



North Coast CREEC Network

Focus on Sonoma County

Region 1 Newsletter

March - April 2007



This newsletter highlights environmental education opportunities for teachers in **Sonoma County** and is provided by the North Coast California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network, sponsored by the California Department of Education. To locate other programs and resources, go to the **Online Resource Directory** at www.creec.org, click on "Resource Directory," and search by topic in your county.



Light It Right – A CFL Fundraiser for Schools

Schools in Sonoma County have an opportunity to participate in a CFL fundraiser this spring or early next fall. While making money for school activities, students make a difference for the environment. CFLs are provided by PG&E without charge to the schools and therefore all the money raised belongs to the classes or the school that participate. A one-hour Light it Right orientation meeting at the school site along with an educational guide for teachers and an activity book for students are part of this fundraiser. Brochures for parents that explain the saving to households and the benefits to the environment are provided. For more information contact Olga Clymire olganc@pacific.net; 707-263-7249.



Student Energy Patrols Are Good for the Environment.

Get your students involved in a hands-on program monitoring the energy your classroom and school uses by attending an energy patrol orientation workshop. By attending this 90-minute workshop grade 4-8 teachers will discover how to conduct a patrol and receive without charge two videos, an energy patrol handbook, and other educational materials. Workshops can be scheduled at a school site or teachers can attend regional workshops conducted in their area (see below). Each teacher will also receive a voucher for \$25 for Scholastic materials. To schedule a free workshop at your school, contact Olga Clymire at olganc@pacific.net or 707-263-7249.

Energy Patrol Workshop for 4-8 Teachers

Tuesday April 24; 3:30 to 5:00
Sonoma County Office of Education. Refreshments will be provided. Please pre-register at: www.scoe.org/onlineregistration



The Compost Club will be hosting a worm bin/compost bin building workshop on Saturday March 24th, from 9am to 2 pm, at Dragonfly Farm in Healdsburg. The event costs \$50, and includes lunch and wood, materials to build and keep your worm bin. We will visit the West Side School bins and discuss details of composting techniques. This is a very hands-on workshop for those interested in composting. For more information and to RSVP, contact Rick Kaye at (707) 922-5778 or info@compostclub.org.



Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) has a new headquarters in Petaluma along Shollenberger! Some new programs include: birds at Shollenberger Park, bird identification workshops, and an evening speakers series. Stop by to explore our new teacher resource library! Please call 707-781-2555, x 302 or email mwipf@prbo.org for more information.



A Solar Schools Workshop for K-12 Teachers is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28 in Santa Rosa at the Marriot Courtyard on 175 Railroad St. from 8:30 am to 3 pm. Substitute teacher will be covered and lunch provided. This workshop is activity packed, providing the most up-to-date information on all aspects of energy, such as sources of energy, efficiency, and impacts. Workshop attendees receive a \$400 Science of Energy kit, a \$350 Solar Energy kit, and curriculum. Register online www.need.org/pgesolarschools; for further information contact NEED at 800-875-5029 or email Barry Scott, PG&E Solar Schools Coordinator at bscott@need.org.



Learning Laguna: Wetlands Education in the heart of Sonoma County. Two part program, classroom and field visits; hands-on, fun activities. Our trained docents bring the Laguna to your classroom, and you bring your classroom to the Laguna. Some bus scholarships available. Apply in June for the following school year by going to www.lagunadesantarosa.org/education_program.html where you will find detailed info and an application that may be submitted online. Brochure available. Call Mary Abbott, 707-527-9277 x2 or mary@lagunafoundation.org