



E-BULLETIN FROM OTSEGO COUNTY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
March 13, 2009: Vol. 2, No. 7

“BIKE TO WORK” DAY PLANNED BY OCCA, VOLTS: The first League of American Bicyclists “Bike to Work” event is being organized by Otsego County Conservation Association (OCCA) volunteers for Wednesday, May 13. The object is to encourage alternative “green” transportation. If you walk or ride a bike to work, please check in on May 13 and be counted. Stations will be operated by volunteers from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. throughout the Cooperstown community. This event is for experienced bicyclists – those new to biking are urged to wait to participate in such an event until after bicycle education programs can be offered in the summer. Further details about the event will be available soon. **For more information call Martha Clarvoe, OCCA president, at 607-547-4020.** OCCA is a private, non-profit environmental membership organization dedicated to promoting the enjoyment and sustainable use of Otsego County's natural resources through education, advocacy, resource management, research, and planning. For more information on OCCA, or to donate, call (607) 547-4488 or visit www.occainfo.org

FUNDS GENERATED BY SEARCH ENGINE COULD BE DESIGNATED TO OCCA: GoodSearch is a search engine which donates 50-percent of its revenue to the charities and schools designated by its users. GoodSearch is used exactly as you would any other search engine. Because it's powered by Yahoo!, users get proven search results. The money GoodSearch donates to each cause comes from its advertisers – the users and the organizations do not spend a dime. **It is estimated that each web search will generate approximately \$0.01 for the designated charity or school (image, video and site-specific searches are not included), which quickly adds up!** Many thanks to Vince Stayer of the Goodyear Lake Association for bringing our attention to this opportunity. To learn more about GoodSearch and how it works, visit www.goodsearch.com. Please consider selecting OCCA as your designated cause.

ECOART/TRENDY TRASH CONTEST OPEN TO STUDENTS, ADULTS, ORGANIZATIONS: Imaginative people of all ages are invited once again to enter their work in the 4th annual Earth Festival's popular trash-to-treasure challenge, the EcoArt/Trendy Trash Contest. Contest coordinator Holly Hren has renewed the invitation to the community at large to practice a bit of reincarnation by creating art from objects that would otherwise be headed to the landfill. Last year, contest participants from across the county cleverly used cast-off items such as old furniture, kitchen utensils, plastic containers, cardboard, glass and fabric to craft art from trash, new from old, transforming discarded materials to things of beauty and new purpose. Winners of “Best in Show,” “Judges’ Choice” and “People’s Choice” awards will receive cash prizes with Special Merit and recognition in several other categories. **For two weeks prior to being displayed at Earth Festival 2009, EcoArt/Trendy Trash entries will be featured again this year in an exhibition at the Cooperstown Art Association. The exhibition's opening reception will be Friday, April 3 from 5-7 p.m. at the CAA galleries at 22 Main Street.** Registered entries may be dropped off at Cooperstown Art Association on April 2 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. or by special arrangement (contact Holly Hren at 607-547-1858 or hollydazebed@yahoo.com). For more information about entering the EcoArt/Trendy Trash Contest or to learn more about the many ways you can participate in or support Earth Festival, visit www.eenoc.org or call 607-293-6043. **Presented by the Environmental Education Network of Otsego County (EENOC), Earth Festival is sponsored by Wildlife Learning**

Company, in cooperation with Otsego 2000, Otsego County Conservation Association and Cooperstown Chamber of Commerce. Earth Festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday April 18, 2009 at Milford Central School.

ECO-FRIENDLY TIP: Teach a child to ride a bicycle and set them up with a healthy, eco-friendly, economical habit for life. Every four-mile trip by bike rather than car prevents around 15 pounds of air pollution and builds a strong heart – frequent cyclists are as fit as people 10 years younger who don't do regular exercise.

From the book "1,001 Ways to Save the Earth," by Joanna Yarrow.

OCCA NEEDS YOUR HELP TO KEEP FIGHTING THE THREATS TO OUR NATURAL RESOURCES. Got a minute? Look at everything else OCCA is doing – and please consider an online donation whenever you can. Visit www.occainfo.org and look for the Network for Good logo at the top right of the home page.