn fossil fuels now threatens all life on Earth. Carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" are more than 25 percent higher than at any time in the last 160,000 years. Their accumulation is heating the planet - changing the climate in ways that will devastate ecosystems, disrupt weather patterns, and diminish harvests. And so we pray....

Side 1

We ask forgiveness for:

- continuing to rely on fossil fuels,
- using energy extravagantly,
- failing to insist on an eco-friendly economy.

Side 2

We are grateful for the gifts fire shares:

- heat to warm our homes and cook our meals,
- light to grow our food and illumine our lives,
- leaping flames to teach us to dance.

Leader 1: Let us reach out to the flame and draw its energy and power to ourselves.

CONCLUSION:

Leader 2:

Our first step is to repent of our sins; the second is to pursue a new journey together, with courage and joy. By God's grace, all things are made new. We can share in that renewal by clinging to God's promise ...and walking a path different from our present course. To that end, we affirm our faith.

Side 1

We stand with awe and gratitude as members of God's bountiful and good creation. We rejoice in the splendor and mystery of countless species, and the interdependence of all that God makes. We believe that Earth is home for all.

Side 2

We believe that, in boundless love that hungers and thirsts for justice, God incarnate affirms all creation.

Side 1

We believe that the created world is sacred – a revelation of God's power and gracious presence filling all things.

Side 2

We believe that the Holy Spirit, who animates all of creation, breathes in us and can empower us to participate in working toward the flourishing of Earth's community of life. We believe that the people of God are called to forge ways of being human that enable socially just and ecologically sustainable communities to flourish for generations to come.

All: Together, we look forward to the day when the groans of creation will be over, justice with peace will reign, humankind will nurture Earth, and all of creation will dance for joy! Amen!



Speaker Information Form

Name _____

Home or Business Address

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Land Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Organization You Represent _____

Mission of Organization:

Please share a few sentences describing the content of your presentation.

Please share a short bio which you would like us to use when introducing you.

Program: Elm Grove Village Earth Day 2015

Date/Time: April 19; 2:00-4:00 PM; setup from 1:00-2:00 PM

Place: Elm Grove Village Library
13600 Juneau Blvd; Elm Grove, WI 53122

Stipend: We will be offering you a personal gift as well as a donation for your organization.

Contact Number: Questions? Directions? Call The EDGE Office 262-787-1011.

We feel honored that you will be one of our three panelists for our Earth Day celebration. This has traditionally been a forum for parents and children as well as people from Elm Grove, Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, Brookfield and other suburbs who are eager to learn about our planet.

We will have a table for your display and materials. If you need anything else, please let us know. Also, if you would like help bringing in your materials, let us know what time you would be arriving as we have Key Club volunteers. Setup can begin at 1:00 PM; the panel and children's activities begin at 2:00 PM. The displays will be open at 3:15; the event will close at 4:00 PM.



Curious about your carbon footprint?

www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/



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Earth Day Packet
Sample Introduction of Speakers and Program

Earth Day Introduction

Today, we proudly share with you a very fine film on butterflies and four knowledgeable and enthusiastic presenters. But first of all, let me introduce you to the committee:

- **Marni Geissler** is from the Milwaukee Organic Gardening Club and quite knowledgeable in square foot gardening; she is also a professional story-teller who will spin your kids a colorful yarn about bees.
- **Mary Ricklefs** is a staunch member of the Elm Grove Garden Club and really started the ball rolling this year with her idea for the theme: Bats, Bees and Butterflies.
- **Svetlana Foley**, as you may know, is the very creative director of the Elm Grove Library who has shared her clarity of purpose, and her creativity to help design the day as well as graciously invited all of us to use the library for this program. The library purchased the film for our use today. In the future this DVD will be on the library shelves for all to use.
- My name is **Sister Suzanne Moynihan**, one of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. As you may be aware, we are educators and have served here in St. Mary's, Elm Grove up until just a few years ago. Many of us live in that huge complex on Watertown Plank Road which you are welcome to visit and tour any time..

The film, Journey of the Butterflies reveals the scientific marvel, the awesome beauty and struggle for survival of the Monarch butterfly as we fly with it on one of the most inspiring migratory odysseys ever.

Immediately after the film, each of these speakers will give a five-minute presentation and then move to their exhibit tables. At that point, you are welcome to view the five displays .

- **Dr. John Whitcomb**, has developed a great enthusiasm for bats and I believe has several bat houses on his property.
- **Denise Palkovich** has taught bee-keeping and with her husband, Don, maintains a number of hives right in her own backyard.
- **Barb Agnew**, who together with her husband, owns Barb and Dick's Wildflower Shop, will tell us about the miraculous Monarch, and the Monarch trail right in our own backyards.
- **Meribeth Sullivan**, the award-winning Waukesha County Recycling Specialist will share with us how to clean using homemade recipes with inexpensive materials.
- And I, **Sister Suzanne**, will be sharing how all these species are affected by global warming.
- Each of these presenters has intriguing artifacts to share with us and will be glad to communicate any further information in which we might be interested.

And what are your children up to at this time?

- Marni Geissler and Mary Ricklefs will be with your children, along with a good number of volunteers, doing some story-telling, a butterfly dance and lead them in a butterfly art project.

Again, we want to thank the library for hosting us this afternoon, thank the committee and thank you for coming. Do enjoy the day!!

Earth Day Packet
Sample Introduction to the Program
With Speakers

Introduction

Materials Needed: water, notepads, pens on speaker table; sound equipment; table and chairs for presenters and guests

Which one of Earth's resources do we use most often? BINGO!

And that's why The EDGE, an SSND based organization and our committee chose to focus this Third Annual Elm Grove Village Earth Day Celebration on water.

We have three experts in their fields from three highly respected organizations on our panel, which have a local and an international impact on water issues.

As a result, you will learn about family activities at the Retzer Nature Center, education efforts at the UWM School of Freshwater Sciences (a singularly unique school) and Global Partners Running Waters with wide and embracing relationships. Not only that, you will also learn about practical positive endeavors which you can initiate at home and where the resources are.

In addition, at the conclusion of our panel, the panelists will graciously share with you at their display tables. In addition, representatives of the Sierra Club and the Citizens Climate Lobby will also be featuring displays and materials.

Since there are three panelists, I'll introduce each one as it is their turn to speak. Following their speeches, there will be a dialog/discussion period before we all embark to the other room.

Jayne Jenks

If you want to know the state of Waukesha water, Jayne Jenks is the one to ask. She serves as a Conservation Specialist with the Waukesha County Parks and Land Use Department. She has worked there for 25 years and as she enthusiastically shared with me over the phone, she loves what she does.

As part of her work as a Conservation Specialist, she works with volunteers who have been monitoring various water sites in Waukesha County. The data is also used by the Wisconsin DNR to help guide decision making for the protection of rivers and streams. Thank God we have someone with her expertise, willing to safeguard our waters.

Also, she is educated and experienced in agriculture. Understandably, gardening is a passion of hers and her garden is where you'll find her much of the time. So, we're glad she consented to let go of her garden tools for an afternoon and share her wisdom and enthusiasm with us. Let's show her our appreciation.

Jan Gregorcich, SSND

jgregorc@ssndcp.org

Sister Jan Gregorcich, one of our own sisters, and of whom we are very proud, has been a member of the international community of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. For 46 years she served as a teacher, pastoral minister, missionary and is presently the executive director of Global Partners: Running Water, Inc.

Our personal experiences drive us to do what we do, awakening a passion which lies within us. And that is what happened to Sister Jan. During her 12 years in Guatemala she experienced water scarcity and its effects. As a result, in the aftermath of hurricane Mitch, our SSND leadership invited her to use her background and experience by developing a special project which came to be known as Global Partners: Running Waters, Inc. whose mission it is to build relationships through collaboration on water, food and health projects in Latin America. And from coming to know her, I can tell you that bonding with people is a priority with Sister Jan. Her efforts have resulted in the completion of more than 100 projects in Latin America since 2003.

With gratitude in our hearts, let's welcome Sister Jan.

Just in case quotes to use following presentations (or anytime as a filler, if needed)

Water, flooding, drought, climate change: these were all mentioned by President Obama in his State of the Union speech on January 28, 2014. Usually, we only hear about roads and bridges when we talk about infrastructure. Thankfully, the President has expanded this discussion by drawing the strong connection between water projects, jobs, and national vitality. If you delve deeper, you will see that:

- **One-fifth** of the U.S. economy – from agriculture, to mining, manufacturing, and electricity – would grind to a halt without a reliable and clean supply of water.
- An estimated **\$4.8 trillion** in capital investment over the next 20 years is needed to bring water and wastewater systems to a state of good repair and maintain current levels of drinking water service in the United States.
- An investment of \$1 billion in water infrastructure yields over **26,000 jobs** nationwide.
- The Department of Commerce estimates that each job created in the water and wastewater industry at the local level contributes **3.68 jobs** in the national economy.
- Each public dollar spent yields **\$2.62** dollars in economic output in other industries nationwide.
- By 2020, almost **700,000 jobs** will be threatened and \$416 billion in national GDP will be lost if water and wastewater infrastructure needs are not addressed.
- **Ninety-eight percent** of infrastructure investments for water and sewer are paid by local public agencies and their ratepayers.

These quotations are from MMSD Blue Notes; 3-5-14; by Kevin Shafer

Resources

Agriculture

<http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/14279-the-terrorism-of-stealth-petrochemicals> re: use of chemicals harmful to Earth and all living things—to grow food

Alternate Energies

www.greenalphaadvisors.org

www.greenenergyinitiative

www.centralWIrenewableenergy.org

www.greenenergyprograms in WI

www.midwestrenewableenergy.org

www.WIgreenenergydirectory

www.RENEWwisconsin.org

Authors

- Mallory Mcduff
mmcduff@warren-wilson.edu; Included Sunseed (predecessor of The EDGE in her book: Natural Saints: How People of Faith Are Working to Save God's Earth)
- See attached listing of books and DVDs for additional suggested readings
- Films can be accessed from www.youtube.com;

Biodiversity

www.nwf.org/Wildlife/Wildlife-Conservation/Biodiversity.aspx

www.project@biodiverse.org

Birds

Birds of Paradise as example of evolution:

http://www.cornell.edu/video/?videoID=2398&utm_source=cornellcast_weekly_update&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2398

Birds and Wind Energy: www.awea.org/Issues/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=856

Carbon Footprint (Tools to Measure)

www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx

<http://greenliving.nationalgeographic.com/measure-carbon-footprint-2582.html>

http://www.ehow.com/how_4900742_measure-carbon-footprint.html

<http://www.nature.org/greenliving/carboncalculator/index.htm>

Children

joann@joannmacken.com

www.weatherwizkids.com/optical

www.universestories.com

thegreatstory.org/beads-curric.pdf

www.infinityfoundation.com/univ.htm

www.forsmallhands.com/ideas-insights/cosmic-education

www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/StoryoftheUniverse.html

Conflicts

<http://www.ejatlas.org/>: details ecological conflicts throughout the world and what the resource is

Earth Day

www.earthday.net (Educators Network)

www.earthdaynetwork.org

www.pagan-wiccan-practice.suite101.com

www.earthdayconnect.org

Earth Consciousness

www.planeteearthclips

www.unmultimedia.org

https://www.youtube.com/embed/XE0aAZE0kp4?feature=player_embedded

(indicates size of Earth in comparison to rest of solar system and to largest known star)

Futurists/Paradigm Shift

www.peterrusseldreamhosters

www.frontiermentality.org

www.worldchanging.com

www.theshiftmovie.com

[International Jesuit Ecology Project \(IJEP\)](#)

Food Issues

www.foodsecurity.org

www.sustainabletable.org

www.takeabite.cc/act

www.eatwellguide.org

www.eatlowcarbon.org

www.coolfoodscampaign.org

www.lovefoodhatewate.com

www.meatlessmonday.org

www.eaggrub.org

www.localharvest.org

www.foodroutes.org

www.centerforfoodsafety.org

www.growfood.org

www.icppc.pl.org

www.ran.org

www.carbonfarmersofamerica.com

www.plantphysiol.org/content/123/4/1201.full

gmo-awareness.com/all-about-gmos/gmo-fda

www.Nwei.org (Northwest Earth Institute wit weekly series of study guides: [Menu for the Future](#)

Global Food Waste: <http://sonnenseite.kjm4.de/r/e1a726119616ms394.html>

Gardening

There are multiple resources in book stores, libraries and on line; therefore we are not listing resources here.

General Ecology

www.NWEI.org: Northwest Earth Institute—has study books for group discussion on various topics

[https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#lmsg/solidarity-](https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#lmsg/solidarity-sustainability/pxuvPthDCek/P6EI8SVhzlsJ)

[sustainability/pxuvPthDCek/P6EI8SVhzlsJ](https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#lmsg/solidarity-sustainability/pxuvPthDCek/P6EI8SVhzlsJ) This is the Pelican and contains TONS of articles, resources and assistance in writing newsletter. It is SPECTACULAR!

Global Warming

http://www.ucsus.org/global_warming/science_and_impacts/impacts/

(May 7, 2014); numerous effects of global warming)

<http://thegreatstory.org/new.html> tons of resources from Michael Dodd

www.stopglobalwarming.org

www.earthguagenews.org

Maureen McCarthy

mmcarthy@sssf.org

W: 414-384-1515

H: 414-486-1615

<http://news.yahoo.com/blogs/around-the-world-abc-news/extreme-global-weather-unprecedented-normal-022221532.html>

Sharon Astyk: author of “Depletion and Abundance”

<http://truth-out.org/opinion/item/13231-learning-from-europes-energy> Re: Tax Tariff

United Nations Environment Programme: see global climate change

Pope Francis Encyclical (June 18, 2015)

Also check on line, in local libraries and book stores as there are multiple resources

Great Lakes

www.listentoyourlakes.org

great-lakes.net

www.epa.gov/greatlakes/index.html

www.epa.gov/greatlakes/basicinfo.html

Great Lakes Compact

www.greatlakes.org/compact

www.nwf.org/.../Waters/Great-Lakes/Great-Lakes-Compact.aspx

Labyrinth Resources

www.ispiritual.com

labyrinthsociety.org/resources

<https://labyrinthsociety.org>

Laws: Right of Nature to Exist

Center for Jurisprudence:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=haIZTRtviPw>

Living Simply

<http://ecojesuit.com/living-lightly-and-lovingly/4830/>

zenhabits.net/simple-living-mani

simply-living-simply.com

theartofsimple.net

Magazines/News

www.EcoHomeMagazine.org

www.earthpolicynews (Lester Brown)

YES Magazine

Catalyst (Union of Concerned Scientists)

Sierra

Kosmos

Mother Pelican

Mother Earth News

Mandalas

www.expressingtheself.org

www.mandalaproject.org/What/Index.html

www.hellokids.com › [Coloring pages](#)

mandalaproject.org

Nature Sites

Check out your local area

Paradigm Shift

www.ions.org

[The International Society for Ec@mail.vresp.com](mailto:Ec@mail.vresp.com)

www.taketheleap.com/define.html

Pollution

environment.nationalgeographic.com/.../pollution-overview

www.worldwildlife.org

www.theguardian.com/environment/pollution

plastic-pollution.org

www.nrdc.org/oceans/plastic-ocean

ecowatch.com/2014/04/07/22-facts-plastic-pollution-10-things-can

Tree Planting

tree-planting.com

www.arborday.org/trees/tips/planting.cfm

www.arborday.org

www.treesforthefuture.org

Universe Story

www.storyoftheuniverse.org

www.amazon.com/The-Universe-Story-Primordial-Celebration/dp/0062508350

www.nasa.gov/externalfash/mather

www.goodreads.com/book/show/981818

www.mehstories.com/myspecial.html

<http://marcbrecy.perso.neuf.fr/history.html>

(a two minute video on the beginnings, the history of Earth, humankind, our violence and spiraling ecological decay)

<http://www.thomasberry.org/Biography/reflections.html>

Water Footprint Calculator

<http://gracelinks.org/1408/water-footprint-calculator>

<http://libertywater.com/?q=content/water-footprint-calculator>