

# THE RIPPLE

CINCINNATI NATURE CENTER  
CONSERVATION NEWS

Issue 15 | August 2023

Just as ripples spread when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching impact. *The Ripple* is a special newsletter created by Cincinnati Nature Center for people looking for ideas and support in their efforts to protect nature.

Wouldn't it be great if everyone had better information about ways to act (and inspire others to act) for conservation? **Take a minute to share this electronic digest with your friends**—They'll thank you for it!

If someone forwarded you this newsletter and you want to become a regular subscriber, [click here](#).

GET INSPIRED!



## Meet a Land Advocate!

When Mike Meldon joined Loveland's Tree and Environment Committee in 2017, he began to understand the importance of preserving and protecting natural land by removing non-native invasive species and replacing them with native species.

Over time he realized that focusing on public lands was not enough. Since most of the land in our region is privately owned, real impact involved influencing others. Click below to read the full story!

[Read the full story](#)

LET'S COLLABORATE!

## We Want to Hear From You!

Share what you know, what you wonder, and what you'd like to discuss with other Cincinnati Nature Center members. If you have content you want us to

## New "Office Hours" for Advocates

Are you hoping to influence people in your social circles to take action for nature but are not sure what steps to take? Join Director of Applied Learning Connie O'Connor and Climate Change Coach [Kim Fulbright](#) to discuss where you might be stuck. This is a FREE service to help you think about ways to influence others you know to protect nature.

Dates for open discussion are:

- Monday, August 14, 5 pm, IN PERSON at Cincinnati Nature Center
- Wednesday September 13, 5 pm via Zoom

[Click Here to Schedule](#)

TAKE ACTION!

## Save the Date—Remember to Vote August 8th!

Protecting the environment involves more than changes on a consumer level. Some changes require civic engagement. Be sure to remind friends and family to get to the polls because every vote matters!

LEARN MORE TO DO MORE

## This is Buzzworthy!

Catch the [Catch the Buzz](#) Wild Bee Workshop with Dr. Olivia Carril, world-renowned Bee Specialist, on Friday, September 8, 10 am-3 pm (3083 Liberty Rd, Delaware, OH 43015). *This is a great opportunity for OCVN Continuing Education hours!*

[Click to Register](#)

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## Got Solastalgia?

"Solastalgia" is the newest word for climate anxiety. What is it and what can you do to keep it in check so that you can live a productive happy life?

[Click to Learn More](#)

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## Are People Becoming Less Ethical? Nope!

According to this article, it's all in our heads. But do you believe it? How do your beliefs on this topic shape how you live in the world?

Click to  
Read

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## Must we "Enrage to Engage?"

*The Pew Charitable Trust* and the *National Constitution Center* discuss the role of nonpartisan institutions to help people find common ground in their podcast series called *After the Fact*.

Click to  
Listen

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## How to Overcome Destructive Anger

To protect nature, we often have to influence others and one place to start is by developing trusting relationships. Since anger can destroy trust, it's often wise to keep it in check.

Click to Learn  
More

YOU'RE INVITED!

Below you will find invitations from Cincinnati Nature Center members who are hosting meet-ups around topics and skills that might positively impact conservation. This section of *The Ripple* helps people find each other because we are better together!

*Please note, all event participants who are not members of the Nature Center must pay daily admission.*

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## Join Us for The Ripple Mixer

**Saturday, September 16, at 10 am in Rowe Woods Auditorium**

Join us as we brainstorm ways to improve nature within our communities with local author and community leader **Peter Block**. We invite you to bring your hopes, doubts, experiences, and unique self to this collaborative and inclusive event. You don't need any special knowledge or experience to attend.

We are looking for people who are looking for one another; those seeking connection and meaning around their shared love of nature.

[Click to Register](#)

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## Use Your Voice For Nature

**Toastmasters Clubs** are internationally known for helping people become more engaging, effective, and comfortable public speakers. There are two local clubs to consider joining:

- The Miami Township Civic Center's meeting is on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7–8 pm. For more info, please contact Jerry Lawson at **(317) 696-5837**.
- Cincinnati Nature Center will also have meetings on the third Wednesday each month from 12-1 pm. Ours is a nature-themed Toastmasters Group for volunteers and staff. For more info, please contact Connie O'Connor at [coconnor@cincynature.org](mailto:coconnor@cincynature.org).

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## Vegetarian Potluck

**Wednesday, September 13, 11:30 am-1 pm**

If you've considered reducing your meat consumption for environmental, health, and/or ethical reasons, you might enjoy trying new recipes and meeting others with similar goals. We'll start with a brief community-building exercise followed by sharing a dish. Please bring your own utensils, plate, and beverage.

For this month's lunch, please bring a meatless dish that can be prepared in an hour or less with eight or fewer ingredients.

To RSVP, email Bob and Beth Staggenborg at [bethstag@gmail.com](mailto:bethstag@gmail.com) with the subject line: Vegetarian Potluck.

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## Native Plant Club

**Wednesday, October 4, 6:30-8 pm—Inaugural Meeting**

Are you passionate or simply curious about native plants? If so, join us as we set the foundation for sharing knowledge, supporting one another's efforts, and helping get more native plants into the community. Whether your interests are in gardening, foraging, or ecosystem restoration, this group is for you!

Preregister by Monday, October 2. Member adult free; nonmember adult \$10 (includes daily admission).

[Click to Register](#)

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## Conversations That Ripple - Common Good Gatherings

**Wednesday, October 11, 18, and November 1, 6-8 pm**

We are each looking for impactful ways to protect the environment, but we can't accomplish it alone. Bypass the small talk with others and begin meaningful conversations that lead to real change.

Join Cincinnati Nature Center members and other local nature lovers for three sessions with community organizer and local civic advocate Peter Block. You'll be given the means to build support for ideas that are important to you.

So join us as we invent together what relationship-based action will look like. Feel free to bring a friend, neighbor, or colleague who may also be interested. Click below to RSVP by September 30.

[Click to  
RSVP](#)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Cincinnati Nature Center** is calling on volunteer writers to help create content for the *Now in Nature* weekly newsletter. These should be short, informative, interpretive articles. For more info, contact Marketing Manager Tracy Smith at [tsmith@cincynature.org](mailto:tsmith@cincynature.org). If your piece is used, you can count the time to write it as volunteer credit for your OCVN certification hours.



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### **Volunteers Needed to Prepare Rain Barrels for Art** **September 23 and October 14, 9 am-Noon**

Clermont County Soil and Water Conservation District needs help preparing rain barrels for artists to paint at the Clermont County Fairgrounds. The rain barrel art creates awareness of stormwater issues and solutions.

[Click to Learn  
More](#)

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### **Request for Volunteers for Lick Run BioBlitz** **August 12 and September 30 from 11 am-2 pm at Lick Run Greenway**

Calling all volunteers and citizen naturalists! Partner with our plant and pollinator enthusiasts to help photograph and upload native butterfly and sprouting native flower observations to iNaturalist. You will be documenting different species within a small assigned quadrant within the park. Our team will later analyze the species tagged to track the park's ecological changes over time. No experience needed!

This project is in partnership with Queen City Pollinator Project, The Civic Garden Center, Cornell University, and the Metropolitan Sewer District. The BioBlitz on September 30 will be filmed by PBS Nature for a documentary on the importance of insects and their declines.

Charge your phone, throw on your hiking boots, download iNaturalist, and plan

to meet at the main parking lot: 1645 Queen City Avenue. More information on this opportunity will be posted on the [Queen City Pollinator Project](#) Facebook Page.

## SHARE & SUBSCRIBE

### Give Us Your Feedback

You're receiving this action-oriented newsletter because either you signed up for it, because you are a graduate of the Nature Center's Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist program, or because you have completed *The Ripple Effect* online course.

If someone forwarded you this newsletter and you want to become a regular subscriber, [click here](#).

If you have suggestions for content or have other input, contact the Director of Applied Learning, Connie O'Connor at [coconnor@cincynature.org](mailto:coconnor@cincynature.org).

[If you want to unsubscribe, please click here.](#)

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