

Excellence in Environmental Education from the Mountains to the Sea

Volume: 2 Issue: 2

Date: Spring 2010

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Calendar:

- Don't forget that May is NH May We Do Science month! To learn more www.mayscience.wetpaint.com
- **NH Envirothon**, May 18, Southern NH University-for more information go to www.nhacd.org
- **NH EPSCoR Conference, June 9**, NHTI and McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, Concord, NH. Register online www.epscor.unh.edu
- **SAVE THE DATE: "Create, Cultivate, Collaborate: Designing Our Shared Future"**
2010 New England Environmental Education Alliance (NEEEA) /SWEEP/Promise of Place Conference. October 21-23, Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, Vermont. www.neeea.org, www.vermontsweep.org, www.promiseofplace.org
- **Save the Date:** 39th Annual Conference of the North American Association for Environmental Education in Buffalo Niagara, NY in 2010. Sept. 29th – Oct. 2nd, <http://www.naaee.org>
- **April is Children and Nature Awareness Month.** Visit www.childrenandnature.org to learn more.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings NHEE Members,

Welcome to spring in New England! Get outdoors and enjoy it!

Our annual conference on March 10th at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in Holderness was very successful. We had approximately 75 participants and everyone found the sessions to be engaging and helpful in helping expand their professional development needs. Many thanks to our sponsors: Squam Lakes Natural Science Center and the Common Man Restaurant of Plymouth. We also would like to thank all our conference speakers. Lastly, thanks to all the participants! The NHEE board has started thinking about the 2011 conference. We are thinking about holding next year's conference at the Harris Center in Hancock. We need your help with making the conference successful. A conference committee will be meeting in the early fall to get started. If you are interested in participating in the conference committee please contact Jess Morton at (603) 706-0291 or jmorton@metrocast.net.

Also at the conference we congratulated three NHEE award winners! Congratulation goes to Carol Foley of the Ellis School, Freemont for the Elementary Award, Bruce Gorrill of Brewster Academy, Wolfeboro for the Middle/High School Award, and Wendy Schorr of Amoskeag Fishways, Manchester for the Non-Formal Educator Award. Wendy gave us permission to include her acceptance letter on page 4 of the newsletter. For more information on the winners please check out the NHEE website.

The month of May is coming fast upon us and NHEE hopes you will participate and/or encourage others to take part in the May We Do Science...Outside initiative. This initiative was developed in collaboration with the NH Children in Nature Coalition, the NH Department of Education, NH Environmental Educators, NH Department of Fish and Game, and formal and informal educators from around New Hampshire. The goals of the initiative is to get every student in New Hampshire Schools and every family outside doing SCIENCE at least one day during the month of May! May is not just a month for the NECAP Science Assessment! We hope you will join us! Please visit: www.mayscience.wetpaint.com for more information.

Audrey Eisenhauer & Jessica Morton

NHEE Co-Presidents



Wendy Schorr (r) with **Carol Foley** (l), holding their 2010 NHEE Environmental Educator of the Year awards. Carol received the Elementary Environmental Educator of the Year Award during the annual NHEE conference held in March at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in Holderness. Wendy, who was unable to attend the conference, happily received her Non-formal Environmental Educator of the Year award post conference at her home. The following words reflect Wendy's feelings regarding the award and her love for her career and her friends in environmental education.

2010 NHEE Non-Formal Environmental Educator of the Year

Wendy Schorr, Amoskeag Fishways

The Environmental Educator of the Year award in the Non-formal category is being given to Wendy Schorr.

Wendy worked in the Manchester City Schools teaching deaf students for 16 years before she began working for the Amoskeag Fishways in 1998. Since then she has personally reached nearly 35,000 children through school programs, fish tours and public events.

As an educator, Wendy has written and taught curriculum relating to fish, watersheds, urban wildlife and other conservation topics. She has coordinated the Adopt a Salmon program, providing teachers with instruction and students with an understanding of the life cycle of an anadromous fish and the importance of stewardship of resources. Her indoor classes are usually filled with live animals and natural objects. When outdoors she encourages all ages to discover and explore. She will even go into a stream in February in search of macro-invertebrates. Her compassion for animals is illustrated by her enthusiasm for Lamprey Appreciation Day and her role as the wrangler of the Fishway's resident rattlesnake. Puppets and games made by Wendy help children engage in learning in creative ways. She captivates with a quiet approach that allows students to discover their own mysteries and answers, and serves as a stellar role model for learning to love and care for the earth.

When it comes to environmental stewardship, Wendy is a living example of the principles she teaches. She and her husband live in a solar powered home, built from wood off their land. They raise much of their own food in organic gardens and orchards. Wendy has served on the Deerfield Conservation Commission and various town committees related to environmental issues.

Several of us have had the pleasure of serving on the NHEE board with Wendy. She also served as co-chair of the Program Committee when NH hosted the extremely successful 2008 NEEEA Conference.

In each of these roles Wendy has brought an incredible attention to detail, creativity, and an appreciation of team work. To quote from her nomination form, "She is a quiet leader and mentor, is modest, self effacing, talented, and treasured". So I feel privileged to offer this award to Wendy Schorr.

Wendy's Words.....

I truly wish I could be with you this evening but seeing as I can't, the next best thing is having Helen be my voice.

When I first heard that I had won this award I started thinking how it came to be that I ended up in environmental education. And, perhaps like many of you, the beginnings go a ways back.

When I was 14 years old my family left the smog and congestion of Los Angeles for a place in the foothills of the Sierras at the back door of Sequoia National Forest. A creek ran year round through the property and mountains rose up directly behind the house. In the front yard a tree grew up through a fracture in a huge embedded rock and dozens of grind holes engraved by the work of past peoples could be seen throughout the rock.

To my citified eyes nothing could have been as miraculous as that place. And, although I didn't know it at the time, by moving there I had stepped across a line and found myself on a path that ultimately brought me here into your good company.

It has become not just my work, but my delight to keep inviting others to join us on this path: to help them see the porcupine hidden in the tree, the tracks of an otter, the connection between the life of the black fly and the life of the bald eagle. And in turn for me to see them in discovery of the salamander beneath the rock, the softness of a skunk pelt, the connection between the lights left on and the stability of the atmosphere.

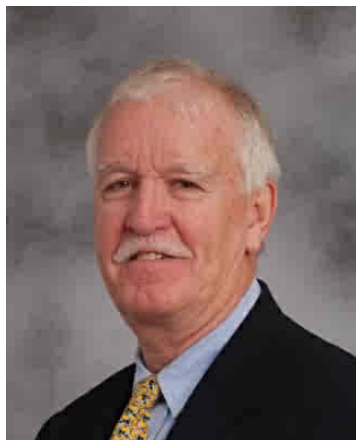
It is a great honor to be given this award by you, my fellow travelers, who know so well how hard it can be to attract funding, keep programs running, and to reach those who need it most.

Good work doesn't happen unless you have good people to work with. I have had the great good fortune of working with some of the best, and I need to take this time to thank 3 people in particular: Kathleen Neville, who has been my sounding board, Rachel Brown, who lights up my day at the Fishways, and Helen Dalbeck, who has been my dream director. There has never been a day when I didn't want to go to work.

Although I would love to go on doing this work forever; powers greater than any of us here have decided that it's my time to step down. So my wish is that you keep doing what you all do so well: keep pointing out the porcupine up in the tree, the salamander under the rock, the beauty and miracle of the planet we live on. It's some of the most important work that there is.

Thank you so much.

I will miss you, and I love you.



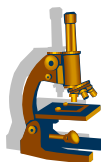
Bruce Gorrill, Brewster Academy, Wolfeboro
2010 NHEE Middle/High School Environmental Educator of the Year

Bruce Gorrill believes that all students need to understand the process of science and that they should be able to do science at a basic level, as well as, having a basic knowledge of the facts in the different content areas of science. Our students live in a world that is rapidly changing, and it is not enough to leave school with just a base of factual information.

Understanding the process of science and how scientific information is developed will help them understand new information, and it will help them face the challenges of the Earth's unknown environmental future.

At Brewster he developed the inquiry skills rubric where all students progress through development and demonstration of the mastery of science skills in each year of science course work. Mr. Gorrill also instituted the four-year requirement for all students in science at Brewster.

He has been a driver for the use of technology in the science curriculum and is currently involved in a three-year National Science Foundation study for the use of technology in science education. He has led workshops and conferences on the process of school reform and the use of technology in the classroom at the National Science Teachers Association, the National Association of Independent Schools, and at Apple Computer conferences. His school reform efforts have included work in Boston, New Orleans, Texas, and Hong Kong. (Courtesy of Brewster Academy, www.brewsteracademy.org)



2010 NHEE Elementary Environmental Educator of the Year

**Carol Foley, Ellis School, Fremont NH
Special Education/Math Coordinator, Coach
and Gifted and Talented Coordinator**

This year's recipient for the NH Environmental Educator of the Year for the Elementary School level is Carol Foley. Carol's may be a familiar face because she likely holds the record for attending more environmental education conferences and workshops than anyone

else in New England.

Though Carol currently works as the Special Education and Math Coordinator and Coach at the Ellis School in Fremont, she has held many positions during her career. She has worked directly with children as well as with other educators. Recently she led teachers in grades 1-6 through a 15-month professional development process to vertically align her district's science curriculum and match it with the NH Science Frameworks. This enabled science to be taught regularly in each grade level, something not previously done. At other schools Carol has breathed new life into science curriculum with many interactive activities that stretch beyond the typical lessons. Her classrooms were often home to snakes, frogs, turtles, rodents and birds, all of which became part of her teaching team as her students saw their biology lessons come alive.

Carol's passion for learning and sharing is illustrated by the fact that she is a facilitator for PLT (1998), WILD (1988), and WET (1999). She has helped bring these EE tools to hundreds of other classroom teachers around NH. She has conducted many other workshops for NH Audubon, NHSTA, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center and others.

Carol also reaches beyond the classroom through work in non-formal settings. By bridging these two sectors she has enriched both areas. She has served on the NHEE board providing insight into school needs and issues. At various jobs, Carol has shared her skills with organizations including NH Audubon, Amoskeag Fishways, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, the SEE Science Center Museum, White Mountain National Forest, McAuliffe Planetarium, Montshire Museum, Boston Museum of Science, and the Swift Water Girl Scout Council.

Carol is receiving this award not because of one specific project, event or talent, but because of her continued dedication to engaging students in environmental studies, her breadth of experience with methods and audiences, her unending interest in gaining and sharing new skills, and her commitment to connecting people with the natural world. It is with great pleasure that I present this award to Carol Foley.

SPOTLIGHT ON NH Environmental Education:

Professional Internships at Antioch University and What They Mean for You

Emily Beck, Nicole Lavoie, Katie Salz, Jessica Sanford, Lauren Schottenfeld, Valerie Snowdon

Antioch University New England in Keene, New Hampshire, is home to the oldest department of environmental studies in the United States. Our department's vision is to create a sustainable society that embodies respect and care for the community of life and ecological integrity, and social and

(Spotlight on NH Environmental education continued)

economic justice, democracy, nonviolence, and peace. At Antioch, our curriculum puts into practice our belief that what is needed now is reflective interdisciplinary study; civic engagement; and community-based research and fieldwork that prepares effective leaders capable of transforming our ways of life at the local, regional, national, and global levels--as well as at our campus.



Each year, Antioch University New England graduate students in the Environmental Studies Department complete professional internships. Students in the Environmental Education program work with both local and national organizations. Students offer partnering organizations resources and skills to support a wide variety programming and initiatives. The professional internship is a cornerstone to students' experiences at Antioch University New England.

Typically, students at Antioch seek professional internships that provide challenging and collaborative atmospheres, opportunities to apply class-based knowledge to real world situations, and potential for professional growth. For example, in the summer of 2009, five students worked at Fertile Fields Farm. Fertile Fields Farm is a small organic vegetable farm in Westmoreland, NH that feeds approximately 120 families every summer and fall through their CSA program and at the farmer's market in Brattleboro, VT. Students were involved in all aspects of farm management from crop planting, harvesting and selling, to farm education and curriculum design.



"There is so much that I have learned during my practicum, most of which are skills that I will carry around with me for the rest of my life." - Antioch University New England student

One student decided to work at Fertile Fields because she wanted to "learn the theory and practices of building a healthy soil, nutrient-rich food, and exactly what it means to be a 21st century farmer." Students are encouraged to seek out internship

"Lauren was quite helpful in the everyday functioning of our program, using her developed knowledge of our site and her advanced knowledge of the environmental sciences to lead quality activities." - Patrick Hansen, Field Supervisor

experiences that are diverse to build a strong skill set. Another example is the several students who have decided to work with the Monadnock Ecological Research and Education Project (MERE). Students have served as summits stewards, educating the general public about the fragile alpine ecosystem. Others have worked with local AP Environmental Science classes teaching curriculum units and facilitating research projects. This has been essential as MERE is a young organization that has thrived with the help of enthusiastic graduate students.

Effective internships are equally beneficial to the organization and the student. In the beginning of the internship, the student and the organization create a contract regarding expectations for the semester. Throughout the student's time with the organization there are regular check-in meetings

(Spotlight on NH Environmental education continued)

with the supervisor. These regular meetings ensure that both parties are satisfied with the progression of the internship.

"There is no doubt that this summer will inform my future career choices and has been invaluable as my first hands-on experience in the world of environmental education." -Antioch University New England student

For more information please contact Sarah Bockus, Practicum Coordinator at sbockus@antioch.edu or 603-283-2326.

NEEEA Update

By Ruth Smith, NHEE Board and NHEE NEEEA Representative

The board of the New England Environmental Education Alliance met at Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm in Lincoln MA on Monday April 12. Discussions continued regarding the annual NEEEA Conference. A committee of the board was formed to assist each state in the planning process of these important staff development and networking events. The new conference committee will provide continuity and a broader perspective to ensure that each conference meets the needs of the regional audience throughout the New England.

Plans for this year's NEEEA Conference are progressing well. The Vermont team has booked Bill McKibben and Peter Forbes for keynote speakers. These men are top notch environmentalists and not to be missed. Mark your calendars now for the NEEEA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2010 *Create, Cultivate, Collaborate: Designing Our Shared Future*, October 21, 22, and 23, 2010 at Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, Vermont. Watch the NEEEA website for updates (www.neeea.org). If you have never attended a NEEEA Conference this would be a great one to start with, if you haven't been in a while, come back and see how NEEEA is working to keep up with cutting edge and best practices in EE. It's the place to be if you're in EE!

NEEEA will be sponsoring another professional development opportunity in September on how to price and determine appropriate revenue for environmental education programs. This will be held at the Doyle Center in Leominster MA. More details will be coming soon.

Join the NEEEA list serve. Go to www.neeea.org and sign up through Yahoo groups. It's a great way to stay informed of what's going on and communicate with other EE professionals around New England.

Environmental Educators Toolkit: NH Envirothon Conservation Problem Model

NH ENVIROTHON teaches high school students natural resource management by using problems to integrate the various sciences in preparation for a May state competition. An outdoor training day offers students and teachers an opportunity to meet the environmental scientists giving field demonstrations and hands on activities. At the competition, teams of five students take written examinations in five subjects (aquatics, forestry, wildlife, soils and the current issue) and present their solutions to a land based problem from the year's theme to a panel of judges.

How Does NH ENVIROTHON Work?

Teams consist of five high school aged students and two alternates. Current science and environmental information is provided to help teams prepare for the state competition. An outdoor training day offers both students and teachers an opportunity to meet environmental scientists providing field demonstrations and hands on activities. A competition is held in late May at outdoor field sites where students take written examinations and present their solutions to an environmental problem to a panel of judges. **Home-schooled** high school age students are welcome as are groups developed by scouts, Conservation Commissions, nonprofits, etc. in addition to groups from an individual high school. Currently the cost is \$50 to register a team.

Integrated Learning! Critical Thinking!

"ENVIROTHON is the most effective and motivational teaching tool I have worked with. It lends authenticity to learning. I love when my students work on their ENVIROTHON problems. They really have to fine-tune their critical thinking skills to succeed." (Keene HS Teacher Cliff Lerner)

"ENVIROTHON can be life-changing! I've had students join who did not consider themselves to be 'students'. When they worked on the Envirothon problems, became part of a team, and produced products that they were proud of, they changed their outlook on education!" (Conant HS Teacher Margie Clark-Kevan)

"ENVIROTHON teaches science, environmental concepts, and critical thinking skills simultaneously. After competing, the teams return to school feeling a sense of accomplishment, fired up to improve for next year's ENVIROTHON." (ConVal HS teacher Carol Young)

AND IT'S FUN!

"ENVIROTHON has been my favorite activity in high school and I feel privileged to have been a member of four ConVal teams. I have without a doubt learned more through my experiences on ENVIROTHON than I have in many of my AP classes." (Former student participant). [High school teachers who are team advisors confirmed this student's comment.]

Goals for 2010 Establish a team(s) in the Lakes Region with Zonta and in southern central NH with Silver Wings ROTC at Daniel Webster College.

Create a new logo that integrates the natural resource topics.

Develop it from student submissions and contest, not limited to team participants.

Improve the formatting of NH ENVIROTHON'S information on the NHACD website.

Develop written policies beyond the Rules & Regulations, ie. not to follow the Canon guidelines for student presentations and questioning, we use a shorter format.

Sue Kessler will understand the annual cycle and be more independent in 2011.

Continue to develop funding sources to sustain and grow the program.

Future Goals

Tie materials to NH's Science Literacy Framework, we cover lots of it!

Encourage use of the materials posted on line by schools and groups not hosting teams

Prepare for 20th Anniversary in 2012

Increase team numbers statewide, work with more groups and homeschoolers

Establish a firmer funding base so we do not need to increase team fees

And lots more!

NH ENVIROTHON 2009

Land-Based Problem: Preserving New Hampshire's Biodiversity

Background

New Hampshire has a wide variety of habitats contained within its diverse landscape of forests, wetlands, grasslands, coastal islands, tidal marshes, granite peaks, and nearly a thousand lakes and ponds. New Hampshire's natural landscape supports a diverse collection of native plants and animals, including nearly 200 natural community types, about 2,000 plant and tree species, and over 20,000 animal species. However, many habitats are rapidly disappearing or are fragmented by roads, building construction, and dams. In addition, many ecosystems are being disrupted by human activities; New Hampshire is the fastest growing state in the Northeast, with a human population increase of more than 17 percent from 1994 to 2004 (NH Wildlife Action Plan, 2009; NH Natural Heritage Bureau; 2009)

A direct result of habitat loss is the loss of **biodiversity**. Biodiversity refers to the vast spectrum

of the sizes, color, shapes, life cycles, and interrelationships of life on Earth. Three kinds of biodiversity are essential to preserve ecological systems: 1) **genetic diversity**, a measure of the variety of different versions of the same genes within individual species; 2) **species diversity** describes the number of different kinds of organisms within individual communities or ecosystems; and 3) **ecological diversity** assesses the richness and complexity of a biological community (Cunningham and Cunningham, 2004). It is important to note that biodiversity loss is not caused solely by human activities; phenomena such as natural disasters, natural selection, and natural climate change can also impact biodiversity at any geographic scale (local, regional, or global) and at any biological organization (genes, populations, species, and ecosystems). Measuring changes in biodiversity can be a very complex process because the many different components of biodiversity can vary independently in both organization and geographic scale. In an attempt to preserve biodiversity in New Hampshire, the **Harris Center** has worked with towns, landowners, government agencies and other conservation groups to link together a 12,630-acre **Supersanctuary** of protected lands. The **Supersanctuary** is an aggregate of protected parcels in a hundred square mile portion of the Monadnock Region central highlands and including parts of the towns of Antrim, Greenfield, Hancock, Harrisville, Nelson, Peterborough and Stoddard (**see State Map below**). When the Harris Center coined the name in 1985, the **Supersanctuary** contained several nodes of protected land totaling about 3,000 acres. By protecting land abutting nodes and making connections among them the Supersanctuary has grown to some 20,000 acres including four 2,000 foot mountains and surrounding forest land, three lakes over 100 acres and seven smaller ponds, a thousand acres along the Contoocook River and major tributary junctions, 1,600 acres along the Contoocook's North Branch, several scenic roads, and wetlands including flood plain, swamp, marsh, fen and wet meadow (Harris Center, 2009).

The **Supersanctuary** consists of clustered open space which has multiple advantages over dispersed protected areas: It can provide the contiguous blocks of habitat for far ranging species like bobcat, moose and black bear; it provides the forest interior needed by some migrant songbirds; it maintains forests on a scale large enough to manage for both timber and wildlife; it preserves the potential for back country recreation such as "wilderness" canoe camping as well as hunting plus on and off trail trekking; and it can also preserve scenic drives down country roads with scenic view sheds. Additionally, clustered open space can protect not only shore

lands, but whole watersheds for current and future well heads, reservoirs, and other vital water supply resources (Harris Center, 2009).

The Problem

An opportunity has arisen to expand the **Supersanctuary** by an additional 960 acres in the town of Antrim. This parcel of land is located in a very strategically important part of the sanctuary; preserving this land will bridge a gap between two other very large parcels of land in the **Supersanctuary** (see **T. Land Owner Plot Figure below**) thereby increasing its clustered open space considerably. In addition, the parcel includes several ecologically-sensitive habitats. The 960 acre parcel is owned by Mr. and Mrs. T. Land Owner who have fallen under very difficult times due to the current national financial crisis. The elderly Mr. and Mrs. Owner have to raise money from their land to buttress their personal finances; however, they do not want to sell the property because it has been in their family for generations. Your team is charged with presenting a proposal to Mr. and Mrs. Owner that will be financially beneficial to them, while at the same time provide a mechanism to assure that the 960 acre parcel can be included in the **Supersanctuary**.

In order to finance the preservation of the Owner's land, your team must first convince the *Institute for Conserving Biodiversity* of the ecological value of the parcel. The *Institute for Conserving Biodiversity* will provide up to \$125,000 in funds for the project if the ecological importance of the land can be proven, **and** if matching funds can be raised.

Your team will consist of 5 members:

- 1) A private consultant who will be charged with producing a *Natural Resource Assessment* of the Owner's land
- 2) Harris Center Land Protection Specialist
- 3) Chairperson of the Antrim Conservation Commission
- 4) NH Fish & Game Field Biologist
- 5) NH Department of Environmental Services Wetland Scientist

Your proposal must include the following:

- 1) A Natural Resource Assessment of the 960 acre parcel
- 2) A Financial Plan to raise 100% of the money needed to include the Owner's land in

the **Supersanctuary**

3) A long-term management plan for the parcel

4) A summary of how preservation of the parcel will help preserve New Hampshire's biodiversity

Other Considerations:

Federal money (*Institute for Conserving Biodiversity*) requires 50/50 matching funds

Many of the local land owners are wealthy individuals who may be interested in preserving the Owner's land. Included in this packet is a *Natural Resource Assessment Guide* and several maps to help you in preparing your proposal. The Natural Resource Assessment that your team prepares for the parcel should include an assessment of each of the different wildlife habitat land covers contained within the Owner's parcel of land as shown in the attached figure below. This figure is based on the ***New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan*** (see references below). As such, you should use information from the Plan in your assessment and presentation.

Presentation Guidelines

1. All five team members must participate in the presentation. Your team will have exactly 15 minutes to make your presentation, followed by 5 minutes of questions by the judges. Plan and rehearse your presentation accordingly.

2. Visual aids for your presentation will be limited to hard-copy charts, handouts, and displays. Your presentation may not involve any audio or video players, projectors or computers, but you may use computers to prepare materials that can be printed on 8.5" x 11" or 8.5" x 14" paper. Neat hand drawn posters and visuals are fully acceptable.

3. Work on the problem is restricted to the five team members and two alternates. You may seek additional information from any source, but you are not permitted to get help on your solution to the problem (your analysis, proposed project, the proposal itself, or any handouts or displays) from parents, teachers, advisors, consultants, professionals or anyone else. Teams will be asked to certify that they have complied with this rule. You may, and should, get help and guidance in rehearsing your presentation.

4. You can meet with scientists, educators, and other career professionals about the subject matter for the land based problem. You must not ask the professional specific questions about the problem; but, you are encouraged to discuss the topic with them in general terms and to learn about the issue from their perspective.

The 2009 NH ENVIROTHON Land Based Problem Committee:

John Slater, Daniel Webster College (Chair); jslater@dwc.edu

(EE Toolkit continued)

Eric Aldrich, the Harris Center for Conservation Education

Amanda Costello, Cheshire County Conservation District

Jan Hooper, NH ENVIROTHON & Belknap County Conservation District

John Liptak, NH Department of Environmental Services

Jill Roth, Daniel Webster College

Judy Silverberg, NH Fish and Game Department

References

Cunningham, W.P and Cunningham, M.A., *Principles of Environmental Science*, McGraw, Boston, 2004, pp.424.

Harris Center for Conservation Education, <http://www.harriscenter.org/>

(accessed February 9, 2009)

NH Natural Heritage Bureau, <http://www.nhdfi.org/natural-heritage-and-habitats/>

(accessed February 9, 2009)

NH Wildlife Action Plan, http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/wildlife_plan.htm

(accessed February 9, 2009)

Other Internet Resources

NH Division of Forest and Lands, <http://www.nhdfi.org/>

NH Fish and Game Department <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/>

NH Department of Environmental Service <http://des.nh.gov/>

(EE Toolkit continued)

Formerly attached, but removed to reduce size for emailing

Six maps with accompanying reference materials including pertinent soils data.

For more information on NH Envirothon contact: NH ENVIROTHON c/o NH Association of Conservation Districts



POB 2311, Concord, NH 03302-2311



Upcoming Professional Development and EE Enrichment Opportunities

- **Ben Kilham on Bears**" will be presented on **Saturday, April 24th**, from 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM at the Community Room, Hopkinton Town Library, Contoocook. Ben Kilham has been featured in numerous national TV programs and newspapers. He has researched bear behavior for years by raising orphaned or starving cubs and releasing them back to the wild. Ben's illustrated program will help us learn more about bears and about the research methods that he's used to help us learn to live with bears.

These programs will be held at the Community Room, Hopkinton Town Library, Contoocook, NH. They are sponsored by The Little Nature Museum. Admission is free; donations are appreciated.

Directions to the Community Room: www.hopkintontownlibrary.org. More information: info@littlenaturemuseum.org; www.littlenaturemuseum.org; call 603-746-6121.

Volunteers Needed at The Little Nature Museum

- Do you enjoy helping people, especially children? The Little Nature Museum, located at Gould Hill Orchards, Contoocook, is looking for individuals who can help children, adults, and families enjoy and learn from the activities, collections, and exhibits in the Museum. Smiles are guaranteed! Even though no experience is needed, you should enjoy nature and helping people. The Museum is open on weekends and holidays and by appointment on weekdays. Training and insurance are provided. A minimum commitment of six shifts (18 hrs. total) during our season of June 26th - October 31st is required. Volunteers are especially needed during September and October. Students, ages 16 years and up, who are looking for community service hours, and adults, including retirees, are welcome. For more information about volunteering, contact Sandra Martin, Museum Director, at **603-746-6121** or at info@littlenaturemuseum.org. For information about the Museum, www.littlenaturemuseum.org.
- **Growing Up Wild Workshop, May 13** at The Fells in Newbury. Contact Mary Goodyear for more information at Mary.Goodyear@wildlife.nh.gov
- **Focus on New Hampshire Forests: A Project Learning Tree Workshop**
Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 9:00am-3:00pm
At Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center
*For Elementary And Middle School Teachers, Interested Parents, and Non-formal Educators

About the Workshop

This workshop will introduce formal and non-formal educators to PLT's award-winning curriculum materials. Project Learning Tree uses trees and the local environment to introduce key environmental concepts to students. PLT activities are designed to help students learn to think critically and creatively about their relationship to the natural world. They are noted for teaching students how to think about the environment, not what to think. PLT activities are interdisciplinary and meet state standards in the four curriculum frameworks.

(Professional Development and Enrichment continued)

The workshop is co-sponsored by the Town of Gilford's Kimball Wildlife Forest Committee who is looking to support local teachers in utilizing this 245 acre forest to meet curriculum needs while providing students with a unique experience. The workshop will begin at Prescott Farm and then part of the workshop will take place at the Kimball Wildlife Forest (we will carpool).

You will receive the following:

- Hands-on experience with classroom-ready activities and resources,
- Project Learning Tree's award winning "PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide" which includes 96 activities and is correlated to NH State Curriculum Frameworks,
- Focus on New Hampshire Forests, a supplement to the PreK-8 Activity Guide with information specific to the trees and forests of our state,
- An Educator's Guide to New Hampshire Forests, a series of fact-sheets about our NH forests
- 6 hours of professional development credits
- Information on how to connect your students with the Kimball Wildlife Forest and more!

Cost:

This program is FREE. Costs are covered by the Kimball Wildlife Forest Committee. You will still need to register as space is limited. For more information, call 226-0160 or e-mail info@nhplt.org. The deadline to register is May 10th.

May 29th, 8:30-10:00 am Squam Lakes Association. **Organic Pancake Breakfast.**

Networking opportunity and a delicious meal to benefit the SLA. Call ahead to purchase discounted tickets of \$8. \$10 tickets at the door. Children under 12 are free! 603-968-7336. 534 Route 3, Holderness, NH 03245.

Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center-Laconia; Public Programs April –June

- **Spring Frog Walk**
Sat., April 24, 2010 – 4:30-6:00
\$8 NM, \$6 M

Nothing says "spring" like the chorus of frogs on a warm evening! We'll take a walk to the pond at Prescott Farm and learn about the amazing natural history of peepers, woodfrogs, toads and others which have now emerged from hibernation and are ready for spring.

- **Night Hike Adventure**
Sat., May 8, 2010 – 8:30-10:00
\$8 NM, \$6 M

If you've never been on a night hike before, you are missing a sensory experience like no other! Using all five senses, we'll explore Prescott Farm's trails in the dark and participate in some fun activities. Towards the end, we'll also do some stargazing from the field.

(Professional Development and Enrichment continued)

- **Wild Foods Walk**
Sat., June 12, 2010 – 10:00-11:30
\$8 NM, \$6 M

The New England woods are full of edible and medicinal plants. On this walk we'll learn to identify what plants are safe and even try eating a few of them!

Please reserve your spot in advance by calling 366-5695 or sending an email to info@prescottconservancy.org.

2010 Summer Institutes

MIT, Inc. *Museum Institute for Teaching Science*

Interactions in the Sciences: *Observe, Investigate, Explain*

Explore how cycles, processes and systems connect life, physical and earth science

July 6-9 & July 12-16

For Upper Elementary and Middle School Educators

A minds-on, hands-on professional development experience that will provide you with scientific knowledge, classroom investigations and a network of resources.

Offered in seven regions of Massachusetts and southeastern New Hampshire.

Spend 1-2 days at each partner organization as you participate in content and skill development sessions taught by professional educators, scientists and content experts. Daily activities include both indoor, inquiry-based classroom experiences and outdoor, field experiences.

Berkshire Region: Berkshire Museum, Center for Ecological Technology, MA DCR, Housatonic Valley Association

Boston Region: Boston Children's Museum, Harvard Museum of Natural History, New England Aquarium, Zoo New England

Cape Cod/South Shore Region: Cape Cod Maritime Museum, National Marine Life Center, OceanQuest, South Shore Nature Center

Merrimack River Region: Amoskeag Fishways Learning and Visitors Center, Beaver Brook Association, MA DCR, Nashua River Watershed Association

North Shore Region: Gloucester Maritime Heritage Center, HOBBS, Inc., MAS Endicott and Ipswich Regional Centers, Schooner Adventure

Southeast Region: Buttonwood Park Zoo, Lloyd Center for the Environment, MAS Oak Knoll Wildlife Sanctuary, New Bedford Whaling Museum

Worcester Region: EcoTarium, MAS Wachusett Meadow Sanctuary, MA DCR, Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Worcester Art Museum

Investigate:

- using inquiry-based, hands-on methods in your classroom
- resources at cultural institutions in your area
- life cycles and food chains in local habitats
- using interactive models to explain geology and climate
- ways that chemical and physical factors shape habitats
- how students can use data to describe what they observe
- and much more

Take home a teaching resource kit to ensure your success using inquiry in the classroom. Earn PDPs and/or graduate credit.

(Professional Development and Enrichment continued)

Course Fee: \$250 (discounts for more than one teacher per school); additional fees for graduate credit based on institution selected (\$150-\$280 for 4 credits)

Registration Deadline: June 1, 2010 (call for space after deadline)

For a complete brochure or to register visit www.mits.org, e-mail ahoffmaster@mits.org, or call 617-328-1515.

Nominate an Innovative High School Science Teacher: Deadline 21 May

Calling all US high school science department chairs and administrators: you are invited to nominate teachers for the 2010 AAAS Leadership in Science Education Prize for High School Teachers. The \$1,000 prize honors a high school science teacher who has advanced science education by developing and implementing an effective strategy, activity, or program. For more information, contact imatlock@aaas.org <http://www.members-aaas.org/l.jsp?d=3984.463054.654.65Sur_rz9AyviVHY69pWzdA..A> or go to prize details, nomination forms, and application forms <http://www.members-aaas.org/l.jsp?d=3984.463053.654.65Sur_rz9AyviVHY69pWzdA..A> .\

REGISTER NOW: NHFG/UNHCE Watershed Ecology Institute; A Course for Science Educators, Youth Leaders, and Community Leaders. 8:30 am – 3:30 pm, July 19-23 & July 26-30, 2010. Plymouth Regional High School, Plymouth, NH. Graduate and under graduate credit available-see registration form for fees. Call 603-271-0456 with questions or to obtain a registration form. Space is limited.

Here Come the Dragons! Join the NH Dragonfly Survey this year! Volunteers especially needed in the North Country. No experience necessary as trainings are available. Learn how to identify this amazing invertebrate in all of its life stages and contribute to a vital biological survey of this species group. Contact Dr. Pamela Hunt at NH Audubon for more details. phunt@nhaudubon.org



Visit us on the web at <http://www.nhee.org>

If you have questions or comments contact the Newsletter Editor at acerno@earthlink.net