

# Enviro-News

## July, 2010 highlights

**Sponsored by Daemen College Center for Sustainable Communities and Civic Engagement and the Natural Sciences Department**

### **Foodie to Farm Tours Feature Local Harvests**

Feed Your Soul has three "Foodie to Farm" tours planned for the summer on **July 18**, August 22 and September 12. The trips were started three years ago as a way to connect chefs to local harvest. The trips are now open to foodies, health practitioners, nutritionists, culinary students and everyday people interested in seeing another side of Western New York. With our unique and remarkable climate and prime soil ratings, it is no surprise that our 8,500 farms (most of which are small and family-owned) are a major contributor to our country's food supply. In addition to a large dairy, maple and produce industry, we also are home to two wine trails, talented artisan foodmakers and a variety of farmers raising livestock. Join us this summer for one of our three farm tours, where a great lunches prepared by local chefs featuring local foods, farmer-led field walks, sampling and information about both sustainability and WNY's unique agrarian bounty will be discovered. For info and tickets, visit <http://feedyoursoul-buffalo.com/>.

### **Fish for Pond Stocking Available for Niagara Residents**

Pond owners in Niagara County can order largemouth bass, yellow perch, fathead minnows, Koi and daphnia for placement in established ponds. Ordering deadline is **August 5**. For info, visit [niagaraswd.com](http://niagaraswd.com) or call 434-4949.

### **Cameras are on-Check out the Nests**

Several local webcams are aimed at nesting birds. Check out the peregrine falcon nest at University at Buffalo at <http://www.buffalo.edu/webcam/falconcam.html>. American kestrels can be viewed on a nest at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/iroquois/wildlife/kestrels.html>. Eggs were laid in both nests, chicks hatched and were fledged. For details on the families, visit the websites.

### **Farmer's Markets Offer Local Produce**

Our Western New York growing season is here and time to make plans for your fresh veggies. If you didn't plant your own garden or join a CSA (community-supported agriculture), you can still get fresh, locally grown produce from the many New York farmers. For a listing of the regional markets and their schedules, visit <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/CommunityFarmersMarkets.asp>.

### **Courses Available for Solar Installation**

A range of courses in photovoltaic installation, solar hot water heating and solar power permitting will be offered across New York state in the upcoming months. Courses fill quickly, so register early. For info and registration, visit <http://www.esf.edu/outreach/pd/>.

### **Brush Up Buffalo 2010 Rescheduled**

Brush Up Buffalo 2010 has been rescheduled for September 18. The goal for the community project is to paint 15-20 homes in one day (hard to imagine, isn't it?), so we need about 40 painters per paint team/home. That means we need approximately 600 volunteers! These homeowners, many of whom are low-income and/or elderly, just need a little help maintaining the appearance of their homes. During its 13-year history, Brush Up Buffalo and more than 6,500 volunteers have painted more than 250 homes in the City of Buffalo. You can sign up online you can call our hotline at 250.3353 and let us know you're interested. Note: You must be 18 years or older to paint, however, minors may participate in hospitality-related activities.