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## Science teacher summit to address classroom environmental issues Tuesday

*For the Marshfield News-Herald*

STEVENS POINT — Educators from across the state will gather at UW-Stevens Point Tuesday for the Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Summit 2008.

A teacher-led Environmental Science Task Force is working to ensure that educators are prepared to address critical environmental issues in the classroom this fall.

The Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education at UWSP is hosting the event, which is the largest gathering of high school environmental science teachers ever held in Wisconsin. It will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in UWSP's Dreyfus University Center.

State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster will kick off the event and show her support of environmental science education in Wisconsin. George Meyer, director of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and former secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, will emphasize the importance of environmental science education to the state's natural resources.

The event is the culmination of a year of work by teachers who recognize that students need to understand their connection to the environment. With rising energy costs and increased demand on limited natural resources, schools are being called upon to infuse environmental topics into their curriculum.

The number of new environmental courses in high schools around the state is growing rapidly. A framework for environmental science education in Wisconsin will be unveiled at the summit and will provide a common foundation for addressing environmental topics in fair and accurate ways.

For more information, visit the Wisconsin Environmental Science Teacher Summit Web site at [www.uwsp.edu/wcee/summit](http://www.uwsp.edu/wcee/summit).

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