



Central Coast CREEC

Linking Central Coast Teachers with Quality Environmental Education Resources

November 2007

Region 8 Serves San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Kern Counties

In This Issue

- EE Success Stories
- EE Resources
- Trainings/Workshops
- Community Events
- Contests & Grants
- Conferences
- EE Provider Highlight

EE Success Stories

Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Posted Units

The CREEC Network is working with the Office of Education and the Environment at the CA Integrated Waste Management Board to provide teacher support in the school district selected for field testing. Public review is available on the draft units. Currently the first grade unit about animals' teeth "Open Wide, Look Inside!" and a Sixth Grade unit on ancient people called "Paleolithic People, Assembling & Adapting" are available till November 15th. Then two other units will be available to look at and download. Visit: www.calepa.ca.gov/education/eei



Education and the
Environment Initiative



EE Provider Workshops offered this Fall in Region 8 – Santa Barbara County workshop is on November 30th and Kern County on December 10th.

In order to inform Environmental Education Providers about the new and up-in-coming EEI Curriculum in the State of California and how they can "support EEI," workshops will be held this fall at each County Office of Education through the CREEC Network. Please RSVP directly to Teresa Lees, Region 8 CREEC Coordinator at trees@slocoe.org or call 805-782-7265 to let me know if you can attend. The workshops give EE Providers the chance to find out how to align their educational materials to fit the new EEI Model Curriculum Plan.

Santa Barbara County Office of Education – Friday, November 30th, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara (Take Turnpike exit going East from Highway 101. Park in the lower lot and then ask receptionist which workshop room we will be located in.)

Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office – Monday, December 10th, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
2020 K Street, Bakersfield (Highway 99 to 24th Street. Follow down to L Street and then to 20th Street. You can turn into the parking structure from there or continue to the corner of K Street, turn right and park in front of the building. The workshop room will be in one of the 2 computer labs located in The Learning Center.)

San Luis Obispo County Office of Education and Ventura County Office of Education workshops have already taken place in October and November. To find out more about the EEI plan and to view drafts of curriculum units visit the Cal EPA website. New units are posted 30 days. <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Education/EEI/default.htm>

EE Resources

National EE Week – April 13 – 19, 2008

National Environmental Education (EE) Week is the single largest organized environmental education event in the United States. It increases the educational impact of Earth Day by creating a full week of environmentally-themed lessons and activities in K-12 classrooms, nature centers, zoos, museums, and aquariums. They have a fantastic library of curriculum resources (energy, Climate change, school garden) to avail yourself of at: http://eeweek.org/resources/curricula_library.htm

Have a newsletter submission?

Contact Teresa Lees for submission guidelines!

Contact CREEC 8
Teresa "Tree" Lees
CREEC 8 Coordinator
trees@slocoe.org
805-782-7265
www.creec.org/region8



Through our joint partnership with the Department of Energy, EDN has received close to 100 new K-12 lessons and activities on energy topics aligned with the National Science Education Standards. You can access these and others right now on the Educators' Network. Look in the "Teacher's Corner" link or go directly to: <http://www.earthday.net/programs/teachers/100plans.aspx>

Western Ecological Research Center



The USGS Western Ecological Research Center studies the sea otter populations of California. Teachers and students desiring information on the threatened sea otter can find fact sheets, videos, population survey results, and links to related resources. For more information, visit <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/otters/>.

California Fuel Cell Partnership



The California Fuel Cell Partnership is a collaboration of industry and government with more than 30 global organizations working together to promote hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. They host a Classroom Education Page with resources and web links for teachers seeking information on fuel cell technology and hydrogen. For lesson plans and activities, visit http://www.cafcp.org/resource-ctr_education.htm.

Solar Schoolhouse



The Solar Schoolhouse is a K-12 energy education program developed by the Rarus Institute. The program introduces students to the concepts of solar energy in a fun, intriguing, and meaningful way. Using hands-on, project-based teaching tools, the program seeks to raise energy literacy by educating students about solar and renewable energy and energy resource conservation. For more information, visit <http://www.solarschoolhouse.org>. For additional information about solar energy, visit the California Solar Center web portal at <http://www.californiasolarcenter.org>.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory



The Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory offers resources to teachers and students about renewable energy methods and technologies, biomass power, wind energy, and alternative fuels. They offer student contests, internships for pre-service teachers, and professional development for teachers. For information, visit <http://www.nrel.gov/education/>.

Climate CHECK



The Climate Change Emission Calculator Kit, is a step-by-step greenhouse gas inventory tool for schools. The program is designed primarily for high school students to investigate the connections among everyday actions at their school, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate change. Students can conceptualize ways to mitigate their school's impact on the environment. For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/school.html>

More EE Resources can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the "Resource Directory" as well as the "For Teachers" or "For Providers" link.

- In This Issue
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Trainings & Workshops

Garden Based Learning Workshops – San Luis Obispo County

UCCE Master Gardeners are offering a series of three workshops in support of school gardens. Creating and Sustaining Your Garden Based Learning School Garden workshops will give a comprehensive overview of how to start, use and sustain your GBL School Garden Program.

All three workshops will address California Content Standards, lessons plans and hands on demonstrations. The cost for all three workshops combined is \$50, payable to the UC Regents. Registration for all three workshops is due by November 20th.

Interested teachers and volunteers can access the flyer, online registration, or a downloadable registration form on the Cooperative Extension website at http://cesanluisobispo.ucdavis.edu/Master%5FGardener/Garden_Based_Learning.htm

Workshop One: GBL Introduction, Over-all view, Garden Design, Garden Academics, Program Impacts, Lesson Plan, and Hands on Demonstrations

November 28th – South County Educators
UCCE Master Gardeners Auditorium
2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo
8:00am – 11:00am for K – 2nd Grades
12:00pm – 3:00pm for 3rd – 5th Grades
OR
December 5th – North County Educators
Culinary Arts Academy, Paso Robles
8:00am – 11:00am for K – 2nd Grades
12:30pm – 3:30pm for 3rd – 5th Grades

Workshop Two: Garden Construction, Irrigation, Soils, Compost, Mulches, Tools, Recycling, Lesson Plans, Hands on Demonstrations

January 16th - South County Educators
January 22nd – North County Educators

Workshop Three: Plants, Seeds, Transplanting, Harvesting, Weed Control, Maintaining and Sustaining Your Garden, Classroom Management, Lesson Plans and Hands on Demonstrations – To Be Announced

California Energy and Public Lands Workshops



National Energy Education Development
8408 Kao Circle Manassas, VA 20110
T: 703.257.1117 F: 703.257.0037
www.NEED.org

BLM and the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project are excited to announce the upcoming Energy and Public Lands Workshop to be held in Auberry. Classroom teachers (K-12) will have a unique opportunity to learn energy in a fun and exciting way!

The workshop will be held on **November 16, 2007** at:

Auberry Elementary School – Science Lab
33367 N. Auberry Rd, Auberry, CA., 93602 (Fresno County)

Directions will be sent with confirmation.

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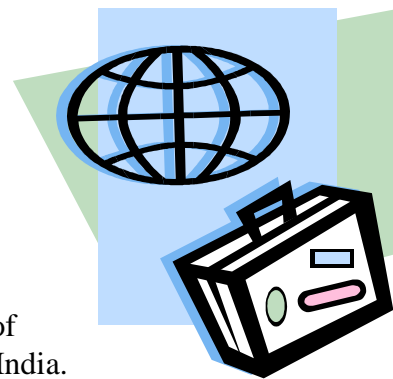
Thanks to BLM sponsorship, there is **no cost** to attend the workshop. Breakfast and lunch are provided! **Substitute reimbursement forms will be provided at the workshop and substitute costs will be reimbursed to school districts.**

The NEED program includes teacher-tested educational materials, evaluation techniques and tools, recognition of student achievement, and professional development for educators. NEED materials and training programs provide comprehensive, objective information about the scientific concepts of energy and the sources of energy – their use and their impact on the environment, the economy and society.

Register by completing the attached registration form and faxing to NEED at 1-800-847-1820 or emailing Zarin Sidiqi at zsidiqi@need.org. We look forward to seeing you!

GEEO Professional Development – www.geeo.org
Global Education for Educators Organization

Would you like to earn professional development credit while seeing the world? Would your students benefit by learning from a teacher with first hand experience in other countries? Would you like to travel abroad affordably on subsidized trips designed specifically for educators? If this interests you please visit www.geeo.org. For the summer of 2008, we will be running trips to Peru, Tanzania, Nepal and India.



GEEO is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to helping educators travel internationally and bring their experiences back into the classroom. Please go to www.geeo.org to find out more about GEEO's 2008 travel opportunities and feel free to contact GEEO if you have any questions.

Wetlands Workshops in Ojai on December 1 and 2

WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands – December 1, 2007

This 1-day workshop will introduce you to three parameters of wetlands (vegetation, soils, hydrology) as well as wetland functions and values through fun and interactive activities in lesson plan format that are correlated to National Science standards. WOW! has been called, “the most comprehensive introduction to wetland issues and definitions” by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), and is a recommended resource by the National Science Teacher’s Association (NSTA)..

Location: Oak Grove School 220 W. Lomita Ave. Ojai, California

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$45 includes WOW! curriculum guide and all course materials.



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POW! The Planning of Wetlands – December 2, 2007

This 1-day workshop introduces educators to the concept of schoolyard wetland habitats, including wetland design, construction, monitoring, project funding, and most importantly, their contribution as an extension of the classroom. Studies show that habitat programs help boost academic achievement! POW! takes you through the process of building a schoolyard wetland from start to finish using 25 exciting student activities in lesson plan format.

Location: Oak Grove School 220 W. Lomita Ave. Ojai, California

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$50 includes POW! curriculum, case study booklet and all course materials.

For more information or to register, visit www.wetland.org, call (410)745-9620 or e-mail teachwetlands@wetland.org

More Trainings & Workshops can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the "For Teachers" link.

Community Events

More Community Events can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the "EE Calendar" link.

Contests & Grants

Disney Environmental Challenge

Enroll by December 14, 2007

The name of Jiminy Cricket (JCEC) challenge has transformed to the Disney Environmental Challenge. This year's theme is Be an Eco Star. Teachers can sign up their 3rd through 5th Grade classroom for the Class Pledge and Fifth Grade can enroll in the Class Project.

For more information visit www.deckids.org



Whale Tail Grants -

Deadline December 7, 2007

The California Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grants Program is now accepting applications for coastal and marine education projects. This program funds projects that encourage people to value and take action to improve the health of California's coast, marine life, or watersheds that connect with the coast. Educational coastal habitat restoration and beach maintenance projects are also eligible. Emphasis is on reaching underserved students and members of the public. Schools, nonprofits, and governments may apply. Postmark deadline is December 7, 2007. For more details and the application and guidelines, see the link under "Highlights" at www.coastforyou.org or call (800) Coast-4U.

Coastal Art & Poetry Contest

Deadline January 31, 2008

California K-12 students are open to submit artwork or poetry that has a coastal or marine theme to compete for \$100 gift certificates to an art supply store or bookstore. Each winner's sponsoring teacher will receive a \$40 gift certificate for educational supplies. For rules and entry form, visit

www.coastforyou.org



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Toyota Tapestry Grants
Deadline January 28, 2008

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. Inc., and the National Science Teachers Association are pleased to announce the 18th Annual Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Science Teachers Program. The program is open to middle and high school science teachers who teach at least two science classes a day and to elementary classroom teachers who teach at least some science in the classroom. This year, Toyota will offer grants to 70 to 82 teams of teachers. A total of 50 large grants of up to \$10,000 each will be awarded, along with 20 to 32 mini grants of up to \$2,500 each. All proposals must be submitted online via the link at the Toyota TAPESTRY website at <http://www.nsta.org/pd/tapestry/>.

Climate Change Educator Grants
<http://earthday.net/programs/teachers/climatechangeeducators.aspx>

Earth Day Network, through the Campus Climate Challenge, is working with high schools to win global warming victories nationwide. Join us in leading a generation-wide movement to stop global warming and create a clean energy future! Members of EDN's Educators' Network are eligible to become Climate Change Educators and receive stipends of \$500 for their work to help their high school reach a global warming victory through policy and action.



The Campus Climate Challenge is a project of more than 30 leading youth and environmental organizations, including Earth Day Network, that are leveraging the power of young people across the U.S. and Canada to fight global warming.

Leaf-It-To-Us Grants Available from CAL FIRE
Deadline January 12, 2008



Leaf-It-To-Us is designed to assist children in becoming motivated to care for and improve their educational environment. The purpose of the program is to distribute funds for community school tree-planting projects involving school children. \$75,000 will be distributed in the form of reimbursement grants to schools and their associated volunteer organizations or nonprofit organizations in association with a school and educational program. The application deadline is January 12, 2008. For more information, please visit <http://www.ufe.org/> and check under the grant information.

Santa Barbara County APCD Teacher Network Grants
Deadline December 5, 2007

Santa Barbara County Teachers are invited to apply for \$500 grants to develop lessons on our atmosphere, air pollution, and global climate change. These are project grants supported by Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, awarded through the Santa Barbara County Education Office Teachers Network. Apply online by December 5, 2007 at <http://www.sbceo.org/~impact2/ProjectGrants.htm>.

For more information see <http://www.sbcapcd.org/teachers.htm>.

To schedule classroom presentations, and to find out more about the air district's programs for teachers, contact Mary Byrd at 805-961-8833 or byrdm@sbcapcd.org.

More Contest & Grant Opportunities can be found on the CREEC 8 website in the "Funding Opportunities" and "Student Contests" links.

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Conferences

NAAEE Conference – November 14-17, Virginia Beach, VA “Explore New Horizons in Environmental Education”

Community & Conservation Education, Environmental Justice & Cultural History, Fundraising & Leadership Development, Marine Education, Service Learning, Sustainability Education, Technology and Environmental Education.



To register go to their website: <http://www.naaee.org/conference>

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Annual Conference – Nov. 30 – Dec. 2, 2007 San Diego, CA

The NCSS Annual Conference is the major forum for social studies colleagues to share, interact, learn, and develop ideas, skills, and programs that increase their own successes and of their students by providing multiple opportunities for crossing cultural and geographic borders while building new bridges of knowledge and understanding. For more info visit: <http://www.ncss.org/conference/>



Green Schools Summit December 4 -6, 2007 Pasadena, CA

California is on the leading edge of the green school movement, creating a statewide framework and incentives for sustainable schools. This groundbreaking event will focus on the strategies, technologies and services that will ensure the new and existing public schools are model of sustainability and provide healthy learning environments for students. Keynote Speaker include Ed Begley and Bill Nye, The Science Guy

Mention the CREEC Network and receive a 10% discount on your conference registration. A CREEC Network workshop will be offered and CREEC will host an information booth in the exhibit hall. Here is the website: <http://www.green-technology.org/gcschools/attendee.htm>

More Conferences can be found on the CREEC 8 Website in the “EE Calendar” or “For Providers” links.

EE Provider Highlight

Project Learning Tree and Leave No Child Inside Days Campaign



BRANCH ARCHIVE

- 🌿 Past Issues
- 🌿 EE News
- 🌿 PLT Updates
- 🌿 Educator Tips
- 🌿 EE Resources
- 🌿 Featured Articles

Showcase Environmental Education in Your Community

Host a “No Child Left Inside Days” event and invite the media and your representatives.

Project Learning Tree® invites you to join in an exciting national effort to get students out of the classroom and into the great outdoors to explore, learn about and enjoy the environment.

What: During the “No Child Left Inside Days” campaign, students, teachers and environmental educators will set aside time



For curriculum updates, workshop information, and correlations to state standards visit **Project Learning Tree** by [clicking here](#).

to go outside and take part in special activities that will increase kids' understanding and appreciation of their natural world.

Where: Outside!

Who: Students and teachers across the country.

Why: Students love learning about their own world, but many do not have the opportunity to take part in well-planned, outdoor educational and exploration activities. Many teachers don't realize the value of, or are not given time for, using the amazing real-world laboratory that exists just outside the school doors. This campaign will get teachers and kids outside to learn and will focus congressional attention on the value of environmental education.

How do I get involved?

A teacher, plan a special outdoor learning activity. Invite a member of Congress to attend. Send us any materials your students create such as journals, photos or other documents. We'll post them on our [Every Student Learns Outside website](http://www.learnoutside.org/actionpacket.html) <http://www.learnoutside.org/actionpacket.html> and share them with the public to highlight the value of environmental education.

An environmental or conservation group, print the materials on the [Every Student Learns Outside website](http://www.learnoutside.org) and get in touch with schools near you. Urge teachers to take part and help them spread the word to local media and members of Congress. If you provide environmental education activities for students let your community and your congressperson know about it.

Visit our Action Page for sample press releases, media advisories, suggested activities and more.

Add the location of your activities to the Leave No Child Inside Map and see what others across the country are doing.

Research has shown the value that environmental education brings to schools. Kids grow more engaged in their work and perform better on assessments in every subject.



American Forest Foundation - Project Learning Tree
1111 Nineteenth Street, NW, Suite 780, Washington DC 2003

More EE Provider Highlight can be found on the CREEC Resource Directory www.creec.org/region8/ and click on the "Resource Directory" link.