EVERGREEN

Imagine your city with nature
Common Grounds

• Stewardship and restoration
• Community gardening
• Support and training
• Grants
• Publishing
Community Gardening

- Inner-city neighbourhoods
- High needs communities
- Native species and heritage varieties of fruits and vegetables
Home Grounds
Native Plant Database
Home Grounds
Affordable Housing

• Habitat for Humanity
• Native plant gardens
• Resources and education
• Reduced pesticide and water-use

Friday, February 6, 2009
Evergreen accomplishments

• 90,000 volunteers
• 2,300 schools
• 200 workshops
• 4 offices
• 15 Associates
• $2.1 million in grants
• Award winning resources
Evergreen’s role

- Inspiring action
- Engaging the community
- Planning and design
- Cultivating knowledge of place
- Creating sense of place
- Influencing policy
Learning Grounds Goals

- Increase the educational use of school grounds
- Improve children’s health and well-being on school grounds
- Increase ecological diversity on school grounds
- Nurture child development on school grounds; and
- Improve the energy and cost-efficient design of school grounds
Learning Grounds Activities

- Provide expert assistance to schools
- Provide training to teachers, designers, and administrators
- Publish
- Engage in research
- Distributing grants
- Create partnerships with School Boards
THE BUBBLE-WRAPPED CHILD
HOW WE’RE KILLING KIDS WITH CAUTION
Losing the right to roam in 4 generations

Thomas family - Sheffield, England

Natural England and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, 2007
THE WALK TO SCHOOL

The number of students walking and biking to school has decreased more than three-fold over the past few decades, from 41 percent of students in 1969, to only 13 percent of students in 2001.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. 2001 National Personal Transportation Survey
ICM Research interviewed over 1,000 children (aged 7-16) and over 1,000 adults (aged 18+) across the UK by telephone about various aspects of risk and play.

A few of the findings from the children’s survey include:

51% of children (aged 7-12) reported that they are not allowed to climb a tree without an adult present.

42% reported that they are not allowed to play in local parks without an adult.

In addition, they found that 77% of children would like more opportunities to take risks while playing and that this type of play makes 90% of children feel happy.
Working to improve children’s health
Movement to reconnect kids with nature growing nationwide

The intersection between healthy people and a healthy environment is becoming clearer every day, with public health advocates emerging as crucial defenders of sustaining clean water and skies far into the future.

That future, however, is in the hands of today’s children, many of whom are more likely to view nature through the screen of a television rather than the netted screen of a camping tent.

The retreat indoors for many American children has environmental advocates worried that children who grow up without memories of fishing in a local stream or hiking through idyllic woods might become adults for whom conserving the environment isn’t a priority. For public health workers, the effects of sedentary indoor lifestyles are already evident among children: startling rates of obesity, the onset of one-time adult conditions such as diabetes and a shortened life expectancy. Thankfully, though, the movement to reconnect kids with nature has seen a rejuvenation in the last few years, and experts predict that good health will be a major motivator in bringing families back to nature.

See OUTDOORS.

Five services vital
Greater use of preventive strategies key to saving lives

Emphasizing prevention has long been touted as key to avoiding many life-threatening illnesses and curbing out-of-control health care costs, and now a new report has found that just five underused preventive services could, indeed, save thousands of U.S. lives every year.

The lives of more than 100,000 U.S. residents could be saved annually if services such as flu immunizations and cancer screenings were used more often and more effectively, according to “Preventive Care: A National Profile on Use, Disparities and Health Benefits,” which was released in August by the Partnership for Prevention.

Fifth service vital
Greater use of preventive strategies key to saving lives

Emphasizing prevention has long been touted as key to avoiding many life-threatening illnesses and curbing out-of-control health care costs, and now a new report has found that just five underused preventive services could, indeed, save thousands of U.S. lives every year.

The lives of more than 100,000 U.S. residents could be saved annually if services such as flu immunizations and cancer screenings were used more often and more effectively, according to “Preventive Care: A National Profile on Use, Disparities and Health Benefits,” which was released in August by the Partnership for Prevention.

For the sixth consecutive year, the number of Americans living without health insurance has risen, according to new U.S. Census Bureau data. Approximately 2.2 million people were added to the uninsured rolls in 2006 — the largest one-year increase in the number of uninsured Americans since 2002.

Annual Census Bureau estimates released in August show 47 million people, or 15.8 percent of the U.S. population, were without health insurance during 2006 — a 4.9 percent increase since 2000, at which time 38.4 million people lacked health insurance.

The number of uninsured Americans has increased 22 percent since 2000, at which time 38.4 million people lacked health insurance.
A ‘Dose of Nature’ for Attention Problems


Parents of children with attention deficit problems are always looking for new strategies to help their children cope. An interesting new study suggests that spending time in nature may help.
Average temperatures of 15 Waterloo, Ontario school grounds examined using Satellite Imagery

Carol Moogk-Soulié (2002)
## Waterloo, Ontario

### September day - Environment Canada 26°C

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School name</th>
<th>Average Temperature (°C)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Johnston</td>
<td>52.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centennial</td>
<td>48.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keatway</td>
<td>51.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Rosary</td>
<td>55.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westvale</td>
<td>50.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurelwood</td>
<td>52.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northlake Woods</td>
<td>53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCI</td>
<td>53.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northdale</td>
<td>53.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGregor</td>
<td>50.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brighton</td>
<td>51.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluevale</td>
<td>52.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold Wagner</td>
<td>52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandowne</td>
<td>52.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedarbrae</td>
<td>51.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carol Moogk-Soulis (2002)
GROUND FOR ACTION
Promoting Physical Activity through School Ground Greening in Canada
By Anne C. Bell & Janet E. Dyment

Friday, February 6, 2009
Gaining Ground:
The Power and Potential of School Ground Greening in the Toronto District School Board
Janet E. Dyment, Ph.D.
The impact of green school grounds

Student enthusiasm for learning has increased (90%).

77% think more creatively
72% better able to retain knowledge
The impact of green school grounds

- Student social behaviour has improved
- 72% increase in civil behaviour
- 69% increase in cooperation and positive student teacher interactions
- 63% increase effective communication
The impact of green school grounds

The quality of play has improved.

- 76% ↑ diverse play
- 73% ↑ cooperative play
- 74% ↓ boredom
- 66% ↓ aggressive play
The impact of green school grounds

Students’ environmental awareness & stewardship has increased (90%).
Children and Nature Network

Last Child in the Woods
SAVING OUR CHILDREN FROM NATURE-DEFICIT DISORDER

RICHARD LOUV
RECIPIENT OF THE 2008 AUDUBON MEDAL
The No Child Left Inside Act would require K-12 school systems to build environmental literacy, strengthen teacher training and provide federal grants to help schools pay for outdoor education.
Services
Grant promotion

Services
Advice
Grants
Site visits*

School Board

Schools
Services

- Approval processes
- Outreach
- Site visits
- Workshop series
- Design guidelines
- Integration with programs
- Board committee work
- Grants
- Customized services*

School Board

Schools

Friday, February 6, 2009
School Board

Grounds
Construction
Instruction
Administration

Friday, February 6, 2009
School Board

Grounds
(internal or external)

- Site visits
- Design and planning advice
- Design guidelines
- Installation standards
- Site management
- Green development standards
- Approvals
- Recommended plant lists
- Tree care protocols
- Outreach
- Workshop series
School Board

Construction (internal or external)

- Design guidelines
- Installation standards
  - seating
  - shade shelters
  - porous pavers
  - grading
  - storm water management
School Board

Instruction

- Teacher training
  - 3-day summer institutes
  - Inservice training
  - 2 hour workshops
- Lesson plan development

Friday, February 6, 2009
School Board

Administration

- Integration with programs
  - eg. Ecoschools
- Communications and PR
Greening committee

- Student engagement
- Community engagement
- Fundraising
- Site management
School board partnerships

Common Themes

• A clear approvals process

• Centralized contact point for information (Evergreen)

• Clarified roles internally (Evergreen and school board)

• Suite of educational workshops, think tanks, tours, celebrations

• Introducing a participatory design process in the creation of master plans
School board partnerships

Unique Themes

- Tree inventory
- Tree master plan
- Extreme makeover
- L.A. apprentice program
- Integration with board's suite of environmental initiatives (Eco-Schools)
- New facilities committee that focuses on school grounds
- Consultation on new school builds
- 3 day teacher training Institutes
- Shade/sun safety publications
- Reviewing all master plans and external designs
- City wide (Toronto) cancer prevention coalition - funding for teacher training
- Relationships with local developers to coordinate tree relocation
School board partnerships

ONTARIO

• Toronto District School Board
• Waterloo Region District School Board
• Waterloo Catholic District School Board
• Ottawa Carleton District School Board
• Ottawa Catholic District School Board
• Toronto Catholic District School Board
• Durham District School Board
• York Catholic District School Board
SAMPLE PROJECTS
Groves of trees
Planting in Asphalt

Friday, February 6, 2009
Tree protection
DESIGNING FOR SHADE
AND ENERGY CONSERVATION
SHADING ACTIVE PLAY AREAS AND THE BUILDING – Trees in asphalt
SEATING IN SHADE – Natural gazebo or grove of trees
Pick up and drop off
Seating
Nature study areas

Nature Study Area
This area is regenerating naturally and is being managed and maintained by the Toronto District School Board. It offers students and their teachers an opportunity to study the plants and animals in a changing ecosystem within their own school grounds.
For more information visit ecoschools.ca
Play
Nature study areas
Nature study areas
Nature study areas
Nature study areas
Mazes and Labyrinths
Encouraging social engagement
Class sized gathering areas
Class sized gathering areas
Food Gardening

Friday, February 6, 2009
AVOCADO

Screaming

Soup

Pasta

Hot Specials

Tosted Dba Sandwich
BBQ Chicken is marinated and honey carrots
Crossman's Sausage on a Bun
Teriyaki Salmon w/ Fried Vegetable
EUROPE
Geology

Coombes school, Arborfield, England
Geology

Coombes school, Arborfield, England

Friday, February 6, 2009
Geology

Coombes school, Arborfield, England

Friday, February 6, 2009
Coombes school, Arborfield, England
Coombes school, Arborfield, England
Coombes school, Arborfield, England

Friday, February 6, 2009
Coombes school, Arborfield, England
Galilei-Grundschule Kreuzberg, Berlin, Germany
Galilei-Grundschule Kreuzberg, Berlin, Germany

Friday, February 6, 2009
Neumark-Grundschule, Berlin, Germany
Climbing

Manglerud school, Oslo, Norway
Deter Joseph Lenné high school, Potsdam, Germany
Deter Joseph Lenné high school, Potsdam, Germany
Quality

- Develop community through participation
- Assist and educate the public at every step of their project
- Focus on long term sustainability
- Commit to training - teachers, facilities staff, designers
- Invest in research
- Gather ideas from a strong national and international network
- Constantly search for practical solutions
Quality

Engaging communities
Quality
Research and Policy
Quality
Curriculum-based Lesson Plans

Patterns
Plants and Playgrounds
Educational Activities for School Grounds

ETHNOBOTANY
Patterns in Relationships
An Integrated Curriculum Unit for Grade Housing on the Don River Watershed

Patterns Through the Seasons
A Year of School Food Garden Activities

The Watershed Connection
Linking the school ground with local ecosystems

Case studies
Stewards & Storytellers
Grounds for Learning
Stories and insights from six Canadian school ground naturalization initiatives

Friday, February 6, 2009
Quality

A skilled and passionate group of people

• 6 head office staff
• 15 Associates
Program Overview

Reputation

Awards

- Canadian Environment Award - Environmental Health category (2008)
- Canadian Dermatology Association - Public Education Award (2006)
- Imagine Canada – Business and Community Partnership Award for Toyota and Evergreen, Honourable Mention (2005)
- Ontario Society for Environmental Education (OSEE) - Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Education (2002)
Leadership

Building a movement in Canada