

# It's Our Nature

Newsletter of the Fox Valley Sierra Group of the John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club Vol. 12 Issue 2

## **PROGRAMS**

### April 12, 2012 • 7:00 PM

#### Travels in the Southwestern US

Don Lorenz' latest solo adventure, 33 days (sleeping in his van) and traveling 6,000 miles visiting national parks and monuments, Indian reservations, wilderness areas and historical sites - and taking thousands of pictures. During that time he participated in a week-long Sierra Club service trip in Utah, fixing trails and seeing old Anasazi sites (with a BLM archeologist). He visited Great Sand Dunes, Mesa Verde, Arches, Canyonlands, Cedar Mesa, Navajo tribal park, Gouldings trading post, Lake Powell, Paria wilderness, Lee's Ferry, the north rim of the Grand Canyon and Zion. He hiked, biked, explored, rebuilt trails, communed with wildlife, endured and escaped from - bus loads of tourists and had a fantastic trip (celebrating his retirement this year).

#### May 10, 2012 • 6:30 PM

#### Annual Auction Fund-raiser

An evening of delicious food, an entertaining live auction, silent auction, great laughs and more as we support our club with this one and only fundraiser.

- \$3 Admission
- Bring a dish to pass
- Bring your own table setting

We will begin the evening at 6:30 with a smorgasbord of treats. So please, arrive on time to setup, socialize and eat. At 7:00 the "Remarkable" Randy Connour will conduct the live auction with unique, priceless items and services donated by our members and local businesses.

We need auction items - see page 6

#### June 14, 2012 • 7:00 PM

Water Issues of the Fox River and Lake Michigan Dale Rezabek, DNR water expert.

#### August 9, 2012 • 7:00 PM

#### Picnic

Details and location to come

More at http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley

September 13, 2012 • 6:30 PM

FVSG 30th Anniversary Celebration

All programs except picnic are held at the Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, 4815 N. Lynndale Drive (County A) in Appleton, Wisconsin and are free and open to the public.

"All good things are wild and free." -Henry David Thoreau

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

- Ansel Adams

You must teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of your grandfathers. So that they will respect the land, tell your children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kin. Teach your children what we have taught our children, that the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. If men spit upon the ground, they spit upon themselves.

-Native American Wisdom

"The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness." - John Muir

"The superior man seeks what is right; the inferior one, what is profitable."

- Confucius

"The ultimate test of man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard." - Gaylord Nelson

"We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect." - Aldo Leopold

## DAY 2012 - APRIL 22



## From the Chair January 2012, By Alan Lawrence FVSG Chair

Since May of last year the environmental community has been concerned about the effects of the proposed Gogebic Taconite mine. We believed it would be a disaster to build the huge mine, especially with the proposed weakening of environmental regulations that Gov. Scott Walker's administration was pushing. People who cared about tourism were also concerned. But many proponents argued for the jobs that would be created at the mine, at the companies that produced mining equipment, and by the supporting jobs.

As of this writing it appears that the mine has been stopped. Assembly Bill 426, which passed overwhelmingly in the State Assembly, did not pass in the State Senate. The bill, despite having an official legislative name, was actually authored by the mining company, Gogebic Taconite, LLC (GTAC). They insisted that the only way to build this mine was to weaken our environmental regulations. On March 6, with the defeat of their bill in the State Senate, the president of GTAC issued this short statement: "Senate rejection of the mining reforms in Assembly Bill 426 sends a clear message that Wisconsin will not welcome iron mining. We get the message. GTAC is ending plans to invest in a Wisconsin mine."

With the battle over, at least temporarily, the discussion is whether it was good and proper to pit jobs against environment. Although we really do need jobs, and we would benefit from the extracted minerals and resulting wealth, I think that protecting the environment is ultimately more important. Doing things the wrong way tends to make things go badly and is often immensely expensive.

We need look no further than the Fox River that flows

through our community. Shortcuts by the paper industry justified the disposal of dangerous PCB waste directly into the river. Years later we are spending a billion dollars to partially clean up the mess.

Two years ago the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico demonstrated how expensive lax regulations can be.

One year ago the tsunami in Japan and the resulting nuclear accident demonstrated how our best technological plans could be defeated by Nature, especially when we do not implement our best safety regulations.

Last summer the flooding of Nebraska's Fort Calhoun nuclear plant frightened United States citizens. Nuclear plants are often built close to water, and the flooded Missouri River came within inches of threatening the facility and the safety of people.

Nationally the battle wages over the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. The pipeline would carry tar sands oil from Canada, across the United States, to refineries in Texas, and then to tanker ships for transport to world markets. US refineries and Canadian producers would benefit. US consumers would barely notice anything since the gasoline would go to world markets and would have to be purchased from those markets at world prices, just like all other oil. Our environment is likely to suffer from frequent pipeline leaks, as demonstrated by another tar sands oil pipeline that already exists. Globally, tar sands oil is very pollutive to the land where it is mined, and towards Global Warming. And, any large-scale project like this ultimately crosses private land that must be seized with eminent domain rules. If nothing else, is this really the proper use of eminent domain?

Republican politicians argue that America needs this oil, and that good jobs will be created in the building of this pipeline.

My family drove to Grand Canyon in March to enjoy a college "spring break" vacation with our daughter. The trip through Iowa, on I-80, was educational. A highway rest area between Casey and Adair showcased wind power. A single HUGE blade from a modern wind turbine stood next to the building, demonstrating, up close, how large these blades are. Other outdoor sculptures complimented the blade as art. Inside the building the story of wind power was narrated by displays.





"When you're driving by, you really don't get a sense of scale. You realize those wind turbines are big, but just this blade is 148 feet tall. It's almost equivalent to a 15 story building. When people have a chance to get out of their car and get up close to this blade, they'll really get a sense for what monumental items these really are." ~Press Quote about the Rest Area

One of the displays said that there's enough wind concentrated in the Midwest prairie states to supply as much as 16 times the current American demand for electricity.

Wow, even if that is only partially true, shouldn't it be pursued as part of our national energy policy?

Iowa has become a national leader in the wind energy industry. The wind energy industry in Iowa currently employs at least 3,000 full-time workers in manufacturing, operation and maintenance of wind turbine components, with an estimated payroll of \$70 million. Iowa produces 20 percent of all the electricity generated in the state from wind turbines, ranking it first in the nation and second in the world.

We saw hundreds of these huge wind turbines co-existing nicely with farms, producing power and income. And we saw many oversized trucks delivering turbine blades.

Siemens Energy has a 600,000-square-foot wind turbine blade manufacturing facility in Fort Madison, Iowa, serving as the largest employer in that community and county with nearly 800 employees, contributing to the economic revitalization of the region.

Wouldn't a huge effort to build wind power in Wisconsin and across the United States be more productive than building more oil pipelines?

I read about electric transmission lines. Our country is running with an inefficient old technology power grid. There are plans to upgrade our power grid so that it can handle more power with much less energy waste in the transmission process. The new towers will be slightly taller, but will not require as much footprint on the ground. It will become possible to rely on wind power and solar power because it is always windy or sunny somewhere.

Building the new transmission grid would employ many thousands of skilled workers, with line workers being as common of sight as highway workers, according to the article in Scientific American magazine. I feel this is a more worthy project than more oil pipelines.





By the way, Grand Canyon is amazing. More than five million tourists flock to the park each year, generating a tremendous amount of income for the area. Protecting Wisconsin's beautiful areas is also good for our tourism and economy.

Thanks for reading my comments. As leader of our group I welcome your feedback. - Alan Lawrence, 920-730-9515 or alan\_lawrence99@yahoo.com

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## Mahwee Ma'iingan

by Laura Menefee, a FVSG member who resides in Door County in a former dairy farmhouse.

In response to SB 411 pertaining to the hunting and trapping of wolves in Wisconsin, the Sierra Club, John Muir Chapter entered informational testimony objecting to the lack of scientific oversight as well as the proposed legislation's incursion on the jurisdiction of WDNR management.

"I don't think anyone in this room wants to see wolves hunted," one well-known and oft-cited state biologist said at a recent wolf science convention, "I know I don't. But we're being pushed into it by politicians." Politicians working for the following lobbyists, to be precise:

Safari Club International, Wisconsin

Chapters

United Sportsmen of Wisconsin, Inc.
Wi-Force (Wisconsin Firearm Owners,
Ranges, Clubs & Educators, Inc.)
Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association
Wisconsin Bowhunters Association
Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation
Wisconsin Independent Businesses Inc
Wisconsin Pork Association
Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers
Assoc.

Over the objections of conservationist groups like the Timber Wolf Alliance and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, as well as state biologists, members of the Wisconsin Wolf Science Committee and many volunteer trackers for the WDNR wolf survey, both SB 411 and its sister bill, AB 502 passed. This legislation allows for the hunting of wolves with bait, with GPS-collared dogs, at night, on roads and with the use of artificial lights. It also allows for wolves to be trapped and clubbed to death, to be hunted into the mating season when Alpha females will be carrying the young of the year, and early in the Fall when packs rendezvous with juveniles just learning to hunt. The hunting season lasts from October 15 through February. Only rabbits and squirrels enjoy such a protracted With night-hunting legalized, individuals and packs will be harried 24 hours a day, every day, without respite, a condition inflicted on no other game species.

Proponents of this legislation fail to recognize that deer are more plentiful in North America

now than prior to European contact, having been "managed" to artificially high numbers, helped along by the marginal land created by agriculture, as well as extirpation of deer's natural predators. This has resulted in the catastrophic cascade we see in diminishing hardwoods and the over browse of our forests and native plant species, which significantly reduces songbird habitat.

Deer cause more crop and property damage than any other animal in North America and have been responsible for 1.5 million vehicle collisions annually. In areas where wolf populations have returned, elk and deer vehicle collisions have been significantly diminished. Even taking into account the very low incidence of livestock depredation by wolves, black bear cause more property damage than wolves do. In fact, WDNR and USFW reports document that domestic dogs cause more stress, fetal loss, injury and death to livestock than wolves do.

And although wolves are paying the price, elk numbers were severely reduced by humans, disease, habitat loss and competition with grazing livestock -- not wolves.

Nevertheless, proponents of the bill worry that wolf populations will get "out of Natural limitations on wolf control." pack size and distribution are imposed by available prey and habitat. Wolf pup loss in Wisconsin is estimated at 50-75% annually, and Wisconsin's average pack size remains low, at about 4.3 members per pack. A "pack" in Wisconsin is counted as two or more wolves establishing a territory together. What the hunting lobby and their attorneys hired to craft the bills, without scientific oversight, fail to understand is that increased pressure on wolves will likely result in increased livestock depredation and more conflict--not less.

Neither does this wolf hunting legislation concentrate hunting and trapping in the areas most affected by depredation, or "problem wolves." Killing a pack's key hunting members, just when juveniles are learning to hunt, will make livestock look more attractive. Kill the Alpha pair and most of the adults in a pack, and you leave juveniles to figure out what to eat on their

own. Additionally, you increase the pressure for "recruitment," or breeding. If a pack doesn't have the numbers or the experience to feed itself, it breeds more -- not less.

It is important to remember that no maximum population goal has ever been set for wolves in Wisconsin. An initial target (not "limit") of 350 was set over thirteen years ago, when there were fewer than 200 in the state, as an estimate of what the social and biological landscape might support, given the science available then. It is now known that our habitat and prey density can easily accommodate many more wolves, and that capacity has never been reassessed, while deer goal populations are reassessed every 3-5 years.

In the few weeks since this most recent delisting, over 519 wolves have been legally killed in Idaho and Montana, including one entire 18 member pack, aerially shot with automatic weapons, by USFW in response to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's successful lobby that "wolves kill too many elk," even though research supports that this attitude is unfounded. As with all predators, wolves are not large enough, strong enough, or fast enough to take down healthy, large prey. Wolves, like all predators, conserve energy by preying on the weak and sick, whether young or old.

Elk were the motive for killing this wolf, number 253, the most famous of Yellowstone's Druid pack. He was shot, with other members of his pack, the day after the Bush Administration lifted ESA protections for wolves in Wyoming, on March 8, 2008. Whether you believe we have too many wolves in Wisconsin, or not enough, you should ask yourself whether they are best managed by wildlife biologists, or politicians.



## ICE AGE TRAIL – LAKESHORE CHAPTER

Many of us are familiar with the Ice Age Trail in Wisconsin. Are you aware that right in our back yard the trail meanders through Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Sheboygan and Fond du Lac Counties, including the Northern Kettle Moraine? The Lakeshore Chapter of the Ice Age Trail oversees the trail in that entire area. As you can imagine, that's a lot of area to cover.

Our Fox Valley Sierra Group participated in work days on the Ice Age Trail in Door, Kewaunee, and Sheboygan Counties in the late '80's under the masterful leadership of Dale Schaber. Sierra Club members assisted with trail maintenance for a few years along the Ice Age Trail, the Ahnapee State Trail, as well as the Woodland Dunes Nature Center.

Our Sierra Club chapter will again be helping with their trail maintenance. The Lakeshore Chapter is always looking for assistance and even has a need for segment leaders who would walk a chosen segment once every couple months and report any major problems. Segment leaders may be needed in locations such as Tisch Mills, Webers Woods, Mishicot Esker, a school forest or state forest, and Greenbush.

If you are not currently a member of the Ice Age Trail Foundation, the basic annual membership fee is \$35 per year. The Lakeshore Chapter could then be indicated as the chapter you wish to be associated with. They have a wonderful website and newsletter. Their website is: Lakeshore.iceagetrail.org. Their present chapter coordinator is Dan Mitchell. Dan is from Green Bay and is a member of the Sierra Club.

Besides work days, their chapter sponsors many events, including hikes, winter outings, ColdCaching (a geological treasure hunt), picnics, a fall colors hike, showshoeing, and cross country skiing. Besides regular trail maintenance, Potawatomi State Park has asked them to build a shelter on a 12' x 24' cement slab at the top of the "ski" hill overlooking the Bay near the observation tower. In 2013 they hope to build a new 1 ½ mile trail along a river in Manitowoc County.

Their trail extends in the vicinity of Potawatomi State Park, Sturgeon Bay,

Forestville, Algoma, C.D. Besadny State Fish & Wildlife area, Casco, Point Beach State Forest, Woodland Dunes Nature Center property, and Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest.

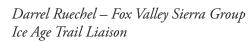
The Lakeshore Chapter sponsors two extra-special fun activities. One is called the North Kettle Moraine Hall of Kamers and the other is ColdCaching.

With the Hall of Kamers, the chapter will furnish a companion guide to help you complete the 27 miles through the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest. In 2012, they have scheduled Hall of Kamers hikes on various dates between May and October. If you wish to become a Hall of Kamer and can't make one of those hikes, it is even possible to hike a specific segment on your own. Once you have completed and logged your miles, you will be inducted into the North Kettle Moraine Hall of Kame.

With the Ice Age Trail ColdCache program, the Lakeshore Chapter is one of the Ice Age Trail chapters offering this program. We are familiar with the Green Bay Lobe of the glacier but there was also a Lake Michigan Lobe that is of geological significance. The ColdCache program is an educational program that promotes the public's appreciation and understanding of Wisconsin's glacial landscape.

ColdCache is a GeoCache program that hunts for geological treasures along the trail. For information about ColdCache, Dolly McNulty can be contacted at mcdolly@lakefield.net. There are many overnight opportunities on or near the trail such as the Black Walnut Guest House or White Lace Inn

of Sturgeon Bay, the Fox Hills Resort at Mishicot, the Red Forest Bed & Breakfast of Two Rivers, the West Port Bed & Breakfast of Manitowoc, or the Spring Tulip Cottage of Plymouth. With advanced reservations, many of these businesses may be willing to shuttle you to their location. One can also camp at the Ahnapee River Trails Campground at Algoma or Point Beach State Forest or Potawatomi State Park or the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest.





"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves." - John Muir

Fox Valley Sierra Group

Annual Fundraiser
May 10, 2012 • 6:30PM
Bubolz Nature Preserve

**Auction Donations Needed:** In order to make our annual fundraiser successful we are seeking items or services from local businesses, artists, crafts people and members. Previous donations include: art prints, computer work, craft projects, garden planting, yard work, bicycle repair and tuning, professional massage, homemade or special breads, pickles or canned goods, sunset sail cruises, canoe trips, stained glass, dinner for two, ...be wild.

Please pre-register items/services for auction by phone (920) 468-7252 or by mail: Maureen Birk, 3381 Niciolet Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. Include your name, phone#, item/service to auction, any limitations, and estimated value. Bring items at time of auction, or Call Maureen. Last minute items accepted at door, but please come 15 minutes early!

Can't make it to the auction but still want to support the Fox Valley Sierra Group?

Mail a check made payable to "Fox Valley Sierra Group" to FVSG Treasurer Sally Peck, 1646 Amy Street, Green Bay, WI 54302

## **Garlic Mustard Pulling**

We will again be pulling garlic mustard at High Cliff State Park and at Memorial Park in Combined Locks, Wisconsin in April and May. Everything depends on the weather and on how fast the garlic mustard grows. When I have scheduled the dates I will be contacting last year's volunteers. If you are not on last year's list please contact me at dschaber@athenet.net or 920-739-6041. Please leave a message if I am not at home. I will put you on the list and contact you about the date and times we will be pulling garlic mustard. - Dale Schaber

Stay up-to-date on the latest environmental news, outings, programs and events by checking out our website at

http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley.

Follow FVSG on Facebook and Twitter.

- On Facebook, search for "Fox Valley Sierra Group" then become a fan.
- Find us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/FVSierra-Club.

This is a beautiful planet and not at all fragile. Earth can withstand significant volcanic eruptions, tectonic cataclysms, and ice ages. But this canny, intelligent, prolific, and extremely self-centered human creature had proven himself capable of more destruction of life than Mother Nature herself. We've got to be stopped.

- Michael L. Fischer, author

Next Newsletter Deadline for submitting materials for the August thru October Issue - July 14th.

"When you try to change any single thing, you find it hitched to everything else in the universe." - John Muir



the world isn't waiting, why are you?

Name					
Address					
City			Zip		
Phone ( )					
Email					
Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club. Please charge my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX				Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!	
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Supporting	□ \$75	S \$100			
Contributing	\$150	\$175			
Life Senior	\$1000 \$24	\$1250 \$32			
Student/Limited Income	\$24	S32		F94Q W1607	

Explore, enjoy and protect the plane

## **OUTINGS**

## Sunday, May 6.

### Paddle down the Wolf River

From Shawano M (Lieg St) bridge to CCC bridge while some of the remaining sturgeon are swimming up the historic waterway. Ron Bruch approved trip! We will mostly be going through the Navarino Wildlife area. There are no landings between put-in and take-out. Class I water (moving water with few riffles and small waves; no obstructions.) You will need to provide your own canoe or kayak. We will shuttle from Lieg St. Landing. After return, learn more about the sturgeon's historic route and how it ends at the dam / Sturgeon Park in Shawano. Nancy Brown-Koeller 920 721-5431 (work); 920 830-6625 (home)

## Saturday May 19,

### Ice Age Trail Work Day in Portage County

The Fox Valley Sierra Group will be doing minor trail maintenance on the Ice Age Trail in Portage County on May 19. We will begin work on the trail at about 9:30. Tools will be provided. However, if you wish to bring any pruning tools, etc., feel free to do so. Bring a lunch, water, work gloves, and mosquito and tick repellent to this outing. We will stop for ice cream mid afternoon. For head-count purposes, location to meet, ride consolidation, and information, contact Darrel Ruechel, FVSG IATA coordinator, 920-993-0903, r7Dairl@yahoo.com.

### Thursday-Sunday, June 21-24,

## Ice Age Trail Mobile Skills Crew Project

#### in Portage County

Volunteers will be needed for full or half days on one, some or all of the days. Hands-on training will be provided. Volunteer support may also needed for food preparation. The Mobile Skills Crew, a program of the Ice Age Trail Alliance that draws workers statewide, will be conducting this trail project just north of Hartman Creek State Park in the Hartman Creek Segment. A new trail route will meander through 40 acres managed by the Hartman Creek State Park. The present trail goes straight north and south. If desired, participants can enjoy free camping. Water and food is provided. Bring water bottle, work boots and clothes, repellent, and sunscreen. Work will proceed rain or shine, and tools are provided. If staying overnight, bring a tent and personal effects.

For registration and information, go to www.iceagetrail.org and click on "Volunteer Center" and then "Mobile Skills Crew Project" for details and preregistration. Preregistration should be done online and is requested primarily for meal planning. This is not an FVSG outing but is an outing of the Ice Age Trail Alliance. For further information, check out their website or E-mail Darrel Ruechel, FVSG IATA coordinator, at r7Dairl@yahoo.com.

## Saturday July 14,

## Ice Age Trail Work Day in Manitowoc County

The Fox Valley Sierra Group will be assisting the Lakeshore Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Alliance on an esker just north of Mishicot. The Lakeshore Chapter will be doing some tread work, and we will be assisting. The trail work will begin that morning at a time to be scheduled. Tools will be provided. Bring a lunch, water, work gloves and boots, and mosquito and tick repellent to this outing. For head-count purposes, location to meet, ride consolidation, and information, contact Darrel Ruechel, FVSG IATA coordinator, 920-993-0903, r7Dairl@yahoo.com.

Sierra Club outings are offered solely because of the generosity of members willing to lead outings and share the experience with others. If you are interested in learning more please contact the FVSG Outing Chair Rich Krieg at eddyout@gmail.com or 920-660-3557.



Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect. - Chief Seattle, 1854 P.O. Box 264 Appleton, WI 54912-0264 NON PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID GREEN BAY WI PERMIT 460



# It's Our Nature

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# Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time

The first full-length documentary file ever made about legendary environmentalist Aldo Leopold, Green Fire highlights Leopold's extraordinary career, tracing how he shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. Leopold remains relevant today, inspiring projects all over the country that connect people and land.

April 17, 2012

Fox Valley Technical College - DJ Borrdini Business & Industry Center.

Located at 5 Systems Drive, Appleton, WI. Directly across the street from the FVTC main campus.

Peter Dunwiddie, member of the Aldo Leoplold Foundation, will be the guest speaker. He will introduce the movie and will promote discussion and comments from the audience.

•6PM - Refreshments and viewing of displays, sharing of ideas and facilitation of networking among the many conservation-minded groups in our area

•7 PM - Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time - movie

•After - discussion and comments

More infowww.greenfiremovie.com

## **Community Wide Earth Day Celebration**

The Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity ReStore is again sponsoring the Fox Cities Community Wide Earth Day Celebration at the ReStore on April 28, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at 3000 East College Avenue in Appleton, Wisconsin. The Earth Day event is free for the whole family,

come rain or come shine!

Featured at the Earth Day Celebration will be over 50 earth-friendly local vendors and exhibitors, children's activities, and organic and locally grown food. In addition, participants can attend the following educational forums: Green Home Maintenance Tips, Organic Gardening and Making Rain Barrels.

Ride your bike or bring your bike to the Earth Day Celebration for a free check-up complements of Recyclist Bicycle Company.

Live Alpacas will be at the Earth Day Celebration!

For more information about the Earth Day Celebration visit: www.appletonrestore.org.

Check these and many more Earth Day activities in the area at your local communities and nature centers.

## **Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet**