



Warwickshire Climate Change Community Newsletter

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership

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Warwick University: Honey Bees Arrive on the 19th May at Tocil Bee Habitat

Warwickshire environmental artists Ann Loscombe and Wendy Campbell-Briggs are eagerly awaiting the arrival of two bee colonies which will take up residence in bee hives situated in Millennium Wood Meadow, on Warwick University campus on the 19th May. Warwickshire bee keepers Mick Smith and Roger Wilkes will come prepared with bee suits and marigold gloves to install the bees into their new home, whilst the Warwick volunteers, members of the press and the artists themselves look on.

This is an important step in their environmental project, known as The Tocil Bee Habitat, which started 18 months ago at the University of Warwick. It will culminate with the installation of a permanent sculpture and a showcase events on the 3rd, 4th and 6th July as part of Artsweek 2010

The motivation for this project is to raise awareness of the problems being experienced by honey bees not only here in the UK but worldwide. It is well known that the honey bee population is in serious decline, for reasons not fully understood, but we do know that new parasites and disease coupled with the intensification of agriculture and urbanisation are contributors to the problem. Bees are responsible for the pollination of around one third of our food. If numbers of honey bees and other pollinating insects – which are also in serious decline – fall much further, then food production is likely to be placed under serious strain.

Through collaboration and funding Wendy and Ann have created a wildflower meadow for honey bees and they encourage everybody to do what they can to increase wild flower and other pollen rich planting.

Community Events

Action21 Course: Introduction to Permaculture, 22nd – 23rd May 2010, Education Centre, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa.

Over this two day relaxed, informal and participatory course you will learn the basic principles, philosophy and design. There will be inspiring examples of how permaculture works in action and an opportunity to undertake some practical work. Cost £65. to book and for more information please email info@action21.co.uk

Renewable Energy Club, Saturday 5th June 10am – 12pm £ 1pm – 3pm, Jephson Studio, Jephson Gardens, Leamington Spa.

A bumper presentation offering a regular club meeting combined with a detailed workshop on the experience of developing a community owned energy scheme in Todmorden. Steve Welsh will present the background to the Archimedes screw generation system and explore the technical and legal details of this highly successful community energy scheme. For more information go to www.renewable-energy-club.org.uk

Community Ownership of Renewable Energy Projects, Saturday June 26th, 9:30-4:00pm, John Turner Centre, Warwick Hospital, Larkin Road, Warwick.

A seven fold increase in renewables will be needed by 2020 if the UK is to meet its targets – but progress in Warwickshire seems painfully slow, yet there is no lack of interest locally in promoting renewables. How can we invest in local projects for the benefit of our communities and environment? This conference will bring together experts and those who want to see progress on renewables to explore ways in which communities can invest in and own renewable energy projects. Booking is essential. To book please call 01789 298503 or email admin@transitionstratford.com

Low Carbon Transport Event, Sunday 27th June, 10am – 14:00pm, Fillongley Village Hall.

Energy Saving Trust will be bringing along their driving simulator to help people with smart driving. There will also be 24 free smarter driving lessons, which involve a 50 minute lesson with a driving instructor. Suppliers of low carbon vehicles and electric bicycles/scooters will be present as well as stands on cycling, walking and public transport. Entry is free.

NEWS



Warwickshire County Council are currently in the process of recruiting volunteer composters.

The Master Composter Programme aims to promote sustainable waste management by encouraging residents to compost at home rather than sending biodegradable waste to landfill. As a volunteer, in return for training and support, all we ask for is a minimum of 30 hours voluntary work over 12 month period, acting as a composter ambassador in the local Warwickshire community.

The Master Composter Scheme is open to everyone, not just composting experts, as the training will cover all you need to get started.

Training will take place at Garden Organic, Ryton on Dunsmore – date to be confirmed.

If interested in becoming part of this successful scheme, and are available for the training, please email waste@warwickshire.gov.uk to request an application form, alternatively telephone 01926 418088. There are just 20 places available so please respond as soon as you can to avoid disappointment.

Action21 Update

Action21 has moved to their new office at East Lodge in Leamington Spa's Jephson Gardens. The move will allow more room for volunteers, the running of projects and serving the community more effectively.

East Lodge will also be home to Leamington's first Sustainability Centre, where this summer you will be able to come and see the bees, find out about practical projects in your community and learn how to grow your own.

For more information on the Sustainability Centre and its programme of activities go to...
www.action21.co.uk/sustainability_centre.html

Energy Efficiency Talk – Atherstone

Saving energy in the home, Friday 21st May, 12:30pm - 13:30pm, Council Chamber, North Warwickshire Borough Council, Atherstone

David Jullien, Chief Executive Act on Energy, will be providing a 50min talk on the cost of energy and how we can save, by being efficient. David's talk will also look at energy supply issues, climate change and renewables. Time will be available after the presentation for any questions you may have on domestic energy.

Teas and Coffees available from 12pm, if you would like to attend this session please email emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

Have your say



This is your newsletter and your opportunity to publicise any events you may be holding, and let other groups know what you are currently up to share your experiences. What do you want to see in future editions?

Please send all comments or enquiries about this newsletter and suggestions, for news items, case studies, details of events etc to

emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

Tip of the month



If you car share or use alternative transport to your car just once a week you will save around £145 and 300kg of CO2 over a year.