



Issue 7 | December 2022

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 who want ideas, insights, and inspiration to act in support of nature and the environment.

GET INSPIRED!



A Solar Experience

In the fall of 2012, my brother had solar panels installed on his home in central Ohio. After hearing of his experience, we decided to investigate the possibility of solar panels for our house.

Since my husband and I both grew up in the country, we developed an appreciation and love for nature early.

As time passed, our concern for the planet increased, and we wished we could make more changes to our lifestyle that would benefit and protect the environment for future generations. But we also knew we had a limited budget. In spring 2013, we chose to invest in a solar energy system.

[Click here](#) to learn more about our experience.

[Read the full story](#)

The Nature Center can help connect people with one another! If you have a solar energy system or want to talk to people who do, just email Connie O'Connor at coconnor@cincynature.org and let her know. If there's interest, Connie will then plan a time for everyone to meet!

News from Your Peers

Learn how other Nature Center members are making a difference, overcoming obstacles, and forming connections through service. If you would like to tell your story about an environmental issue, action, or cause in which you are working to make a difference, you may submit your blog for consideration to

Connie O'Connor at coconnor@cincynature.org. Keep it short and send photos. Maybe we will use your piece next time!

LET'S COLLABORATE!

Attend a Common Good Gathering!

Wednesday, December 14, 6-8 pm

Our last session with Peter Block is Wednesday, December 14, at 6 pm. Join us to discuss how we can continue to make connections and share ideas among ourselves in the new year. Equally important, how do we broaden our circle? Feel free to invite a friend and use the notes below to bring them up to speed.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 14, from 6-8 pm and you are invited to attend, even if it's your first time. You belong here! [Click here to register!](#)

[Click Here to See Meeting Notes](#)

Let's Hear from the Audience!

Maybe you've watched a nature documentary or read a thought-provoking article about conservation. You want to share your thoughts and get ideas from others, but how? If you have suggestions for how members can share information, ideas, and support with one another or would like to moderate a Facebook group for CNC action-takers, please contact Connie O'Connor at coconnor@cincynature.org.

TAKE ACTION!

Tackle the Climate Crisis

Everyone can help limit climate change but perhaps you're unsure what personal actions matter most. Start with these 10 actions suggested by the United Nations.

[Learn More!](#)

LEARN MORE TO DO MORE

Community Garden Development Training

The Civic Garden Center is hosting an 11-week Community Garden Development Training [January-April on Wednesdays from 6-8 pm](#) and it's free to anyone interested.

[Click to Register](#)

Shifting From Hostility to Empathy in Political Conversations

Political conversations with someone whose values are different than yours are tough. But even the thorniest divide can be bridged if we employ "Moral Reframing." Check out this video and consider how you might apply this to an issue you care about. Email the editor, Connie O'Connor, at coconnor@cincynature.org to share your thoughts.

Click to
Watch!

The Psychological Traits That Shape Your Political Beliefs

Social psychologist Dannagal G. Young breaks down the link between our psychology and politics, showing how personality types largely fall into people who prioritize openness and flexibility and those who prefer order and certainty. Watch this video about how worldviews shape political views and how our diverse perspectives could lead to a better society.

Click to
Watch!

Busting The "Property Values" Myth

We must always consider the perceived or real barriers people face when we invite them to take action for the environment. A barrier for some people is the concern that native plants will reduce the curb appeal and resale value of their home. Read the full article to learn how to address this perceived barrier.

Learn More



**Conservation Changemakers
Speaker Series (Online) FREE!**
[Wednesday, December 7, 7-8 pm](#)

Get ready to think about conservation in new and different ways! Be inspired as you hear from compelling speakers who are changing the conversation about our environment, making an impact in their



The Ripple Effect (Online)
[January 23-March 6, 2023](#)

This free (donation-based) online course was designed by Cincinnati Nature Center staff with you in mind. Learn at your own pace as we take you on a science-based journey through our exploration into how individuals can have a real impact on

communities, and thinking about how to make nature more accessible and equitable for all.

[Click here](#) to learn more and register for the next upcoming program.

conservation. This course also counts as continuing education for OCVN.

Preregistration is required by January 18. Member adult free; nonmember adult free. Donations welcomed!

[Click here](#) to register!

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. If your piece is used, you can count the time to write it as volunteer credit for your OCVN certification hours.



Cincinnati Nature Center offers many opportunities for volunteerism. [Click here to learn more about volunteering at Cincinnati Nature Center.](#)

Environmental Book Discussion Groups

Cincinnati Nature Center could use a few more people willing to facilitate environmental book discussion groups. If you are interested, let Connie know at coconnor@cincynature.org.

[Click here](#) to review a book that might be a good candidate for a discussion.

Are You Social Media Savvy?

Cincinnati Nature Center is looking for an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist to help with its OCVN Facebook page. If you're interested, email Connie O'Connor at coconnor@cincynature.org.

Give Us Your Feedback

You're receiving this action-oriented newsletter because either you signed up for it or because you are a graduate of the Nature Center's Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist program.

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, feel free to contact Director of Applied Learning Connie O'Connor at coconnor@cincynature.org.

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