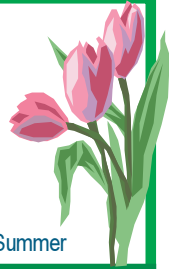




CREED



Curriculum Resources for Environmental Education Development

Volume 34, Number 2 Spring-Summer

President - Millie Redweik

5556 S. 1100 W.
Kewanna, IN 46939
574/653-2699

Vice President - Deb Sachs

University of Indianapolis
1400 Hanna Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46227
317/788-2052
andsachs@insightbb.com

President Elect - Brad Rody

IDNR- Div. of Forestry
P.O. Box 217
Lagro, IN 46941
260/782-0430
brody@dnr.IN.gov

Secretary - Jules Erwin

117 N. Fairview St. #2
Bloomington, IN 47404
812/320-6621
juleserwin53@hotmail.com

Treasurer - Marvin McNew

IDNR Division of State Parks/Reservoirs
Upper Wabash Interpretive Services
3691 S. New Holland Road
Andrews, IN 46702
260/468-2127
mmcnew@dnr.IN.gov

Past President - Teresa Rody

IDNR Division of State Parks/Reservoirs
Upper Wabash Interpretive Services
3691 S. New Holland Road
Andrews, IN 46702
260/468-2127
trody@dnr.IN.gov

Director-at-Large - Jan Hosier

6640 N. College Ave
Indianapolis, IN 46220
317/257-1740
Jan_hosier@yahoo.com

Director-at-Large - Megan Gutierrez

2000-1 E. 151st. St.
Carmel, IN 46033
317/848-0576
gutierrez_megan@hotmail.com

Director-at-Large - Paul Steury

Merry Lea Envio. Learning Center
P.O. Box 263
Wolf Lake, IN 46796
260/799-5869
paulds@goshen.edu

Happy New Year to Everyone

I ended 2007 rather gladly. I will always call it the year that Christmas wasn't!! Even though Robert and I are very thankful for our wonderful children, grandchildren, family and friends it was difficult seeing Robert suffer and be hospitalized for 25 days. We ended at Hobart St. Mary Medical Center. I spent 24/7 there with him as he was trying to recover from kidney failure, which caused congestive heart problems. We finally got home and he is now taking dialysis 3 times a week at Knox. He is usually on the machine from 10:30 am to around 3:30 pm. He also suffered from a major surgery to do a biopsy of the kidney. Too much fluid and tissue to get through with a needle or laparoscope so they did a 7-inch surgery on his side.

Actually if you think about it the dialysis machine is a miracle and were thankful for it also.

I thought I would miss the Sunday school program, but as it worked out, it had to be postponed to January 6th and I was there and took pictures. I'm S.S. Superintendent and I'm so proud of our staff. They took it all in stride and the program "Sleepover at the Stable" was a great success. I am so thankful for all 4 of our "kids". Some of the grandchildren came to visit grandpa in the hospital and at home. Time of love and caring to be treasured. We've also received hundreds of cards and phone calls. Friends are so kind and their prayers and words of encouragement are appreciated.

I'm hoping that everyone else's holiday was a great one and the New Year will work to the benefit of EEAI. I hope we can grow and expand our horizons to include more people and projects.

Sincerely Sent,
Millie
President

One Man's Perspective

by Sam Carman

Sappy email—you know what I'm talking about....those emails we all receive that try to tug at your emotions or somehow make you a better person. Sentimental Sal and Dr. Phil, both at the click of your in-box. Nice to know the 'delete' button is within easy reach. On rare occasions, though, I find something of value in one of these—something relevant to my life or work. For example, try this quiz: 1) Name the last 3 Heisman trophy winners. 2) Name the last 3 Academy Award winners for best actor or actress. 3) Name the last 3 Nobel Prize winners.

These are no second-rate achievers—they are the best in their fields; but the applause dies, awards tarnish, achievements are forgotten, accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz—see how you do: 1) Name 3 teachers who have had a significant influence on your development. 2) Name 3 friends who have helped you through a difficult time. 3) Name 3 people who have made you feel appreciated and special.

The people we remember are those who make a difference in our lives. They may not have the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards, but they *care*. Let's put this into the context of environmental education. Try these questions: 1) Name 3 people who encourage others to recycle. 2) Name 3 people who inspire young people to be good stewards of natural resources. 3) Name 3 people from whom you've learned something significant about our environment.

These individuals may not have won any awards for their work, and their occupations may be totally unrelated to environmental education. They could be your banker, grocery clerk, auto mechanic or minister; they might be your parent, grandparent, son or daughter. What they have in common is that they care about our natural environment and are making a difference in your life—perhaps without even knowing it. As environmental educators, we are in a particularly powerful position to have the same kind of impact on the lives of others—not by crusading or preaching, but by example. And that's a lot of power!



Exploration □ Education □ Destination

Camp Camby / 14-16 November 2008

Hear ye, hear ye, it be a Call for Presenters! Show off ye skills to ye fellow shipmates and help make our EEAI cruise a heartier voyage!

Three tracks there be for our sessions:

*Exploration—research and science, environmental heroes, concepts, principles
Education—hands-on activities, teaching strategies, programming tips and ideas
Destination—creating environmentally-aware citizens, affecting change, promoting stewardship*

Send your submission to:

**Pat Cooper
NREC @ Fort Harrison
State Park
5785 Glenn Road
Indianapolis, IN 46216**

Or email at
pcooper@dnr.in.gov

Please include the following when submitting a session for review by the committee:

1. Name, organization, contact info.
2. Title of presentation.
3. 25-30 word abstract of session content.
4. 1-2 paragraph outline of presentation
5. AV needs, preferred length of session (1 hour or 1.5 hours).
6. Track that your session fits into and why.



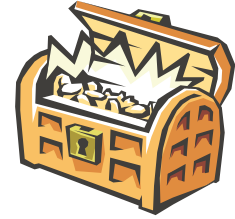
2008 EEAI Conference Theme:

The Hidden Treasures of Environmental Education An Urban Perspective



WHEN: November 14-16, 2008

WHERE: Camp Camby, Indianapolis, IN



WHO: This conference is being planned to be of interest to all individuals from agencies, organizations, and institutions interested in advancing environmental education in Indiana.

WHY: Our annual conference brings together all environmental education (EE) stakeholders to initiate collaboration and to celebrate progress. At EEAI it is our mission to work cooperatively to promote opportunities that will educate motivate and inspire citizens of Indiana to conserve natural resources and meet the needs of our society while maintaining a healthy environment now and in the future. Through EEAI, individuals and groups are not only educated, but also develop partnerships with other individuals and organizations. These partnerships strengthen EE in Indiana, leading to a more environmentally literate population and a healthier environment.

HOW: Through a combination of speakers, entertainment, field trips and workshop sessions, participants will have the opportunity to learn, share, and experience the best practices of EE. The conference theme will be divided into three strands to assure that the sessions will be valuable to all stakeholders. Below is a list of the strands with description of possible topics to be addressed.

Conference Strands



Education: EE is happening all around us

*Introduce us to the basics of EE and how it is and can happen all around us.

*Possible topics include: research in EE and learning styles, live green-learn green, place-based EE

Exploration: Exploring the hidden treasures in EE

* Introduce us to the variety of applications of outdoor and environmental education in different audiences.

*Possible topics include: outdoor education in underserved areas, "nature deficit disorder," natural history, and outdoor skills.

Destination: Finding our place in EE in Indiana

* Introduce us to activities that will show the impacts and trends of EE in Indiana, as well as what might lie ahead.

*Possible topics include: best practices in EE, EE certification with NAAEE and managing volunteer networks.

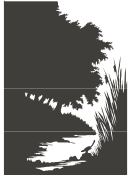


2008 EEAI Activities



The Environmental Education Association of Indiana is striving to further promote Environmental Education in Indiana by promoting and sponsoring workshops, educational sessions and other events throughout the state.

The EEAI Activities Committee is actively engaged in organizing and supporting EE events throughout the state. The Activities Committee is currently comprised of 2 individuals: Jan Sneddon and Megan Gutierrez. We would **warmly** welcome additional committee members with drive and lots of good ideas. Please contact us if you are interested in helping to promote EE in Indiana! We also welcome ideas for future EE activities.



EEAI Activities Committee: Jan Sneddon - jhosier@earthforce.org, 317-257-1740
Megan Gutierrez - meg@co.hamilton.in.us, 317-848-0576

June 13 - River School: A Teacher On-&-Off-the-Water Learning Event!

Experience the beauty of Indianapolis' White River firsthand. This event, presented in partnership with the IDNR's Natural Resources Education Center, will introduce participants to the history and ecology of the White River and its Watershed. Activities will model the best practices of environmental education and service-learning. Please join us as we explore the banks and the waters of Indianapolis' White River. This **free** workshop targets both formal and non-formal educators (adults only please). To register for this **free** opportunity, please call 317-562-1338 or e-mail nrec@dnr.IN.gov

June 26 & 27 - Indiana Environmental Education Symposium

The **Symposium Focus** is on current trends and issues in environmental education and how those trends and issues impact Indiana. Working sessions will yield recommendations to be used in drafting an updated state environmental education implementation plan. **Location:** Indiana State Museum, 650 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN.

To request a registration packet, please call 317-562-1338 or e-mail nrec@dnr.IN.gov

To be Scheduled (check www.eeai.org for updated information)

Bats are Cool!

Carissa Lovett, E.E.A.I. member and Naturalist at Dobbs Park Nature Center, will share her wealth of knowledge about the different species of bats in Indiana and provide materials for various activities for use in the classroom. This will be an evening activity and will be held at Cool Creek Nature Center in Carmel, IN.

(www.co.hamilton.in.us/parks_details.asp?id=2923).



Best Practices for Field Days:

Learn to raise the impact of your field days and water festivals. Best Practices for Field Days helps you design a new event, or make an existing field day more effective. *The Best Practices for Field Days: A Program Planning Guidebook for Organizers, Presenters, Teachers and Volunteers* puts research & practical tips right at your finger-tips. This 'Train the Trainer' regional workshop will be facilitated by Nate Meyer, University of Minnesota's Regional Extension Educator. Curriculum materials will be provided courtesy of the USEPA Region 5 Office of Environmental Education.

We are looking at August dates for this workshop which will likely be held at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Why am I so political?

by Paul Steury

Why am I so political? Many reasons; my father not missing voting days, my church's belief in justice and knowledge that most decisions that affect you and I are made primarily on Capital Hill. But mainly because I don't understand why we as environmental educators are not catching fire with the environmental urgency that so many esteemed scientists are urgently forewarning us about.

Rajendra Pachauri, the head of the United Nations' prestigious Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), said last month, "If there's no action before 2012, that's too late. What we do in the next two to three years will determine our future. This is the defining moment."

www.salon.com/news/feature/2007/12/12/ipcc_report/.

Two scientists, the recipients of the 2007 Blue Planet Prize, Professor Joseph L. Sax, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley and Amory B. Lovins, Chairman and Chief Scientist at the Rocky Mountain Institute, stressed the need for immediate action to preserve the environment ahead of receiving the international environmental award in Tokyo. (www.af-info.or.jp/eng/honor/hot/enr2007.html).

"People all over the world are in denial," E.O. Wilson worries. "We're refusing to face the urgency of pollution, environmental degradation, climate warming and looming populations." (www.paulagordon.com/shows/wilson/).

Even though we now know that driving automobiles and cooling our houses are affecting the habitat of polar bears, "Consumption of energy and many other critical resources is consistently breaking records, disrupting the climate and undermining life on the planet," according to the latest Worldwatch Institute report, Vital Signs 2007-2008. How are going to accept reality, looking at alternatives, and begin thinking outside the box to lessen our impacts on this earth?

Yet crazily I still buy groceries from large box stores that buys their produce from someone they don't know and aren't sure how they are cared for. I worry about how far removed we are to the problems and solutions in our lives, and how far removed many of the aloof American population wants to remain escapists from reality.

"But there is hopeful news as well: we have the ability to solve this crisis and avoid the worst – though not all – of its consequences, if we act boldly, decisively and quickly," Al Gore emphasized during his Nobel Prize ceremony. When are we as environmental educators going to "act boldly, decisively and quickly," and think of these issues as not political but as something all of us need to address? Not just teaching the elementary students but also the stockbroker? The lawyer? The baker? The mason? The college professor? The congress person?



At a party that I assisted in catering and I was washing dishes at, I overheard a woman ask the hostess, "do you recycle?" And the hostess laughed and said "do I look like a person that recycles?" How do we as environmental educators address this person's conceit? How do we reach the apathetic? They say it will take 50 years before our changes will have impact. I have hope they are wrong and that with our changes we can change the direction of the planet's health. I have promised myself to assist in wising the populous in ways to lessen their impacts thus addressing and attacking the issues listed above.

Lester Brown, from the Earth Policy Institute, in Plan B 3.0 (W.W. Norton, New York, 2008), settles my anxiety a little by stating, "We face an extraordinary challenge, but there is much to be upbeat about. All the problems we face can be dealt with using existing technologies. And almost everything we need to do to move the world economy back onto an environmentally sustainable path has already been done in one or more countries." He then prods us to the challenge with two options. He says, "The choice is ours – yours and mine. We can stay with business as usual and preside over an economy that continues to destroy its natural support systems until it destroys itself, or we can be the generation that changes direction, moving the world onto a path of sustained progress. The choice will be made by our generation, but it will affect life on earth for all generations to come."

The problem with me is I'm impatient and I want action now. I must learn patience and determination. I must learn that not all people want to or can be active towards resolutions. I must learn how to teach old dogs new tricks. Ultimately, I am resolved that education, of all ages, all professions, all socio economics, can do anything, which includes saving this world.

Letter from the Editor

Howdy Everyone,

You might notice that this issue of the Creed is Spring / Summer. We are going to be doing three newsletters a year instead of four. If any of you are interested in receiving this newsletter through email, send me a note with your email address and you will no longer receive the hard copy. Have a great day and smile:)

Take Care,
Niki Schmutte
Creed Editor
natureniki@csinet.net



CREED DEADLINES

Copy deadlines for *CREED* are: March 1, July 1, and November 1. To contribute an article, contact Niki Schmutte, 219/324-5855 or natureniki@csinet.net.

Articles can be no more than one page in length and will be added if room allows.



This newsletter is sponsored by the LaPorte County Parks.

Return Services Requested

Environmental Education Association of Indiana
c/o Niki Schmutte, CREED Editor
Red Mill County Park
0185 S. Holmesville Rd.
LaPorte, IN 46350

CREED

Pre-Sorted Standard
U.S. Postage PAID
LaPorte, IN
46350
Permit No. 70