



The Scoop  
Environmental Action Committee  
October/November 2023 Newsletter

Green Tip of the Month:

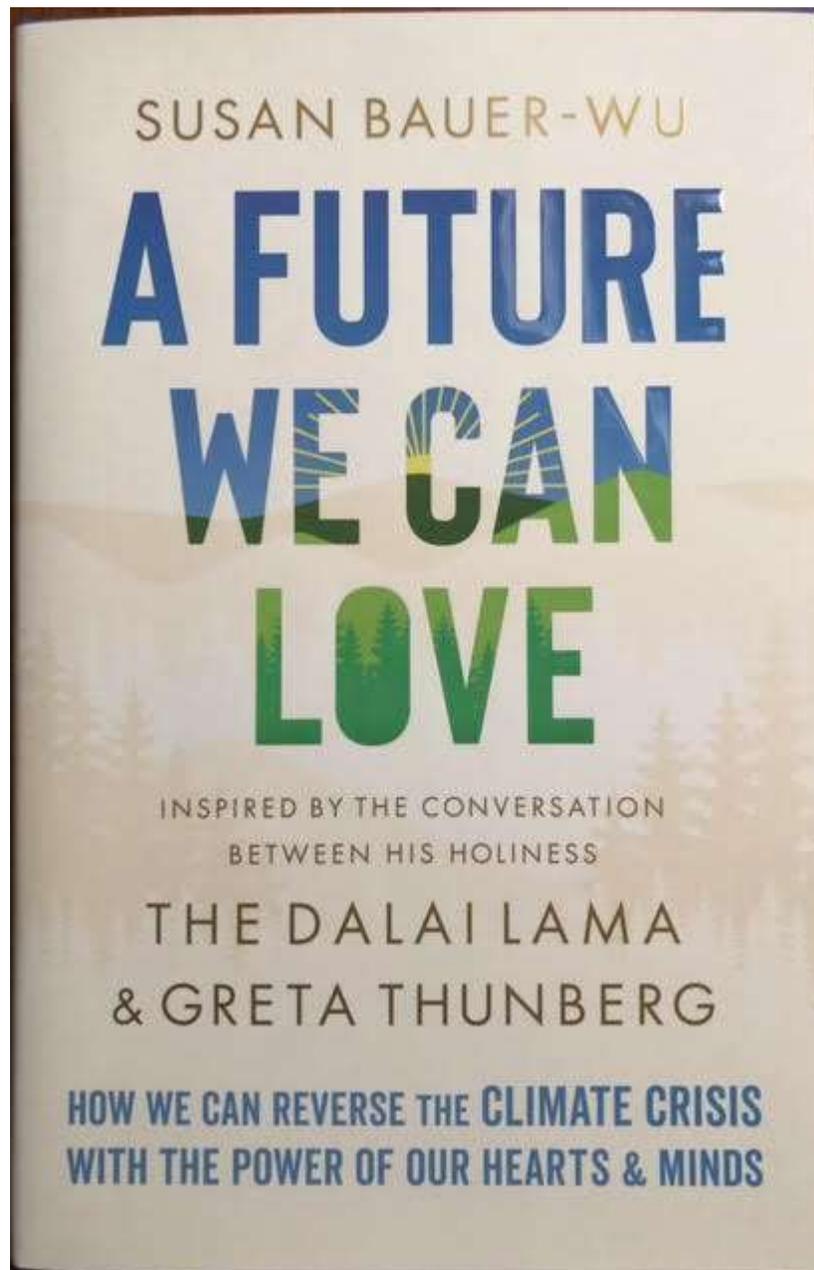
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THIS AUTUMN,  
LEAVE STANDING DRIED STEMS  
AND SEEDHEADS FOR THE BIRDS!  
DON'T 'CLEAN UP'



The Environmental Action Committee is sponsoring a fall book study!

Join us in reading *A Future We Can Love*, by Susan Bauer-Wu, which was inspired by a conversation between the Dalai Lama and Greta Thunberg. We will meet on four Monday evenings (Oct. 30, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 11; 7-8:15 pm) by Zoom. FMI, contact [sunitapatterson@gmail.com](mailto:sunitapatterson@gmail.com).





## Landscape blog - Happy Fall!

This is a heads-up for anyone who takes a look around the UUAsheville grounds for the next few months. It may look messier than you are used to, but it is because we will be leaving seedheads and plant stems standing through the winter.

The seedheads feed the birds and the plant stems are ideal places for our beneficial insects to spend the winter. We will also not be removing leaf litter as this, too, is a comfortable winter bed for insects.

This will definitely take a bit of a mind shift for many of us. It's simply a matter of looking at the landscape as you would look at the woods or a meadow. No one "cleans" them up, and the falling leaves and plant debris becomes a bed of rich mulch to help the plants thrive.

In our goal of not removing any plant matter from our landscape, we will be doing some tidying. Just not removing the leaves. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about these practices ([katejerome2020@gmail.com](mailto:katejerome2020@gmail.com)).

## News You Can Use

Check out this article on protecting our insects from the Washington Post:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/09/01/insect-removal-problems-ecosystem/>

## Get Involved

Climate Justice Action-Reflection Circles



Fourth Tuesdays! : 7:00 pm ET/ 6:00 pm CT/ 5:00 MT/ 4:00 PT

If you are engaged in climate justice, join with other UUs on a regular basis to share stories about your actions and strategies, restore your resilience, deepen your solidarity skills, and tap into our UU faith tradition as a source of strength. The Action-Reflection Circle becomes a place to reflect, recharge, and renew our commitments. We gather to share ideas about tasks, campaigns, and the roller coaster of political wins and losses. And we focus on our [UU Sources of Inspiration](#) to ground our work and fortify our spiritual lives.

Registration and Zoom links here

**Conserving Carolina event calendar for October:**  
<https://conservingcarolina.org/calendar/month/2023-10/>

### Asheville Edibles Map Needs Your Input!

Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council and Bountiful Cities relaunch updated Asheville Edibles Map with the City of Asheville! Asheville is known for its vibrant food culture and commitment to sustainability. However, alongside a community of passionate foodies, there are individuals experiencing food insecurity. The Asheville Edibles Map aims to bridge this gap by highlighting the abundance of edible plants available for foraging, sharing, and cultivating by locals and visitors. The map also seeks to serve as an educational tool to inspire more edible plantings on private and public property. To explore the Asheville Edibles Map, visit this website. If you would like to contribute new sites or information to the map please fill out this form.  
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/39a32ca6b2ef425f8a15c123fb3dbad5>

### Certify a Native Pollinator Garden on Public Land

GreenWorks has partnered with the City of Asheville to offer Native Pollinator Garden Certification on public land. Residents will be able to certify gardens planted in partnership with their local school or library, neighborhood police or fire station, community garden or park.

We've got a way for you to certify a pollinator garden planted somewhere everyone can enjoy. For more information and to apply:  
[https://www.ashevillegreenworks.org/public-gardens?utm\\_term=avltoday&utm\\_campaign=daily-newsletter&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_source=avltoday&utm\\_content=avltoday](https://www.ashevillegreenworks.org/public-gardens?utm_term=avltoday&utm_campaign=daily-newsletter&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_source=avltoday&utm_content=avltoday)

**Mayland Earth to Sky Park & Bare Dark Sky Observatory (U.S.)**  
<https://www.darksky.org/our-work/conservation/idsp/parks/mayland/>

**Energy Savers Network - needs help with Outreach Opportunities!**  
<https://www.energysaversnetwork.org/energy-efficiency-apprenticeship/>

**Environmental Action Committee** - we meet the last Thursday of the month, sometimes by Zoom, sometimes in person. Contact Wink Zachritz ([zachritzw@gmail.com](mailto:zachritzw@gmail.com)) to be put on the mailing list.

**Landscape/Garden Committee** - We meet every first and third Saturday during the growing season to work to keep our natural landscape in tip-top shape. Contact Kate Jerome ([katejerome2020@gmail.com](mailto:katejerome2020@gmail.com)).

## Calendar of Events

**Tree Nursery Workday** - The first through third Tuesday of the month, 10am - 12pm each week Sand Hill Tree Nursery, 24 Apac Dr. Asheville, NC 28806

Each year, this family of dedicated tree guardians volunteers their time and expertise to grow more than 1,000 native tree seedlings to help restore our urban tree canopy. This team pots, prunes, waters, labels, and otherwise cares for the next generation of Asheville's neighborhood trees. Join us!

<https://ashevillegreenworks.vomo.org/opportunity/6409d43689d8b>

## Bountiful Cities

Please join us for our next free Community Garden Network Workshop Wednesday October 4th 10:30am-noon. Declan is an experienced grower who works with the Peace Garden in the Burton St. neighborhood to grow vegetables and plants year round. This class will focus on starting seeds to be grown in a greenhouse or hoop house in order to extend the season for vegetable production. Participants will learn best practices, what works well, what to avoid, and what to grow when. Because of space limitations this class is limited to 15 participants. Register: [https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause\\_pdetails/MTg4Mzg4](https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MTg4Mzg4)

## Community Reparations Summit

Saturday October 7th 10am-3pm

Join the Community Reparations Commission, the City of Asheville, Buncombe County Government, and UNC Asheville's Department of Education and Africana Studies program for the Community Reparations Summit. Summit attendees will hear updates from the Community Reparations Commission's Impact Focus Areas and in turn, provide feedback on their proposed recommendations. Attendance is limited, and registration is required. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to attendees, and parking is available at no charge. The Summit will be hosted at the Sherrill Center and Kimmel Arena, UNC Asheville Campus from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Doors open at 9:00 am. Register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-reparations-summit-tickets-711348240737?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

## BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) Farmer's Market

Sunday October 1st 12-3pm

Southside Community Farm hosts a farmers market in collaboration with other BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) vendors seasonally on the first Sunday of every month, May-October from 12-3 PM. Location is the Arthur Edington Center parking lot, 133 Livingston Street. The farmers market is EBT accessible and offers Double SNAP for fruits and vegetables. Join them to purchase fresh, local foods and crafts, and to support Black and Brown owned businesses!

## Resources -

Here's a link to resources we've gathered that are concerned with all manner of environmental issues. More to come!

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eclvmZpomY7EsYGB6ewQqBloECHgGcglQ0ElxeGn\\_g0/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eclvmZpomY7EsYGB6ewQqBloECHgGcglQ0ElxeGn_g0/edit)



## Environmental Action Committee

UUAsheville  
1 Edwin Place  
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### Who we are:

EAC is an action committee at the UUAsheville under the Justice Ministry Program. We are active in a wide variety of environmentally related activities at the church and around Asheville. We are committed to helping our congregation and its members live more sustainably on the Earth. The EAC supports the UU seventh principle "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

### What We Do:

We work to increase the awareness, education, and understanding of critical environmental issues of our time for the congregation, the community and nationally. Many projects we undertake stem from our commitment to being a Green Sanctuary congregation, a certification granted by the UUA (<https://www.uua.org/environment/green-sanctuary>) in recognition of our environmental stewardship.

For more information or to add resources to the newsletter, contact Kate Jerome ([katejerome2020@gmail.com](mailto:katejerome2020@gmail.com))