



## Homeowner Newsletter

### Would you like an easy way to possibly lower your utility bills?

Today's conventional shower heads use 2.5 gallons of water per minute... According to one estimate, assuming a 10-minute shower, a 1.75 gallons-per-minute efficient shower head may save an average household about 2,700 gallons of water per year, leading to lower natural gas and water bills!

Milwaukee Habitat recently received a kind donation of low-flow "simple, decent, and *free*" shower heads from Franklin Energy ([www.franklinenergy.com](http://www.franklinenergy.com)), and has up to two available for existing Milwaukee Habitat homeowners to use in their Habitat homes, while supplies last. They can be picked up at the Habitat office during normal business hours (Mon.-Fri.), along with an instruction sheet on how to change a shower head, and a small strip of "plumber's tape" that can be used to help re-seal the new connection. These shower heads have a maximum flow rate of 1.75 gallons of water per minute, so it might not hurt for you to first know what the flow rate is on your existing shower head, so that you can decide if it is worth it for you to make this switch. (Heads from before 1992 may have flow rates of as much as 5.5 gallons per minute, so it would probably be worth your while in that case. More recent Habitat homes may have shower heads with rates of about 2.5 gallons per minute, so there it is more of a judgment call as to whether or not you want to make the change.)

If you're interested, just stop in at Habitat during normal business hours, and Rachel Cychosz can pass one (or two) along to you. *Then, have fun saving money and helping your environment at the same time!*



### Help "Get Things Done" with Milwaukee Habitat, as one of our AmeriCorps members!

Are you interested in taking a year or two out of your life to help build *homes and hope...* while at the same time developing leadership skills, serving alongside and leading volunteers, and helping Habitat fulfill its mission of providing simple, decent, affordable homes for those in need?

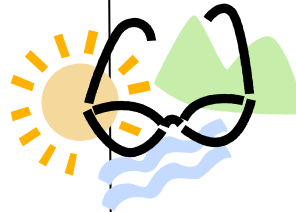
Milwaukee Habitat AmeriCorps may be just what you're looking for! We plan on soon accepting applications for seven AmeriCorps member positions, with the service year beginning around Labor Day of 2009 and ending in July, 2010. Positions available range from six that are construction-related, to one which will be helping to coordinate volunteer and Habitat partner family activities.

See [www.milwaukeehabitat.org/ameriCorps.html](http://www.milwaukeehabitat.org/ameriCorps.html) for more information, or contact Steve Tennies at [stennies@milwaukeehabitat.org](mailto:stennies@milwaukeehabitat.org) or 414-940-1905.

We're looking forward to hearing from you soon!

## Summer 2009

"Summertime!"



### Family Fun in the Summer

Summer has finally come to Wisconsin, well mostly, and Milwaukee has a huge array of entertainment, activities, and fun for the whole family throughout the next few months.

If you're interested in a bit of family-friendly fun, here are a few options to checkout this summer:

- "Cool Waters" in Greenfield, a great way to cool off on those 90 degree days!
- Bradford Beach will be open all summer with concerts and activities almost every weekend.
- The Great Circus Parade is coming back to Milwaukee this year on Sunday July 12th. And of course in true Milwaukee Style, its more than just a parade, its an entire weekend festival on Milwaukee's lakefront!
- Concerts in the Parks. Many of Milwaukee's parks offer weekly concerts of all sorts!
- Farmers Markets! One of the best ways to enjoy fresh produce throughout the summer! Farmers Markets are scattered throughout the city at many of the county parks.

For more information or specific locations of any of these events, check out the Milwaukee County parks website at : [www.countyparks.com](http://www.countyparks.com)

Take advantage of these great opportunities, before the cold weather returns!



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Habitat for Humanity at the Wisconsin State Fair August 6-16th

Milwaukee habitat will have a booth every day of the state fair this year and we are looking for volunteers to help us work at it! We have 3 hour shifts every day. Anyone interested in helping out for a shift or two, please contact Katie Kowalski, 414-562-6100 ext. 14 or [kkowalski@milwaukeehabitat.org](mailto:kkowalski@milwaukeehabitat.org) to sign up! Volunteering includes FREE admission to the State Fair AND a parking pass! Sign up SOON!!

### Thursday, July 23 25th Anniversary Celebration

come down to our warehouse between 4pm and 7:30pm and help us celebrate 25 years of bringing safe, decent, and affordable housing to Milwaukee!

### Building on Faith Week Sept. 14-18th

This is the last major build week for 2009, if you're interested in signing up call 414-562-6100 xt. 14 for more information!

### Homeowner Homecoming Event 2009

As a part of our 25th Anniversary, Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity wants to celebrate all of our amazing homeowners. We're inviting you, whether you've been living in your house for 25 years, for less than a year, or are still waiting for it to be built, to come out and celebrate being a Habitat Homeowner. Our "Homeowner Homecoming" event is going to be held on Sunday, August 16th from 1pm-4pm at Johnson Park (20th and Fond Du Lac).

This will be an afternoon filled with entertainment, activities, and door prizes for everyone in the family! So put it on your calendars now, we hope that you will be able to make it!

This will be a cook-out and pot-luck event. If you are able to attend, please contact Karlisha Murrell (email is preferred: [karlishamurrell@yahoo.com](mailto:karlishamurrell@yahoo.com) or 414-234-0800) to sign up for a dish to bring. Please sign up by Friday, July 31.



*The Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity Homeowner Newsletter is published bi-monthly by Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity. Articles and advertisements from homeowners are always welcome and appreciated. Please contact Rachel Cychosz at [rcychosz@milwaukeeHabitat.org](mailto:rcychosz@milwaukeeHabitat.org) or call (414) 562-6100 ext 12.*