



Summer 2006

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[www.dmna.org](http://www.dmna.org)

Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association's  
official herald



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# Energy Saving Options in the Neighborhood

*By Don Wichert, dmna resident and Director of Renewable Energy  
Programs, Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corp.*

Global warming, peak oil, escalating energy prices, resource wars. Is this the beginning of the end of the world as we know it or is there something that an individual can do living in an older city neighborhood to stem the tide?

Everybody uses energy and how each of us uses it affects all of us. John Lennon's lyric "You are me and I am you and we are all together" is true from an energy perspective. There is an increased social urgency in shifting energy patterns of use to ones that are sustainable, clean and renewable. So what are the responsible options that exist and how can someone access community resources to implement the best options?

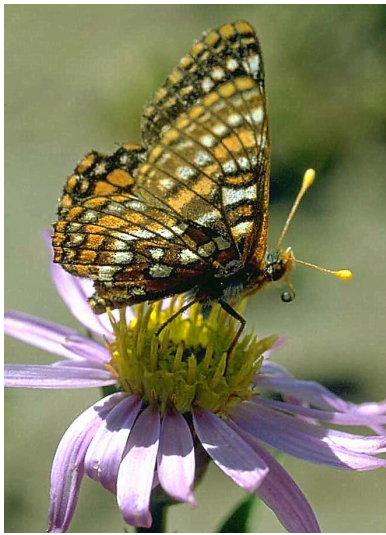
The cleanest and cheapest energy is the one not used. Energy efficiency techniques and technologies exist for many applications, from our homes to cars and our lifestyles. People living close to their work and areas of daily engagement are already engaged in one of the most important energy saving measures by reducing car use. Use of ENERGY STAR® appliances and compact florescent lights are easy, cost effective ways for everyone to reduce their home energy use. Home energy efficiency assessments are available that assist homeowners to determine where to install more insulation, where to reduce air leaks and to find contractors who can do the work.

Renewable energy in the city consists of two possible options: solar domestic water heating and solar electric production for electricity production. Both technologies use solar collectors, are well developed, reliable and new federal and state incentives make them more affordable than ever. There are two key criteria to consider when pursuing a solar energy option:

**Q:** Does some part of your house or property have access to the sun between at least 10 AM and 2 PM throughout the year? Heavily wooded areas usually restrict this option to roof areas, although some yard locations are possible.

*continued on page 4*





## Summer 2006

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story ideas welcome.

Editor:  
Audrey Highton

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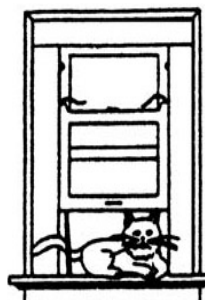
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# “Clean the Lake - Cleanse the Soul”

***Jazz in the Park 2006 presented by the Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Assoc.***

Sponsored by the Laurel Tavern, Monroe Commons, Mallatt Pharmacy and Costume, and Orange Tree Imports.

**Saturday, June 17 from 2:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

It will pull you dead to the curb! Swinging jazz fills the air, and the community gathers to celebrate summer! It's Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Association's annual Jazz in the Park on Saturday, June 17 from 2:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Wingra Park featuring live music by the *Edgewood College Jazz Band*, the *Groove Project*, and the *King Bees*. This event is free of charge.

The day's card starts with *The Groove Project* upping some crazy riffs at 2:30 p.m., but everyone's welcome to come early and join the Lake Clean-Up starting at 9:30 a.m. at Wingra Canoe & Sailing Center. *The Groove Project*, with special guests Rodrigo Villanueva and David Hall, is a quartet of long-standing professional jazz performers in a wide variety of improvised styles. The group performed in the Capitol Theater as part of *Jazz At Overture Center* in early June.



**Groove Project's Beth Tryon**

Monroe Street Fine Arts Center sponsors a **children's activities tent**, open between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. offering fun for the whole family. Also, children can earn a token for a free treat from Michael's Frozen Custard by participating in the Kid's Park Pickup starting at 5:30 p.m.

At 4:00 p.m., *The Edgewood College Jazz Ensemble* gets in the pocket with a barnburner set. Under the direction of Dan Wallach, the band has appeared many times at the *Isthmus Jazz Festival* and most recently at *Jazz At Overture Center*.

The hip to the tip *King Bees* take the stage at git-down time from 6 until 8 p.m. Their fun, danceable music will have the cats and gators shakin' their feet. *The King Bees* pump out their blues vibe on keyboard, harmonica, guitar, and vocals.

Wingra Park is located one block from Monroe Street behind the Laurel Tavern. Major sponsors are: Laurel Tavern, Monroe Commons, Mallatt Pharmacy and Costume, and Orange Tree Imports. Additional support provided by: A Stone's Throw; Arbor House, An Environmental Inn; Barrique's Wine Cave; Borokhim Oriental Rugs; Budd's Auto Repair; Burkhalter Travel Agency; Calabash Gifts & Home Accents; Happy's Heating &

Air Conditioning; Indigo Moon; J Michael Real Estate; Luedtke-Storm-Mackey Chiropractic Clinic; Michael's Frozen Custard; Milward Farrell Fine Art; Neuhauser Pharmacies; New Orleans Takeout; PaPa Phil's Ristorante; Percy's Service; Parman's Service Station; Regent Market Co-op; Restaino Bunbury – Monroe Street Office; Strictly Discs; and W. F. Butler Plumbing.

## ***Jazz in the Park 2006*** **Saturday, June 17**

### **Concert and Activity Schedule:**

**9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Lake Wingra Clean-Up (meet at Wingra Canoe & Sailing Center)**

**2:30 – 3:30 p.m. The Groove Project**

**3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Children's Activities (provided by Monroe Street Fine Arts Center)**

**4:00 – 5:30 p.m. The Edgewood College Jazz Ensemble**

**5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Kid's Park Pickup (children receive tokens for Michael's Frozen Custard)**

**6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The King Bees**







**Summer 2006**

## Renewable Energy ideas *continued from front page*

**Q:** Is there a place on your roof that can accommodate 60 to 200 square feet of solar collectors that are compatible with your existing roof lines? Solar panel aesthetics are important and need to be considered. Solar panels that look like sky lights are best. For our climate, a 45 degree pitched roof facing south would be ideal, but a slope of 30 degrees works well too.

The Focus on Energy Program offers renewable energy assessments for homeowners that think they meet the two requirements above. The cost to a homeowner is about \$75-\$100 to get a certified assessor to come out, give an independent assessment and issue a report, which identifies the options, technologies, costs, incentives and local installers. It's well worth the money as solar systems run roughly about \$7,000 for a solar water heating system and \$10,000 to \$20,000 for a solar electric system. Currently about half this cost can be reduced though federal and Focus on Energy incentives. For businesses, the reduction is closer to 75 percent.

For more information call the **Focus on Energy** info center at 800-762-7077 or visit the [focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com) Web site.

## GREEN DRIVEWAYS: *Make your driveway disappear!*

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Paving materials, like green driveways, can also reduce runoff. Aqua-Loc concrete pavers (available in various colors) sit on top of 12 inches of large stone, 4 inches of gravel and 2 inches of small stone chips. Small gaps in the blocks allow water to seep through. See hanoverpavers.com or 800-426-4242.

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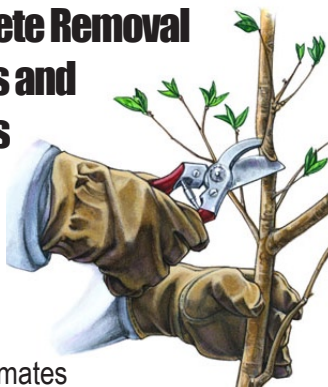
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# Association President's *Notes*

By the time you read this Audrey Highton will have taken over as president of the DMNA. Two terms have gone by quickly – two terms filled with eventful change, not always progress. Generally, in these events no one got everything they wanted, which is not a bad definition of a compromise. I inherited the Ken Kopp's problem from President Brian Solomon which has morphed into Monroe Commons, which rises apace. Many compromises by all parties took place, but after a lot of meetings and hard work the issue was settled. Welcome Trader Joe's.

Things were set in motion to sell Dudgeon School to Wingra School but they decided to try to move to Blackhawk Church on Midvale Avenue instead, and we are left with a building the city will have to, by the rules, sell. How do we attain the best outcome that we can on this issue? This problem will be inherited by Audrey Highton from me. Since she played a strong leadership role in the Monroe Commons issue she should be well prepared to handle this, but she will need all the help we can give her, as I did.

The Neighborhood Improvement Plan, about the three business districts on Monroe Street, has spanned all three "regimes" but should soon be completed and adopted by the city. And now a plan at Monroe and Regent, where Urban Pizza and the Gridiron were, for a multistory retail, office and condo development, called Fieldhouse Station, is under consideration. It is likely Monroe Street will be a hot spot for developers in the next few years.

What all these have in common is the need for lots of hard, knowledgeable work by many volunteers. The knowledge might have to, and frequently does, come as the task proceeds. To everyone who helped along the way, I extend my warm thanks. To anyone who wants to get involved or who is concerned about any of the coming developments, I urge you to step forward. It is the way our neighborhood works, and has always worked.

These are the extraordinary problems. The DMNA has a strong committee structure which functions continuously, doing a lot of the hard work and contributing a great deal for the betterment of the entire neighborhood. Look at your neighborhood directory or the list in the Hornblower

to see all the committees and chairs who contribute so much to all of us. Without all of them and the people who work on the extraordinary issues no president could achieve much, and we would all lose. To all of them, again, my warmest thanks. It cannot be said too often. I urge you to continue to aid Audrey as you have me.

But an organization such as this always needs new blood, new ideas, and new helping hands. Consider offering yours. The payback in satisfaction and accomplishment is high.

Daryl K. Sherman


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**Summer 2006**

# Annual Lake Wingra Clean-Up Day June 17<sup>th</sup>

*Morning Lake Clean-Up, a great prelude to Jazz in the Park  
Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am – 12 Noon*

For many years, the families of the Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood have come together to clean up some of the debris in our neighborhood lake. This Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> will not be any different. Mark your calendar as it is time to give the Lake its own Spring Cleaning.

Here's how it works: Volunteers of any ages are welcome to come down to Wingra Park, by the Boat Launch to help with the Clean Up. Our friends at the Wingra Canoe & Sailing Center ([www.wingraboats.com](http://www.wingraboats.com)) donate the use of their rowboats, canoes & kayaks (life preservers too!) for any Clean Up volunteer. We will help you pick out a section of the lake (so you can decide how big of an adventure you are up for), give you a trash bag or two and send you off on your way. Many volunteers find it helpful to bring lawn tools like garden hoes or a rake as well as rubber gloves as the Clean Up can get a little messy!

This year's event will be even more fun for families as our friends from the Friends of Lake Wingra ([www.lakewingra.org](http://www.lakewingra.org)) are co-hosting the event with our neighborhood association. There will be microscopes to view some of the lake's smallest plants and animals. Thanks Friends of Lake Wingra!

For more information Contact Kristin Branch, Lake Wingra committee chair, at 661-0912 or [kjbranch@hotmail.com](mailto:kjbranch@hotmail.com)

## The Laurel Tavern Anniversary Year

In 1999, the Laurel Tavern offered to sponsor Jazz in the Park's headliner band, Clyde Stubblefield, as well as The Blue Monday Band. I can still hear the cheers of the organizing committee. Many things have changed in the intervening years – smokeless bars and french fries at the Laurel, to name two. But ten years later, the Laurel continues to sponsor the Jazz day's headliner band and the organizing committee is still cheering.

Happy anniversary and thank you for the music!



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# Green Remodeling = Green Earth + Green Pocket

by Laurie Poast

The trend toward green remodeling these days is more than fashionable - homeowners are seeing real dividends in energy savings, tax benefits, financial incentives, and resale value...not to mention saving the earth.

The Wisconsin Environmental Initiative has implemented the Green Built Home program which provides for green certification in areas such as erosion control, stormwater management, materials selection, water and energy conservation, indoor air quality, waste reduction, and more. For any remodeling project, features are assigned point values, a minimum of which must be earned to receive the Green Built Home certification.

## TAX BENEFITS

Property tax payers may be exempted from any value that is added to their property by a qualified renewable energy source; see the Database for State Incentives for Renewable Energy at [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) and consult your tax advisor to find which green remodel projects may be eligible. Net energy billing, which enables homeowners with renewable electric systems to in effect "sell back" their surplus power to their utility company, is one of several additional financial incentives for integrating renewable energy technologies into your home.

## RESALE VALUE

The next generation of homebuyers in our neighborhood are energy-savvy, well-educated, and environmentally conscious. The value for which a buyer looks now includes energy costs and environmental sustainability, especially in this uncertain energy economy. Green remodeling and Green Built Home certification lends a sharp competitive edge in today's and in the future's housing market.

Kitchen and bath remodeling are known to provide high dividends in home resale. These projects are great opportunities to show off your green initiative. Efficient Energy Star appliances, windows, and light bulbs; recycled content tile, bamboo, cork, or FSC certified hardwood floors; low-flow faucets, showerheads, and toilets; and cast iron (rather than PVC) piping are all very visible to buyers on the lookout for green features. For everything from flooring and insulation to VOC-free paint and finishes, visit [www.homegreenhome.biz](http://www.homegreenhome.biz). Whereas many appliances and materials must be bought new to qualify as eco-friendly, some building materials and architecturally significant objects can be found at salvage or antique stores, such as The Habitat ReStore in Madison: [www.restoredane.org](http://www.restoredane.org).

## INTEGRATED CLIMATIC DESIGN

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*continued on page 8*

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## Summer 2006

# Green Remodeling *continued*

on south-facing windows from May to September serve to passively cool your home, while allowing full sunlight during winter months provides passive heating.

Orientation of windows on more than one wall of a room, skylights, and open floor plans allow adequate natural lighting throughout the day. A certain percentage of window placement on the south side of your home contributes to passive sun-tempering.

Replace your most frequently used lights. Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs use 75 percent less energy than standard incandescent bulbs. Replace a refrigerator if it was purchased before 1990, the year the government mandated higher efficiency standards. Unplug electronics and appliances with block-shaped transformer plugs - these have "phantom loads" which use power even when they're turned off.

### NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING

The use of native plant species in landscaping

reduces the need for watering, fertilizers, mowing, and pesticides tremendously. Adapted to local conditions, native species are resistant to pests and weeds and provide a flourishing wildlife habitat for birds and butterflies. Grasses like fescue and gamma, along with various no-mow species mixtures, are drought-resistant and can reduce some households' overall water usage by as much as 50%. Further, rain gardens and permeable pavers absorb stormwater and runoff from rooftops and urban surfaces that often contribute to basement leakage, landscape erosion, and lake pollution.

Keep an eye out for more information on green remodeling in The Hornblower. Homeowners may work with a contractor or complete their own "green-it-yourself" project to qualify. To obtain a remodeling checklist or project guide, call 280-0360 or visit [www.greenbuildhome.org](http://www.greenbuildhome.org).

Laurie Poast serves the Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Association as Social Chair and practices real estate at Restaino Bunbury & Associates on Monroe Street. Contact her at 446-4123 or [lpoast@restainobunbury.com](mailto:lpoast@restainobunbury.com).



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# How much water does a rain garden guard?

by Daryl K. Sherman

In the last issue it was stated that 18,000 gallons of water flow into Lake Wingra from our watershed—all the roads, streets, houses and land surfaces that drain into Lake Wingra. This was a typo that got past our proofreaders. Actually, that is the runoff for EACH average sized house! This includes the lawn, roof, driveway, and HALF of the adjoining street, and assumes about 50% infiltration, evaporation, and transpiration. Unless you have a rain garden the infiltration rate is probably less than this, so the runoff is actually greater. Four or five big trees will intercept about as much water as a rain garden will infiltrate, and evaporate or transpire it back into the atmosphere.

The Odana Pond SUB-watershed studies have shown 240 million gallons of water flow into the pond and 80 million gallons infiltrate to the water table. This is one of seven (unequal) sub-watersheds in the Lake Wingra watershed.

We get 30 inches of rain in an average year. This means that 12,000 gallons fall on 500 square feet of surface, or about the area drained by one downspout. A four to six inch deep rain garden that is 10 feet by 20 feet, or 200 square feet, will infiltrate 2/3rds of this or 8,000 gallons. My rain garden is about eight inches deep (and 10 X17 feet) and has never overflowed in any rain, so it handles all this water. Actual infiltration rates may depend upon whether your subsoil is sandy or clay and how deep the roots are. This is partially dependent on how long it has been planted. Deep rooted wet prairie plants progressively penetrate and modify the subsoil and provide a pathway along the roots for water to follow into the soil. Actually, more than half of the biomass, or actual weight of the prairie plants, is below the ground so thick and deep are the roots.

What is the meaning of all this? Runoff carries pollutants, debris, and nutrients into our lakes. Currently in Lake Wingra the water is only inches deep 200 feet from the inflow, as famously shown by the photo of the lawn chair seemingly floating far out in the lake, and of ducks standing on the “water” there. There is not sufficient water to float even a lightly loaded canoe at some of the docks by Wingra boathouse. The nutrients are a cause of the luxuriant production of aquatic plants and algal blooms that decay and become a nuisance if not removed, at significant expense. The algae may actually make it dangerous to swim in or drink the water. (A dog died last year, reportedly from drinking from Lake Wingra.)

Perhaps most disturbingly, data presented by Jim Lorman at the DMNA annual meeting two years ago show that the lake is near a “tipping point”. Just a little more burden placed upon it

might cause it to deteriorate suddenly and drastically. It would be unsuitable for swimming, fishing, or boating, and unpleasant to be near. To reverse this would be long, difficult and costly. Anything we can do to prevent this is worthwhile: “An ounce of prevention . . .”

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**Summer 2006**

**Westside Senior Center** at 602 Sawyer Terrace, behind Hildale Shopping Center, is having their annual used book sale from June 10<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

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Thanks, Paul Borowsky, Director.



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# PATH Work Party Dates:

**June 17, July 15, August 12,  
September 9, October 7**

**Meet at intersection of Glenway St. and the path. Need more info? Check [www.dmna.org](http://www.dmna.org) or Robin Ryan at 236-4145.**

## ATTENTION: Neighbors!

**Monroe St Grocery Coop could not locate the following people to return their membership checks. Please contact Don Miner at 233-2425 if you know how to reach the following: Kimber Green of Edgewood Ave; and Ann Pfeifer of Sprague. Thanks**

## She's A Birder by Sandy Stark

*She's walking while the others jog or bike,  
her binoculars slung over her neck.  
She's not making eye contact with anyone.  
Whichever side of the path she's on  
is the direction she looks,  
but when something flies or sings  
her head swings quickly that way,  
as she stops to scan leafless trees  
or clumps of reeds by the shore.  
It takes her a lot longer to take a walk.  
What's more, she's not timing it  
she knows the sandhills and redwings are back,  
and has set out to see them today.  
Everyone else has mile markers, heart rates,  
revolutions per minute to calculate.  
She thinks all that can wait.*

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If you would like to have your cat(s) cared for while you're away, I will feed, play & spend devoted time with them.

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Call or send an email to:

**Shawn Schey**

878 Woodrow St.

238-7937

[shaunschey@yahoo.com](mailto:shaunschey@yahoo.com)

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