



Bay Area CREEC

*Serving ...Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa,
San Francisco, San Mateo, and Solano Counties*

Spring 2009

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Welcome to the Bay Area CREEC Winter Newsletter 2009. We hope you are enjoying the changes in weather that nature has to offer.

News

Resource Directory

Visit the CREEC directory of resources. We now have 253 providers and 435 of their programs serving the Bay Area. Please make sure your programs are listed in the resource directory.

Calendar of Events

Find out about Environmental Education events in the bay area. The calendar highlights trainings, special events, conferences, professional development workshops and more. Go to www.creec.org/region4, click on "Calendar". You can submit dates from your organization directly on the website by clicking "Add an Event" once you're viewing the calendar.

Model School EE Programs

Are you looking for ideas on how to implement environmental education opportunities in your class or school? Go to www.creec.org/region4, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties link or [http://www.creec.org/region4/stories/storyReader\\$73](http://www.creec.org/region4/stories/storyReader$73) to read about 5 East Bay schools. Franklin Elementary, St. Joseph's Elementary, Searles Elementary, Stanley Middle School, and Rock La Fleche Community School are highlighted.

Evaluation Resources for Providers

Providers go visit the Bay Area CREEC homepage "EE Evaluation Resources" and you will find a new program evaluation page. These resources complement the resource database created by the Bay Area Environmental Education Evaluation Learning Community (2004). Of special note, this site provides a directory of evaluation and research professionals interested in working with environmental education organizations. The page also includes the following resources:

- Directory of evaluation and research professionals
- Links to websites with EE-specific evaluation resources and research
- General program evaluation resources including how to guides and a sample of data collection tools

Calendar of Events

**AEOE
Statewide
Conference**
April 24-26
Walker Creek
Ranch
Marin County
www.aeoe.org

**CABE
Conference**
February 25-28
Long Beach
[www.bilingualedu
cation.org](http://www.bilingualeducation.org)

**Green CA
Summit &
Exposition**
Sacramento
March 16-18
[www.green-
technology.org](http://www.green-technology.org)

**National EE
Week**
April 12-18
www.eeweek.org

Solano County Environmental Education Providers

Meet quarterly with Solano Environmental Educators to network and share county resources. See a list of members on the CREEC website at www.creec.org/region4, Solano County link. Contact Margaret Kralovec for more info [@MKralovec@fssd.com](mailto:MKralovec@fssd.com)

North Bay Environmental Education Providers

EE Programs and the California State Standards

- Learn about the California State Standards and how they influence curriculum and programming
- Learn how to determine if existing activities correlate to the standards
- Learn how to plan new and adapt existing activities to better achieve the standards

**DTB early June at
Loma Vista Farm in
Vallejo. Contact Laura
Powell for date 707-
658-1805/
bacreec@comcast.net**

Workshops

Cal Academy of Sciences

The Academy offers a wide range of professional development options designed to enhance your understanding of key science concepts, bolster your domain expertise, and help you better integrate hands-on science activities into your classroom. Check out these workshops:

February 12 - Exhibits, 4-6pm, Grades: K-12

February 21 - Rainforests, 8am-12pm, Grades: 4-8

February 26 - Skulls, 4-6pm, Grades: K-8

Most workshops cost \$30 and are offered once in the fall and once in the spring. All events require advance registration. To find more information or to make a reservation, visit their website at: http://www.calacademy.org/teachers/professional_development.php/.

Project WET Training: New Local Focus!

When: February 28, 2009 - 9:30am-3:30pm

Where: Forestville, Ca

The goal of Project WET is promote awareness, appreciation and knowledge of California's water resources. This workshop has been tailored to highlight local water issues and concerns. Teachers can earn (.6) CEU credit through Sonoma State University for attending this workshop. For registration information, visit their website at: www.sonomacountywater.org/education.

Council of Math/Science Educators of San Mateo County 33rd Annual Spring Math/Science Conference

Date: March 7, 2009

Location: Canada College, Redwood City

This conference provides many sessions that foster excellence in math and science curricula, educational programs, and promotes professional excellence in teaching and strengthening leadership in these fields. For more information visit their website at: <http://cmsesmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/cmsesmc-springconf-reg-2009.pdf>.

Headlands Institute Free Professional Development Day

Saturday, March 14, 2009 – 9am-3pm

Visit the Headlands Institute for a hands-on, outdoor professional development opportunity. See the opportunities the Summer Institute on Environmental Education has to offer. Reserve your space by February 23rd by going to their website at <http://yni.org/hi/adulted/index.php>.

**NAI Spring
Workshop**
April 17-19
Walker Creek
Ranch
Marin County
<http://www.nairegions.org/9/index.htm>

**NAAEE 2009
Conference**
October 7-10
Portland, Oregon
www.naaee.org

Workshops – Continued

Crissy Field Center Adventure Series: Educator Training

Date: March 14, 2009 – 9am to Noon

Location: Crissy Field Center 9am to noon

Cost: Free, open and breakfast provided at 8:30am

Audience: Middle School Educators, Groups, Adults

Are you interested in bringing your class or group to Crissy Field?

Sign up and be trained to lead your classroom or group on a hike along Crissy Field's shoreline. You will learn to challenge your students to think critically about urban environmental issues by having them work through a series of activities in free self-guided student booklets. To register go to the website at:

http://72.5.117.155/our_work/crissy/teachers.asp?event=2176&date=3/14/2009

7th Annual EcoCareer Day for High School Students

Date: March 21, 2009 – 10am to 3pm

Location: Crissy Field Center

Cost: Free; lunch and goodies included

Through hands-on workshops and by meeting professionals in the field, high school students learn about the wide range of environmental fields available in the urban and natural environment. Get the “dirt” on jobs for the environment! Meet professional activists, educators, scientists, and business leaders, and learn about the wide range of jobs that allow you to turn your concern for the environment into a career. This is a free event and includes lunch and giveaways. To register visit their website:

<http://www.parksconservancy.org/calendar/?date=3/21/2009>

The Watershed Teacher Workshops

Plant Smart! Water Wise School Gardening; Kids in Marshes; Kids in Creeks; From Healthy Soil to Harvest; Watershed Teaching Tools

When: August 3-7, 2009, 9:30am to 3:00pm

Where: UC Berkeley Field Station, Richmond

Help bring watershed awareness into your schools. This spring, we're offering workshops on school gardening, stream ecology, and urban wildlife to give you exciting activities aligned with the California State Content Standards in Math, Science, and Language Arts. Join us this year for an amazing professional development experience. This is a free Teacher In-Service: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot .Put the 4R's in your curriculum today! In addition, The Watershed Project is now offering a FREE 3-hour professional development in-service training at your school. Trainings are available throughout the week to any Alameda County school and its educators. For more information visit their website at: <http://www.thewatershedproject.org/>

Workshops – Continued

The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association Workshops

Introduction to Limpets Rocky Intertidal Monitoring

When: February 21, 2009 – 10am to 4pm

Where: Point Montara Lighthouse & Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, San Mateo County

Feeling the Heat: Thermal Biology and Responses to Climate Change with Dr. Jonathon H. Stillman

When: March 21, 2009 – 10am to 3pm

Where: Sanctuary offices located in the Presidio, San Francisco

Life & Death, Love & Sex, Drama in the Intertidal Zone with Dr. Tom Niesen

When: May 2, 2009 – 10am to 3pm

Where: Sanctuary offices located in the Presidio, San Francisco

These workshops are free with stipends available for 6th–11th grade teachers. In addition, CEU's from Dominican University are offered. For more information visit their website:

http://www.farallones.org/education/teacher_workshops.php.

Occidental Arts & Ecology Center's Summer School Garden Trainings:

Dates: June 15-19; July 27-31; August 10-14

Where: OAEC's School Garden Program is housed at their 80-acre site in western Sonoma County.

Deadline to Apply for all trainings: Application for all sessions must be received by email by **March 31, 2009 at 5:00 pm**. You will be contacted by April 15 regarding your application status.

The core of OAEC's Program are these five-day residential summer trainings which offers an array of skills and techniques focused on the instructional school garden, and its integration into multiple subject areas using experiential learning. Through a combination of lecture, resource materials and hands-on sessions we teach participants organic gardening, permaculture, nutrition, garden design, team building, fundraising, art in the garden, and more. Acceptance to the School Garden Program is by application only. The application and instructions can be downloaded from their website at: <http://www.oaec.org/>.

Summer Institute on Environmental Education

When: July 20-24, 2009 and August 3-7, 2009

Where: Headlands Institute, Marin Headlands, Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Headlands Institute is offering SEED (Science and Environmental Education Development) programming for teachers this spring and summer. For registration information visit their website at: <http://yni.org/hi/index.php>.

Grants & Contests

Arbor Day Poster Contest

Deadline: March 1, 2009

The poster contest is open to all California fifth grade students. The theme for 2009 is "Trees are Terrific...In Cities and Towns". For more information or to request a free curriculum kit, visit the website at <http://www.arboday.org/kids/postercontest/>.

Captain Planet Foundation Grants

Deadline: March 31, 2009

The Captain Planet Foundation provides grants to support hands-on environmental projects. The objective of the Foundation is to encourage innovative programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. Grant rewards up to \$2,500 are available. Visit the website at www.captainplanetfdn.org for more information.

PG&E Bright Ideas Grants

Deadline: Spring Entry – March 20, 2009.

Deadline: Fall Entry – September 20, 2009

The PG&E Solar Schools Program will award up to \$250,000 in grants to schools with Bright Ideas. The program is designed to support the understanding of renewable energy in public schools throughout northern and central California. Qualifying schools may apply for grants of \$2,500 or \$5,000 to be used for innovative classroom and extracurricular programs that further the universe of solar science. For more information visit the website at www.pge.com/about/environment/pge/solarschools/brightideasgrants.shtml

Stewardship Council Grants

The Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council is pleased to announce that the Youth Investment Programs 2009 Grant Requests for Proposals (RFP) are now available online! In 2009, as part of its Youth Investment Program, the Stewardship Council will grant between \$2 million and \$2.5 million in funding to improve the lives of underserved youth by providing greater access to outdoor experiences - from urban parks in the city to watersheds in the wilderness. There are four different grant funds, three rounds focused on outdoor and environmental education programs and one on building parks and playgrounds.

www.stewardshipcouncil.org/youth_investment/index.htm

Email Spring
Newsletter

Submissions to Laura
Powell at
bacreec
@comcast.net or call
(707) 658-1805

Grants & Contests

The Watershed Project

Teacher Action Grants

Since 1997, the Teacher Action Grants (TAG) program has distributed almost \$380,000 to educators who have taken our Kids in Creeks, Kids in Gardens, and Watching out Watersheds workshops. By providing seed money in amounts up to \$2,000 to cover direct expenses for classroom-based environmental studies, gardening, and restoration projects, Teacher Action Grants have involved tens of thousands of students in local watershed-based projects, and increased awareness about natural resources in Alameda and Contra Costa counties for thousands of residents.

Past grant recipients have implemented in-depth projects that educate, inform, and inspire students, their families, and community members to become involved in water pollution prevention and water conservation projects. Topics range from urban runoff pollution, litter abatement, and creek restoration to environmentally-friendly gardening practices. Visit this link for the application <http://www.thewatershedproject.org/tag.html>

Updates

EEI Update

New draft EEI curriculum units are now available for review at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Education/EEI>. The new draft units have been reviewed by experts and will be field tested by teachers in California. Additional draft units will be posted as soon as they are available and will remain on the web for 30 days.

- 1) Fifth Grade, Science Standard 5.3.c. - posted until 3/17/2009
- 2) Sixth Grade, History/Social Science Standard 6.2.6. & 6.2.8 - posted until 3/17/2009
- 3) Tenth Grade, History/Social Science Standard 10.3.1. & 10.3.5 - posted until 3/17/2009

This newsletter is a publication of Bay Area CREEC