



Urban Nature Connection Monthly Newsletter

Submitted to: Community Members

Welcome Edition

March 11, 2026

Leadership & Mission

Welcome to Urban Nature Connection MKE



A Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Letter from the Executive Director

Urban Nature Connection began with a simple belief: when people have access to nature, they have access to healing, belonging, and possibility. Over the past year, that belief has grown into a movement powered by neighbors, youth, elders, and partners who understand that wellness is not a luxury — it's a right.

As we've walked trails, tended gardens, restored waterways, and gathered in community, I've witnessed something powerful. People are not just participating in programs; they are reclaiming space, voice, and agency. They are shaping a future where Black and Brown communities in Milwaukee can breathe easier, feel safer, and experience joy outdoors without barriers.

This year, Urban Nature Connection expanded our work in housing, green infrastructure, and wellness, because nature access doesn't exist in isolation. It is tied to stable homes, safe streets, and environments that honor our stories. I'm proud of how our community has stepped forward to lead these conversations with courage and clarity.

Thank you for walking with us, dreaming with us, and building with us. Together, we are creating a Milwaukee where every person can step outside and feel connected, grounded, and free.

In partnership,

Timothy Scott

Executive Director, Urban Nature Connection



About Timothy Scott

Timothy Scott is the Executive Director of Urban Nature Connection MKE. A Milwaukee native, Timothy brings a wealth of experience in community engagement and environmental advocacy. He is passionate about reconnecting Black and Brown communities with the natural world and creating opportunities for equitable access to nature. His leadership is driven by a commitment to justice and a vision of a greener, more inclusive Milwaukee.

Our Mission

To reconnect Black and Brown communities in Milwaukee with nature through accessible and engaging activities. We offer opportunities for birding, gardening, biking, hiking, and fishing, fostering a love for the environment and promoting well-being.

Expanded Mission

Urban Nature Connection MKE is committed to dismantling systemic barriers that prevent equitable access to nature. We forge partnerships with local organizations and community leaders to create inclusive spaces and programs. Our work is rooted in justice, ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to experience the healing power of nature. We strive to empower communities to become environmental stewards, leading the way in creating a greener, more equitable Milwaukee for future generations.

News and media coverage:

<https://www.riverwestradio.com/episode/owl-older-wiser-local-0343-urban-nature-connection/>

<https://www.tmj4.com/shows/whats-brewing-wisconsin/winter-wellness-walks-encourage-community-connection-and-cold-weather-fun>

<https://spectrumnews1.com/wi/milwaukee/news/2026/02/18/urban-nature-connection-victory-garden-initiative>

<https://milwaukeeenns.org/2025/11/24/new-nonprofit-wants-to-connect-black-and-brown-people-to-nature/>

Partner Events

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=red%20bike%20%26%20green-milwaukee>

A Milestone for Urban Nature Connection and 1st Major Community Event



Celebrating Milestones and Reconnecting with Nature



On December 6th, Urban Nature Connection Inc. received a proclamation from the City of Milwaukee, officially recognizing the day as Urban Nature Connection Inc. Day. This recognition highlights the growing importance of reconnecting communities with nature and celebrating the vital role outdoor spaces play in health, healing, and community connection. We are deeply honored and motivated to continue our work in Milwaukee.

That same day, we hosted our first major community event at Gordon Park. It was a beautiful gathering that brought community members together outdoors to celebrate the power of nature, connection, and shared experiences. Events like these create welcoming spaces where families, youth, and neighbors can reconnect with nature

and one another—fostering a sense of belonging and shared stewardship. We are grateful for everyone who came out to be part of this milestone.



Step Outside This Spring

Milwaukee's planting season runs from **April 26th through May 9th**, making it the *perfect* time to reconnect with nature.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Gardening
- Birding
- Hiking
- Biking
- Fishing
- Visiting local parks

Spending time outdoors improves physical health, supports mental wellness, and strengthens community connection. We encourage you to embrace the season and explore the natural beauty our city has to offer!

First UNC Wellness Walk of the Season!

Join us for the first UNC Wellness Walk of the Spring/Summer season! We'll be taking a short walk in Washington Park, 1859 N. 40th St., to check out the new updates. Plus, there is a possibility of touring the new Urban Ecology Center after the walk.

Date: April 18th, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Location: Washington Park, 1859 N. 40th St.

Check the calendar for more events and opportunities to get outside and stay connected!

<https://www.urbannatureconnection.com/events/>

Events



Engagement and Support

Thank You to Our Sponsors

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors and supporters for their generous contributions. Because of you, we are able to expand outdoor programming, education, and community engagement initiatives across Milwaukee.



How to Get Involved

- Attend an event
- Volunteer
- Partner with us
- Share our mission

Partner With Us

Urban Nature Connection welcomes partnerships with community organizations, schools, businesses, and environmental groups who believe access to nature should be available to everyone.

If you're interested in collaborating, we'd love to connect and explore opportunities together.

How to Give

Your support helps us create enriching outdoor programs and experiences for Milwaukee communities. Every contribution makes a difference.

Donate today and help us connect more people with nature.





Stay Connected

Join our email list to receive monthly updates, community stories, and upcoming events.



<https://www.urbannatureconnection.com/urban-nature-connection-monthly/>

Stay connected. Stay engaged. And help us continue building spaces where everyone belongs outside.

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2025 Board of Directors

- **Timothy Scott** — Executive Director & Board President
- **Sharaka Berry** — Vice Chair
- **Julien Phifer** — Treasurer
- **Maddy Riordan** — Secretary
- **Danielle Williams** — Board Member at Large