



Town of Greenburgh , 177 Hillside Avenue, Greenburgh, NY 10607

www.greenburghny.com

Climate Solutions Resource Guide



**National Conversation
on Climate Action**

April 22, 2009

Greenburgh is one of just ten communities selected out of hundreds of participants nationwide to host a Spotlight Conversation on Climate Action at the Greenburgh Library on Earth Day, 22 April 2009. This guide has been prepared as part of this national conversation. It contains detailed biographies of the event's speakers and moderators, a listing of the Climate Plan Action Committee, and useful web sites.

Local governments everywhere are recognizing the need to engage their communities in climate initiatives. We hope this guide enables communities throughout Greenburgh to build broader, sustained citizen support for—and involvement in—local climate protection strategies.

Speakers and Moderators

Thomas Abinanti, Chair, Westchester County Board of Legislators' Committee on Environment and Energy
e-mail TJAESQ@aol.com
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Elected in 1991, Mr. Abinanti is serving his ninth term as a Westchester County Legislator. He represents the 12th District, which includes Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Ardsley and most of unincorporated Greenburgh (including East Irvington, Central Greenburgh, Hartsdale and Edgemont). He twice served as Majority Leader, and has chaired various committees, including Health, Community Affairs,

Legislation, and Rules. He now chairs the Committee on the Environment and Energy. In over 30 years of public service and community activity, Mr. Abinanti has gained a full understanding of how government works and a broad knowledge of Greenburgh and Westchester. He brings to the legislature extensive experience in the lawmaking process and enforcement of local laws, as well as a deep concern for the quality of life in our community.

Deann Cartwright, Conservation Outreach Coordinator, Town of Greenburgh
conservationoutreach@greenburghny.com

As cofounder of Sustainable Hastings (www.sustainablehastings.org), Ms. Cartwright recently received an Earth Day Award from Westchester County for outstanding leadership in conducting the Green Living Fair, which drew 4,000 visitors during Climate Action Week 2008. She has served on Westchester County's Global Warming Task Force as a Business Sector Associate, and co-authored their Household Guide. Ms. Cartwright was appointed Greenburgh's Conservation Outreach Coordinator in June 2008, and serves on Greenburgh's Climate Action Task Force. She appeared on ABC News' digital cable network, ABC News NOW, on their Top Priority show in April 2008, during which, along with Alex Matthiessen, president of Riverkeeper, she discussed the importance of children in nature.



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"This event reflects Greenburgh's leadership in the county addressing climate change and sustainability. A large diverse town containing six villages, it is thinking systematically and working collaboratively within the Town to encourage energy efficiency and control green house gas emissions. This is a model for how the entire county and the entire region will need to work if we are to properly combat climate change and promote sustainability."

- Robert Funicello

Tria Case, University Director of Sustainability, The City University of New York (CUNY); Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE), Bronx Community College
e-mail tria.case@bcc.cuny.edu
www.bcc.cuny.edu/InstitutionalDevelopment/CSE

Ms. Case oversees the Sustainable CUNY Project and its Task Force on Sustainability, and is assisting CUNY's 23 institutions of higher education to reduce their carbon footprint by 30% in 10 years. She also works with CUNY's Economic Development Corporation to develop the Sustainable Business and Technology Incubator to create new business opportunities that will lead to a more sustainable New York. As Executive Director for the CSE, Ms. Case helps promote the use of renewable and energy- efficient technologies in urban communities. Under her leadership, CSE has been named the action arm for the City of New York in partnership with the Department of Energy's Solar America City Initiative.

Neil Cutler, Founder of Synergis
e-mail: neil@synergisrecycles.com
www.zerowastegroup.com

After nearly a decade managing residential and commercial recycling collection programs, Neil Cutler founded Synergis in 1997 to help commercial businesses increase recycling, effectively manage waste streams, and lower garbage disposal costs. Mr. Cutler has been directly involved with the design and implementation of waste reduction and zero-waste programs for office, retail, industrial, multi-family, school and municipal clients. Under his direction, Synergis has received awards from the City of Sunnyvale, California, for exemplary efforts in waste reduction, and from the California Resource Recovery Association for the Best Commercial Waste Reduction Program in California.

Mr. Cutler has provided expertise to the Westchester County Global Warming Task Force, and is contracted to develop the Westchester County Green Business Certification program.

Paul Feiner, Town Supervisor
e-mail: pfeiner@greenburghny.com
www.greenburghny.com

Paul Feiner has served as Supervisor for the Town of Greenburgh since 1991. He was a member of the Westchester County Board of Legislators from 1983 to 1991. Before running for public office, Mr. Feiner worked to establish the Bike-It Sunday program on the Bronx River Parkway, and start a commuter bus service from Scarsdale to Manhattan. As an elected official, he has championed issues from banning pesticides on town property to using solar energy to partially heat the Town Hall building. During his tenure as Town Supervisor, Mr. Feiner started a farmer's market; initiated a summer jazz concert series; opened an animal shelter, increased the amount of open space from 200 to more than 600 acres; and acquired three major parks: Harts Brook Nature Preserve, Glenville Woods, and Taxter Ridge. Mr. Feiner's unique Town Board meetings are widely recognized as models of good government. Among his many achievements were the initiation of a new concept called Dial Democracy, where residents have tele-phone access to Town Board meetings in progress. Under his leadership, Greenburgh was named one of the 100 best places to live by Money Magazine in 2008.

Robert Funicello, Environmental Project Director, Westchester County
e-mail: rff3@westchestergov.com
www.westchestergov.com/globalwarming

Appointed as Environmental Project Director in 1999, Mr. Funicello works on legislative and policy initiatives in the environmental area for the County



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Executive. As such, he supervises the implementation of environmental management systems for both the Westchester County Airport and Department of Environmental Facilities (WCDEF). He is project manager for the WCDEF under a Consent Order with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to limit nitrogen discharges to Long Island Sound. Mr. Funicello has co-chaired the Westchester County Global Warming Task Force, created in 2006 through issuance of the Westchester Action Plan for Climate Change and Sustainable Development, and now serves on the Westchester County Climate Change Advisory Council and Westchester County Climate Change Committee.

Alicia Kelligrew, Fundraiser and Business Owner
e-mail: coffeelabsroasters@mac.com
www.coffeelabs.com

Along with her partner, Mike Love, Alicia Kelligrew founded Westchester Taste of Relief, one of the largest fundraisers in the county. They raised a quarter of a million dollars in a single evening for 9/11, and donated the money to the World Trade Relief Fund. In 2003, she and Mr. Love opened Coffee Labs Roasters in Tarrytown. It is one of a few roaster retailers in the State of New York that is Fair-Trade certified, Rainforest-Alliance Certified and Bird Friendly. It is also a member of the Cup of Excellence program. Roast Magazine placed Coffee Labs second for Micro Roaster in 2007. Ms. Kelligrew is also actively involved in the Specialty Coffee Association of America, Roasters Guild, and Northeast Roasters Group.

Kristin Marcell, Special Projects Coordinator, Cornell Water Resources Institute and NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program
e-mail: kamarcel@gw.dec.state.ny.us
www.dec.ny.gov

Mr. Marcell works on climate change for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Hudson River Estuary Program, a unique regional partnership to restore and conserve the Hudson River. She works closely with state, federal, and local partners to carry out the Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda, a blueprint for cleanup. To accomplish this, she coordinates with the DEC Climate Change Office, scientists, and policymakers to understand how our climate is changing in the Hudson Valley, the potential impacts of this change, and the most effective ways to respond at the state and local level. She is also helping to coordinate efforts of the New York State Sea Level Rise Task Force. Additionally, Ms. Marcell serves on the steering committee of The Nature Conservancy's Rising Waters project, a climate-change scenario-planning project in the Hudson Valley, and coordinates the Hudson Valley Climate Change Network.

John Rice, PE, Partner, AKF Engineers
www.akfgroup.com

A licensed professional engineer in the states of New York and Connecticut, John Rice is committed to providing innovative, cost-effective, sustainable design solutions that enhance human comfort within the built environment while achieving high levels of energy efficiency. As a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Accredited Professional, he leads AKF's sustainable design initiative. Mr. Rice has over 20 years experience designing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. He has presided over intermediate and advanced LEED® workshops, and has presented before architectural, engineering and green-building organizations on topics of integrated design and the engineer's role in sustainable design.



Greening Greenburgh: Conversations

BUILDING TRADE PROFESSIONALS

FREE INFORMATION WORKSHOP on HOME PERFORMANCE

CONTRACTING with NYSERDA

**Tuesday, June
23rd, 2009 6:30 PM**

**Greenburgh Public
Library**

Register with Deann Cartwright at (914) 993-1649 or conservationoutreach@greenburghny.com by June 16th for this FREE, one-time event.

Elyssa Rothe, Westchester/Bronx Energy \$mart Communities Coordinator, Greenburgh's Climate Action Task Force and Environmental Forum
e-mail: rothe.elyssa@gmail.com
www.getenergysmart.org

Ms. Rothe joined Courtney Strong Inc.'s Mid-Hudson Energy \$mart Communities Program in 2008, after working as the Energy \$mart Communities Coordinator for Northern Manhattan, Bronx, and Queens. This energy efficiency outreach effort has her traveling across Westchester, helping communities take advantage of assistance available from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. Ms. Rothe has also worked as a communications associate at the Coro New York Leadership Center, where she encouraged ethical and effective leadership in New York City. She has written and reported for several Westchester newspapers and publications.

Honorable Andrew Spano, County Executive
e-mail CEO@westchestergov.com
www.westchestergov.com

Whether in government, politics or education, Andrew Spano has always been a leader with vision, recognized nationally for his groundbreaking accomplishments. As County Executive, he brought Westchester into the national spotlight with innovations that benefited local residents and served as models for the country. As County Clerk, he gained national recognition as an advocate for reengineering government to save tax dollars and provide better services. As an educator, he helped to found the United Federation of Teachers, the largest, most prestigious teachers union in the nation. A protector of the environment, Mr. Spano has preserved 2,300 acres of open space from Yonkers to Yorktown, and instituted programs to protect water quality. He tripled, to \$30

million, the County's New Homes Land Acquisition Fund, which helped builders of affordable housing overcome the high cost of land. Under his administration, the county expanded day care, instituted programs to protect children against predators, and addressed health problems such as teen drinking, smoking, and obesity. He has worked to make government more accessible through the county's award-winning website and through Westchester Telecom, a high-speed, fiber-optic network that links schools, libraries, local governments, and other public institutions. In 2008, the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) named Westchester County one of the world's most intelligent communities. This year, the ICF selected Mr. Spano as one of three recipients of their annual Founders Awards, which identify those who are transforming life in the broadband economy for the common good.

Edna Sussman, New York City Panel on Climate Change
e-mail: esussman@SussmanADR.com
www.SussmanADR.com

An arbitrator and mediator, Edna Sussman is the principal of Sussman ADR, LLC and a Distinguished ADR Practitioner in Residence at the Fordham University School of Law. Among her many successfully handled disputes are those arising from environmental and energy matters. She serves on the New York City Panel on Climate Change and served as Co-Chair of the Business Sector Committee of the Westchester County Global Warming Task Force. She was named an Outstanding Woman in Energy Law by Energy Law 360 and received a 2008 Environmental Quality Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Ms. Sussman has lectured and published widely on climate change, green building, renewable energy and greenhouse gas regulation.



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Climate Action Plan Committee

Catherine Breuning is a member of Greenburgh's Conservation Advisory Council and Climate Action Task Force. (e-mail: cmbruening@yahoo.com)

Deann Cartwright, Greenburgh's Conservation Outreach Coordinator, has her biography listed in the Speakers and Moderators section of this Resource Guide. (e-mail: conservationoutreach@greenburghny.com)

Allegra Dengler, Greenburgh's Energy Conservation Coordinator, is a former Trustee of the Village of Dobbs Ferry. She now serves on the Climate Change Advisory Council of Westchester County; the Dobbs Ferry Mayor's Task Force on Energy and the Environment; Sierra Atlantic's Global Warming and Energy Committee; and Sustainable Dobbs Ferry. She also chairs Citizens for Voting Integrity. (e-mail: adengler@greenburghny.com)

Mary Fox is President of Mary Fox Research, Inc. For more than 20 years, she has conducted insightful qualitative and quantitative research for leading fortune 500 companies, resulting in new product and service creation, positioning, and market introductions. (e-mail: mary@maryfoxresearch.com)

Carl Granholm, is an electronic engineer, consultant, and patent holder. He is also a member of the Greenburgh Nature Center's Board of Directors. (e-mail: profgroove@optonline.net)

Piotr Grebski is Director of the Bureau of Design and Review at the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development. (e-mail: pg9@hpd.nyc.gov)

Sven Hoegar founded Creative Habitat Corp. (www.creativehabitatcorp.com),

an ecological consulting firm providing cost-effective, environmentally sound solutions and services for ecological restoration. He is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control., Ecological Consultants. (e-mail: sven@creativehabitatcorp.com)

Anne Jaffe-Holmes is Project Coordinator at the Greenburgh Nature Center. She is also a member of the Greenburgh Climate Action Task Force, and chairs the Irvington Climate Action Task Force. (e-mail: gncajaffe@aol.com)

Diana Juettner, is Councilperson for the Town of Greenburgh. In this role, she serves as Town Board Member and Town Liaison. (e-mail: djuettner@greenburghny.com)

Susan Mirialakis is a marketing and communications professional with more than 20 years experience in international marketing and communications for Fortune 500 companies and public relations agencies. (e-mail: suemir@optonline.net)

Frank Musantry is a self-employed Hartsdale resident. As chair of the Greenburgh Climate Action Task Force, he has used his consulting skills to organize the group's collective information into their report. (e-mail: fmusantry@optonline.net)

Angelo Ponzi manages the Ponzi Team at Keller Williams Realty (www.angeloponzi.com). He is also Vice President of the Rex Ridge Board. (e-mail: buyorsell2@verizon.net)

Seth Segall is Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychology at the Yale School of Medicine and former Director of Psychology at Waterbury Hospital. (e-mail: seth.segall@yale.edu)



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Artist **James Dean Conklin** created the *Greening Greenburgh* logo in full color. It has been reproduced in grayscale within this document.

Vic Weinstein serves on Greenburgh's Planning Board and Climate Action Task Force. (e-mail: vic123w@aol.com)

Event Volunteers

Writer and editor **Hilary Maybaum** (www.mediabistro.com/hmaybaum; e-mail hmaybaum@gmail.org) owns *i.e. science*, a freelance science writing and editing business. A professional scientist, editor, and author with extensive publishing experience, Ms. Maybaum communicates scientific concepts through engaging print, online, and multi-media content, as well as formal and informal presentations. Her services include K-16 education, professional journals, and trade publications. She has authored textbook supplements in oceanography, and recently completed a middle-school book on climate and the effects of climate change. She is an active member of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

Program Manager **Bryan Mornaghi** graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2006, with a B.S. in Ecological Biology. Since then, he has worked in the energy industry, starting off at a renewable energy research company, followed by independent work with a New York Wind Power project. He just spent the last few months working at an energy-consulting firm. In the fall, he will be studying for his degree in Environmental Law.

Music playlister **Jeff O'Donnell** loves the environment as much as he loves music. Being asked to combine the two makes this nurse, educator, and outdoors enthusiast a happy man.

Program Manager **Susan Porcino** has been an Ardsley resident for 23 years. She has a master's degree in ecology and systematics, chairs the

Environmental Advisory Committee for Ardsley, and represents Ardsley on the Greenburgh Environmental Forum.

Photographer **Elisa Zazzera** does media production and administration for a psychoanalytic member non-profit organization. Most of her time in the last three years has been spent educating herself on, and then spreading the word about, climate solutions. She advocates for green legislation to her neighbors and village government, encouraging folks to lessen their carbon footprints. Ms. Zazzera cofounded Sustainable Hastings and is Executive Producer for a local company, Greenhead Media (www.greenheadmedia.org), creators of animated content since 1996.

Internet Resources

Recommend browsing provided in advance by event participants.

Tom Abinanti recommends:

- **The New York Times**
www.nytimes.com
- **The New York Law Journal**
www.nylj.com
(new developments and trends in New York's fast-paced legal scene)
- **EcoPolitics Daily**
www.nylcv.org/ecopoliticsdaily
(a daily blog of the New York League of Conservation Voters)

Deann Cartwright recommends:

- **Bioneers**
www.bioneers.org
(a leading source of innovative solutions)
- **ICLEI USA**
www.icleiusa.org
(a member association committed to climate protection and sustainability)



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- **Pandora Internet Radio**
www.pandora.com
(plays only the music you love)

Neil Cutler recommends:

- **The Story of Stuff**
www.storyofstuff.org
(a look at the underside of production and consumption)
- **Grassroots Recycling Network**
www.grrn.org
(where waste is a resource)
- **Eco-Cycle**
www.eco-cycle.org
(working to build zero-waste communities)

Robert Funicello recommends:

- **Global Warming - Westchester.gov**
www.westchestergov.com/globalwarming
(a focus of County's GW Task Force)
- **Real Climate**
www.realclimate.org
(climate science by climate scientists)
- **Grist**
www.grist.org
(making lemonade out of looming climate apocalypse)

Kristin Marcell recommends:

- **Climate Choices**
www.climatechoices.org
(explains what climate change will mean for generations to come)
- **Real Climate**
www.realclimate.org
(climate science by climate scientists)
- **Climate Smart Communities**
www.dec.ny.gov/energy/50845.html

Hilary Maybaum recommends:

- **Global Warming**
www.ucsusa.org/global_warming
(from the Union of Concerned Scientists)

- **The Green Guide**
www.thegreenguide.com
(from National Geographic)
- **Pew Center on Global Climate Change**
www.pewclimate.org
(provides credible information, straight answers, and innovative solutions)

Bryan Morghani recommends:

- **Sierra Club Green Home**
www.sierraclubgreenhome.com
(helping you create a more sustainable home environment)
- **NY Times Green Inc.**
<http://greeninc.blogs.nytimes.com>
(a blog about energy, the environment, and the bottom line)
- **Green.org**
www.green.org
(how to turn your whole world green)

Elyssa Rothe recommends:

- **Funny or Die**
www.funnyordie.com
(YouTube for comedians)
- **The Notion**
www.thenation.com/blogs/notion?bid=15
(a blog from writers of The Nation)
- **Grist**
www.grist.org
(making lemonade out of looming climate apocalypse)

Elisa Zazerra recommends:

- **Sustainable Hastings**
www.sustainablehastings.org
(an effort of citizens for citizens)
- **Union of Concerned Scientists**
www.ucsusa.org
(leadership for a healthy planet)
- **United States Environmental Protection Agency**
www.epa.gov
(protecting human health and the environment)



Special Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Greening Greenburgh's generous sponsors and contributors:

❖ **America Speaks**

www.americaspeaks.org

Their mission is to reinvigorate American Democracy by engaging citizens in public decision-making.

❖ **Coffee Labs Roasters**

7 Main Street, Tarrytown, NY

(914) 332-1479

coffeelabsroasters@mac.com

www.coffeelabs.com

Coffee Labs Roasters' Green Commitment includes using 100% renewable energy; sustainable coffee; post-consumer paper; and a host of other green technologies and best practices.

❖ **Earth Day Network**

www.earthday.net

Their mission is to mobilize the environmental movement as the most effective vehicle for promoting a healthy, sustainable environment.

❖ **Greenburgh Nature Center**

99 Dromore Road, Scarsdale, NY

(914) 723-3470

e-mail: gbhntr@aol.com

www.greenburghnaturecenter.org

The GNC is a 33-acre woodland preserve with trails, arboretum, gardens, a pond, live-animal museum, greenhouse, exhibits, and nature store. Their vision is to be the leader in nature and environmental education that ignites a lasting desire to preserve and protect the natural world.

❖ **ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability**

www.icleiusa.org

Their mission is to build, serve, and drive a movement of local

governments to advance deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and achieve tangible improvements in local sustainability

❖ **Riviera Bakehouse**

660 Saw Mill River Rd., Ardsley, NY
(914) 693-9758

info.rivierabakehouse@gmail.com

www.rivierabakehouse.com

Since its inception over 45 years ago, the staff of the Riviera has consistently taken pride in producing fine baked goods. In 1994, husband and wife, Kaye Hansen and Peter Simon, took over ownership. They make everything on premises and from scratch, using the best and freshest ingredients.

❖ **Sam's Club**

www.samsclub.com

Their goal is to bring members the highest possible quality products and services at exceptional values.

❖ **Solar Punch**

www.solarpunch.org

The band Solar Punch uses solar energy exclusively to power their instruments and transmit their environmental message.

❖ **Synergis**

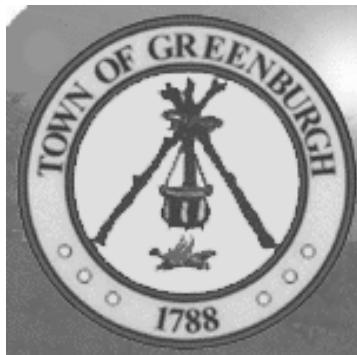
www.zerowastegroup.com

Synergis designs and implements customized commercial and institutional recycling programs, and improves the efficiency of garbage services. Their clients save money, and spend less time managing garbage and recycling services.

❖ **Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies**

<http://environment.yale.edu>

They prepare new leadership and create new knowledge to sustain and restore the long-term health of the biosphere.



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Notes

Greenburgh Environmental Forum

Membership 2008-2009

Town of Greenburgh:

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Elisa Zazzeri, Sustainable Hastings
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Village of Tarrytown:

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Charles Davey, TEAC
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Westchester County Board of Legislators, Environment & Energy Committee:

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GNC Brings Villages, Town & County Together on Environmental Planning – September 2008

GREENBURGH ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

During the winter and spring of 2008, meetings were convened at the Greenburgh Nature Center bringing together representatives of the CAC's/ECB's/CAB's of the six villages and unincorporated Greenburgh to discuss shared environmental issues. It was immediately clear to all that such meetings have tremendous potential for information sharing and laying the foundation for cooperation on environmental issues that cross municipal boundaries. While recycling was the first issue on which the meetings focused, other issues of shared concern were identified. These included: open space and wetlands protections, water quality protection, stormwater management, flood mitigation, energy conservation, and transportation.

With environmental challenges intensifying and becoming increasingly costly at a local level, regular inter-municipal discussion is crucial both to ensure that neighboring communities are not working at cross purposes and to maximize opportunities for mutual support and cooperative action. In applying for County and State support as well as in the battle to win over public opinion, the municipalities of Greenburgh can benefit tremendously by working on environmental problems together.

In order to build upon the communication initiated at the GNC over the last six months, in August 2008, the Greenburgh Nature Center invited each of the mayors and unincorporated Greenburgh to appoint a citizen volunteer with appropriate environmental involvement to represent their municipality in the Greenburgh Environmental Forum (GEF). The purpose of the GEF is to facilitate steady, focused communication between the villages, the Town of Greenburgh, and Westchester County government on shared environmental issues. The Forum meets monthly at the GNC. Some issues currently under study by the GEF include stormwater management/flood risk reduction; protecting the environment through the planning process and zoning codes; solid waste reduction and recycling, and transportation.

For more information on the GEF, contact Project Coordinator Anne Jaffe Holmes,
gncjaffe@aol.com; 914-813-1812.

Anne Jaffe Holmes
Greenburgh Nature Center
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www.greenburghnaturecenter.org
Chosen "Westchester's Best Nature Center" by Westchester Magazine