### EVERGREEN INCOME ADVANTAGE FUND Form N-CSR July 02, 2010

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**UNITED STATES** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### **FORM N-CSR**

# CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

COMPANIES
Investment Company Act file number <u>811-21269</u>
Evergreen Income Advantage Fund
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)
200 Berkeley Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)
Michael H. Koonce, Esq.
200 Berkeley Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (617) 210-3200

Date of fiscal year end: April 30

Date of reporting period: April 30, 2010

**Item 1 - Reports to Stockholders.** 

# Edgar Filing: EVERGREEN INCOME ADVANTAGE FUND - Form N-CSR Evergreen Income Advantage Fund

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The fund will file its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The fund s Form N-Q will be available on the SEC s Web site at http://www.sec.gov. In addition, the fund s Form N-Q may be reviewed and copied at the SEC s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 800.SEC.0330.

A description of the fund s proxy voting policies and procedures, as well as information regarding how the fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30, is available by visiting our Web site at EvergreenInvestments.com or by visiting the SEC s Web site at http://www.sec.gov. The fund s proxy voting policies and procedures are also available without charge, upon request, by calling 800.343.2898.

#### Mutual Funds:

#### NOT FDIC INSURED MAY LOSE VALUE NOT BANK GUARANTEED

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Evergreen Investment Management Company, LLC, is a subsidiary of Wells Fargo & Company and is an affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company s broker/dealer subsidiaries. Evergreen mutual funds are distributed by **Wells Fargo Funds Distributor**, **LLC**, Member FINRA/SIPC, an affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

#### LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

June 2010

#### W. Douglas Munn

President and Chief Executive Officer

#### **Dear Valued Shareholder:**

We are pleased to provide you with this annual report for Evergreen Income Advantage Fund for the twelve-month period that ended April 30, 2010 (the period ).

Leading up to the beginning of the period, a series of extraordinary financial and economic events affected the financial markets in the United States and throughout the world. After a prolonged period of uncertainty and falling share prices worldwide, stock markets staged a remarkable rally in 2009 that continued through the end of the year. In January 2010, concerns about the sustainability of the economic recovery led to a partial correction, but the markets quickly rebounded and ended the reporting period approximately where they began in 2010.

U.S. economic growth was strong throughout most of the period as the economic recovery appeared to gain momentum. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) returned to positive growth in the third quarter of 2009, following four consecutive quarters of contraction for the first time in at least 60 years. The consensus among economists was that the recession that began in December 2007 had likely ended during the summer of 2009. Originally, much of the growth was attributable to government stimulus, raising questions over the sustainability of the recovery. However, in the first quarter of 2010, GDP growth primarily reflected positive contributions from personal consumption expenditures (PCE), private inventory investment, exports, and nonresidential fixed investment all signs that growth was finally being led by the private sector, a far more positive indicator of recovery than government-driven growth that is typically inefficient and unsustainable.

Employment data also turned positive during the period, another welcome sign that the economic recovery appeared to be moving toward self-sustainability. U.S. employers added 162,000 jobs in March 2010, the most in three years. The unemployment rate edged down to 9.9% at the end of the period, after having peaked at 10.1% in October 2009 its highest level in more than 25 years. Still, more than 8 million jobs were lost during the recession and the number of long-term unemployed those out of work for 27 weeks or longer continued to increase, ending the period at 6.7 million.

In other economic data, industrial production, manufacturing, and consumer sentiment had all improved significantly as the period came to a close. Retail sales strengthened significantly during the period, as well. Although housing inventory and foreclosure rates remained elevated, home sales and prices began to show signs of improvement in

#### **LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS** continued

many areas of the country spurred in part by the government s \$8,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers, which was extended through the end of April 2010.

Despite extensive quantitative easing measures by the Federal Reserve Board (the Fed ), bank lending remained constrained during the period. This indicates that the trillions of dollars of government stimulus that were added to the monetary system might not have an inflationary impact in the near term. Throughout the period, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) held the federal funds rate at the range of 0% to 0.25% that it first targeted in December 2008. The Fed did, however, begin to remove some of its unconventional stimulus measures. It concluded its purchases of longer-term Treasuries in October 2009 and mortgage-backed securities in March 2010.

The FOMC s final statement during the period noted that economic activity continued to strengthen, the labor market was stabilizing, business spending had risen significantly, and inflation remained subdued. However, the committee also noted that unemployment remained high and credit continued to be tight, reiterating that it was likely to keep the federal funds rate at exceptionally low levels for an extended period because of the continued substantial economic slack.

Exceptional performance by corporate issues was the big story in the fixed income markets for much of the period as the economy began to gain strength. Treasuries, on the other hand, were characterized by volatility, especially near the end of the period. Factors such as supply, the debt crisis in Greece, and unpredictable economic indicators contributed to price volatility on the longer Treasury notes and bonds. Longer maturities in the corporate and municipal markets generally outperformed longer Treasuries during much of the period.

During the period, the investment managers of Evergreen Income Advantage Fund maintained what they felt was a relatively conservative positioning in their investments in lower-rated, higher-yielding corporate bonds. They also made selective use of the fund sability to borrow at short-term rates to make additional investments in higher-yielding securities.

We believe the changing conditions in the investment environment over the period have underscored the value of a well-diversified, long-term investment strategy to help soften the effects of volatility in any one market or asset class. As always, we encourage investors to maintain diversified investment portfolios in pursuit of their long-term investment goals.

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#### **LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS** continued

Please visit us at **EvergreenInvestments.com** for more information about our funds and other investment products available to you. Thank you for your continued support of Evergreen Investments.

Sincerely,

#### W. Douglas Munn

President and Chief Executive Officer

**Evergreen Funds** 

#### **Notice to Shareholders:**

At meetings held on May 11 and June 9-10, 2010, the Board of Trustees of Evergreen Income Advantage Fund (the Fund ) unanimously approved a new advisory contract with Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC and a new sub-advisory contract with Wells Capital Management Incorporated (the Agreements ). Shareholders are being asked to approve the Agreements at a meeting to be held on July 9, 2010. Following approval of the Agreements, Phil Susser and Niklas Nordenfelt of Wells Capital Management Incorporated are expected to assume portfolio management responsibilities for the Fund, and the Fund will be renamed the Wells Fargo Advantage Income Opportunities Fund.

At the May 11 meeting, the Board also nominated seven persons for election to the Fund s Board as new Trustees, and nominated two current Trustees for re-election to the Fund s Board. Shareholders are being asked to elect these nominees at the July 9 meeting.

A Proxy Statement containing additional information about the Agreements and the nominees was provided to shareholders of record as of May 18, 2010.

# **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

excluding waivers/reimbursements and

(For a common share outstanding throughout each period)

	Year Er	nded	d April 3	0,						
	2010		2009		2008		2007		2006	
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$7.37		\$12.32		\$14.26		\$14.06		\$14.41	
Income from investment operations Net investment income Net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments Distributions to preferred shareholders	1.06 2.41	1	1.35 (4.91	1	1.64 (1.85	1	1.62 0.36	1	1.59 0.03	1
from Net investment income Net realized gains	(0.01 0	)	(0.08	)	(0.37 0	)	(0.37 0	)	(0.26 (0.02	)
Total from investment operations	3.46		(3.64	)	(0.58	)	1.61		1.34	
Distributions to common shareholders from Net investment income Net realized gains Tax basis return of capital  Total distributions to common shareholders	(1.08 0 (0.06 (1.14	) ) <sup>1</sup> )	(1.31 0 0 (1.31	)	(1.36 0 0 (1.36	)	(1.41 0 0 (1.41	)	(1.54 (0.15 0 (1.69	) ) )
Net asset value, end of period	\$9.69		\$7.37		\$12.32		\$14.26		\$14.06	
Market value, end of period	\$9.63		\$7.30		\$11.71		\$14.70		\$14.17	
Total return based on market value <sup>2</sup>	49.84	%	(25.48	)%	% (11.07	)%	6 14.69	%	11.91	%
Ratios and supplemental data Net assets of common shareholders, end of period (thousands) Liquidation value of Preferred Shares, end of period (thousands) Asset coverage ratio, end of period Ratios to average net assets applicable to common shareholders Expenses including waivers/reimbursements and interest	\$676,14 \$196,00 394	00 %	\$508,60 \$196,00 315	0 %		0 %		00 %	\$953,10 \$490,00 294	0 %
expense but excluding expense reductions Expenses including interest expense but	1.13 1.79	% %	2.30 3.09	% %		% %		% %	1.19 1.19	% %

expense reductions Expenses including waivers/reimbursements but excluding expense reductions and interest expense 1.11 % 1.51 % 1.21 % 1.19 % 1.19 % Interest expense<sup>3</sup> % 0.79 % 0.00 % 0.00 % 0.00 % 0.02 Net investment income <sup>4</sup> 11.81 % 14.35 % 9.81 % 8.98 % 9.17 % Portfolio turnover rate 108 % 88 % 102 % 45 % 49 %

- 1 Per share amount is based on average common shares outstanding during the period.
- 2 Total return is calculated assuming a purchase of common stock on the first day and a sale on the last day of the period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed for purposes of these calculations to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund s Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan. Total return does not reflect brokerage commissions or sales charges.
- 3 Interest expense ratio relates to interest associated with borrowings and/or leverage transactions.
- 4 The net investment income ratio reflects distributions paid to preferred shareholders.

See Notes to Financial Statements

# **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS**

April 30, 2010

	Principal Amount	Value
CORPORATE BONDS 116.4% CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY 20.7% Auto Components 2.6%		
Affinia Group Intermediate Holdings, Inc., 10.75%, 08/15/2016 144A Cooper Tire & Rubber Co., 7.625%, 03/15/2027 Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.:	\$230,000 4,455,000	\$252,713 4,098,600
7.86%, 08/15/2011 8.625%, 12/01/2011 8.75%, 08/15/2020 9.00%, 07/01/2015 10.50%, 05/15/2016 Metaldyne Corp., FRN, 5.46%, 04/09/2014	845,000 1,420,000 2,976,000 1,137,000 5,430,000 902,645	892,531 1,482,125 3,124,800 1,188,165 6,047,662 817,002
		17,903,598
<b>Diversified Consumer Services</b> 3.0% Carriage Services, Inc., 7.875%, 01/15/2015 Service Corporation International:	4,195,000	4,153,050
7.50%, 04/01/2027 8.00%, 11/15/2021 StoneMor Partners, LP, 10.25%, 12/01/2017 144A	9,376,000 880,000 5,930,000	8,836,880 915,200 6,241,325
		20,146,455
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure 3.5% Boyd Gaming Corp., 7.75%, 12/15/2012 Harrahs Entertainment Corp.:	950,000	945,250
10.00%, 12/15/2018 11.25%, 06/01/2017 12.75%, 04/15/2018 144A Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino, 12.00%, 11/15/2010 +	1,530,000 2,790,000 940,000 1,685,000	1,323,450 3,041,100 925,900 827,756
MGM MIRAGE: 6.625%, 07/15/2015 8.50%, 09/15/2010 11.375%, 03/01/2018 144A Midwest Gaming Borrower, LLC, 11.625%, 04/15/2016 144A Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc., 7.50%, 06/15/2015 Pokagon Gaming Authority, 10.375%, 06/15/2014 144A Scientific Games Corp., 9.25%, 06/15/2019 144A Seneca Gaming Corp., 7.25%, 05/01/2012 Shingle Springs Tribal Gaming Authority, 9.375%, 06/15/2015 144A	920,000 1,645,000 3,515,000 705,000 2,880,000 645,000 1,130,000 385,000 2,790,000	793,500 1,657,338 3,611,662 725,269 2,772,000 677,250 1,217,575 383,075 2,371,500

Speedway Motorsports, Inc., 8.75%, 06/01/2016 Trump Entertainment Resorts, Inc., 8.50%, 06/01/2015 Wynn Resorts, Ltd., 7.875%, 11/01/2017 144A	2,075,000 5,011,000 380,000	2,220,250 25,055 387,600
		23,905,530
Household Durables 0.1% Lennar Corp., 12.25%, 06/01/2017	125,000	151,875
Sealy Corp., 10.875%, 04/15/2016 144A	149,000	169,860
		321,735

See Notes to Financial Statements

# **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS** continued

April 30, 2010

CORPORATE BONDS continued CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY continued		
Internet & Catalog Retail 0.4%		
QVC, Inc.: 7.375%, 10/15/2020 144A 7.50%, 10/01/2019 144A Ticketmaster Entertainment, Inc., 10.75%, 08/01/2016	\$1,385,000 990,000 505,000	\$1,405,775 1,014,750 568,125
		2,988,650
Media 8.8% Cablevision Systems Corp.:		
7.75%, 04/15/2018 8.00%, 04/15/2020 8.625%, 09/15/2017 144A CCH II, LLC, 13.50%, 11/30/2016 CCO Holdings, LLC, 8.125%, 04/30/2020 144A Charter Communications, Inc., Step Bond: 8.00%, 04/30/2012 144A 10.875%, 09/15/2014 144A Clear Channel Communications, Inc., 9.25%, 12/15/2017 144A DISH DBS, Corp., 7.875%, 09/01/2019 Lamar Media Corp.: 7.875%, 04/15/2018 144A 9.75%, 04/15/2017 144A 8.50%, 04/15/2017 144A 8.50%, 04/15/2020 144A 8.75%, 04/15/2021 144A Salem Communications Corp., 9.625%, 12/15/2016 Sirius XM Radio, Inc., 9.75%, 09/01/2015 144A WMG Acquisition Corp., 9.50%, 06/15/2016 144A XM Satellite Radio Holdings, Inc.: 11.25%, 06/15/2013 144A 13.00%, 08/01/2013 144A Young Broadcasting, Inc.:	2,330,000 3,750,000 210,000 13,481,015 940,000 2,290,000 10,840,000 650,000 1,130,000 470,000 120,000 3,680,000 4,400,000 6,770,000 485,000 250,000 115,000 1,070,000 815,000	2,364,950 3,815,625 221,550 16,312,028 961,150 2,427,400 12,249,200 696,312 1,186,500 482,925 133,500 3,790,400 4,532,000 6,973,100 518,950 273,125 124,200 1,174,325 925,025
8.75%, 01/15/2014 10.00%, 03/01/2011	3,619,000 2,325,000	8,324 5,348
		59,175,937

#### Multiline Retail 0.2%

Neiman Marcus Group, Inc., 9.75%, 10/15/2015 @ 114,000 116,850 Saks, Inc., 9.875%, 10/01/2011 1,270,000 1,349,375 1,466,225

See Notes to Financial Statements

# **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS** continued

April 30, 2010

	Principal Amount	Value
CORPORATE BONDS continued CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY continued Specialty Retail 1.1% American Achievement Corp.:		
8.25%, 04/01/2012 144A Sr. Disc. Note, Step Bond, 10.25%, 10/01/2012 Limited Brands, Inc., 7.00%, 05/01/2020 #	\$6,550,000 385,000 470,000	\$6,533,625 387,888 479,400
		7,400,913
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods</b> 1.0% Oxford Industries, Inc., 11.375%, 07/15/2015 Visant Corp., 7.625%, 10/01/2012	3,350,000 3,235,000	3,752,000 3,247,131 6,999,131
CONSUMER STAPLES 2.2% Beverages 0.0% Cott Beverages, Inc., 8.375%, 11/15/2017 144A	250,000	261,250
Food Products 2.2% Del Monte Foods Co.:		
6.75%, 02/15/2015 7.50%, 10/15/2019 144A Dole Food Company, Inc.:	150,000 1,545,000	154,313 1,631,906
8.00%, 10/01/2016 144A 13.875%, 03/15/2014 Smithfield Foods, Inc.:	1,225,000 2,702,000	1,267,875 3,269,420
7.00%, 08/01/2011 10.00%, 07/15/2014 144A Tyson Foods, Inc.:	3,035,000 4,150,000	3,110,875 4,658,375
7.85%, 04/01/2016 10.50%, 03/01/2014 Viskase, Inc., 9.875%, 01/15/2018 144A	155,000 115,000 265,000	168,175 136,419 270,300
		14,667,658

**ENERGY 17.0%**