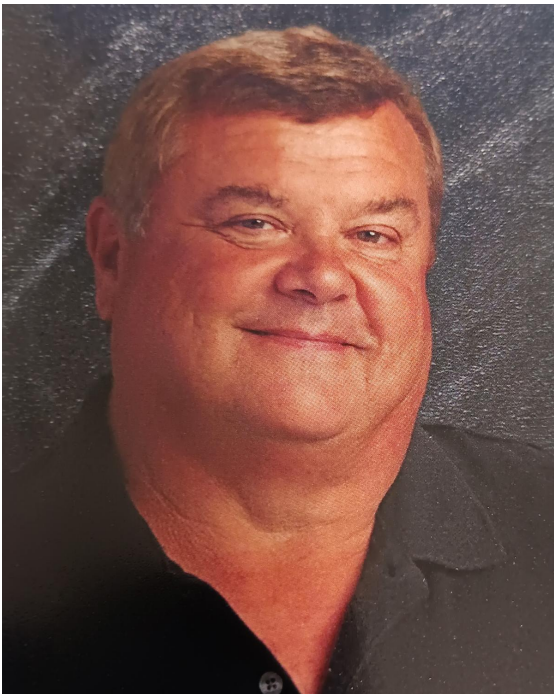




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Just as ripples spread when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching impact. *The Ripple* is a special newsletter created by Cincinnati Nature Center for people looking for ideas and support in their efforts to protect nature.

GET INSPIRED!



Meet an Influencer: Jon Sounders & the Turtle Telemetry Program

Every teacher is an influencer. Every teacher has a legacy. Jon Sounders' story is an example of how a teacher can advance the cause of nature conservation while inculcating in young people ways of thinking and investigating that serve them into adulthood.

Click to read the full article by *The Ripple* author Barbara Moss.

[Click to Read More](#)

Do You Know An Influencer?

We are always looking for new people to feature in *The Ripple*. If someone you know has been impactful in their action for conservation, please email **Connie O'Connor** at coconnor@cincynature.org with details.

LEARN MORE TO DO MORE

Plastic Pollution Threatens Human Health

Personal responsibility alone cannot solve the plastic problem. Click below to listen to *Science Friday's* "Why Is Solving The Plastic Problem So Hard?" and learn why policy is the way forward.

[Click to Listen](#)

Healthy Republic, Healthy Planet

Could election reform help get people into office that support a healthy environment and quality of life for us all? Click below to watch "We the People, and the Republic we must reclaim" with legal scholar Lawrence Lessig via [TED](#).

[Click to Watch](#)

Are We Doing It Wrong?

In 2023, *The Washington Post* and University of Maryland conducted a poll which found that most people believe recycling has a lot or some impact on climate change. And three-quarters thought that not eating meat or dairy would have a little or no effect on climate change. Climate experts say they're wrong on both counts.

Recycling is unlikely to make much of a difference in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, according to [Project Drawdown](#), a nonprofit that evaluates climate solutions. Recycling can help the environment by reducing waste, but it doesn't address climate change.

But Project Drawdown estimates that if three-quarters of people around the world adopted a plant-rich diet by 2050, they could avoid the release of more than 100 gigatons of emissions. Of course, individual actions can only go so far, and the most important thing anybody can do is to vote for a climate-friendly government agenda.

Click below to visit the world's leading resource for climate solutions and learn more about climate solutions and the science behind them.

[Click to Learn More](#)

Fun Facts on Electric Vehicles

Are EVs actually better? Project Drawdown has done the math on choices that make a difference. Click below to learn more.

[Click to Watch](#)

Talk Like a Human

Click below for lessons on how to better communicate climate change,

provided by [Potential Energy Coalition](#).

[Click to Learn
More](#)

OCVN ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCVN Annual Reunion - Learn, Celebrate, Explore!

Saturday, July 13, 10 am–3 pm

Once a year, Cincinnati Nature Center invites all graduates of our Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist course to join us for a reunion. We have over 650 alumni, and space is limited to 75, so register soon to secure a spot! Our guest speaker is podcaster and naturalist Bob Staggenborg. His talk is titled "Connecting People to Nature Through Storytelling."

Bring your lunch and be prepared for a group scavenger hunt in the afternoon. What a great time to reconnect with classmates and get inspired together! Cost is \$10 for member OCVNS and \$15 for non-member OCVNs.

[Click to
Register](#)

YOU'RE INVITED!

Below you will find invitations from Cincinnati Nature Center members who are hosting meet-ups around topics and skills that might positively impact conservation. This section of *The Ripple* helps people find each other, because we are better together!

Please note, all event participants who are not members of the Nature Center must pay daily admission.

Clermont County Planning Commission

Committees are a great way to get involved with your community. There's a current vacancy on the [Clermont County Planning Commission](#). Any adult who lives in the county can apply to be considered for this volunteer position!

The commission meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Term length is 3 years (no more than 2 consecutive terms).

Among other things, the Planning Commission is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the County Subdivision Regulations (and approval of revisions).

[Click to Learn
More](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Cincinnati Nature Center is looking for volunteer authors to submit short-form articles to be considered in future *Now in Nature* bi-weekly e-newsletters. These should be seasonally appropriate or evergreen topics that are informative or interpretive, and invite the reader to experience said topic at the Nature Center.

For more information, please contact Digital Marketing Coordinator Megan Mahon at mmahon@cincynature.org. If your piece is used, you can count the time to write it as volunteer credit for your OCVN certification hours.



Garden Tour Volunteers Needed

Are you passionate about native plants and gardens? Cincinnati Nature Center seeks enthusiastic volunteers interested in helping with this year's **Garden Tour: Noteworthy Natives** presented by Wimberg Landscaping Company. This self-guided tour on Saturday, June 22nd, 2024, will showcase 10 magnificent gardens located in North Avondale, Indian Hill, Blue Ash, and Loveland, all showcasing innovative uses of native plants in our landscapes. Join us for a day of inspiration and appreciation for our native plants.

As a volunteer, you'll play a vital role in educating guests about the benefits of native plants and *Inspiring Conservation*. You do not need to already be in the CNC volunteer system—we can sign you up as a one-day special event volunteer. This counts toward OCVN certification hours with OSU.

For more information about the Garden Tour or to find out how you can get involved, please contact **Katy Potoka** at (513)-774-1947 or kpotoka@cincynature.org.

Narrator Needed for Online Course Production

If you have experience voice acting or narrating and can narrate for both male and female characters, we need help to turn a short story into an audiobook for an online course.

If interested, please contact **Connie O'Connor** for details at coconnor@cincynature.org.

Online Learning Help Needed

If you have experience working with the course authoring software **Articulate** or the course publishing software **LearnWorlds**, we can use volunteer administrative help with some upcoming courses.

If interested, please contact **Connie O'Connor** for details at coconnor@cincynature.org.

The Butterfly House at the Ohio State Fair Needs You!

If you are an OCVN and enjoy interacting with the public while sharing your passion for the natural world, volunteer in the ODNR Division of Wildlife Butterfly House for half-day shifts (10 am–2 pm and 2 pm–7 pm) during the Ohio State Fair on Wednesday, July 24 through Sunday, August 4, 2024.

The Butterfly House is located on the state fairgrounds in Columbus within the ODNR Natural Resources Park.

If you would like to share in the excitement of this educational outreach area, or would like more information, please contact **Tim Daniel** at tim.daniel@dnr.ohio.gov. Fair admission tickets and parking passes will be provided for OCVNs committing to work at least a 4-hour shift.

Western Wildlife Corridor

There are so many ways to volunteer to help the [Western Wildlife Corridor](#) maintain and grow our preserved natural greenspaces. If you are an OCVN living on the west side of Cincinnati, consider volunteering with the Western Wildlife Corridor!

[Click to Learn More](#)

Warren County Parks

There are a number of different volunteer opportunities this summer at Warren County Parks including OCVN assistance with children's programs, hikes, and invasive species removal.

Warren County Parks would love more OCVN volunteer help! Click below for more information on opportunities, or contact **Shannon Russell Pennington** at mothernaturesclassroom@gmail.com.

[Click to Learn More](#)

Valley View Nature Preserve

[Valley View Nature Preserve](#) has a number of committees that are focused in different areas of volunteer work. Whether it is leading a group of school children on an adventure, working on the trails, cutting and clearing deadwood, helping in our office, or planting and harvesting fresh produce. Every volunteer helps to build the story of Valley View.

[Click to Learn More](#)

What is Extended Producer Responsibility?

I sometimes hear people express confusion about Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). It doesn't mean that businesses literally take back the packaging used to sell their products. It's really about assuming financial responsibility for the material. Here are two links that can help explain the concept:

- [EPR Factsheet](#), provided by the **World Wildlife Fund**
- [Extended Producer Responsibility 101 | Why We Need EPR Policy](#)

Note: EPR doesn't just cover plastic packaging but all packaging. There are now 5 states that have passed EPR laws but, Ohio is not one of these five states.

- Joan Popowics

SHARE & SUBSCRIBE

Give Us Your Feedback

You're receiving this action-oriented newsletter because you signed up for it, because you are a graduate of the Nature Center's Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist program, or because you have completed *The Ripple Effect* online course.

Wouldn't it be great if everyone had better information about ways to act (and inspire others to act) for conservation? **Take a minute to share this electronic digest with your friends**—they'll thank you for it!

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

If you want to unsubscribe, please [click here](#).



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