

March 2008 ♦ Published by the CREEC Network

CEEF Educator Survey

The California Environmental Education Foundation (CEEF) is requesting **ALL EDUCATORS** to complete a survey designed to reveal the current needs and constraints to teaching EE inside the classroom and outdoors. The survey data will be used by CEEF to determine its programmatic and funding priorities as it strives to implement the six strategic initiatives identified in the California's state plan for environmental education entitled: *Education and the Environment: Strategic Initiatives for Enhancing Education in California* (available at [http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\\$198](http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader$198).) One of CEEF's highest priorities is to support the CREEC Network in disseminating premier EE resources and services to California's K-12 educators. The survey results will be presented at the CSTA Conference in October 2008 and will be posted on the CREEC website. The survey, which takes only 5-10 minutes to complete, and is available during March only at the following link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=StHCb35n5k04m2RmE8RIQw3d3d>.

EI Writers Sought



The San Luis Obispo County Office of Education is seeking Statements of Qualifications from highly qualified, experienced writers of 3rd to 12th grade instructional materials, curricula, and/or textbooks to work on the development of a Model Curriculum for EEI. The deadline to apply is **Monday, March 30, 2008**. For detailed information about the application process, visit [http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\\$198](http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader$198).

International Year of the Reef

International Year of the Reef 2008 is a worldwide campaign to raise awareness about the value and importance of coral reefs and threats to their sustainability, and to motivate people to take action to protect them. All individuals, corporations, schools, governments, and organizations are welcome and actively encouraged to participate in IYOR 2008. Educational materials are available for teachers at <http://www.iyor.org/resources/education.asp> and the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Splash Zone will feature Coral Reefs.



Support Needed to Fund EE

Urgent: Your support is needed to sustain level funding for U.S. EPA's Office of Environmental Education. This funding supports programs such as NAAEE, EETAP, NEETF, and others which in turn support EE in California. Currently, there is no appropriation in the budget to support EE. Representatives Mark Udall (D-CO) and Jim Walsh (R-NY) are supporting a \$9.2 M appropriation. Congressional support is needed by **March 12th** to secure this funding. If you can help, please contact your local congressional representative to seek their support. To learn more about EPA's programs, visit <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/index.html>.

Green California Summit and Exposition

The **Green California Summit & Exposition** has announced some of its featured speakers: Rick Fedrizzi, founding chairman of the U.S. Green Building Council, Dian Grueneich, CPUC Commissioner, Hunter Lovins, author of *Climate Protection Manual for Cities*, and Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi. The conference will be held at the Sacramento Convention Center, **April 7-9, 2008**. For more information, visit <http://www.green-technology.org/gcsummit.htm>.



National EE Week



Carbon Footprints is the theme for this year's National EE Week, **April 13-19, 2008**. Educational resources for teachers and students at all grade levels are available at <http://www.eeweek.org/>.

AEOE Conference

Conference registration is now open to attend this year's AEOE Conference at Camp Hess Kramer in Malibu on **April 25-27, 2008**. Lynne Cherry, award winning author of *The Great Kapok Tree* and *A River Ran Wild*, is the featured keynote speaker. To register, visit <http://www.aeoe.org>



HAPPY SPRINGTIME!

Junior Duck Stamp Program

The Junior Duck Stamp

(JDS) Program combines science and the arts to creatively teach greater awareness of our natural resources and the importance of conserving habitats. Teachers can choose from a variety of lessons to communicate key concepts of ecology, conservation, and civic action. A JDS curriculum guide is available free of charge. The deadline for the annual JDS contest is **March 15, 2008**. For additional information about the JDS Program, visit <http://www.caljrduckstamp.org/>.



NAAEE Environmental Film & Video Contest



Environmental films and videos are sought by the NAAEE for a **Film and Video Contest** as part of the association's annual conference in October 2008. Entry forms and rules can be found at www.naaee.org/conference. The entry deadline is **April 1, 2008**. Prizes will be offered for programs that tell a positive story of how individuals and communities have come together to solve environmental problems, in accordance with NAAEE's Guidelines for Excellence in Environmental Education. The Film and Video Contest is one element of a larger effort by NAAEE to re-invigorate the use of arts and culture in the EE field.

Envision 2050 Poster Competition

Envision 2050: Is the Future Nature? is looking for poster art works, designs and ideas created by students in 6th – 12th grade. Students are encouraged to think about the future of tomorrow's cities, from how they will look to how people will move within them, with an eye towards nature and natural processes. The issues of global warming and carbon emissions should be considered as well as making the city sustainable. The deadline to submit entries is **May 15, 2008**. For more information, visit <http://www.urbanrevision.com/envision2050/>.



Trash to Treasure Competition



Design Squad, PBS's engineering and design competition, is joining By Kids for Kids (BKFK) and Intel to hold a nationwide contest beginning April 1st. The contest will challenge kids to take everyday discarded or recycled materials and re-engineer them in a way to move things or people, protect the environment, or be used for indoor or outdoor play. The contest will run through **June 30, 2008**. For more information, visit <http://pbskids.org/designsquad/contest/index.html>.

Population Connection Leadership Training

California educators may apply for this leadership training workshop scheduled for **August 2-3, 2008** in San Francisco. The institute will prepare educators to use the Population Connection hands-on curricula. Priority will be given to educators who can facilitate workshops for pre-service and in-service teachers. Lodging and travel reimbursements are available. Deadline to apply is **April 30, 2008**. For more information, visit <http://www.populationeducation.org/>.



Headlands Institute EE Training Program

Professional educators at **Headlands Institute** will train educators in methods that have brought school subjects to life for students for nearly 30 years. Daily activities include outdoor explorations, observations, team building exercises as well as access to our marine and freshwater labs. The program is set in the Marin Headlands in the GGNRA. The week-long workshop is scheduled for late July and August 2008. For more information, visit <http://www.yni.org/hi/AdultEd>.



NEED Summer Training

The **NEED National Energy Conference** for Educators trains teachers to incorporate energy programs into their classroom and extracurricular activities. In 2007, over 180 educators participated thanks to the sponsorship of many local, state, and national sponsors. The five-day program covers all aspects of energy education and offers three graduate credits to participating educators. The conference includes a one-day field experience, allowing educators an opportunity to learn about a variety of energy topics. The conference will be held in Las Vegas on **July 20-24, 2008**. Registration is now available at <http://www.need.org/summertraining>.



Update on SB 908

SB 908, introduced by Senator Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto), would amend Section 33541 of the Education Code relating to environmental education, would require that schools also teach students about climate change. The most recent vote on January 30th shows a 26-13 vote in favor of the bill. The bill is now headed to the state assembly. For more information on this bill or to search for additional state legislation, visit <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>.



2008 Quality Counts



The states recently received their annual report cards. The **2008 Quality Counts** survey conducted by Editorial Projects in Education, ranks states' education programs and awards overall letter grades. California received a "C" based on their ratings across six performance and policy areas. To review the report, visit <http://www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2008/01/10/index.html> and select California.

Climate Literacy Framework

Climate Literacy: The Essential Principles of Climate Sciences for K-12

was developed at a workshop on climate and weather literacy sponsored by NOAA and AAAS. The development of the conceptual framework was the initial step to engage broad community involvement, to address misconceptions about weather and climate, and to establish a unifying structure for developing a climate literate public. The workshop focused on natural and human-induced climate processes and sought to identify essential concepts people should know. Seven essential principles are included in the guide found on the NOAA website at <http://www.climate.noaa.gov/education>.



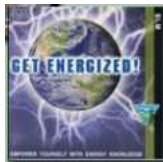
Keep California Beautiful

The KCB **Great American Cleanup** begins this month. KCB is celebrating 18 years of improving communities statewide. KCB provides members with resources, help in mobilizing volunteers, and workshops to support their efforts in combating litter one city at a time. To find out how your school or community can participate, visit <http://www.keepcaliforniabeautiful.com/>.



Get Energized

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has developed a new program called **Get Energized** for educators to use in the classroom to teach about energy. The Get Energized Program includes a Teachers Guide to Energy on Public Lands, an Educator's Guide for grades 5-8, a series of videos about California's energy use, production and conservation, a CD with interactive games and quizzes, and a DVD. All materials are free to California educators. For more information about the program, please visit <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/energy.html>.



California Wildlife on Private Forestlands



The Forest Foundation announces a new publication, **A Guide to California's Wildlife on Private Forestlands**. The guide is designed to demonstrate a part of the complex relationship that exists between our private forestland and the wildlife that call it home. A Wildlife Unit Lesson can also be ordered. To download the guide or for information about the Foundation, visit <http://www.calforestfoundation.org/index.html>.

California eBird

With spring migration nearly upon us, you may want to know what birds are passing through your neighborhood. Through a partnership between Audubon California, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Point Reyes Bird Observatory, **California eBird** is now available to provide interested birders about the abundance and distribution of birds in California and across the nation. This is a great resource for educators wanting to teach students about local birds. To register, visit <http://ebird.org/content/ca/index.html>.

California
eBird



Trash for Teaching (T4T)

Trash for Teaching collects clean and safe cast-off materials from



manufacturing processes (that would otherwise become trash) and repurposes them as educational resources. T4T uses these materials to inspire creative expression and environmental awareness in children through unique recycled objects. For more information, visit <http://www.trashforteaching.org/educators.html>.

Theodore Payne Wildflower Hotline

The Theodore Payne Foundation begins its 26th annual **Wild Flower Hotline**, a weekly phone message and web report highlighting dozens of notable wild flower sites throughout Central and Southern California. Information is updated every Thursday. The Wildflower Hotline (available 24 hours a day) number is (818) 768-3533. The TPF website at <http://www.theodorepayne.org/> also provides educators with seasonal garden guides, native plants, and plants good for wildlife.



March is Women's History Month

Celebrating women in the environmental movement.

Rosalie Edge (1877-1962) Rosalie Edge took her experience in the women's rights movement, her love of birds, her outrage over the behavior of the leaders of the Audubon Association, and with intelligence, persistence and wit became the role model for a generation of women no longer content to sit, breathless, by a campfire or in a city auditorium, while a man lectured on the beauties of nature and the need to preserve them. She also understood that predators have a vital role in the natural order and deserved respect and protection. Her legacy includes both the prominence of women in the environmental movement and a wildlife refuge in Pennsylvania named Hawk Mountain.



Rachel Carson (1907-1964) Rachel Carson is the author of numerous books and publications, among them the groundbreaking "Silent Spring" in 1962, which gained her the title of "mother of the modern environmental movement." Carson challenged the practices of agriculture, scientists and the government, bringing to light the environmental hazards of common post-WWII pesticides. She was attacked by the chemical industry and some in government as an alarmist, but courageously spoke out to remind us that we are a vulnerable part of the natural world subject to the same damage as the rest of the ecosystem.



Elizabeth Terwilliger (1909-2007) Mrs. T led countless school trips for children in the Bay Area, as well as canoeing, bicycling and hiking trips for all ages for more than 50 years - teaching about birds, animals and plants. She used multi-sensory teaching techniques that involved children so they remembered what they learned. She was exciting in the field and children followed her like the Pied Piper. She led field trips until she was 85.



Julia Butterfly Hill (1974-) In December of 1997, Julia Hill climbed into a 1,000 year old California coast redwood tree to save it from loggers. She lived in a 6'x8' tree house 180' above the ground for 738 days. Julia descended only after Pacific Lumber Co. agreed to let the tree and a 3-acre buffer zone around it stand. Subsequently, she wrote "THE LEGACY OF LUNA: The Story of a Tree, a Woman, and the Struggle to Save the Redwoods" and helped found the Circle of Life Foundation to promote the sustainability, restoration, and preservation of life.



Upcoming Conferences, Events & Activities

Arbor Day
March 7-14, 2008
www.arborday.org

NSTA Conference
March 27-30, 2008, Boston, MA
www.nsta.org

Green California Summit & Exposition
April 7-9, 2008
www.green-technology.org

National EE Week
April 13-19, 2008
www.eeweek.org

National Park Week
April 19, 27-, 2008

National Sky Awareness Week
April 20-26, 2008

Earth Day
April 22, 2008

AEOE Statewide Spring Conference
April 25 - 27, 2008, Malibu
www.aeoe.org

American Wetlands Month
May 1-31, 2008

Disney Environmentality Challenge Celebration
May 1-2, 2008, Disneyland
www.deckids.org

Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT)
June and July 2008, Four different locations in northern CA
www.forestryinstitute.org

NAAEE Annual Conference
October 15-18, 2008, Wichita, KS
www.naaee.org

CSTA Annual Conference
October 30 - November 2, 2008, San Jose
www.cascience.org

National Association for Interpretation Annual Conference
November 11-15, 2008, Portland, OR
www.interpret.com

Check the CREEC Network Calendar at www.creec.org for additional events.

News & Views is a monthly publication of the California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network.

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