



URBAN

Ecology Club

Willoughby Farm
and
Woodland Park



The importance of 'Urban' in our Ecology Club?

Ecosystem

SYSTEM - collection of organizing parts as a whole entity of interacting parts

ECO - nature, environment - An **ecosystem** consists of a community of organisms together with their physical environment

Urban Ecology

"...the study of ecosystems that include humans living in cities and urbanizing landscapes. It is an emerging, interdisciplinary field that aims **to understand how human and ecological processes can coexist in human-dominated systems and help societies with their efforts to become more sustainable**. ... Because of its interdisciplinary nature and unique focus on humans and natural systems, the term "urban ecology" has been used variously to describe the **study of humans in cities, of nature in cities, and of the coupled relationships between humans and nature**. Each of these research areas is contributing to our understanding of urban ecosystems and each must be understood to fully grasp the science of Urban Ecology."

Above definitions by *INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL*

Comes down to

How can we make our city, our community more sustainable?

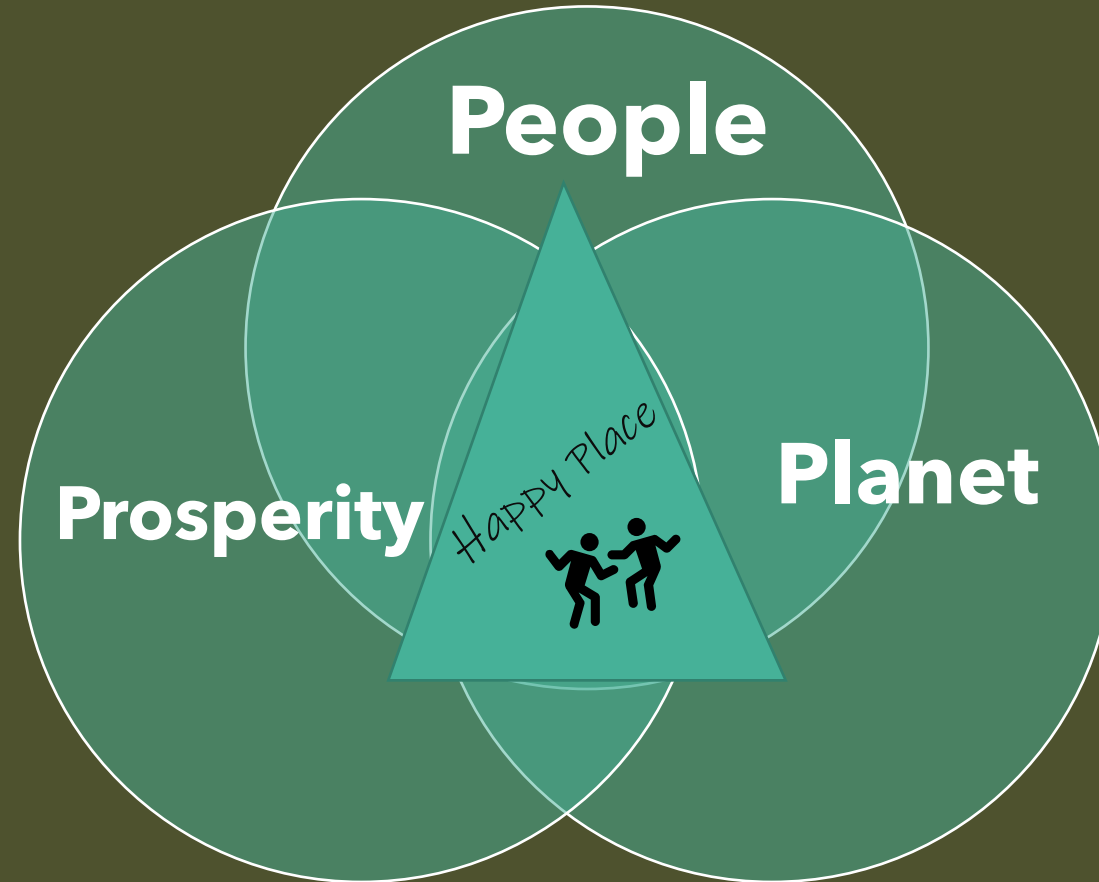
Sustainability means meeting our needs today without compromising the ability to meet society's needs in the future.

Sustainable - It's all about **CONNECT, BALANCE**, and **OPTIMIZE**

- 1) Environmentally friendly (*Planet*)
- 2) Socially equitable, ethical, and acceptable (*People*)
- 3) Economically viable (*Prosperity*)

TRIANGLE - the STRONGEST SHAPE

The more each component *CONNECTS* to the other two, the more *BALANCED* they become in the middle, and the system is *OPTIMIZED* for function and sustainability.



Mission Statement

We want to foster awareness and creativity about urban ecology through promoting sustainable practices that will encourage and support a lifetime of conservation stewardship, and connectivity to our urban community and ecological future





Vision Statement

To be a community engaged as a team, in promoting a balance of ecological, cultural, and economic sustainability practices *within* the community, *for* the community.

**Motto
Ecology Club can
have fun creating this
one!!**

Vision Statements:

- **Allow kids of all generations to explore, be creative, have fun, and work as a team towards urban ecological balance and sustainability**
- **Have a place for youth and adults to work together on conservation stewardship projects around the farm, city parks, and any place in the community in need of an ecological fitness plan**
- **Provide a discipline of opportunities that are initially introduced and structured through adult leadership and community organizations**
- **Encourage and support youth to become community engaged by planning, organizing and leading projects around them**
- **Allow kids to explore, be creative, and work as a team**
- **Provide structured ecological projects and opportunities for youth to experience intrinsic satisfaction and confidence that they can be the difference**
- **Encourage all to respect and appreciate every one's individual attributes and differences that, when brought together, great things can happen**
- **Encourage youth to share their knowledge of the techno-world and how to incorporate technology with 'natural learning'. And recognize the importance to 'unplug'.**
- **Create an environment for youth to 'hang-out'. Help them to easily be engaged in their natural world through technology.**
- **Provide guidance towards the etiquette and importance of non-technology 'achieved' moments – how and when to 'unplug'.**
- **Create a 'To-do' list that would allow members to come anytime and provide a sense of investment and ownership**



Come join us!
Everyone welcome and bring a friend!



WOODLAND PARK

2nd Sundays— starts March 14

2 Monthly Meetings

WILLOUGHBY FARM

4th Sundays — starts Jan 24

**Time
1-3 pm**

\$10/month \$50/year
Family (3 or more)
\$100/year
Scholarships available

Not able to make it?

Members can zoom in or receive a passcode on YouTube

JOIN OR NEED TRANSPORTATION?

BECOME A MENTOR?

CALL 618-980-2004 (Bobbie Sue)
or 977-2430 (Carol)

EMAIL: bhill@collinsvilleil.org
or cfrerker@collinsvilleil.org

Check our Facebook or website for dates and changes

Fishing
How to start a campfire
Bird watching
Camping
Hiking and trail making
ID of wildlife signs and habitats



Urban Chickens and Beekeeping
Archery
Team Building
Taking care of farm animals

JUST 'SOME' OF THE
ACTIVITIES



Learn about urban gardens: rain, flower, herb,
vegetable, and prairie
Planting and maintaining gardens

Think about and apply sustainability practices:
composting, reusing, stormwater, recycling,
renewable, conservation, etc.



Membership

Rates

Individual \$10/month or \$50/year

Family (3 or more) \$20/month or \$100/year

Looking for Sponsors for Scholarships & T-shirts

Sunrise Kiwanis of Collinsville



Benefits

T-shirt, Parks in Action Team, Discounts for Farm programs, *Making a positive impact for your community!*

Requirements

Volunteer with Parks in Action 6/year, Have Fun working together!

SEEKING SPONSORSHIPS AND MENTORS

To help with the costs for t-shirts, program materials, membership scholarships, and shuttle bus transportation



Sponsorship Benefits: park rental, t-shirts, name or logo on back of t-shirt, logo on the front page for the year, # times mentioned on social media, add to newsletters, etc.

If individual or family: t-shirt, lifetime membership, 1 free barn or pavilion rental, a key to my heart :)

ONE MORE THING....

PARKS IN ACTION

@ WILLOUGHBY FARM & WOODLAND PARK

1st Sat @ WILLOUGHBY FARM

3RD Sat @ WOODLAND PARK

FREE!



Help us keep your parks,
& community
clean, safe, and fun!



ALL AGES welcome!

Under 10 guardian accompanied

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cfrerker@collinsvilleil.org**

Check our Facebook or website for dates