



246 North Main Street
South Hadley, MA 01075

Loomis Life

April 2023

Volume 6, Issue 4

Mark Your Calendar

Open House

Loomis Village
Sunday, May 21st
11:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Wait List Events

Wait list members, be on the lookout for exclusive invitations in the mail!

RSVP with Josh
413-530-4144 or
jpowers@loomiscommunities.org

Want to catch up on past editions of *Loomis Life*? Scan the QR Code below!



Peeling Back the Petals: Environmental Wellness

Each year, Earth Day provides a global opportunity to reflect on the planet we all call home. April 22, 2023 was the dedicated day to recognize and explore how the world's citizens can collectively ensure our planet's viability for generations to come. Here at The Loomis Communities we strive to do our part, not just on this celebratory day but year-round.



From gardening to harvesting our own honey, sustainability is at the forefront of all we do.

Every action has a ripple effect, impacting everyone and everything around us. The residents and team members at The Loomis Communities realize this and are committed to spreading that awareness — while establishing environmentally friendly, safe, clean, and welcoming surroundings at home and within the broader community.

As one of the eight dimensions of wellness, environmental wellness is a significant aspect of the Loomis strategic plan. We strive to be good stewards of the environment, starting with our own walking trails, beehives, campus gardens, and orchard arboretum.

This Earth Day, residents of Loomis Village led guided walks to our giant oak tree and bee hives, sharing the importance each plays in the overall ecosystem. At Applewood, an orchard arboretum clean-up prepared the grounds for the coming summer weather and involved the installation of some new plantings. Our Loomis landscape is cared for with fertilizers that will not harm honeybees and other insects. We make it a priority to protect the pollinators while maintaining our picturesque grounds.

“People here are passionate about leaving the planet in a better place for the next generations.” — Charlotte Schechter, Loomis Village Resident



The algae cleaned from the ponds is used to fertilize resident gardens at Loomis Village.

The trail system at each community is cared for by residents themselves, who believe sustainability should be more than a buzz word. Thanks to their engaged, active efforts, the ponds at Loomis Village are swept each spring for invasive algae, which is then used to fertilize resident-maintained gardens. The result: a chemical-free way to grow, while conserving funds and restoring the natural beauty of our outdoor spaces for all to enjoy.

Three bustling communities require a lot of operational power. That is why the Loomis Communities decided to partner with local solar farms. As their primary client, we purchase the power these farms create and return it back to the grid to offset power consumption in our communities. The team at Loomis is constantly reevaluating ways to obtain even more eco-friendly energy.

On top of these efforts, our leadership is hard at work adding electric vehicle charging stations, for resident and guest convenience. We have also begun installing chargers in garages of residents who already own electric vehicles.

Peeling Back the Petals - Environmental Wellness (cont. from p. 1)

If the Mountain View landscape team is on site when you visit one of our communities, take a close listen; one thing you won't hear is motors! Mountain View landscaping now utilizes electric mowers in their commercial division. What does this mean for The Loomis Communities groundskeeping? It means zero emissions and zero noise pollution. The environmental impacts of this decision will help secure a healthier, more sustainable future in the Pioneer Valley for years to come.

Have some extra food scraps? Want them to be disposed of in a way that reduces landfill waste? Look no further than the Loomis kitchens. All three communities compost food scraps during daily meal prep. This means that the bulk of your personal cast offs can help nourish resident garden beds and whole-campus landscaping efforts.

Connect with us using the contact information found at the bottom of this newsletter. We'd love to hear any thoughts or questions you might have on additional ways to enhance our environmental wellness.



Electric mowers are just one of the ways we are investing in an eco-friendly future.

Opening the Medicine Wheel

A walk along the trails at Loomis Village, just behind the bee hives, will inevitably bring you to an interesting structure known as a medicine wheel. This sacred work of art is a beloved spot for contemplation by several residents at the Loomis Communities and the creation of resident Jeanne Achille. Medicine wheels have a rich Native American history and, while not medicine themselves, are thought to promote wellness by offering a place to pray, be still, and thoughtfully regard the seasons of life.

"I am inspired to meditate or reflect in ways that work for me, while striving to understand the values and beliefs of others," Achille says of her own experience with the wheel.

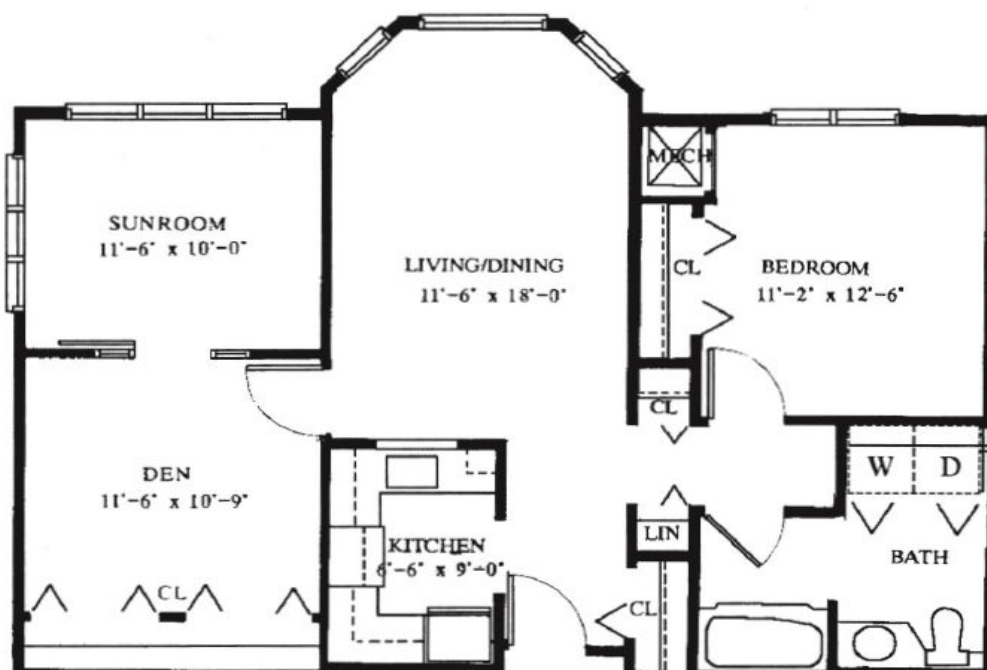


The entrance to the Loomis Village Medicine Wheel

Sometimes referred to as the Sacred Hoop, medicine wheels have been used by generations of various Native American tribes for health and healing. The design embodies the four directions as well as elements of nature like Father Sky, Mother Earth, and Spirit Tree—all symbolic of the dimensions of health and natural cycles of life.

Style Highlight: The Willow

Multiple bedrooms with plenty of room and a dedicated space to tend plants while soaking up the sunshine... Does this sound like your design wishlist? You will enjoy all of that and more in The Willow floorplan. Available at Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing, The Willow offers a sunroom off of the main bedroom, with floor-to-ceiling windows in all corners. You'll also have access to a den, which can easily convert into a second bedroom. Additionally, The Willow features a large living room and open floor plan kitchen. See it for yourself in this [virtual tour](#).



Want to learn more? Have an idea to share? We want to hear from you!

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