



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Party of the Year: Evanston Green Ball Set for Saturday, May 20
Heard the buzz? Green Ball Proceeds to Support Ecology Center's New Honey Bee Hives

The 6th annual Evanston Green Ball will feature live music, free food and locally brewed beer—all to support the Evanston Ecology Center's education programs, including summer camps and new honey-bee hives.

Given the needs at the Ecology Center, event organizers hope community leaders follow in the footsteps of Mayor-elect Steve Hagerty, who says he plans to attend the party just 12 days after being sworn in to Evanston's top job.

Sponsored by the Evanston Environmental Association (EEA) and the City of Evanston, the ball is **7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave. in Evanston.**

The Green Ball is Evanston's biggest bash of the year. Partygoers enjoy the "Taste of Evanston," free food and drink from the best local restaurants, caterers and breweries. That includes: The Amazing Kale Burger, Andy's Frozen Custard, The Cellar at the Stained Glass, Celtic Knot Public House, Farmhouse Evanston, Hecky's Barbecue, Koi, La Macchina Café, Peckish Pig, Sketchbook Brewing Co., Smylie Brothers Brewing Co., Tag's Bakery and Temperance Beer Company.

Also, back by popular demand, the band "Eye Candy" will play its self-described "upbeat pop/rock dance tune-age."

Proceeds support the Evanston Ecology Center, a North Shore gem that provides children's summer camps and environmental education classes that teach adults and youth how to better protect the planet. The goal of this year's Green Ball is to raise money for a new project at the Ecology Center: the development of an apiary—a collection of four bee hives planned for 2017. The center will use the hives to teach the importance of honeybees, whose numbers are currently threatened. The pollinating bees--tens of thousands are needed to begin the hives--also will help local gardens, and the center hopes to someday harvest honey.

"Let's make some money for the honey," EEA President Dick Peach declared. "Everybody loves the Ecology Center, and everybody loves a good party. The Green Ball lets you celebrate Evanston with fine food, drink and music—all for a good cause. We urge everyone to be a community leader, and bring your friends to the Green Ball."

Early bird tickets are \$60 for EEA members and \$65 for non-members through April 30. After that, tickets are \$70 for EEA members and \$75 for non-members. "Friend of the Ecology Center" tickets are also available for \$100, and there is a special ticket price of \$60 each for groups of five or more, including a bonus of one free ticket. Admission includes food, drinks and live entertainment. To purchase tickets, visit evanstonenvironment.org/greenball.

The Green Ball will offer a special Eco Center Sitters service for attending parents. Evanston Ecology Center staff will be on site at the Levy Center to offer children a fun-filled night. Pre-registration is required; no drop-ins. To learn about pricing and to register, call the Ecology Center, at 847-448-8256.

Event Sponsors

Archer-Patterson Family Foundation, Collective Resource, Evanston RoundTable, Main-Dempster Mile, Natural Awakenings Chicago, Nature's Perspective, the Mike Nowak Show, Peckish Pig, Scott Simpson Builders, Sketchbook Brewing Co., Smylie Brothers Brewing Co., Temperance, and WinSol Power.

About the EEA

The Evanston Environmental Association (EEA), started in 1976, is a nonprofit dedicated to supporting the programs of the Evanston Ecology Center and promoting environmental awareness to the surrounding community.

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