



THE
FUTURE
IS OPEN

 **DNC**
LIVE

**4TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019

Elliott University Center
Greensboro, NC



Panel Presentation

Librarians Venture Outside: Lifelong Learning through Gardens and ecoEXPLORE

*Noah Lenstra, UNC at Greensboro LIS Dept
Becky Schneider, Person County Public Library
Libbie Dobbs-Alexander, North Carolina Arboretum*

#NCLIVEOPEN



What happens when librarians venture outside?

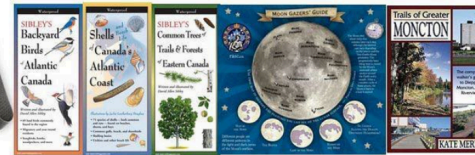


Let's Move in Libraries

Discovery Daypacks



Available now
to Borrow



WALKABILITY of Your Neighborhood

Wednesday, April 26
10:00 a.m.

Participate in a 1 mile guided walk to assess the safety for pedestrians in your community.

Presented in partnership with St. Louis County Older Resident Programs (CORP) and Oasis.

Adults. Registration required.



Rock Road Branch

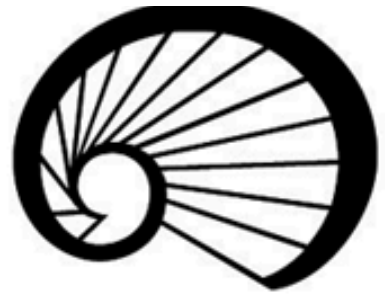
10267 St. Charles Rock Road | St. Ann, MO 63074 | 314-994-3300

Program sites are accessible. Upon two weeks' notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Call 314-994-3300 or visit www.slcl.org.





SUMMER STRIDE 2019



San Francisco Public Library

Three pillars of Summer Learning:

- 1) Reading Enjoyment
- 2) STEM Learning
- 3) Active experiences in nature

Read more at: sfpl.org/summerstride/

Out of the Branches, into the Woods

Libraries and state parks collaborate on hiking
backpacks for patrons

By [Ronnie Wachter](#) | January 2, 2018



Librarians Venture Outside

Walking History

Library-led sightseeing tours bring local stories to life

By [Hanako Maki](#) | September 1, 2017



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LIBRARIES & GARDENS

• GROWING TOGETHER •

Published by ALA Editions, 2019



Four-year-old Will Leahey reaches the end of a StoryWalk installed along Mt. Agamenticus in Cape Neddick, Maine. // Dave McCarthy/Courtesy of Kate McCarthy

The Parks Where Kids (and Their Parents) Walk and Read at the Same Time

LINDA POON SEP 24, 2018



Librarians Venture Outside

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WELCOME TO THE NATURAL LIBRARY: The Essential Role of Libraries in Creating Nature-Rich Communities

by Richard Louv | Jun 9, 2015 | The New Nature Movement - Columns by Richard Louv | 3 comments

About the Author

Richard Louv is Co-Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the [Children & Nature Network](#), an organization supporting the international movement to connect children, their families and their communities to the natural world. He is the author of [nine books](#), including "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder" and "The Nature Principle." His newest book, "Vitamin N," offers 500 ways to build a nature-rich life. In 2008, he was awarded the Audubon Medal. He speaks frequently around the country and internationally.



On June 12 and 13, the Children & Nature Network will launch its Natural Library initiative during a community celebration at the Sun Ray Library and Conway Park in St. Paul, Minnesota. The new Sun Ray Natural Library will serve as one of the emerging models for other libraries and communities across the U.S. The ceremony is open to the public. For more information, please [click here](#).

Libraries exist in every kind of neighborhood; they already serve as community hubs; they're often supported by Friends groups; they have existing resources (nature books); they're often more flexible than schools; they're known for being safe—and they're a perfect, if unexpected, institution to

Who am I?

- One-woman reference department at Person County Public Library
- Accidental co-owner of a small farm 2015–2017
- Not a real farmer
- Seriously cannot overstate my lack of farming and gardening credentials
- Yes, I did name my small business after a medieval Arthurian romance



Person County

- Predominantly rural county
- Population 39,000
- County seat 30 miles north of Durham
- One-branch library with 7 FT staff

Why a library garden?

- Interest from library staff and a local farmer
- Underutilized back yard
- Community outreach opportunity

Project Goals

- Community learns about gardening
- Community partners share knowledge
- Small amount of donated produce



Why a seed library?

- Interest from board of Person County Museum of History
- Natural extension of library garden

Project Goals

- Encourage gardening in the community
- Share and preserve heirloom / local varieties
- Teach seed saving techniques

Grow It In Person

Person County Seed Library



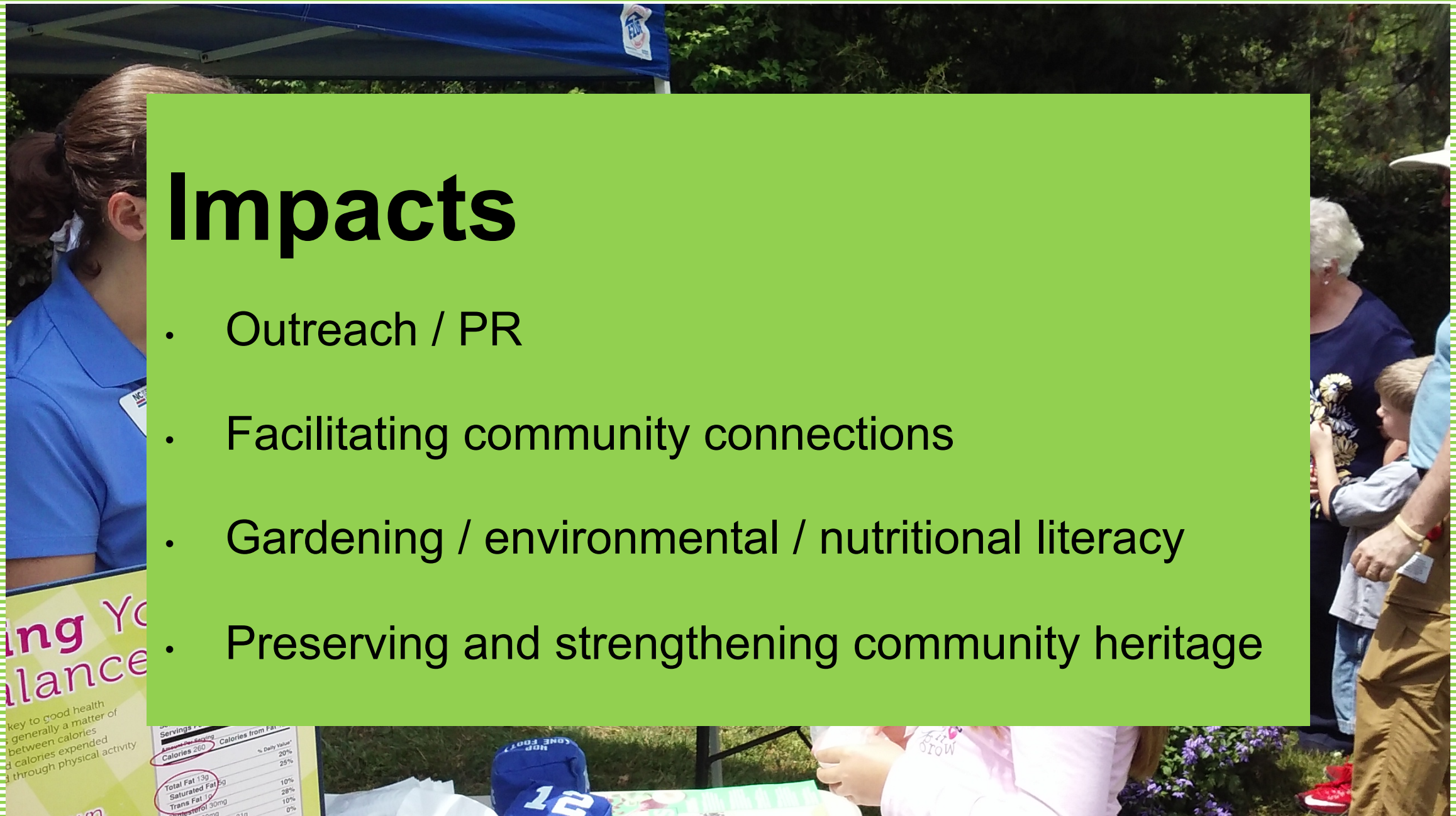


The Garden Club
of North Carolina



Impacts

- Outreach / PR
- Facilitating community connections
- Gardening / environmental / nutritional literacy
- Preserving and strengthening community heritage



Advice

- Don't go it alone
- Be prepared to get dirty
- Leverage first-year enthusiasm
- Be adaptable and embrace failure
- Think holistically

Resources

NC Cooperative Extension Publications

content.ces.ncsu.edu

Seed Libraries

seedlibraries.net

Seed Savers Exchange: Gardening and Seed Saving Resources

www.seedsavers.org/learn

Southern Exposure

southernexposure.com

Webjunction: Growing Library Garden Programs

www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/growing-library-garden-programs.html



**Be a Good
Sport**

<https://prezi.com/view/lfD62BX8w5CT2f7hzhGB/>

ecoEXPLORE:
Coming soon
to a library
near you?

The pollinator garden we created at Polk Library is planted! @TheNCARBoretum recently donated to help fund upkeep as it's a site of their new program - ecoEXPLORE, a citizen science program combining science exploration w/ kid-friendly tech to foster learning & outdoor discovery.



HCPL & ecoEXPLORE KICKOFF EVENT!

Join us as we celebrate the kickoff of The North Carolina Arboretum's program, ecoEXPLORE here at HCPL. Come learn how you can become a citizen scientist while earning badges and prizes!

Scientists from High Touch, High Tech will lead a hands-on science experiment and a naturalist from Chimney Rock Management will be providing information on native wildlife, featuring some live animal ambassadors!

Wednesday, March 27th
3:30-5:30pm
Main Library, Kaplan Aud.

This free event is
open to families
and scientists from
Kindergarten and up!



HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

301 N Washington Street, Hendersonville 828.697.4725 hendersoncountync.gov/library



Closing remarks and interactive discussion

- There is no one **best** program model.
- The best initiatives are developed in partnership with other groups in your community/region and tailored to your library's unique features (e.g. greenspaces)
- Get kids, families, and older adults **LEARNING** outdoors
- Tick off multiple outcomes: Community Science, Lifelong Learning, Environmental Awareness, Physical Activity, Outdoor Recreation, Health and Wellness, Digital detox/Mindfulness, **[Insert Your Idea Here]**
- What are you doing at your library? What do you want to do?