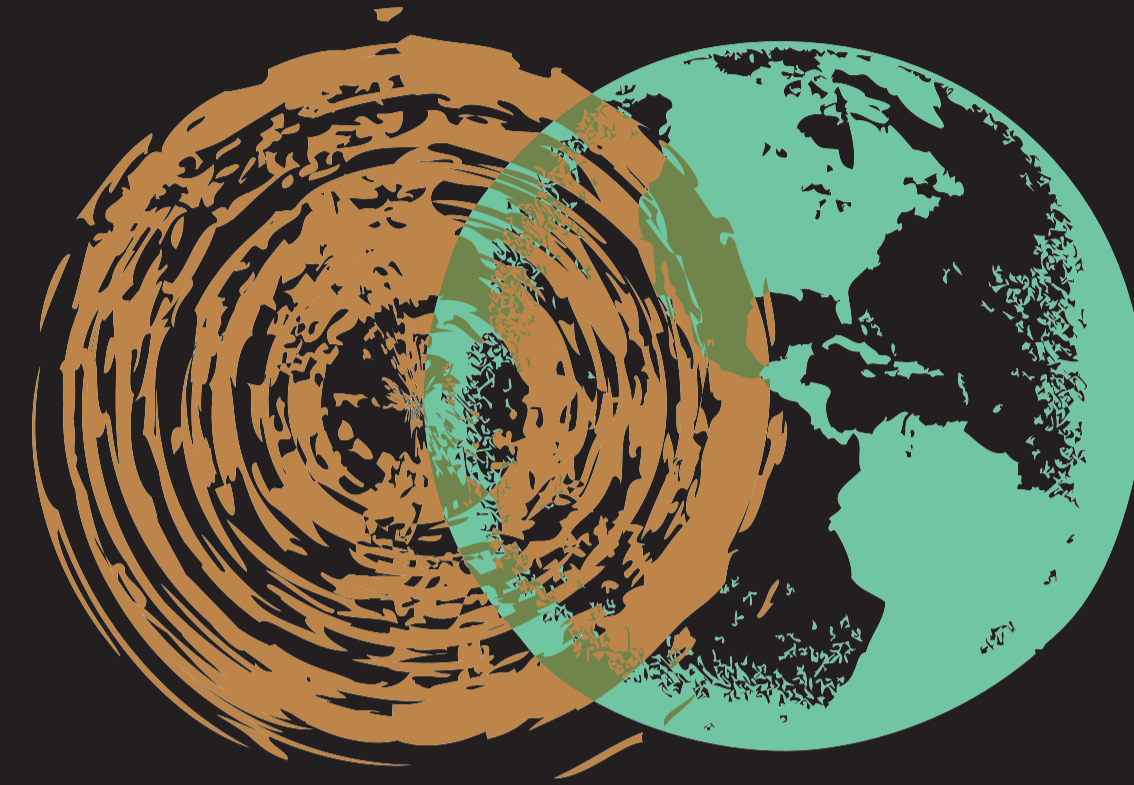


Educational Signs for Forest Glen Climate Action Projects

In Forest Glen, Boy and Girl Scouts teamed up with the Sauganash Chamber of Commerce to install 40 rain barrels, a straw bale vegetable garden, a native plant garden, and 13 bat houses across the community. Project leaders created this signage to explain how and why these projects were undertaken and to invite others to get involved. To create a coherent 'look' to the signs, they also met to brainstorm a name, logo, and set of icons that best reflected both the projects and the community. With the help of local graphic designers, these ideas were then translated into a cohesive graphic identity to be used in advertisements, flyers, and other forms of media that publicized the project.



Forest Glen Climate Toolkit

Making a world of difference right here at home.

The Chicago Climate Action Plan's goal is to reduce carbon emissions 25% below 1990 levels by the year 2020.

The earth's climate is changing in many ways. These changes are caused by human activities, like burning fossil fuels, that produce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Climate change already affects Chicago with flooding, heavy snowfall, and heat waves. Fortunately, it's not too late for us to make a difference. Our community is working to put climate action in our hands to make our city – and the world – a cleaner, greener place.

In 2011, The Field Museum selected Forest Glen and three other Chicago communities to participate in the museum's Climate Action Toolkit project to help these communities develop programs that address both climate change and local concerns. Forest Glen's Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, guided by troop leaders and the Sauganash Chamber of Commerce, carried out four major projects to encourage local climate action and to lower the community's carbon footprint. These efforts also aimed to support local businesses, beautify the community, and tackle area problems like mosquitoes and flooding.

Forest Glen residents will continue to advance these local efforts in the years to come. Please visit the links below to find out more and get involved!

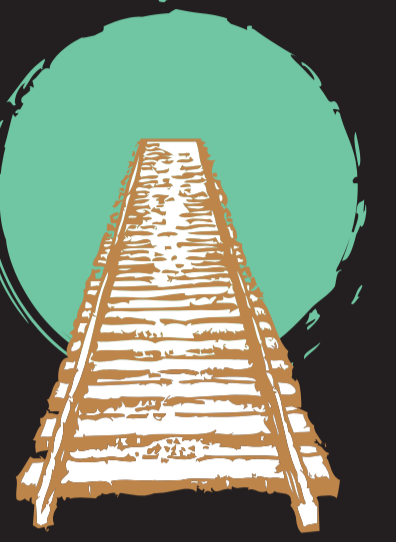
Boy Scout Troop 626 mounted 13 bat boxes in nature areas across the community to encourage natural mosquito control. Bats eat up to 1,200 mosquitoes an hour, so they serve as an excellent alternative to environmentally harmful pesticides.

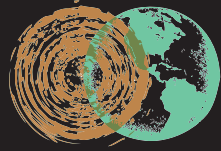
Boy Scout Troop 626 installed 40 rain barrels at sites like homes, schools and businesses throughout the community. Rain barrels help manage storm water, reduce flooding, and conserve water that we use for our gardens and lawns.

At North Park Village Nature Center, Boy Scouts planted a demonstration garden of native plant species. Native plants are climate-friendly because they store carbon in their long roots; are generally drought-resistant; do not require mowing, pesticides, or fertilizers; and they help the ground absorb storm water.

The Hope Garden is a straw bale garden planted by Girl Scout Troop 20804 behind a neighborhood church. These scouts maintain the vegetables and herbs with climate-friendly gardening practices, such as using natural fertilizers and conservative watering methods.

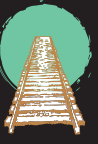
climatechicago.fieldmuseum.org/forestglen





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This bat box was installed by members of Boy Scout Troop 626, with assistance from the Chicago Park District and The Field Museum, to help maintain healthy populations of bats in our community. Because bats eat mosquitoes—sometimes up to 1200 an hour—encouraging more bats to live and hunt in our area can make a big dent in our mosquito population. In turn this will lead to a reduction in mosquito-born diseases and pesticide use. Reducing pesticides creates a healthier environment while reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which lessens the impact of climate change.

In the Chicago area, much of bats' natural habitats have been destroyed, which often forces them to take shelter in our homes or work places. These bat boxes provide a safe and comfortable space for bats to roost, keeping them out of other places where they are not welcome.

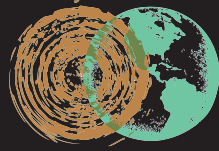
Questions about this bat house? Visit www.batcon.org



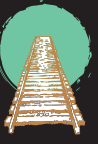
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Native Plant Gardens



This native plant garden was installed by Nature Center volunteers and members of Boy Scout Troop 626, with assistance from the Chicago Park District and The Field Museum.



Native plants have lived in the Chicago region for thousands of years and are well-adapted to local growing conditions. Native gardens help to lessen the impacts of climate change. Unlike traditional lawns, they do not need mowing or chemical treatment. The long, complex root systems of native plants create pathways in the soil that allow the ground to absorb more water, reducing flooding in our communities.



Native plant gardens can also provide food and habitat for wildlife, such as birds, butterflies, bees, and other insects. The more native gardens we can plant, the more we are helping to preserve the rich biodiversity of our region.



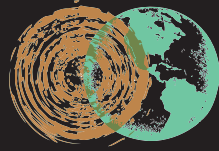
Questions about this native garden? Please contact Bob at the Nature Center (312-744-5472) or visit www.wildones.org



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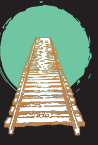
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Rain Barrels



This is one of 40 rain barrels installed by Boy Scout Troop 626 throughout Edgebrook, Wildwood, Forest Glen and Sauganash as part of the Field Museum's Community Climate Toolkit project. Rain barrels capture storm water that flows from roofs through gutter downspouts. Because climate change brings both droughts and intense storms in Chicago, a rain barrel's impact is twofold: it can help conserve water during dry periods, and also help manage storm water during wet periods. This means that rain barrels are also a great tool to help reduce flooding.



This rain barrel is made from a recycled pickle container. It holds 55 gallons of water that can be used for many purposes like watering lawns and gardens, washing cars and bikes, cleaning work boots and tools, and performing other household chores. Since up to 75% of our summertime water usage is for outdoor activities, even this single rain barrel can make a big difference!



Find out more about this and other climate action projects by visiting the links below.



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climatechicago.fieldmuseum.org

