

# **GROUND****WORK****ORV**

**Climate, Environment, and  
Infrastructure Committee  
Meeting**

April 9th, 2024

**Youth Environmental  
Council**

# Youth Environmental Council



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## About Us...



# Youth Environmental Council

## Our Mission

We, the Youth Environmental Council, are Cincinnati high school students focused on positive environmental change. The mission of the Youth Environmental Council is to bridge the gap between people, ideas, and action so that all people, regardless of identity, may feel hopeful for our shared future. As the youth generation, it is inevitable we will carry the burden of the climate crisis. We will help by creating action plans, educating our communities, and working together to a greener future. It is our mission to voice concerns and act against climate related issues that our communities face through advocating for sustainable initiatives by collaborating with our city's community members and elected officials.



# Our Project: October 2023

In October, the Youth Environmental Council planned a community trash cleanup event in the neighborhoods of Lower Price Hill and South Fairmount. By partnering with residents from these two communities, the youth wanted to teach residents about the importance of recycling and making sure we don't litter.



## TRASH PICK UP

Join Groundwork to keep Lower Price Hill and South Fairmount beautiful. Prizes for those who pick up the most trash.

**October 14th, 2023**

10 am - 12 pm at 2111 Storrs St, Cincinnati, OH 45204  
1 pm - 3 pm at 1645 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45214

 [groundworkohio.org](https://groundworkohio.org)

**GROUNDWORK** OHIO







# Our Project: March 2024

Last month, the Youth Environmental Council planned a community gardening event. They wanted to teach community members about the benefits of gardening and how to start their own gardens. Community members were invited to help build garden beds, plant seeds, and enhance the trail at Lower Price Hill's Burn's Lot. As a thank you, each participant was given a seed bomb made of native seeds to take home.

## BURN'S LOT COMMUNITY EVENT

**WHERE?**  
2111 STOORS ST.

**WHEN?**  
SATURDAY,  
MARCH 16, 2024  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

\*LIGHT SNACKS WILL BE  
PROVIDED\*



SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO RSVP!

DO YOU NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS?  
DO YOU JUST ENJOY GARDENING?

JOIN US IN OUR EVENT OPEN TO  
ANY AND EVERYONE!

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT  
GARDENING?  
WE WILL HOST AN INFO SESSION  
FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS BEFORE  
STARTING!



**HOSTED BY:**

**GROUNDWORK**ORV

HELP US ESTABLISH A  
COMMUNITY GARDEN!

Contact [laguilar@groundworkorv.org](mailto:laguilar@groundworkorv.org) with any questions!





# This year's work

- Avondale Green Cincinnati Plan Workshop
- Volunteering at Matthew 25 Ministries
- Air Quality programming with Lower Price Hill & South Fairmount residents
- 2023 Climate Candidate Forum
- Community Project: Trash Clean Up
- GCP info session with OES
- Bond Hill Community Council Presentation
- Green Schoolyards Action Network Meeting
- Community Project: Gardening
- THANK YOU - City of Cincinnati's Urban Agriculture Grant
- La Soupe Cooking Class
- The Nature Conservancy Storytelling Workshop
- Identifying & implementing a project based on the Green Cincinnati Plan
- Freestore Foodbank volunteering
- Upcycled art projects with supplies from the Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub
- Policy Associates time with The Nature Conservancy





# Connecting to the Green Cincinnati Plan

The Youth Environmental Council came up with the idea of expanding their composting initiative to local schools. This idea came from learning about the Green Cincinnati Plan's Zero Waste Goal.

Five Cincinnati High Schools with environmental programs will receive:

- Materials to create a DIY compost bin
- An informational video and instructions on how to assemble the bin
- Resources on how to use and maintain the bin

Coming April 2024



# Ever wonder why it's so hot here?

- Low tree cover in certain neighborhoods
- Urban heat island effect
- Climate Change
  - Youth and elderly are most vulnerable
- Not enough green spaces to cool neighborhoods

## What can be done to combat this?





# Trees & Green Space closer to those who need it most

## Action Steps:

1. Connecting green interventions to the Climate Safe Neighborhoods' Plans
2. Prioritizing schools and vulnerable communities
3. Empowering city youth through the Green Team program with Groundwork and Parks

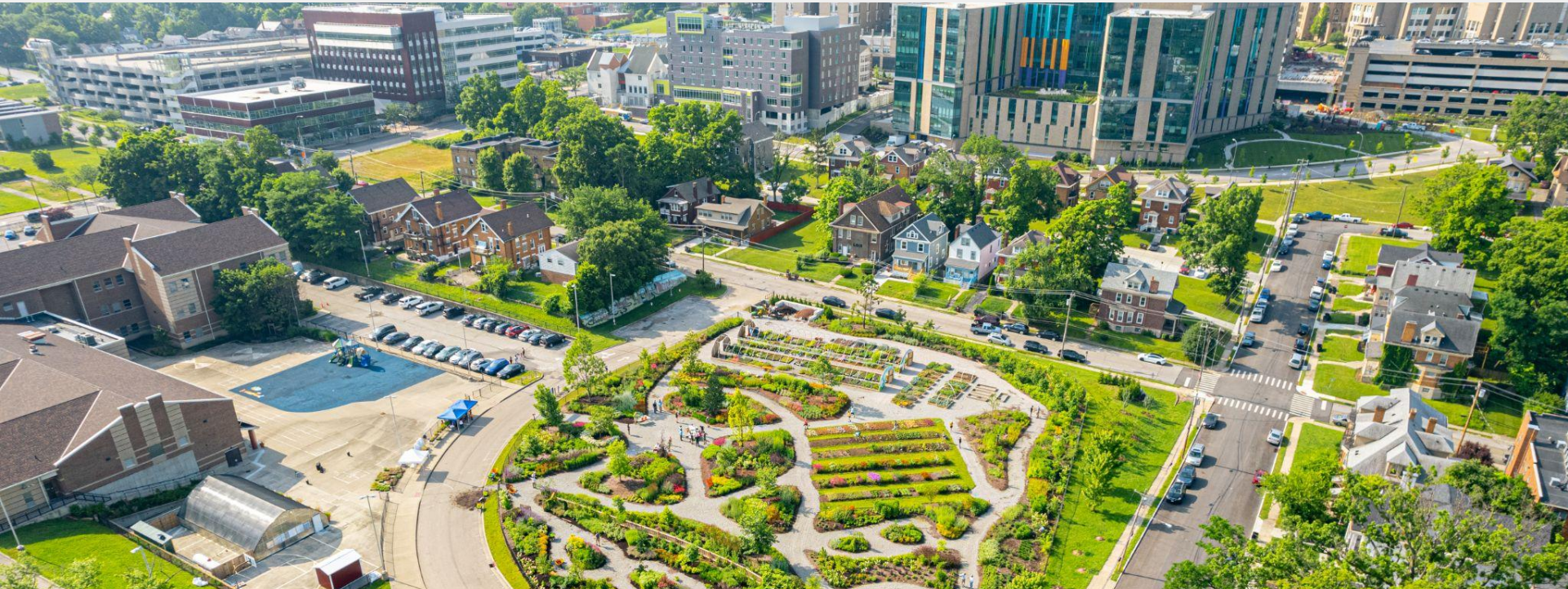




# The Power of Green Space

“In a world that grows more and more chaotic and schismatic every day, green spaces provide a sense of connectedness and peace to our communities.” – Sophie Glenn

The Zoo's Rockdale Urban Garden and Green Team worksite



# Requests!

- **Youth Representation on the EAB**
  - Position Appointment or YEC Advisory Role/Commentary
- **Attend Groundwork and Cincinnati Park's End of Summer Celebration**
  - July 25, 2024
- **Continued Support for GCP, Green School Yards and Climate Safe Neighborhoods projects that involve youth!**
  - Seeds of Change Grants - Thank you!
  - Avondale tree planting





# THANK YOU!

