Transition Towns 101

By Kim Willis

Ever wonder how you can help your community function when the cost of oil has risen dramatically and the full effects of climate change have set in? What will your neighborhood look like? Where will your food come from? How will everyone get around? What will it mean to have a good quality of life? By joining the transition movement, communities all over the world have begun to make their towns (in some cases neighborhoods, cities and even islands) more resilient in the face of peak oil and climate change.

The main ideas of the Transition Movement are to raise awareness about living well sustainably and swiftly creating low carbon communities to reduce dependence on oil and mitigate the effects of climate change. Resilient communities are the ideal and each community finds local ways to reduce energy consumption and increase quality of life.

The Transition Movement, also known as Transition Towns, Transition Initiatives or the Transition Network, is widely attributed to the work of permaculture designer Rob Hopkins, professor at the Kinsale Further Education College in Ireland and author of the Transition Handbook. You can find a copy at the Woodstock Public Library.

Since the first official Transition Town initiative in Hopkin’s home town of Totnes, England in 2006, Transition initiatives have sprouted up in the United Kingdom, Canada, Chile, Australia, Italy, New Zealand, and here in the United States.

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Mission Statement

The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County is a citizen organization dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the environment. We are committed to building sound ecological relationships between people and the natural world that supports all life.

To achieve the aim of environmental preservation and improvement, we provide the community with educational programs and volunteer action on pollution prevention, sustainable land use and energy and natural resource conservation.

We advocate policies that protect drinking water supplies and conserve land for open space and agriculture. We demonstrate waste reduction through recycling drives and reuse centers. We encourage natural resource protection through native landscaping and stream protection programs.

Environmental Defenders of McHenry County
Advertising Policy

The Defenders will accept advertisements in NATURE Matters if the product or services offered are consistent with the mission of The Defenders, as determined solely by our Board of Directors. Products or services advertised in NATURE Matters do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County. The Defenders is not responsible for the accuracy of the ads, or for the performance of the products or services advertised.

Rates:
- Full Page $300
- Half Page 175
- Quarter Page 100
- Eighth Page 75

Discounts for multiple advertisements may apply.
Transitiontowns.org, the primary site for the global Transition Movement, puts it this way:

“A Transition Initiative is a community working together to look Peak Oil and Climate Change squarely in the eye and address this BIG question:

“for all those aspects of life that this community needs in order to sustain itself and thrive, how do we significantly increase resilience (to mitigate the effects of Peak Oil) and drastically reduce carbon emissions (to mitigate the effects of Climate Change)?”

According to a survey of UK Transition Initiatives done by Permaculture Magazine (No. 62, Winter 2009) most initiatives are started by a core group of individuals, who in turn partner with other individuals, groups, organizations, and even local government. This group, after much educating and community building efforts, launches “a community defined, community implemented ‘Energy Descent Action Plan.’” This plan directs projects and sets goals and objectives over a 15 to 20 year timeframe to transition into a high quality, post oil, resilient community.

Because the movement is holistically focused with regard to food, energy, transport, health, heart and soul, economics and livelihoods, etc., projects stemming from the initiative include: creating community education programs, community gardens and gardening programs; local food and business guides, local food fairs and farmers markets; self-reliance and life skills workshops, community composting sites, clothing swap days; community energy audits, bicycle days and car-free days; and local currencies, and collaborative building efforts between transition groups, businesses and municipalities.

Far from a doomsday scenario, a critical point the Transition Movement urges everyone to understand is that “if we collectively plan and act early enough there’s every likelihood that we can create a way of living that’s significantly more connected, more vibrant and more in touch with our environment than the oil-addicted treadmill that we find ourselves on today.”

If you are interested in learning more about the Transition Movement, starting a Transition Initiative in your community, or want to join a transition group, make your way over to transitiontowns.org. There you will find oodles of information on all things transition.

You can also check out transitionus.org for Transition Initiatives in the U.S. If you live in Huntley, or want to meet people from Huntley interested in the Transition Movement, you can check out Ryan Choyeski’s efforts at http://www.meetup.com/transition-huntley.
Keeping PACE with Climate Change

By Bill Donato

A couple of weeks ago the headline of our local paper highlighted the “No Child Left Behind” ACT test results of various school districts.

On the same day on page 13 another article referred to a report in Science that stated that “if humanity wishes to preserve a planet similar to that on which civilization developed and to which life on Earth is adapted, climate evidence and ongoing climate change suggest that carbon dioxide will need to be reduced from its current 385 ppm to at most 350 ppm...If the present overshoot of this target carbon dioxide is not brief, there is a possibility of seeding irreversible catastrophic effects...the human race (and most other mammals) may crash into a dead-end wall.”

Changing to CFL bulbs and making sure your electronics are unplugged all help, but to make a real difference there must be a policy change in our government. One exciting step towards this policy change is the newly created Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing programs. PACE provides a creative way to finance energy improvements for the homeowner. This is how the program works: property owners can add up to 100% of the cost of energy improvements to their property tax bill. This will reduce the up-front costs to a minimum payment on a homeowner’s tax bill. The property tax liens are senior to mortgage debt and can be transferred to the next owner. A University of California Berkeley study, published earlier this year in Environment Magazine, found the potential for a minimum of $280 billion with a potential of $500 billion in financing for PACE-type programs and a potential reduction of a gigaton of greenhouse gas emissions if the program were to expand nationally.

We are lucky, because as of January 1, Senate Bill 583 allows Illinois municipalities to offer the program. The bill states “a municipality may enter into voluntary agreements with the owners of property within the municipality to provide for contractual assessments to finance the installation of distributed generation renewable energy sources or energy efficiency improvements that are permanently fixed to real property.” This is how the program works: property owners can add up to 100% of the cost of energy improvements to their property tax bill. This will reduce the up-front costs to a minimum payment on a homeowner’s tax bill. The property tax liens are senior to mortgage debt and can be transferred to the next owner. A University of California Berkeley study, published earlier this year in Environment Magazine, found the potential for a minimum of $280 billion with a potential of $500 billion in financing for PACE-type programs and a potential reduction of a gigaton of greenhouse gas emissions if the program were to expand nationally.

PACE is real change since a large amount of greenhouse emissions come from private homes, but municipalities must adopt the program. This is where you play an important role. Please research the information regarding PACE. The Defenders’ Office has much of the information for you to explore. Successful programs in Berkeley, California, Boulder, Colorado, and Babylon, New York discuss how they implement the PACE program in their respective areas. For example, some areas might emphasize solar panels, while others may benefit from weatherization.

In order to get this program in your community you must take action. After you have researched the program you need to contact your local politicians and explain to them that you will use the program if they implement it. We cannot sit back and expect the municipalities to do what is right, especially in a time of economic downturn. We must let officials know that this program will not only reduce greenhouse gases, but will also increase the economy of their town. Most people want to do what is right; but it often takes active, knowledgeable citizens to show them the way.

Last year, I called for the creation of a climate change committee and did not get many takers. Now, I am suggesting that this is a way we can make a difference immediately by actively calling, writing and e-mailing our local leaders to adopt the PACE program. This is our moment to make a difference. McHenry County can be the leader in Illinois by adopting PACE and showing the other counties in the state that we are not powerless. For more information about the program feel free to call the Defenders at 815-338-0393 or e-mail me at wdonato815@gmail.com.

“PACE bonds are an innovative way to help property owners across America ‘go green.’ With a little help to finance energy efficient retrofits, property owners reap an immediate savings on their monthly energy bills,” said Rep. Israel. “My legislation will help communities initiate their own PACE bond programs by providing 100% loan guarantees through the Department of Energy.”

Rep. Steve Israel (D-N.Y.)
What You Should Know: County 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update

By Kim Willis

Here’s the down and dirty on recent 2030 Comprehensive Plan developments.

The 2030 Comprehensive Plan is the guiding document for land use and development for all of unincorporated McHenry County. The document text and accompanying land use map are utilized for rezoning decisions. Zoning regulations are ideally meant to conform to the Comprehensive Plan. This plan has been in development over the last three years. For a full recap of the issues surrounding the 2030 Plan visit the Defenders’ Web site.

• At the end of October, the County’s Regional Planning Commission voted to pass the Draft 2030 Comprehensive Land Use Plan on to the County’s Planning and Development (P&D) Committee for review, editing, and to send it on to the entire County Board for approval.

• The P&D Committee agreed to begin reviewing the draft plan November 12th and decided that public meetings for the draft should take place in January rather than December. The proposed date for adoption of the plan by the County Board was tentatively set for the meeting on March 16th, 2010. The dates for the public meetings have not been set as of December 29th, 2009.

• The Defenders drafted a letter to the members of the Planning and Development Committee on November 11th with comments and concerns regarding the current draft. Concerns in the letter covered issues of protecting water resources, protecting remaining agricultural land and open space, preparing for climate change, and sustainable growth both in population and patterns of development. The letter is available on the Defenders’ Web site under Land Use Planning.

• At the November 12th meeting the P&D Committee voted to keep the 540,000-population projection in the draft plan, but at the November 13th meeting they reconsidered the vote and voted to reduce the projection by 45,000. It is unclear at this point exactly how the reduction will affect the land use map. This is significant because 28,000 acres of farmland is marked for development, primarily residential, due in part to the population projections.

• During the November and December P&D Committee meetings, the committee reviewed the plan and identified sections that require further review and changes. The memorandum listing those sections can be found at mchenrycounty2030plan.com along with the current 2030 Plan Draft.

• P&D meetings on the draft plan resume starting January 7, 2010. Regular meetings take place on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the County Administration Building on Ware Road in Woodstock.

There is still time to get involved with the 2030 Plan process. If you care about the county’s water resources, protecting farmland and natural areas, reducing suburban sprawl, and creating a long-range, sustainable plan that protects future generations; then make sure to attend the regular P&D meetings as well as the public meetings when they are scheduled. You can also contact your County Board members about the plan. For talking points and additional information go to the Defenders’ Web site.

Take Action

The Defenders’ work in our community depends on volunteers. There are many issues that need our attention and we need you to help fulfill our mission of protecting and preserving the environment by joining one of our committees. Below is a list of committees that focus on particular issues. Please contact the office at 815-338-0393 for more information and to sign up for one that interests you. Please join in the effort to keep McHenry County a healthy place in which to live.

• Climate Change Committee
  - reducing carbon footprint
• Land Use Planning Committee
  - planning, zoning, transportation issues
• Natural Resources Preservation Committee
  - greenways, open space, native planting
• Water Resources Protection Committee
  - groundwater, wetland, river issues
• Waste Reduction Committee
  - recycling, waste reduction issues
Books Sale Ends for Season

The Defenders have just finished another successful used book sale, which started in Crystal Lake and ended in Woodstock. Thousands of books were saved from the landfill, and proceeds from the sales will be used to fund Defender programs. We could not have done this without our fantastic volunteers, who managed everything from driving trucks to moving shelves, sorting books, manning the sales, and schlepping books from point A to point B (several times!) Our thanks to:

Roy Asplund
Anne & Scott Basten
Linda Beck
Cathy Christensen
Dwight Dalton
Jim Donato
Carol & Ed Ellinghausen
Melodie Feeley
Avis & Jeff Fisher
April Hammerand
Kathy & Mike Hartke
John Headley & students
Fran Hicks
Christy Matsuoka
Jim Merrifield
Connor Millard
Jason Nosbaum
Nancy & Randy Schietzelt
Joe Starzynski
Judy Thornton
Margaret Tinberg
Tom von Geldern
Donna Ward
(We apologize to anyone we’ve missed. Please let the office know so we can correct our records!)

Special thanks go to Friends of Lake Forest Library for their donation of many, many books, Algonquin Township Road District for use of space for the September sale, and to Classic Cinemas (Woodstock Theater) for the use of the storefront in Woodstock.

Happy reading to all who went shopping and thank you for your support!

Welcome New Board Member
Roy Asplund

Originally from Geneseo, IL, Sylvia and I now reside on a small farm on Lamb Road. I am semi-retired and Sylvia teaches and does technology for Johnsburg Schools. It was on the farm that we raised four girls; now a teacher, doctor, banker, and human resources specialist. We used the farm to “check-out” the boyfriends: If they could help us load three or four racks of hay in a day they were worth keeping around. I have worked all my life in education, the latest assignment was in Marengo for seventeen years as school superintendent of Riley District #18. My current Defenders’ interest includes helping promote the active book recycling campaign.
**Upcoming Events**

**Annual Membership Meeting**

**Saturday, March 13, 2010**

5:30 p.m. ~ Arrival  
6:00 p.m. ~ Pot Luck Dinner & Program  
Beverages will be provided  
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
404 N. Green Street, McHenry

This year, our gathering will feature a “walk down memory lane” as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Defenders. We’ll also take a look into the future during a presentation about the Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge proposed for northern McHenry County and southern Wisconsin.

The Annual Meeting will also provide members with two opportunities to support the Defenders as well as the possibility of winning a 50/50 Raffle and items from the Bag Raffle. So please bring $$$ with you. Also, the Fundraising Committee would greatly appreciate it if you bring new or gently used quality items to contribute as part of the Bag Raffle. Thanks in advance for these contributions.

*Please bring your own placesettings!*

*This is a members only event.*

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**Request for Theta Award Nominations**

Each year, the Defenders honor an individual or group who have shown an outstanding commitment to improving the environment of McHenry County by giving them the “Theta Award.” The award is normally given to non-members of the Defenders to encourage environmental achievement by all.

The Board of Directors of the Defenders invites its members to nominate a person or group for the 2009 Theta Award, which is given at The Defenders’ annual meeting. The Board will consider all nominations and vote on a winner. Nominations can be sent to mcdef@owc.net or to our regular mailing address. Please include the name of person or organization along with accomplishments achieved. Please submit your nominations by February 1.

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**Save the date.**

**Earth Day 2010**

**Saturday, April 17, 2010**

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake  
Enjoy an afternoon of environmental education, speakers and entertainment.  
*Co-sponsored by the Defenders and MCCD*

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**Green Voice!**

On Thursday, January 28, the Defenders kicks off a new series of public meetings called, **Green Voice!** The kick-off meeting will be held in Algonquin at the Eastgate Branch of the Public Library at 7:00 p.m. The address is 115 Eastgate Drive.

Green Voice meetings will be an opportunity for members and other citizens to come together to discuss environmental issues of concern or importance to them. Algonquin is just the first stop. Other towns will be included and future dates for **Green Voice!** meetings will be posted on the Defenders’ Web site: www.mcdef.org.

Please come and bring a neighbor or friend for an open discussion about the issues that affect the environmental integrity of our communities.

All are welcome and the program is free of charge and refreshments will be served.

If you have questions regarding **Green Voice!** meetings, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 815-338-0393.
Kilowatt Ours

The Education Committee has launched a new public program, Kilowatt Ours. This documentary, produced in 2007 by filmmaker Jeff Barrie, looks for solutions to today’s energy problems in America’s towns and cities. What would you find if you traced the wires from your light switch to their energy source? Kilowatt Ours begins with that question and moves to:

• the problems with today’s energy production
• the ways ordinary people meet their energy needs through conservation and renewables
• how to reduce energy bills while improving the environment.

As a re-invented Full Moon Theater, the Education Committee hopes to interest local groups in scheduling this program. A volunteer from the committee will introduce the DVD, show the 35-minute version of the documentary, and lead a follow-up discussion and energy activities as time permits. Participants will also be provided with hand-outs of additional energy information that they can put to use immediately. No fee is charged for the program, but Defenders always welcomes donations. To schedule a program on this timely topic, requests may be directed to the Education Committee of the Defenders through the office at (815) 338-0393 or email mcdef@owc.net.

We are in the process of digitizing past newsletters. You can request to have certain issues e-mailed to you or you can stop by the office and look through the paper copies. Some will also be posted on the Web site.

Defenders’ Opinions Requested!

The Defenders’ board has started work on a new Strategic Plan. This plan is needed to guide our organization into the future and to help us obtain funding. As members of the Defenders, your input will be extremely important in the preparation of this plan.

We need your opinions about our services and activities! A brief survey has been prepared for you as well as other members of your family to complete. It can be accessed online on the Defenders’ Web site at www.mcdef.org. If you are unable to complete the survey online, you may call the office at 815-338-0393 and have a paper form mailed to you. Please complete the survey by Valentine’s Day.

Thanks so much for doing this. Your help with this process is invaluable!

“Make a Difference Day”
Habitat Restoration at the Headwaters of the Kishwaukee

By Nancy Schietzelt

Cold, wet weather did not deter a group of 25 hardy volunteers from working to make habitat improvements at the headwaters of the Kishwaukee River on Make A Difference Day held on October 24, 2009. Students from Cary-Grove and Woodstock High Schools, as well as several Defenders members, worked for three hours cutting out invasive species, creating brush piles for animal habitat, and collecting trash. Their efforts were conducted on the Defenders’ property at the corner of Highway 14 and Dean Street in Woodstock as well as on adjoining property owned by the McHenry County Soil and Water District. A brief hike of the property followed by refreshments brought the event to a close.

One volunteer’s comment summed up everyone’s thoughts at the end of the event. She said, “I feel like I really did make a difference!”

The workday was organized by the Water Resources Protection Committee and the Natural Resources Committee who would also like to thank the Soil and Water District for the use of their building.
McHenry County bikers hit the county’s roads and trails on October 24-25, 2009, riding over 500 miles to increase awareness of global warming. Forty-eight local riders participated, which was part of the global Bike 350 project.

A critical global warming target for the earth’s atmosphere is 350 parts per million (ppm) of carbon (CO2), in order to avoid irreversible long-term damage to the earth. The bike route was laid out to trace the number 350 on a map of the County when viewed from the air. Riders selected their favorite segments from the 135-mile route. The Education Committee sponsored the event.

The 350 movement mobilized people worldwide to call attention to the climate crisis. Over 5,200 actions were held over the October weekend in 181 countries. Actions took place in every time zone, on every continent, and in dozens of languages. 350 project organizers hand-delivered images from each event, including ours, to United Nations delegates and diplomats on October 26. These images can be viewed online by visiting www.350.org.

October 24 was designated as an International Day of Climate Action to raise the awareness of decision-makers in anticipation of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in December 2009. This conference was planned to establish key global warming targets for the next decade and beyond. The 350 movement asked leaders to craft a strong, equitable, science-based treaty.

The UN climate talks are over now, and we don’t have the fair, ambitious, and binding treaty that the 350 movement and the latest science demand. Bill McKibben, founder of 350.org, said that the compromise made by the U.S., Brazil, South Africa, India, and China declares that “...small and poor countries don’t matter, that international civil society doesn’t matter, and that serious limits on carbon don’t matter...189 countries have been left powerless, and the foxes now guard the carbon henhouse without any oversight.”

But the conference has moved us further on our way. It’s harder now for powerful nations to impose a weak agreement on others. Small, poor, and vulnerable nations refused to go along with that kind of agreement and insisted that rich nations needed to assist in climate mitigation. More than 100 countries, a majority of those at the UN talks, have now endorsed targets of 1.5 degrees C, 350 ppm CO2, or both. The 350 movement helped assure that much of the world understands the scientific issues at stake.

A far better agreement is necessary for the future of our planet and generations to come. Right now you can add your name to the 350 site list, calling on world leaders to pass climate policies strong enough to get us back to 350 ppm.

On we go.
The Beef about Burgers

By Dwight Dalton

The Week magazine of December 18th printed news from Stockholm, Sweden. “Max Burger,” a popular fast food chain, is encouraging its customers to reduce their carbon footprints by eating less beef. Next to each menu item, the chain now lists the amount, in kilos, of greenhouse gases emitted to produce it, including the methane from the cow and the gas for the farm equipment and trucks used to deliver the meat. The all-beef burgers are the worst offenders. “We hope to change the whole of the fast-food industry,” said a spokesman of Max Burger. “We want people to eat less meat.”

This news came the same week that our Education Committee showed the film “Food, Inc.” What timing! Years ago I wrote an article for our Newsletter titled “Life Cycle Analysis, Source Reduction.” The article told of a way to think about and get a complete picture of the materials, energy, and waste associated with a product. For example, the “Life Cycle” stages involved in bringing that little packet of sugar to a restaurant. Whether thinking of sugar packets, beef or any other product, there are six steps to consider: 1. Acquisition of raw materials 2. Manufacturing and processing 3. Distribution and transportation 4. Use/reuse 5. Recycling and 6. Disposal. The film “Food, Inc.” did a fairly good job of detailing steps 1, 2 and 3 for beef, chicken, pork and grains. If you haven’t seen it consider renting it (NetFlix). When I wrote the article my emphasis was on resources consumed and pollution created. Currently, we need to also consider our “carbon footprint.” As a consumer you might try writing to one of the big burger chains, but my guess is your letter would end up being shredded and added to the burgers as filler (say, that might be a good thing!)

Green Tee Design Contest!

The Defenders would like to have new T-shirts made so wherever our members go, we are recognized. We need your help. Can you dream up a creative “green” design and catchy saying? Submit it via e-mail or written form to the office. Winner gets a T-shirt!

Please reply with your ideas by March 1. The winner will be announced at the annual membership meeting.

Good luck!

~The Membership Committee

Send contest submissions to: Christy Matsuoka at mcdef@owc.net or mail to: 124 Cass Street, Suite 3, Woodstock, IL 60098. If you have questions, call 815-338-0393.

Defenders’ Recycling Drives

What:
Collection of fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, and household batteries for recycling. The suggested donation for this service is $.50 cents per pound of household batteries and $.50 cents each for fluorescents. We will also be conducting a buy-back program for aluminum cans and other non-ferrous metals and will be accepting styrofoam pellets and bubble wrap. Come in and help keep these items out of the landfill.

When:
Second Saturday of every Month.

Where:
Woodstock: The Woodstock collection takes place on the second Saturday of each EVEN numbered month and is held in front of the Farm Bureau, 1102 McConnell Road in Woodstock, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

McHenry: The McHenry collection takes place on the second Saturday of ODD numbered months at the Metra Station Parking lot, 4005 Main Street in McHenry, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The McHenry collection will also pay for aluminum cans and other non-ferrous metals and will be accepting styrofoam pellets and bubble wrap.

Send contest submissions to: Christy Matsuoka at mcdef@owc.net or mail to: 124 Cass Street, Suite 3, Woodstock, IL 60098. If you have questions, call 815-338-0393.
Treading Lightly

Healthy Candlelight
By Meg Murray-Bradshaw

What could be better than candles burning on a cold winter’s night? I invite you to indulge yourself with soy or beeswax candles. But for indoor air quality, I suggest you avoid the easier-to-find paraffin variety.

Fine Particulate Matter:
Fine particulate matter (PM) is a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets in the air which are small enough to penetrate the respiratory system further than larger particles. Fuel combustion, including candle-burning, can create fine PM.

The US EPA explains that a well-designed and maintained candle emits negligible fine PM because almost all the particles are consumed by the flame. But poor candle composition and design, wick length or drafty air can lead to smoldering, which can create PM beyond ambient air quality standards. In addition, blowing out candles can instantly create a large amount of PM. The EPA recommends extinguishing the flame with a wet cloth, scissors or a snuffer.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons:
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PHAs) are products of incomplete combustion. Indoor sources include candles and incense. A study by the Centers for Children’s Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research found that five-year old children exposed to high levels of PHAs scored 4 points lower on standardized intelligence tests than less exposed children.

Paraffin vs Soy or Beeswax:
Research at South Carolina State University in 2009 compared emissions from paraffin wax and soy candles, all of which were non-scented, non-pigmented and contained no dyes. Researchers explained that paraffin candles produced significantly more soot than others, and found that paraffin candles emitted sharp peaks of hazardous chemicals such as benzene and toluene. Soy and beeswax candles did not emit significant levels of these chemicals.

Shopping:
Soy candles are easier to find these days, including at stores such as Target. Beeswax candles require a little more effort to find, but there are plenty of online sources. While beeswax candles tend to cost more than others, they burn much longer. And they emit a natural, warm honey smell.

So, enjoy soy or beeswax candlelight tonight!

Give a Gift Membership

Give a gift of membership in
The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County.

Just send $25 to the office with the name and address of the recipient/s. (You can even use the form below). He or she will receive a packet of membership information plus a note mentioning who the gift is from. Thank you!

Membership Form

Levels of Membership
Supporting – $250............................................
Patron – $100............................................
Organization – $50............................................
Family/Basic – $50............................................
Senior – $25............................................
Student/Other – $10............................................

Subtotal: $__________
Additional donation: $__________
Total contribution: $__________

Name #1__________________________
Name #2__________________________
Address__________________________
City___________________________ State______ Zip_________
Township___________________________
E-mail #1__________________________
E-mail #2__________________________
Phone______________________________

Year moved to McHenry County:______________
Number of individuals residing in household:________________

☐ My check is enclosed.

Please return completed form to:
Environmental Defenders of McHenry County
124 Cass Street, Suite 3
Woodstock, IL 60098 OR
Join on-line at www.mcdef.org
Questions? Call 815-338-0393

Code: mwsltrwinter2010

Jan.-March 2010  NATURE Matters
Calendar of EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

JANUARY
Thursday, January 28  Green Voice! kick-off meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Eastgate Branch Library, 115 Eastgate Dr. Algonquin. See page 7 for details.

FEBRUARY
Wednesday, February 3
“Green Wednesdays” at Dukes Alehouse, Crystal Lake.

MARCH
Wednesday, March 3
“Green Wednesdays” at Dukes Alehouse, Crystal Lake.
Saturday, March 13
Annual Membership Meeting. See details page 7.

APRIL
Wednesday, April 7
“Green Wednesdays” at Dukes Alehouse, Crystal Lake.
Saturday, April 17
Earth Day 2010 at Prairieview Education Center. See details page 7.

The Unitarian Church will be showing “DIRT!” at the Green Film Festival. The date and other details to be announced. Please check www.mcdef.org. Thank you!

First Wednesday of every month!
“Green Wednesdays” at Dukes Alehouse & Kitchen, 110 N. Main Street, Crystal Lake
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.