

## Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Network Newsletter November 2009

Hello Environmental Science Educators,

If you are looking for teaching resources don't forget to check the Environmental Science Digital Resource Library. Your fellow educators have posted their favorite activities, videos, and web sites. Add your contributions using the online form. <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/envsci/Framework/Overview/index.htm>

~ Sunshine Buchholz, Network Coordinator ([www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/envsci](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/envsci); [sbuchhol@uwsp.edu](mailto:sbuchhol@uwsp.edu))

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### News

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1. **Wisconsin Environmental Literacy Plan Being Developed**  
The Wisconsin No Child Left Inside Coalition is working to develop an Environmental Literacy Plan for Wisconsin that will address the environmental education needs of Wisconsin's pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade schools and will pay special attention to creating more opportunities to get kids outside. The Plan will recommend a comprehensive strategy to ensure every child graduates with the environmental skills and knowledge needed to contribute to a sustainable future. Deb Weitzel, environmental science teacher in the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District, represents the Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Network in the Coalition. Deb's main priority is to ensure the interests of environmental science educators are addressed in the plan. Updates will be provided in this newsletter as the Plan develops. For additional information about the Coalition visit: <http://eeinwisconsin.org/net/org/info.aspx?s=86593.0.0.2209>
2. **DPI Environmental Education Consultant Position Funded**  
Wisconsin's 2009-2011 budget included funding to support the reinstatement of an Environmental Education Consultant position within the Department of Public Instruction. Many educators, organizations, and legislators lobbied to restore this position after funding was cut in the late 1990s. This position will support statewide K-12 environmental education initiatives in Wisconsin's schools and ultimately, it will ensure Wisconsin is meeting its environmental literacy goals. For more information, please contact Jesse Haney, Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation, 715.346.3604 or [Jesse.Haney@uwsp.edu](mailto:Jesse.Haney@uwsp.edu).

3. **2009 Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Summit Summary and Resources**  
 In mid-August, 42 environmental science teachers spent two days exploring field enhancements and classroom resources to infuse into their environmental science courses. It was a time to network, learn together, and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals. A summary of the event along with resources from the presenters is available online. Find resources for teaching wildlife tracking, biofuels, and sustainability: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/envsci/Summit/09summit.htm>
  
4. **Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Network on Facebook**  
 Join the new Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Network group on Facebook to network, share ideas, ask questions, and find resources:  
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=245385895573&ref=nl>
  
5. **Trees Advance in a Warming World** (BBC)  
 Trees around the world are colonizing new territories in response to higher temperatures. From the US west coast to northern Siberia and south-east Asia, trees are growing at higher elevations, and at higher latitudes as the climate warms. However, the trees aren't responding quite how scientists expected. Instead of advancing as summer temperatures rise, the trees' ability to colonize new areas appears to be more dependent on whether winter temperatures warm. Full article:  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/earth/hi/earth\\_news/newsid\\_8218000/8218335.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/earth/hi/earth_news/newsid_8218000/8218335.stm)

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#### Events

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6. **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Toward Harmony with Nature Conference** – January 30, 2010  
 You are invited to a day-long seminar on native landscaping sponsored by Fox Valley Area Chapter of Wild Ones. Held at the Oshkosh Convention Center, Oshkosh, WI January 30, 2010. In addition to the 10 featured speakers, there will be exhibitors and vendors of native landscaping organizations, products and services and a Silent Auction. More information: <http://www.for-wild.org/events.html>

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#### Opportunities

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7. **Youth Environmental Writing Contest** – Deadline December 4, 2009  
 The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) recognizes the value of youth perspectives and is sponsoring the Generation Green writing contest. Articles are limited to 1,000 words for university students and 500 words for high school students. Selected articles will be published in a six-page insert distributed at the 10th National NCSE Conference: The New Green Economy and included in the online Encyclopedia of Earth. The winners will also be published online in Solutions, a magazine focused on sustainable environmental solutions. The content should be designed to express personal perspectives and experiences, identifying key issues and solutions. Submissions are due December 4, 2009. Full information: <http://ncseonline.org/conference/greeneconomy/cms.cfm?id=3302>
  
8. **Nominations Open for the 2010 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award** – Deadline January 15, 2010  
 The Richard C. Bartlett Award is presented annually by the National Environmental Education Foundation to an outstanding teacher who has successfully integrated environmental education into his or her daily curriculum. The 2010 prize will be given to a *high school* teacher who can serve as an inspiration and model for both students and colleagues. **The winner receives a \$5,000 award and a trip to Washington D.C.** where he or she meets with representatives from the environmental education community to further his or her education network. Do you know a teacher who stands out among the rest? If so, please nominate him/her for the 2010 Richard C. Bartlett Award. Nominations will be accepted through **January 15, 2010**. To learn more or submit your nomination visit <http://www.neefusa.org/bartlettaward.htm>
  
9. **2010– 2011 Environmental Education Grant Cycle Open** – Deadline February 13, 2010

The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) is seeking proposals for the 2010-2011 grant cycle. The Board anticipates awarding \$115,000 for general environmental education grants, \$190,000 for forestry grants, and \$190,000 for school forest grants. **Proposals are due February 13, 2010.** This is a great opportunity for environmental science educators who seek funds for classroom or field based projects. For an application packet or more information about the program, see the Board's website at <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb> or contact Ginny Carlton, Administrative Specialist, at 715-346-3805, email: [weeb@uwsp.edu](mailto:weeb@uwsp.edu).

**10. Environmental Leadership Program for Students and Teachers in Alaska – Summer 2010**

In the summer of 2010, a select number of high school delegations from throughout the U.S. will have the opportunity to take part in a fun, rewarding, and hands-on program of learning and adventure within Alaska's spectacular Denali National Park. The program is designed for all students interested in the environment, and will cover current issues of global climate change, include hands-on experience in the field, and introduce topics like environmental leadership. Through their participation, students and teachers who participate will have the opportunity to earn academic credit at the college and graduate levels. More information: <http://www.earthexplore.com/layerseenvironmentalleadership.html>

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**Resources**

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**11. Green Chemistry and the Ten Commandments of Sustainability**

*Green Chemistry and the Ten Commandments of Sustainability* is a book with supporting PowerPoint presentations available for free online. These resources cover environmental and green chemistry, energy, and sustainability science and would be applicable in an environmental chemistry or sustainability science course. Professor Stanley Manahan at the University of Missouri has also created a course outline and lecture materials suitable for introducing the basics of environmental chemistry. All materials can be accessed from this web site: <http://manahans1.googlepages.com/>

**12. New Freshwater Invertebrate ID Resources**

McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company has released four new interactive educational resources for use in identifying and studying common, widespread freshwater invertebrates of North America. They include *Flash Cards of Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America* (includes three different sets of cards, 32 cards/set, along with a booklet containing a glossary and diagrams of body parts) and *QuickGuide to Major Groups of Freshwater Invertebrates*, an easy-to-use guide to identifying common, widespread macroinvertebrates to the levels of class and order. A special offer of 50% off the list price of these new items and on any of their other publications ordered at the same time is being offered until the first 500 sets have been ordered. Afterwards, a 30% discount will continue through the end of the year. For descriptions of the products and terms of the discount offerings, please visit [www.mwpubco.com/titles/invertspromotion.htm](http://www.mwpubco.com/titles/invertspromotion.htm).

**13. 100 People: A World Portrait Web Site**

The SunPower Foundation has created *100 People Under the Sun*, a program that provides classroom lesson plans and online videos to help students identify the ways they use energy and investigate the use of solar energy in their communities. To date, 140 schools in 39 countries are participating and the videos have been downloaded approximately 11,000 times. Also find great facts such as "if the world were 100 people, 24 would have no access to electricity" on the web site: [http://www.100people.org/100people\\_under\\_the\\_sun\\_home.php](http://www.100people.org/100people_under_the_sun_home.php)

**14. A Look at Wisconsin's Forests**

An updated version of the brochure "A Look at Wisconsin's Forests" is now available from the Wisconsin DNR Forestry Division. The publication (FR-122) provides a concise and colorful portrait of forests and forestry in Wisconsin, including basic forest statistics (area of forest by type, proportion of forested land in the state, growth versus removal numbers), information on who owns Wisconsin's forests, wildfire data, threats to the state's forests as well as information on threatened and endangered species, the state's Nursery Program, wood products and biomass. To view a copy of the brochure, visit Forestry's Publications webpage at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/Publications/pdf/FR-122.pdf>. Order publications: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/science/publications/order.htm>

**15. Ecological Impacts of Climate Change Resources**

Climate change is affecting ecosystems right in your own backyard. This colorful 28-page booklet illustrates examples of ecological changes happening across the United States, explains key scientific concepts, and explores the roles and responsibilities of human beings. In addition, Powerpoint presentation modules are available to assist educators in sharing this valuable information. To download the booklet or presentation modules, visit: <http://dels.nas.edu/climatechange/ecological-impacts.shtml>

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This email was generated by the Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Network at UW-Stevens Point.

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To be removed from this email list, reply to this message and type "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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