



**VOLUME XII, Issue II |**  
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## Service Achievements

### Green Iowa Recycles!

In honor of *America Recycles Week*, the Decorah site held education events at five libraries in the surrounding area called Reduce, Reuse, Recycle-Mania! These events were held for after school education programs and open to the public.

In this event, we helped teach elementary age kids where to put recyclable or compostable materials as well as how to divert the dump, made a turkey out of recycled materials such as toilet paper rolls and corks, and had them figure out how to use less energy! It is always so inspiring to see how much the next generation knows about energy use and recyclable materials.

Green Iowa loves getting out and working with kids on how we can create a cleaner and more efficient world. We are looking forward to holding more events like this and teaching eager kids all about recycling!



### Education in Dubuque



Our education and outreach coordinators, Aaron and Nicole, had a great time teaching kids

### Iowa City Upcycles



November 15th was "America Recycles Day" and the Iowa City team participated in the Upcycling

### From Trash to Treasure



On America Recycles Day the Cedar Falls Team partnered with Waste Trac Education to work with local libraries on a "trash to

about recycling. Working with St. Mark's, after school enrichment program, they have utilized fun games to go along with educating the students about recycling, compost, and other sustainability practices. Our team also helped out at the Girl Scout's Camp Liberty, making recycled lunch boxes and building our own flashlights. Over the two-day event, the ladies learned about ways in which they can lower their environmental impacts and even signed a pledge to do so moving forward.

Fair, hosted by Iowa City Parks and Recreation. At the fair, the city provided information about recycling and the new single stream recycling program. Information about how to extend the life of ordinary items was also provided. The fair included various craft activities for the public to participate in. GIA showed visitors how to make pumpkins out of corks and painted incandescent bulbs, so they could be upcycled into ornaments.

treasures" craft upcycling program.

The team helped kids take old lyric sheets, puzzle pieces and milk jugs, turning them into seasonal art projects for the upcoming holidays.

## Member Spotlights

**Evan Clayton**



Evan is this year's Audit Coordinator in Des Moines. He is originally from Cedar Falls and graduated from The University of Iowa last May. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Policy, a minor in Geography and a certificate Sustainability. He is very interested in new sources of energy and energy efficiency. He is looking forward to engaging in the community and making an impact in the Greater Des Moines area. His roommate, and cat, Maestro lives with him in his apartment here in Des Moines. Evan has been doing a great job leading our team on audits through the first month and a half since completing BPI training.

**Jack Duval**



Jack is the Cedar Rapid's team outreach coordinator this year. He originally hails from the northern land of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As of this past May he is a graduate of the University of Iowa, with a bachelor's degree in geoscience, and a minor in environmental science. Hydrology is Jack's primary focus, with the hope of some day beginning a career in the field of the management and conservation of water. Of the many exciting prospects of being an environmental steward, Jack is most excited for the hands on experience while having the opportunity to impact his new community. Outside of work, he enjoys biking along trails, loves music, and is an avid basketball fan.

## Green Ideas

**Green Tip: Gifts that keep Giving**



**Article: [Deep Sea Litter](#)**





Instead of buying a gift from the store, try something that will last longer. Experiences and memories last longer than products. The University of Northern Iowa created a list of creative gift ideas to use instead of buying another product as a gift. Some ideas include: Giving tickets to a show, buying lessons (e.g. piano, yoga etc.), and sweater mittens. For more ideas visit:

<https://ceee.uni.edu/hometown/reclaim-your-holidays/creativegiftideas>

All parts of the ocean, not just the surface, are affected by human waste being dumped offshore. Plastic was found ingested by small shellfish living in trenches, some as deep as 7 miles, below the surface.

<http://www.newsweek.com/ocean-plastic-pollution-being-eaten-even-deepest-sea-creatures-712725>

## Upcoming Events

### Cedar Falls

**All December - Holiday Lights Drive** - Recycle any of your old, unwanted, unused, or broken holiday lights at any of the following locations:

**Cedar Falls:** Menards, Public Library, Ace Hardware, University of Northern Iowa CEEE

**Waterloo:** Menards, Public Library

**Evansdale:** Public Library

### Cedar Rapids

**12/7** - Age of Consequences movie screening: This film examines how water and food shortages, drought, extreme weather, and sea-level rise function as 'accelerants of instability' and 'catalysts for conflict' in volatile regions of the world. Admission is free! Doors open at 6:30pm, movie begins at 7pm.

**12/7** - Join Trees Forever for a conversation on how trees and green spaces improve our health, help our communities with important functions and more! For more details, visit

<http://www.treesforever.org/symposium>

**1/18** - Weatherization Workshop: Join Matthew 25 and Green Iowa AmeriCorps to learn how to save money on your utility bill this winter. Weatherization allows you to address problem areas of your house by reducing air infiltration and making efficiency improvements to your home. More details to come soon!

### Decorah

**12/4, 12/11, and 12/18** at 3:30-4:30 - Sustainable Kids: 3rd and 4th grade students are invited to learn about living sustainably during the holidays! Located at the Co-Op Kitchen Classroom in Decorah. For more information on how to sign up contact Andrea Springmeier at [andreas@oneotacoop.com](mailto:andreas@oneotacoop.com)

**Ken Burns The National Parks: America's Best Idea:** Documentary screening series starting on **1/10** and playing every **Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.** and every **Sunday at 2:00 p.m.** located in Valders 379. This event is free to the public and an environmental education activity will be provided for children during the screening.

### Des Moines

**12/6** - Light bulb painting with The Boys and Girls Club

**12/9** - Easter Lake Workday and Clean-up

**12/12** - Hiatt Holiday Party

**12/15** - Tabling at Winter Farmer's Market

**12/28** - Volunteering with DMARC

**TBD** - Holiday Lights Recycling Drive

### Dubuque

**12/2** - The Age of Consequences Movie Showing at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library, 2 PM

**12/8 and 12/9** - Gift wrapping at the Kennedy Mall, 6 PM – 9 PM

### Iowa City

**12/3** -Volunteers are needed for the TAKO Holiday Cookie Bake from 2-5 p.m. at the Robert A. Lee Rec Center in Iowa City. For information visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1345752028904083/>

**12/9** - Holiday Market – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Robert A. Lee Rec Center in Iowa City.

TAKO 5k Fundraising Event- 4:30 to 8 p.m. at 200 Park Road in Iowa City. To register visit:

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/TakeAKidOutdoors1/JingleBellTrotTAKOFundraiser5kWalkRunAndWinterCarivalSignUp>

**12/16** - Winter Solstice- 3 to 5 p.m. For more information visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/918554121652996/>



