



MEDIA RELEASE

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ENVIRONMENT GROUPS TEAM UP FOR EARTH DAY FEST

Celebrate with 5th Annual Riverbend Earth Day Festival at Piasa Harbor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2016

Godfrey, Ill- Mark your calendars for this year's "Riverbend Earth Day Festival", to be held on Saturday, April 16 from noon to 6 p.m. The 5th annual event offers local entertainment, food vendors, artisans market, environmental education and more. The "Riverbend Earth Day Festival will once again be at Piasa Harbor, owned by the Great Rivers Land Trust and is located along the Great River Road.

This year's festival is sponsored by; Old Bakery Beer Company, Shivers Frozen Custard, St. Clair Beekeeper's Association, Pearl Pro Audio, Liberty Bank, PictureThis & More, The Telegraph, Advantage News, WBGZ, and The Gateway Gardener. Other sponsors are River Bend Yoga, Madison County Planning and Development, State Representative Dan Beiser and Senator Bill Haine.

The Nature Institute (TNI) is partnering with the Sierra Club, the Great Rivers Land Trust, The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center/ Lewis & Clark Community College (NGRREC) and the Alton Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau for this day of live music, local food, nature activities, electronic recycling, and much more. This event will be held rain or shine and is free and open to the public.

CJD E-Cycling from Edwardsville, IL will be at the festival from Noon to 3 p.m. to take any unwanted electronics. Please note that the electronic recycling drive will be held from noon to 3 p.m. only; items brought after 3 p.m. will not be accepted. They will be located in the front of Piasa Harbor for easy unloading.

Organizing groups added a full day of entertainment for the stage this year. The lineup includes Treehouse Wildlife Center at Noon, Serengeti Steve's Reptile Experience, as seen on America's Got Talent, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and local music by The Lodge Brothers Bluegrass and The Buckhannon Brothers.

Learn from River Bend Yoga (located on State Street in Alton) with donation based yoga sessions at 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. to benefit TNI's mission of preservation, restoration and education.

Guests will be able to enjoy local, tasty treats from Old Bakery Beer Company, Shivers Frozen Custard, Eppel's Pantry, St. Louis Kettle Corn, B & C Concessions and Community Cultivators,

who will be selling healthy side items as a fundraiser for Grassroots Grocery and to help grow the Discovery Garden.

“This year’s festival is gearing up to be the largest one yet,” said Amy Curry, outreach coordinator for TNI. “We have 66 total vendors and environmental non-profits that have signed up to share their goods and missions with our guests.”

She continued to thank the public for the amount of support the event organizers have received from the community and that it “displays how environmentally conscious our Riverbend citizens can be.”

Some local eco-friendly vendors expected to make an appearance this year include; StraightUp Solar, JMC Design, LaVista Community Supported Agriculture Farm, Orb Elements, State Street Soap Co. and Rustic Wood Creations.

Water activities, organized hikes and much more will also be available for event attendees.

For more information, please contact The Nature Institute at (618) 466-9930 or info@TheNatureInstitute.org.

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