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## Spring has Sprung!

Along with new blooming flowers, the CREEC Network has been blooming in new ways as well...

What's New? The **CREEC Blog** at <http://creec.org.blogspot.com/> recently posted articles on Environmental Service Learning, California Environmental Legacy Project, California Redwoods, Nearby Nature in San Diego County, and Growing Up WILD.

CREEC Network is now on  Visit <http://www.facebook.com/creecnetwork> and become a Fan today!

### Website Update

Now you can subscribe to the CREEC region 5 newsletter announcement

feature at: [CREEC Region 5](#)

And as always, the **CREEC Calendars** and **Resource Directory** provide links to important events

## EVENTS

### EE Week: Be Water and Energy Wise!

April 11-17, 2010

National Environmental Education Week (EE Week), the nation's largest environmental education event, inspires environmental learning and stewardship among K-12 students. EE Week connects educators with environmental resources to promote K-12 students' understanding of the environment. EE Week is a program of the National Environmental Education Foundation. In the U.S., generating power consumes three percent of our nation's water annually, and 13 percent of the energy produced in this country each year is used to treat, transport, and heat our water. Conserving water saves energy, and vice versa. The water-energy connection is complex, but it provides an excellent opportunity to get students thinking about the interrelatedness of ecological and environmental concerns. EE Week provides lesson plans and classroom resources on the water-energy connection to help students and educators explore this important topic. Visit <http://eeweek.org/> for more information.

### Bay Area Schools Environmental Conference

Saturday May 1, 2010

8:00am to 5:00pm

Where: Dolce Hayes Mansion San Jose, CA

The Bay Area Schools Environmental Conference will help public and private K-12 schools and school districts learn how to save money by protecting natural resources and fostering the next generation of environmental advocates.

**The 4th Annual Bay Area Schools  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE**

Teachers, faculty, principals, administrators, students, parents, non-profit organizations, and community members from throughout the Bay Area are encouraged to attend and discover how to Learn, Lead. Price: \$20 through April 23rd, \$60 at the door Phone: (408) 975-2561

Questions or  
Newsletter  
submissions?

Contact  
South Bay CREEC  
Regional  
Coordinator

Charity Mulkey  
831-466-5711

*If we could see the miracle of a single flower, our whole life would change. -The Buddha*

## EVENTS

### **Día del Niño April 25, 2010**

#### **Monterey Aquarium**

Mark your calendar and join us as we celebrate children during Día del Niño, when all children ages 12 and under will be admitted free. Festivities include live music, a skit by El Teatro Campesino, a craft room to create your personalized take-home souvenir, and much more!

For more info: [Monterey Aquarium](http://www.montereyaquarium.org)



### **Monthly Beach Clean up 10:00am-12:00pm**

**Saturday, May 15**

Where: 4 mile Beach

Come help clean the Beaches as one of Save our Shores monthly beach cleanups! For more info: <http://saveourshores.org/>

This month's cleanup is at 4 mile Beach. Check-in area will be located in the main parking area. All cleanup materials will be provided.



### **Endangered Species Day**

**May 21, 2010**

Endangered Species Day is a celebration of our nation's wildlife and wild places and is an opportunity for young and old to learn about the everyday actions that people can take to help protect our nations disappearing wildlife and last remaining wild places.

Visit <http://www.EndangeredSpeciesDay.org> for a step-by-step guide on how to sponsor your own Endangered Species.

## Conferences and Professional Development

### **AEOE**

**April 30-May 2 Camp Hess Kramer Malibu, CA 70+ workshops, keynotes, entertainment, job fair, networking!**

The Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (AEOE) will hold its Annual Conference April 30th – May 2nd, 2010 at Camp Hess Kramer Malibu, CA. AEOE is the California State affiliate of the National Association of Environmental Educators (NAAEE). For more info: <http://aeoe.org/>



### **Oceans, Literacy and Science Residential Teacher Institute**

**August 1-6, 2010, Monterey**

The Aquarium's Oceans, Literacy and Science Residential Teacher Institute is specifically designed for non-local teachers of kindergarten through 5th grade students from around the country. The program provides curriculum that integrates science with language arts and literacy, as well as math, social studies and the arts; inquiry investigations with hands on, standards-based activities; explorations of ocean habitats at coastal sites and the Monterey Bay Aquarium; integration of content and process skills, including ELL and science notebook strategies; continuing online collaboration with colleagues and Aquarium educators; study of conservation issues and grade-level appropriate actions; free busing from Stevenson School to field sites and the Aquarium. K-5 fulltime classroom teachers with a minimum of two years of experience are eligible and who live more than 150 miles from Monterey. To apply online, visit

[http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/lc/teachers\\_place/edu\\_program\\_literacy.aspx](http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/lc/teachers_place/edu_program_literacy.aspx)



## Contests, Awards and Grants

### Brower Youth Awards

**Deadline: May 15, 2010**

Brower Youth Awards seeks outstanding youth leaders, ages 13-22, with the power and bold vision to create environmental change. The Brower Youth Awards recognizes six young people in North America annually for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and environmental justice advocacy. Each year, the Brower Youth Awards honors six young people with a \$3000 cash award and week-long trip to the San Francisco Bay Area. For more information: [www.broweryouthawards.org/](http://www.broweryouthawards.org/)



### Ocean Guardian Grant

**Deadline: June 1, 2010**

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is offering Ocean Guardian grants of \$2,000-\$6,000 to a number of California schools whose students create a school or community-based conservation project that protects their local watershed and the ocean. K-12 schools in the following counties are eligible: Marin, San Francisco, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. This website also offer lesson plans and videos on ocean education. For More info: [http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean\\_guardian/](http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian/).



### Nominate a Garden Crusader

**Deadline: June 1, 2010**

This year, Gardener's Supply will award more than \$15,000 in cash and gardening gear to individuals across the country who are using gardening to make a difference in their communities. For more info: <http://www.gardeners.com>

### Rachel Carson Sense of Wonder Contest

**Deadline: June 16, 2010**

Enter the Rachel Carson Sense of Wonder contest. Show how the beauty of nature inspires you through poetry, essays, photos or dance. Entries must be from a team of two or more persons, a young person and an older person.

For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/thesenseofwonder/index.htm>



## Resources

**Get outdoors, It's Yours** <http://www.getoutdoorsitsyours.gov>

This campaign encourages children and their educators and families to experience nature firsthand.

**Environmental Literacy Council** <http://www.envioliteracy.org>

The Council offers free background information on common environmental science concepts; vetted resources to broaden understanding; and curricular materials that don't tell teachers how to teach, but give them the tools to augment their own backgrounds - no matter what their current knowledge.

**Encyclopedia of Earth** <http://www.eoearth.org/>

### CREEC's Online Resource Directory

This extremely valuable resource has been updated to make searches much easier!

1. Go to: <http://www.creec.org/region5>
2. Click on the navigation bar button that says "Region 5 Resource Directory."
3. You will be asked to enter some information.
4. You will now be presented with search options. You can do a "quick search" or an "advanced search" that allows you to specify criteria including county, grade level, and academic subject areas.
5. When your search results are produced, some of them can be made into a "PDF" for easy viewing, emailing, or printing.

If you can't find what you are looking for, or need assistance using this resource, please contact Charity at [cmulkey@santacruz.k12.ca.us](mailto:cmulkey@santacruz.k12.ca.us) or 831-4665711.